

5-30-2004

2004 Commencement - College of Osteopathic Medicine, College of Pharmacy, College of Optometry, College of Allied Health, College of Medical Sciences and College of Dental Medicine

Nova Southeastern University

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*College of Osteopathic Medicine • College of Pharmacy
College of Optometry • College of Allied Health and Nursing
College of Medical Sciences • College of Dental Medicine*

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*Sunday, May 30, 2004
Office Depot Center
Sunrise, Florida*

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Robert Uchin, D.D.S., Dean, College of Dental Medicine

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

*Academic Processional:

Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1	Elgar
Convening the Commencement	David H. Rush, Member, Member, Board of Trustees
Presiding Officer	Frederick Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D. Chancellor

*America, The Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self control
Thy liberty in law!

Welcome	Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D. President
Special Presentation and Presentation of Candidate for Honorary Degree	Dr. Lippman
Conferral of Honorary Degree	President Ferrero
Address	Honorary Ileana Rus-Lehtinen Congresswoman United States Congress 18th Congressional District State of Florida
Conferral of Degrees in Course	President Ferrero
Doctor of Dental Medicine	Robert A. Uchin, D.D.S. Dean, College of Dental Medicine
Doctor of Optometry	David S. Lashin, O.D., Ph.D. Dean, College of Optometry
Doctor of Pharmacy	William D. Hardigan, Ph.D. Dean, College of Pharmacy
Master of Biomedical Sciences	Harold E. Lasbach, Ph.D. Dean, College of Medical Sciences
Master of Public Health Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine	Anthony J. Silvagni, D.O. Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine
Dental Medicine Oath	Steven Kerner, D.M.D. Associate Dean, College of Dental Medicine
Optometric Oath	Alan H. Shaffer, O.D. President, Florida Optometric Association
Pharmacist's Oath	H. John Baldwin, Ph.D. Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
Osteopathic Oath	Dr. Silvagni

*Recessional

*Audience please stand

Academic Marshalls

Daniel R. Barkus, B.A., D.O., F.A.C.O.O.G.
Abby J. Brodie, B.S., D.M.D.
Lori B. Dribin, B.A., M.S., Ph.D.

José A. Rey, Pharm.D.
David H. Rush
Christopher E. Woodruff, O.D. M.B.A.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF DENTAL MEDICINE

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B.S., University of Michigan

Eman Jawad Alsahlani, Sunrise
B.S., University of Miami

**Julie Ann Alter, Aventura
Nova Southeastern University

*Kyle G. Baker, Cedar City, UT

Sami K. Banoub, Orlando
B.S., University of Central Florida

Marc Donald Beattie, Ft. Myers
B.S., University of Central Florida
United States Army

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B.S., University of Michigan

Heather Bowman, Ephrata, PA
A.S., Pennsylvania College of Technology
Dr. Lewis Storb

Steven Dwayne Bryant, Elon, NC
B.S., Appalachian State University
Palmetto Health Richland Hospital

Susan Silvana Elizabeth Callejas, Hialeah Gardens
B.S., Florida International University
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

**Erika J. Campbell, Ft. Lauderdale
B.S., University of Florida
Nova Southeastern University

María Carolina Castañeda-Nodarse, Aventura
B.S., University of Miami
Staten Island University Hospital

Brett Norman Chapman, Philadelphia, PA
St. Christopher's Children's Hospital

Timothy Peter Chen, Kingston, Jamaica
A.A., Miami-Dade Community College
B.A., University of Florida
Nova Southeastern University

Tami Cimand, Davie
B.S., Florida International University

**Kenneth Cohen-Sasson, Aventura
B.S., Florida International University
Tufts College of Dental Medicine

Gonzalo Eugenio Cortes, Davie

*Elbert Raymond Davis, II, Crestview
B.S., Florida State University

**Thanhphuong Nguyen Dinh, Davie
B.S., University of California - Los Angeles

Niki J. Douros, Orland Park, IL
B.A., Washington University

Maziyar Ebrahimi, Los Angeles, CA
B.S., University of California - Los Angeles

*Jason Anthony Edwards, Tulsa, OK
B.S., Loyola University - New Orleans
The University of Illinois at Chicago

