Dear Hoyas,

What an exciting time! Earlier this month, Georgetown University announced the news that Eduardo M. Penhoet, J.D., a Rhodes Scholar and distinguished legal scholar, will be our next president beginning July 1, 2026.

I am truly delighted with this decision. I have great confidence and faith in President-elect Penhoet's leadership, particularly at this remarkable time in the history of higher education in the U.S.

President-elect Penhoet and I share in the belief that great achievements are possible when we seek the common good as a community to ensure hope, health, and healing for all. He currently serves as president of Seattle University, another Jesuit university. Seattle University has vibrant undergraduate and graduate programs, including a College of Nursing & Health Sciences. He is also vice chair of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center Board of Directors. **To read more about President-Elect Penhoet and watch a video message from him, please visit Georgetown's website.**

In just a few short weeks, alumni from our medical and dental schools will gather for reunion weekend to renew friendships and hear the rich details about how their classmates' lives have evolved in the last several years. While our dental school is no longer in operation, I have learned so much this past year about how connected its alumni feel and how devoted they are to higher education at Georgetown. In fact, just this fall, we have received a transformative gift from a dental alum to support School of Medicine scholarships. Scholarships are such an important focus as we seek to lessen student debt.

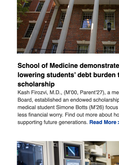
Elsewhere in this newsletter, you'll read about a scholarship funded by a School of Medicine alum, and the difference it is making for a student whose path to Georgetown is a testament to her persistence and dedication. We are grateful to Kash Finzad, M.D., (M'00, Parent'21) for helping make her dream possible. In addition to scholarships, you can read about other pathways for medical school that Georgetown is deeply committed to supporting. Truly, the future is bright.

Finally, October brings reminders of breast cancer awareness month, one of the top cancers that impacts so many women and some men. Work here at our own Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center has contributed to the major advances in treatment that has changed the trajectory of survival. Be on the lookout for the Winter 2026 issue of Georgetown Health magazine to read more about this important work.

Hoya Saxa,

Norman J. Beauchamp, Jr., MD, MHS
Executive Vice President for Health Sciences
Executive Dean, School of Medicine

SPOTLIGHT

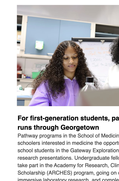


School of Medicine demonstrates commitment to lowering students' debt burden through alumni scholarship

Kash Finzad, M.D., (M'00, Parent'21), a member of the Medical Alumni Board, established an endowed scholarship that is helping fourth-year medical student Simone Botts (M'26) focus on professional pursuits with less financial worry. Find out more about how School of Medicine alums are supporting future generations. **Read More >**

Why research matters at Georgetown

Learn more about the importance of research at Georgetown with Jeff Urbach, vice provost for research, and Anna Tilbert, vice president for research at Georgetown University Medical Center and vice dean of Biomedical Graduate Education. **Read More >**



For first-generation students, path to medical school runs through Georgetown

Pathway programs in the School of Medicine give undergraduates and high schoolers interested in medicine the opportunity to work in the field. High school students in the Gateway Exploration Program (GEP) complete research presentations. Undergraduate fellows from multiple universities take part in the Academy for Research, Clinical, and Health Equity Scholarship (ARCHES) program, going on clinical rounds, working on immersive laboratory research, and completing capstone research projects. **Read More >**

Those interested in learning more about these programs and how to support their work can visit the ARCHES and Gateway Exploration Program pages.

CAMPUS NEWS

Georgetown medical student posits new theory of consciousness >

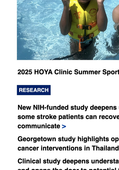
Three orthopaedic surgery faculty members officially named as D'Aniello Family Endowed Chairs >

Tortsky named inaugural Hyundai Hope on Wheels Endowed Chair in Pediatric Oncology >

First-generation medical students build community through supportive, honest conversations >

Ralph Lauren Center Pastoral Initiative collaborates with local churches to offer cancer education and screening >

SIGHTS & SOUNDS



2025 HOYA Clinic Summer Sports Camp >

RESEARCH

New NIH-funded study deepens understanding of how some stroke patients can recover their ability to communicate >

Georgetown study highlights opportunities for liver cancer interventions in Thailand >

Clinical study deepens understanding of mesothelioma and opens the door to potential treatment options >

Does your brain respond to what you are doing or how you do it? >

Study finds rate of rare liver cancer is high among Russian nuclear workers, particularly women >

New report from Capital Area Food Bank identifies troubling trends in food insecurity >

ALUMNI

Alumna to receive 1851 Medical Alumni Award >

ALUMNI PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Medical & Dental Reunion 2025: Nov. 7 - 9

Join us as we celebrate and reunite Classes of 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020, and all Magis alumni from the School of Medicine.

