

MISSION STATEMENT

Rocky Vista University
provides quality healthcare education
while inspiring students to serve with
compassion, integrity, and excellence.



ROCKY VISTA UNIVERSITY UTAH

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

CLASS OF 2023 COMMENCEMENT

THIRTEENTH OF MAY
TWO-THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE



ORDER OF CEREMONY

PROCESSIONAL AND POSTING OF COLORS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Ciara Robb, OMS II

INVOCATION

Thomas N. Told, DO, FACOFP, (dist.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF PURPOSE

Ed Bilsky, PhD: *Provost and Chief Academic Officer*

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Stan Albrecht, PhD

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Robert Allen, MBA, FACHE – *President and CEO of Intermountain Healthcare*

AWARDS PRESENTATION

David Crimin, DO

PRESENTATION, PROCESSION, AND HOODING OF THE COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

CONFERRAL OF THE DO DEGREE AND TASSEL CEREMONY

Ed Bilsky, PhD

OSTEOPATHIC OATH

David Crimin, DO

DEANS CHARGE

Heather Ferrill, DO, MS, MEdL; *Vice President of Faculty Affairs, Dean of RVUCOM*

MILITARY COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

Rear Adm. Bruce L. Gillingham, MD

CLOSING REMARKS

Ed Bilsky, PhD

RECESSIONAL

THE 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 judgment
and with my skill 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 nefarious purposes to any person, though it may 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 and my profession, I will be loyal and strive always for its best interests
and for the interests of the students who will come after me.

I will be ever alert to further the application of basic biologic truths
to the healing arts and to develop the principles of osteopathic medicine
which were first enunciated by Andrew Taylor Still.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Utah Class of 2023, families, faculty, and members of the RVU Community,

Today is a celebration, not only for the students, but for everyone who has played a foundational role in their lives. These students wouldn't be here today if not for your support, love, and confidence.

Graduates: today, you take the next steps in your career, entering the health-care workforce at a time when you are most needed, ready and prepared to take your place alongside the rest of the medical team of which you have earned the right to be a part.

You are joining a network of approximately 114,000 practicing osteopathic physicians across the nation. By joining this network, you become part of a group of providers dedicated to finding and promoting health in all your future patients. Be loyal to your profession and remember to treat all of your patients with the utmost of compassion and care. Remember that everyone is someone's loved one—treat them as you would your own family.

As you transition from RVU Students to Alumni, remember to express gratitude to those who have helped you on your journey—your family, friends, faculty, and staff—all of whom stood with you to cheer you on during the good times as well as those challenging moments and now share with you a sense of pride and accomplishment. Also remember that you are always a part of the RVU Family. Never stop learning, and growing in mind, body, and spirit as you become an integral member of the communities you will serve.

We look forward to your future accomplishments and know that you will make us proud!

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Forstein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David A. Forstein, DO, FACOOG (dist.)
President and CEO
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Robert (Rob) W. Allen, MBA, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer
Intermountain Healthcare

Rob Allen is president and CEO of Intermountain Healthcare, a leading nonprofit health system headquartered in Utah with locations in seven states and operations across the western U.S. Prior to beginning his role as president and CEO in November 2022, Rob served as chief operating officer for five years. He was named one of the top 25 COOs in healthcare by Modern Healthcare. Rob has served in executive leadership at Intermountain for 25 years.

Under his leadership, Rob has helped propel Intermountain to national recognition as a leading model for innovating health and wellness solutions, increasing value, and improving affordability and accessibility to all. He led the system efforts to develop and launch innovative outreach, telehealth, and clinical shared service models. He led Intermountain's nationally recognized operational work and continuous improvement culture to align providers, caregivers, and services across much of the interior west.

Rob has also held CEO roles at hospitals and health systems in Wyoming, New Jersey, and Massachusetts. A fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, Rob has served on many foundation, chamber, and service boards. One of Rob's ongoing passions is mentoring healthcare executives—nurturing leadership excellence for the future.

Rob earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Utah State University and a Bachelor of Science Degree in operations management from Brigham Young University. His love of healthcare began during his childhood as he was raised on a farm in Star Valley, Wyoming, where his mother served as a nurse and later as administrator at Star Valley Hospital. He and his wife, Becky, have three children and four grandchildren.