*Brock Don Evans, Lehi, UT
Nova Southeastern University

*Nadia Filice, Hannon, Ontario, CN
A.S., Pennsylvania College of Technology
A.S., Pennsylvania College of Technology

Rebeca Maria Garcia, Coral Gables
B.S., University of Miami
Veteran Affairs Hospital

Rebekka Gerson, Penn Valley, PA
B.A., Brandeis University
University of Pennsylvania

Mehdi Lee Ghavam, Ashland, OR
B.S., Oregon State University

Christopher Aaron Gordon, North Miami Beach
B.S., Florida International University

André Gerard Grenier, Hollywood
B.S., University of Miami
Nova Southeastern University

Melanie J. Gritz, Sunrise
B.S., University of Central Florida
United States Army

Nestor Eduardo Guzman, Weston
D.D.S., Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

Rose Ann Habib, Winter Park
B.S., Florida Atlantic University

Randy Wade Hamilton, III, Cleburne, TX
B.S., Brigham Young University
United States Air Force

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* Graduated with honors
** Graduated with highest honors

Italics indicate residency/internship
or place of employment.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Michael A. Hansen, Port Washington, WI
B.S., University of Wisconsin - Madison
Hometown Dental

*Alan Charles Haspel, Hollywood
B.A., University of Florida
Jackson Memorial Hospital

*Jeremy D. Hatch, American Fork, UT
B.S., Brigham Young University

Kurt Gabriel Hausy, Atlantic Beach

Allison Maria Hidalgo-Gonzalez, Miami
B.S., University of Miami

Hilary Hullah-Prill, Melbourne
B.S., University of Florida

**Anil Joseph Idiculla, St. Joseph, MO
B.A., University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania

**Kristen Nicole Igualada, Plantation
B.S., Florida Atlantic University

Gust Griffith Kapetan, Davie
B.A., Brown University

Lisa A. Klein, Davie
B.S., State University of New York - Stony Brook
M.S., Adelphi University

Miriam Ruth Lampert-Rubano, Wellington
B.S., Binghamton University

*Mario L. Laska, Weston
D.D.S., Technological University of Mexico

*Allison T. Linstroth, Racine WI
B.S., University of Wisconsin - Madison
B.S., University of Wisconsin - Madison

Ana Maria Martinez, Plantation
Nova Southeastern University

Ranzi M. Matar, Winter Park
B.S., University of Central Florida

Scott Paul McClaran, Plantation
B.S., University of Florida

Shihab M. Meah, Davie
B.S., University of Michigan - Ann Arbor
Veteran Affairs Medical Center

Rajiv Motwani, Tamarac
B.S., University of Florida

Sweetea Naggal, Ft. Lauderdale
B.S., Emory University
Staten Island University Hospital

Leyla Namdarkhan, Laguna Niguel, CA
B.S., California State University - Fullerton

Jacqueline Ann Natale, Oakland Park
B.S., Florida State University

Jessica Marie Navarro, Pembroke Pines
B.S., Barry University

John Anthony Neves, Davis, CA
B.S., University of California - San Diego

Jeffry Joseph Neville, Bountiful, UT
B.S., University of Utah
Veteran Affairs Medical Center

Brandon Cuong Nguyen, San Jose, CA
B.S., University of California - Davis

Brian D. Nguyen, Garden Grove, CA

Rhea Nicklow, Niles, OH
B.S., Case Western Reserve University
M.S., Youngstown State University

*Blake G. Parry, Chandler, AZ
B.S., Brigham Young University

Annie Khanhdung Pham, Antelope, CA
B.S., University of California - Davis

Todd Darren Pobiner, Dix Hills, NY
B.S., Pennsylvania State University
Nassau County Medical Center