Visit the Medical & Dental Reunion website to view the full schedule of social, intellectual, and celebratory events throughout Georgetown and the DC area.

Online registration for the weekend will close on Oct. 31. Walk-in registrants are welcome.

Register Today!

Save the Date: Medical & Dental Reunion 2026—Nov. 6-8, 2026

Planning is already underway for Medical & Dental Reunion 2026! Next fall, we'll welcome back the classes of 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021, along with Medical Magis alumni (Class of 1975 and earlier) for a special weekend of celebration, connection and Hilltop memories. **To help make Reunion 2026 a success, we're seeking Class Ambassadors to help represent their class, promote the weekend, and shape the celebration. Interested? Learn more and sign up at g.tow/m2026medandassadors.**

Alumni and Student Programming

Dine with a Doc
Alumni in the DC area are invited to host a small group of students for a casual dinner in your home or a local restaurant. Coordinated by the Medical Student Alumni Ambassadors (MSAA) and in partnership with the Georgetown University Alumni Association, Dine with a Doc is a meaningful way to share your journey, offer guidance, and stay connected with the School of Medicine. To learn more about hosting, please email dinewithadoc@georgetown.edu.

Hoyas on Call

Join fellow alumni and students for the 2nd Annual Hoyas on Call event on **Saturday, Nov. 8, from noon to 2 p.m.** at the Healey Family Student Center. This relaxed barbecue luncheon brings together alumni and current medical students for specialty-focused conversations, mentorship, and Hoya spirit. With strong student interest expected, we're especially seeking alumni from a wide range of specialties to participate. To register, visit g.tower/MedCenterReunion2025reg and select "School of Medicine Alumna/ae – Non Reunion Year." Use promo code "SOM1851" at checkout to waive the registration fee.

For questions, please reach out to gumcengagement@georgetown.edu.

Medical Alumni Board

The Georgetown Medical Alumni Board is pleased to announce the appointment of five new members and to welcome **Sean Pinney, M.D. (C'90, M'94)** as the new chair of the Board.

New members:
Michael Clark, M.D. (M'74)
John "Jud" Doherty, M.D. (C'72, M'76, Parent'05)
Maria Gatouilla, M.D. (M'08)
Robert Pollard, M.D. (M'84, Parent'09)
Pounam Razavi, M.D. (C'90, M'00)

We are grateful for their commitment to advancing the mission of the School of Medicine and strengthening connections across our alumni community.

To learn more, visit the Medical Alumni Board webpage.

In Memoriam

Dr. Tibor Eugene "Tibby" Frekko (C'35, M'39, L'63, Parent'00, '05, '06, '08, '14), beloved husband of Gertrude "Trude" Deane Frekko, passed away peacefully at home at the age of 90.

At Georgetown, Tibby was an extremely diligent student and excelled at math and science. He graduated from Georgetown College in 1935 and was accepted into Georgetown University School of Medicine, where he graduated in 1939. He completed his medical training in General Practice at Providence Hospital in 1961 in Washington, DC. During his training, he enrolled in Georgetown Law at night, later finishing first in his class in Contracts, and received his law degree in 1963.

Tibby served as Chairman of the Georgetown Medical Alumni Board and on the Georgetown University Alumni Association Board of Governors. After decades of loyal and dedicated service to his beloved alma mater, he was honored by Georgetown University in 2006 with the prestigious John Carroll Award, which recognizes alumni whose achievements and service exemplify the ideals and traditions of Georgetown University and its founder. Believing that education was the key to success, Tibby and Trude established an endowed scholarship at Georgetown to provide financial aid for students in the School of Medicine.

Visit our Life Updates page to share Class Notes or In Memoriam information.

Stay Connected

Explore our updated Medical Alumni website—your central resource for reunion updates, events, volunteer opportunities, and School of Medicine alumni news. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to cheer on today's students, celebrate alumni milestones, and moments that highlight how medical Hoyas support one another across generations.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 23
The Edward M. Kovac Cura Personalis Endowed Lecture

Oct. 24-25
BeRINger 2025

Nov. 7-9
Medical & Dental Reunion 2025

Nov. 21-23
International Alumni Summit in Tokyo

Jan. 17, 2026
Patrick Healy Dinner

March 14, 2026
38th Annual Lombardi Gala

March 19-21, 2026
2026 Georgetown University Women's Forum

April 16-19, 2026
John Carroll Weekend: Puerto Rico