Intermountain Healthcare is a nonprofit system of 33 hospitals; 385 clinics; 60,000 employees; medical groups with some 3,900 employed physicians and advanced care providers; a health plans division called SelectHealth with more than one million members; and other health services. With its mission of helping people live the healthiest lives possible, Intermountain is committed to improving community health and is widely recognized as a leader in transforming healthcare by using evidence-based best practices to consistently deliver high-quality outcomes at sustainable costs.

CLASS OF 2023 GRADUATION AWARD WINNERS

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Lindsey Butts

DEAN'S AWARD

Zoie Greenburg

CLASS VALEDICTORIAN

Matthew Brophy

CLINICAL YEAR AWARDS

Internal Medicine: Jacob Kirkpatrick
Obstetrics and Gynecology: Jessica Carlson
Pediatrics: Patrick Warr
Psychiatry: Katie Clark

EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL MEDICINE AWARD

Katie Clark

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Kristen D'Orazio

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Anatomical Sciences: Stefan Root
Medical Humanities: Shannon McKim
Osteopathic Principles and Practice: Zoie Greenburg
Primary Care Medicine: Michael Wells

TRACK AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Academic Medicine and Leadership: Stephanie Tom

MILITARY SERVICE AWARD

Reese Cooper

WILLIAM G. ANDERSON RESILIENCY AWARD

Aaron Machen

AMERICAN MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (AMWA)

Alexa Fritsch



FELLOWS

JOSHUA CLASON

Osteopathic Principles and Practice Fellow
Internal Medicine
East Alabama Med Ctr
Opelika, AL

LINDSAY ELLSON

Osteopathic Principles and Practice Fellow
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Phys Medicine & Rehab
ECU Health Med Ctr-NC
Greenville, NC

STACY FORBES

Simulation Fellow
Global Medicine Track
Pediatrics
ECU Health Med Ctr-NC
Greenville, NC

ALEXA FRITSCH *

Anatomy Fellow
American Medical Women's Association
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
McKay-Dee Hospital Ctr-UT
Ogden, UT

JESSICA HARPER

Osteopathic Principles and Practice Fellow
Obstetrics-Gynecology
HCA Las Palmas del Sol Healthcare-TX
El Paso, TX

ABIGAIL LIMOV

Anatomy Fellow
Sigma Sigma Phi
Emergency Medicine
Kirk Kerkorian SOM at UNLV-NV
Las Vegas, NV

CHRISTINE MEACHAM-FELLING

Simulation Fellow
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Emergency Medicine
Sunrise Health GME Consortium-NV
Las Vegas, NV

KODEE RASMUSSEN *

Simulation Fellow
Sigma Sigma Phi
General Surgery
Kettering Health Network-OH/Grandview
Dayton, OH

DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE - CLASS OF 2023

TYLER ADAMS

Orthopaedic Surgery
Riverside University Health Sys-CA
Moreno Valley, CA

VANNESSA ADAMS

Long Term Care Track
Internal Medicine
U Arizona COM-Tucson
Tucson, AZ

MITCHELL ALLEN

Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Psychiatry
University of Utah Health/ Rural Idaho Track
Salt Lake City, UT

RALDON ALLRED

Long Term Care Track
Emergency Medicine
University of Utah Health/ Rural Idaho
TrackAbrazo Health Network-AZ
Phoenix, AZ

RYLAN ANDERSON

Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Family Medicine
Idaho State University
Pocatello, ID

YURI ANDERSON

Gold Humanism Honor Society
Family Medicine
Dignity Methodist Hosp-Sacramento-CA
Sacramento, CA

BRANDON BARTON

Military Medicine
General Surgery
San Antonio Military Medical Center
San Antonio, TX

MACARENA BASANES

Global Medicine Track
Family Medicine
Ventura County Med Ctr-CA
Ventura, CA

MELODY BEDROSSIAN
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Anesthesiology
Kaweah Delta Health Care District-CA
Visalia, CA