Anitha Prasanna, Davie

Maria E. Pruss, Troy, MI
B.S., Michigan State University

Pamela Sue Putman, Highland Beach
A.S., Miami-Dade Community College

Syed Z. Quadri, Melbourne

Bobby Lee Raber, Hanford, CA
B.S., Brigham Young University

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Yassi Rahimian, Naples
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Shrinivas Rangarajan, Naples
B.S., City University of New York
M.A., City University of New York
Bethesda Naval Hospital

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Mark William Redford, Irvine, CA
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B.Sc., Queen's University of Kingston
University of Colorado

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Ximena P. Rojas, Hialeah
Nova Southeastern University

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B.S., University of Delaware
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Albert Einstein Hospital

Mamta Sehgal, Plano, TX
B.S., Delhi University
M.S., Delhi University

Anita Angela Sharma, Davie
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Lutheran Medical Center

Michael David Shelby, Missoula, MT
B.A., University of Montana
Shelby Family Dentistry

Scott Lewis Siegel, Davie
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Long Island Jewish Medical Center

Randal Adam Silver, Phoenix, AZ
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University of Rochester

Roy Y. Song, Lake Elsinore, CA
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Trung Minh Tang, Davie

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Henry Truong, Houston, TX
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La Rosa Dental

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B.S., University of Florida

Lauris Lyneve Wallace, Jacksonville
B.S., University of Florida

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B.S., Missouri Valley College

Jason Noel Whiting, Arvada, CO
B.S., Brigham Young University

May Yazji-Corey, Pembroke Pines

Steven Ryan Young, Farmington, NM
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Jacksonville University School of Orthodontics

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B.A., University of South Florida

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B.S., Rutgers University

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- Jason Edward Iannarelli, South Daytona
B.S., University of Central Florida
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B.S., University of Central Florida
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B.A., University of Toronto
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- Donne Joy Mangatt, Cooper City
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- Asfaw Kindeya Natu, Miramar
A.A., Miami-Dade Community College
B.S., Nova Southeastern University
- Elena Neveux, Palm City
B.S., Nova Southeastern University
- Huan Van Ngo, Flanagan, IL
B.A., Southern Illinois University
- Tracy Yen-Khanh Ngo, Fullerton, CA
B.S., California State University - Fullerton
- *Pamela Nyon, Daly City, CA
B.S., University of California - Davis
- *Samuel Joseph Overstreet, IV, Twin City, GA
B.S., Georgia Southern University
- Priti Vinay Patel, Huntsville, AL
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- Aurora Perez, Miami
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B.S., Nova Southeastern University
- Dana J. Pham, Houston, TX
B.S., University of Houston
B.S., University of Houston
- Tuoi Le Phan, North Lauderdale
B.S., Florida Atlantic University

* Graduated with honors
** Graduated with highest honors

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY

Nainesh S. Pithwa, Macon, GA
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*Ana Ruth Quintero, Weston
B.A., University of South Florida

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B.S., Nova Southeastern University

Jacqueline Rodena, Miramar
B.S., Florida State University

Christine Lee Rogiensi, Weston
B.S., University of South Florida

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Allen Boris Safir, Plano, TX
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Haleh Shams, Lake Mary
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B.S., University of Florida

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B.S., University of California - San Diego

*Jamie Lynn Taylor, Jacksonville
B.S., Nova Southeastern University

*Jared Andrew Taylor, Wilmington, NC
B.S., University of North Carolina - Wilmington

Tiffany Ann Torrans, Lake City
B.S., Nova Southeastern University

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B.S., University of Houston

Hang Minh Tseng, Baton Rouge, LA
B.S., Louisiana State University

*Rex B. Villegas, Cerritos, CA
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Lori F. Werthmiller, Spring Hill
B.S., University of South Florida

Jeffrey Wayne Workman, Ponte Vedra Beach
B.S., University of Kentucky

Gena Marie Worley, Miramar
B.S., Nova Southeastern University

Andrea Marissa Zeitlin, Sarasota
B.A., Brandeis University

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CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

Yamile Abisellan-Rodriguez, Miami
B.A., Florida International University

Cynthia Marie Adkins, Ft. Myers
A.A., University of West Florida

Mohammad I. Afaneh, Plantation

Elida M. Aguilar Bravo, San Nicolás de Los Garza, Mexico

Elba Leonor Aguilera, Hialeah

*Lizbet Alfonso, Miami Springs

*Barbara Haydee Alvarez, Davie
B.S., Florida International University

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B.Pharm., University of Science and Technology - Ghana
M.Sc., Cairo University
Ph.D., University of Illinois - Chicago

April Nadeau Anderson, Frisco, TX

Glenn Roy Antle, Miami Lakes

Jennifer M. Aramburo, Miami

Christine E. Ayers, Plantation

Ashley Paige Barthlow-Gaskins, Lake Worth
B.S., University of Florida

Yusuf Abdeali Bhaiji, Davie

Francisco E. Blanco, Miami

Samira Jeewa Blommel, Lakeland
B.A., University of Florida

*Alejandro M. Borges, Miami

**Laurence Annie Bosse, Naples
Pharm.D., University of Pharmacy of Paris

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A.A., Broward Community College
B.S., Florida Atlantic University

Noglia Nichola Bryan, Sunrise
A.A., Broward Community College

Sherrie Lee Butler, Madeira Beach

Ivonne Antonieta Camacho Mora, San Nicolás de Los Garza, Mexico

B.S., Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León
M.B.A., Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León

*Natalie Ann Campbell, Tamarac

Lys Marie Carbajales, Hialeah

Paul Barrington Carby, Deerfield Beach
B.S., University of Florida

Paulette Cecilia Caron, Boynton Beach
A.A., Palm Beach Community College

Danielle Marie Casilli-Sprimont, Inverrary
A.A., Broward Community College

Ricardo David Castañeda, Plantation
A.A., Miami-Dade Community College

Rachel Susan Chaney, Miami Beach
B.S., Florida State University

Hui-Shuang Cheng, Davie
B.S., National Defense Medical Center

Robert Liang Chew, Bowie, MD
B.S., University of Sydney
M.B.A., University of Northern Virginia

Mindi Ann Childers, Ft. Lauderdale
B.S., Nova Southeastern University

Shauna Claude, Miami

Ernest Anthony Colantino, Ft. Lauderdale
B.S., Florida Atlantic University

**Joshua Lance Conrad, Ft. Lauderdale

Alma Corak, Pompano Beach
B.S., Nova Southeastern University

Marie Antonnette Cordero-Vargas, Yauco, P.R.
B.S., University of Puerto Rico

Brenda Thuy Dang, Largo

Mariam Dallal Darwiche, Boca Raton
B.A., Florida Atlantic University

Reneé Lynn DeBiers, Davie
B.S., Barry University

Jennifer De Hombre, West Palm Beach

* Graduated with honors
** Graduated with highest honors

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

- Artemio Delgado, Miami
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B.S., University of Puerto Rico
- Mandeep K. Dhariwal, Oviedo
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M.D., University of Amazonas
- *Anyzeila Diaz, Miami
University of Illinois
- Lourdes M. Diaz, San Juan, P.R.
B.S., University of Puerto Rico
- Mariely Diaz-Negrón, Bayamón, P.R.
B.S., University of Puerto Rico
- Julia O'Connor Dickgraber, Merritt Island
A.A., Brevard Community College
- Derek Eugene Dixon, Mulberry
- Kieu Phuong Do, Orlando
A.A., Valencia Community College
- Demet N.U. Dogan, Bal Harbour
- Irma Nydia Echevarria, San Juan, P.R.
B.S., University of Puerto Rico
- Jimmy Emmanuel, Pembroke Pines
B.S., St. John's Pharmacy College
- Cristina Enriquez, Miami
- Gisela Farooqi-Munive, Miami
A.A., Miami-Dade Community College
- Denise Odette Figueroa, Trujillo Alto, P.R.
B.S., University of Puerto Rico
- Judith Finale, Hollywood
- Ayala Fishel, Sunrise
B.S., Florida Atlantic University
M.S., Florida Atlantic University
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- Theresa Elizabeth Lindsey, Jacksonville
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B.A., University of Virginia
Palmetto General Hospital