JEREMY BERGMAN
Internal Medicine
U Texas Med Branch-Galveston
Galveston, TX

BRENNAN BOHMAN
Military Medicine
Internal Medicine
Keesler FTB
Biloxi, MS

MATTHEW BROPHY *
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
General Surgery
SUNY Upstate Med University
Syracuse, NY

BRANDON BROWN
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Anesthesiology (Transitional)
Sunrise Health GME Consortium-NV
Las Vegas, NV

DAVID BROWN
Psychiatry
Eastern Idaho Reg Med Ctr
Idaho Falls, ID

RAKAEL BROWN
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Emergency Medicine
Florida State University COM
Sarasota, FL

TYLER BURKHART
Anesthesiology
U Louisville SOM-KY
Louisville, KY

LINDSEY BUTTS *
Long Term Care Track
Sigma Sigma Phi
General Surgery
U Arizona COM-Tucson
Tucson, AZ

WILL BYRNE-QUINN
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Pediatrics
U Arizona COM-Tucson
Tucson, AZ

JESSICA CARLSON
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Sigma Sigma Phi
Obstetrics-Gynecology
Texas Tech U Affil-Lubbock
Lubbock, TX

EMILY CHANAK
Long Term Care Track
Family Medicine
UC San Francisco-Fresno-CA
Fresno, CA

LUCAS CHANDRA
Long Term Care Track
Internal Medicine
Community Mem Health Sys-CA
Ventura, CA

THOMAS CHANDY
Psychiatry
Loma Linda University-CA
Redlands, CA

EMILY CHEA
Digital Health Track
Neurology
U New Mexico SOM
Albuquerque, NM

KATHRYN CHEN
Long Term Care Track
Family Medicine
PeaceHealth Southwest Med Ctr-WA
Vancouver, WA

JOSEPH CHRISTENSEN
Family Medicine
Halifax Med Ctr-FL
Daytona Beach, FL

PAYTON CHRISTENSEN
Family Medicine
East Tennessee St Univ
Bristol, TN

GABRIEL CLARK
Global Medicine Track
Psychiatry
Prisma Health-U of SC SOM Greenville
Greer, SC

KATIE CLARK
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Psychiatry
Wright State Univ Boonshoft SOM-OH
Fairborn, OH

ROBERT COBO
Emergency Medicine
Abrazo Health Network-AZ
Goodyear, AZ

ANDREW COLLYER
Military Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Darnall Army Medical Center
Fort Hood, TX

REESE COOPER
Military Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
David Grant Medical Center at Travis AFB
Fairfield, CA

TYLER COX
Global Medicine Track
Pathology
Virginia Commonwealth U Hlth Sys
Richmond, VA

TREVAR DAHL
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Pediatrics
Childrens Hospital-NEOMED-OH
Akron, OH

DANIEL DASKALAKIS
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
General Surgery
Mercy Med Ctr-Des Moines-IA
Des Moines, IA

ELLIOTT DAVIS
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
General Surgery
HonorHealth-AZ/Lincoln
Phoenix, AZ

KRISTEN D'ORAZIO
Military Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Mike O'Callaghan Federal Hospital
Las Vegas, NV

CRYSTAL DORGALLI
Internal Medicine
Riverside Community Hospital-CA
Riverside, CA

LEVI ERICKSON
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Psychiatry
Baylor Scott & White Med Ctr-TX
Temple, TX

STEVEN GARNETT
Surgery-Preliminary
UIC/MI Sinai Hosp Med Ctr-IL
Chicago, IL

ZOIE GREENBURG
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Osteo Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine
Charleston Area Med Ctr-WV
Ronceverte, WV

DYLAN GRONSET
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Emergency Medicine
U Illinois COM-Peoria OSF
Peoria, IL

JORDAN HALL
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Emergency Medicine
U Arizona COM-South Campus
Tucson, AZ

DUSTIN HALVERSON
Military Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Pediatrics
San Antonio Military Medical Center
San Antonio, TX

TALON HARRIS
Family Medicine
Skagit Regional Health-WA
Mount Vernon, WA

CARSON HART
Psychiatry
Campbell University-NC
Fayetteville, NC

ROMINA HASHEMIZADEH
Internal Medicine
Arrowhead Reg Med Ctr-CA
Colton, CA

CONNOR HASKINS *
Global Medicine Track
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Pediatrics
Kirk Kerkorian SOM at UNLV-NV
Las Vegas, NV