Mari Viola, Arlington Heights, IL
B.S., University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign

Timothy R. Wallace, Gibsonia, PA
B.S., Washington University
U.P.M.C. Saint Margaret

Stephen Lee Welch, Charlotte, NC
B.S., Liberty University

Kerry Lewayne Wheeler, Ft. Lauderdale
B.S., Stetson University
Palmetto General Hospital

David R. White, Chattanooga, TN
B.S., Brigham Young University
Doctor's Hospital

Joseph Richard Whitely, Rockford, IL
B.S., University of Michigan
M.S., State University of New York - Buffalo

Stanford Anthony Williamson, Miami
B.S., Florida State University
B.S., Florida State University
M.S., University of Alabama - Birmingham
Westchester General Hospital

Randy David Willis, Orlando
B.S., Troy State University
M.B.A., Florida Institute of Technology
Florida Hospital East Orlando

Daniel Paul Wiske, Milwaukee, WI
B.S., University of Wisconsin
Bi-County Community Hospital

Benjamin S. Zachar, Queensbury, NY
B.S., Siena College

Sousan Lehimgar Zadeh, Kenner, LA
B.S., Louisiana State University

Nikhat Zaman, Altamonte Springs
B.S., University of Central Florida

Mikhail Zelfman, Pompano Beach
B.S., Nova Southeastern University
North Broward Hospital District

Xaralambos Zervos, Miami
B.S., University of Miami
M.S., Barry University

Elizabeth Anne Ziner, DeBary
B.S., University of Central Florida

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COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



CONGRESSWOMAN ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

The first Hispanic woman elected to the United States Congress, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen is widely regarded as an international defender of human rights and democracy. She has also been active on the domestic front primarily on issues concerning education, children, senior citizens, women's health, victims' rights, and the environment. She is a member of the Speaker's Task Force for a Drug Free America and she is also the architect of the successful Victim's Rights Amendment for Florida. Born in Havana, Cuba in 1952, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen came to this country at the age of seven when her family decided it was time to flee communist oppression in Cuba. She earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Florida International University, and an honorary Doctor of Pedagogy Degree from Nova Southeastern University. Ros-Lehtinen began her career as an educator, and later founded a private elementary school in Florida.

Since 1982, Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen has demonstrated 20 years of legislative leadership. She served four years in the Florida House of Representatives and went on to become a State Senator. As a state legislator, she introduced and achieved the creation of the Florida Pre-Paid College Tuition program; since its inception, nearly 970,000 plans have been purchased across the state and it continues to be the largest program of its kind in the U.S. Following the death of Claude Pepper, she won a special Congressional election by beating more than ten opponents in her district. Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen currently serves on the International Relations and Government Reform Committees and she is the first Hispanic woman to chair a subcommittee. As Chair of the Subcommittee on Middle East and Central Asia, she has become a leading figure shaping foreign policy.

Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen and her husband, Dexter Lehtinen, the former U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, met in the Florida House, were State Senators together, and have four children.

DENTAL MEDICINE OATH

I do hereby affirm my loyalty to the profession I am about to enter.

*I will be mindful always of my great responsibility to preserve
the health of my patients, to retain their confidence and respect,
and to perform faithfully my professional duties.*

*I will be ever vigilant in aiding in the general welfare of the community,
sustaining its laws and institutions, not engaging in those practices
which will in any way bring shame or discredit upon myself or my profession.*

*I will endeavor to work in accord with my colleagues
in a spirit of progressive cooperation,*

And I will look with respect and esteem upon all those who have taught me my art.

*To my college I will be loyal and strive for its best interests
and for the interest of the students who will come after me.*

*I will ever be alert to further the application of basic biological truths,
and technical advances in my chosen profession, Dental Medicine.*

OPTOMETRIC OATH

With full deliberation, I freely and solemnly pledge that:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PHARMACIST'S OATH

At this time, I vow to devote my professional life to the service of humankind through the profession of pharmacy.

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

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

I will keep abreast of developments and maintain professional competency in my profession of pharmacy.

I will maintain the highest principles of moral, ethical, and legal conduct.

I will embrace and advocate change in the profession of pharmacy that improves patient care.

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



OSTEOPATHIC OATH

*I do hereby affirm my loyalty
to the profession I am about to enter,
I will be mindful always of my great responsibility
to preserve the health and the life of my patients,
to retain their confidence and respect both
as a physician and a friend who will guard their secrets
with scrupulous honor and fidelity, to perform faithfully
my professional duties, to employ only those recognized
methods of treatment consistent with good judgement and
with my skills and ability, keeping in mind always nature's laws
and the body's inherent capacity for recovery.*

*I will be ever vigilant in aiding
in the general welfare of the community,
sustaining its laws and institutions,
not engaging in those practices which will in any way
bring shame or discredit upon myself or my profession.
I will give no drugs for deadly purposes to any person,
though it will be asked of me.*

*I will endeavor to work in accord with my colleagues in a spirit
of progressive cooperation and never by word or by act cast
imputations upon them or their rightful practices.*

*I will look with respect and esteem upon all those who have taught
me my art. To my college I will be loyal and strive for its best
interests and for the interest of the students who will
come after me. I will ever be alert to further the application
of basic biologic truths to the healing arts and to develop
the principles of osteopathy which were first
enunciated by Andrew Taylor Still.*

ACADEMIC PROCESSION AND REGALIA

The Academic Processional is a longstanding tradition which originated in medieval university in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Attired in cap, hood and gown, the faculty would present itself and its students to the local community for inspection.

The gown was originally thought to be worn for warmth and to denote authority and privilege. Today, black is the color of the gown for all degrees, although variations represent the difference in the level of the degree.

The medieval hood was worn as a protection from the elements or used as a satchel to carry scrolls and books. The modern hood worn today is lined with satin in the colors of the institution conferring the degree (Nova Southeastern University colors are blue and gray).

In addition, the hood is trimmed with various colors of velvet facing, each color representing the academic discipline in which the degree has been granted. Salmon color has been designated to represent the public health degree, gold signifies medical sciences, and lilac represents dental medicine. Green has been selected as the appropriate color for osteopathic medicine, seafoam green for optometry and olive green for pharmacy - the colors of life and growth.

The academic cap, at one time worn by freed Roman slaves, signifies the wearer's right to academic freedom and attests to the dignity endowed upon the wearer and the responsibility for maintaining the highest practical and ethical standards.

During the Middle Ages, the mace was displayed as a symbol to command order during royal gatherings, ceremonies, and university classes. The mace progressed into a symbol of authority and today is frequently used to lead academic processions.

The mace was originally a wooden staff carried by royal messengers as a symbol to preserve order and usher royal functions. The early wooden staff of such royal messengers or lead ushers of ceremonial processions was transformed in the 14th century, into an elaborate sterling silver mace. Eventually, in the 15th century, it evolved into a symbol of academic excellence and dignity.

Graduates who have been recognized for academic achievement by the college or by an honor society are wearing medallions or honor cords. The medallions are worn by members of Psi Sigma Alpha, the national osteopathic medical honor society. The honor cords are worn by members of Rho Chi, the national pharmacy honor society; by members of Beta Sigma Kappa, the international optometric honor society; by members of Omicron Kappa Upsilon, the national dental honor society; and by the top ten percent of the graduating class of the College of Osteopathic Medicine.