GRETA HELD

Gold Humanism Honor Society
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Pediatrics
U Illinois COM-Peoria OSF
Peoria, IL

KAYLEIGH HELGESEN

Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Psychiatry
Berkshire Med Ctr-MA
Pittsfield, MA

MIKAYLA HENNEN

Gold Humanism Honor Society
Internal Medicine
U Louisville SOM-KY
Louisville, KY

JOSHUA HICKS

Emergency Medicine
Baylor Scott & White Med Ctr-TX
Temple, TX

DANA HOFFMAN

Military Medicine
Internal Medicine
Magnolia Regional Health Ctr-MS
Corinth, MS

TYLER HOWLETT

Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Family Medicine
McLaren Health Care Corp-MI
Bay City, MI

THEIN HTUT

Internal Medicine
St Mary Med Ctr-Langhorne-PA
Langhorne, PA

JORDAN JEX

Emergency Medicine
Sunrise Health GME Consortium-NV
Las Vegas, NV

MAC JOLLY

Global Medicine Track

ARYUNZAYA JONES

Internal Medicine
Legacy Emanuel/Good Samaritan-OR
Portland, OR

CARL KETCHAM

Gold Humanism Honor Society
Family Medicine
Kirk Kerkorian SOM at UNLV-NV
Las Vegas, NV

JACOB KING

Gold Humanism Honor Society
Anesthesiology
Mayo Clinic School of Grad Med Educ-FL
Jacksonville, FL

JACOB KIRKPATRICK *

Internal Medicine
U Washington Boise-ID
Boise, ID

KRISTEN KOPYSTYNSKY

Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Internal Medicine
Mountain AHEC-NC
Asheville, NC

REGIS LEE

Long Term Care Track
Internal Medicine
Riverside Community Hospital-CA
Riverside, CA

RYAN LOFTHOUSE

Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Centura Health Corporation-CO
Pueblo, CO

LOGAN LOOMIS

Military Medicine
General Surgery
David Grant Medical Center at Travis AFB
Fairfield, CA

MEGAN MAAR

Family Medicine
New Hanover Reg Med Ctr-NC
Wilmington, NC

AARON MACHEN

Gold Humanism Honor Society
Sigma Sigma Phi
Surgery-Preliminary
Texas Tech U Affil-El Paso
El Paso, TX

COLTON MCBRIDE

Sigma Sigma Phi
Radiology-Diagnostic (Transitional)
Lehigh Valley Hosp-PA
Allentown, PA

COLIN MCCLOSKEY

Military Medicine
Surgery-Preliminary
Penn State Hershey Med Ctr-PA
Hershey, PA

SHANNON MCKIM
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Family Medicine
University of Utah Health
Salt Lake City, UT

KEVIN MCNEIL *
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Internal Medicine
Kirk Kerkorian SOM at UNLV-NV
Las Vegas, NV

AUSTIN MEYER
Internal Medicine
HealthONE-CO/Sky Ridge
Lone Tree, CO

ALEXANDRA MOODY
Global Medicine Track
Gold Humanism Honor Society
General Surgery
HealthONE-CO/Swedish Med Ctr
Englewood, CO

KALON MORGAN
Urology
UT Health Science Ctr-San Antonio
San Antonio, TX

CHANDLER MORTON
Pediatrics
University of Nebraska Med Ctr
Omaha, NE

SPENCER NAKAMOTO
Long Term Care Track
Anesthesiology
Med Coll Wisconsin Affil Hosps
Milwaukee, WI

SCHUYLER NEBEKER
Internal Medicine
Grand Strand Reg Med Ctr-SC
Myrtle Beach, SC

JENNY NGUYEN
Family Medicine
U Illinois COM-Peoria UPHM
Peoria, IL

TANNER NIELSEN *
Sigma Sigma Phi
Emergency Medicine
CHRISTUS Health-TX
Corpus Christi, TX

NICHOLAS NOYCE *
Sigma Sigma Phi
Dermatology (Transitional)
St Anthony Hospital-OK
Oklahoma City, OK

JULIAN ORTIZ
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Emergency Medicine
St Elizabeth Boardman
Youngstown, OH

BIRVA PATEL
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Internal Medicine
Riverside Community Hospital-CA
Riverside, CA

CAMERON PERNICH *
Sigma Sigma Phi
Anesthesiology
Oklahoma State U Ctr for Health Sci
Tulsa, OK

RYNE PETERS
Internal Medicine
Eastern Idaho Reg Med Ctr
Idaho Falls, ID

SAMUEL POLLOCK *
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Montana Family Medicine
Billings, MT

SAMEER REDDY
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Family Medicine
Penn State Hershey Med Ctr-PA
Hershey, PA

ANNA RICE
Internal Medicine
Creighton University-NE
Omaha, NE

STEFAN ROOT *
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Sunrise Health GME Consortium-NV
Las Vegas, NV

EASTON ROTHWELL *
Internal Medicine
Texas Health Resources/Harris Methodist
Fort Worth, TX

RIA SANDHU
Long Term Care Track
Family Medicine
U Oklahoma COM-Tulsa
Tulsa, OK

PARKER SCHOUTEN
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Family Medicine
Deaconess Hospital-IN
Evansville, IN

BHAVANA SEELAM
Pediatrics
Central Iowa Health System
Des Moines, IA

DEVAN SHEFFIELD
Family Medicine
U Texas HSC-Tyler
Tyler, TX

KYLE SHEPHERD
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Kirk Kerkorian SOM at UNLV-NV
Las Vegas, NV

CHRISTIAN SMITH
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Univ of Wyoming-Cheyenne
Cheyenne, WY

CRAIG SMITH
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Providence Hospital-AK
Anchorage, AK

MIKAYLA SPIRES
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Emergency Medicine
HCA Houston Healthcare/U Houston-TX
Houston, TX

DALLAS STEINER
Digital Health Track
Sigma Sigma Phi
Psychiatry
U Kansas SOM-Kansas City
Kansas City, KS

JOSEPH STENBERG
Global Medicine Track
Pathology
U New Mexico SOM
Albuquerque, NM

LANDON STEVENSON
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Family Medicine
Montana Family Medicine
Billings, MT

NATHAN STONEKING
Rural and Wilderness Medicine
Family Medicine
Deaconess Hospital-IN
Evansville, IN

ASHLYN SWERDLOFF
Global Medicine Track
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Sigma Sigma Phi
Pediatrics
Prisma Health-U of SC SOM Greenville
Greenville, SC

SARAH TANG
Surgery-Preliminary
UC Davis Med Ctr-CA
Sacramento, CA

NOAH THACKERAY
Pediatrics
U Louisville SOM-KY
Louisville, KY

STEPHANIE TOM
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Pediatrics
SUNY Upstate Med University
Syracuse, NY

AMANDA TORRES
Military Medicine
Transitional Year
Tripler Army Medical Center
Honolulu, HI

ANTHONY TRAN
Long Term Care Track
Internal Medicine
Community Mem Health Sys-CA
Ventura, CA

JUSTIN TSE
Digital Health Track
Internal Medicine
Sutter Health-CA
Roseville, CA

JOSHUA UNGER
Emergency Medicine
HCA Houston Healthcare/U Houston-TX
Houston, TX

KIRSTEN VALAAS
Military Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Internal Medicine
Wright Patterson Medical Center
Green County, OH

TYLER WALL
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Gold Humanism Honor Society
Sigma Sigma Phi
Family Medicine
Creighton University-AZ
Phoenix, AZ

HE WANG
Radiology-Diagnostic (Transitional)
Sunrise Health GME Consortium-NV
Las Vegas, NV

MEGAN WANG
Digital Health Track
Family Medicine
AnMed Health-SC
Anderson, SC

PATRICK WARR
Pediatrics
Loma Linda University-CA
Loma Linda, CA

MICHAEL WELLS
Military Medicine
Sigma Sigma Phi
Internal Medicine
San Antonio Military Medical Center
San Antonio, TX

SPENCER WILHELM
Global Medicine Track
Family Medicine
Full Circle Health-ID
Boise, ID

NICOLE WOJCIK
Family Medicine
Ascension St Joseph-IL
Chicago, IL

CANDANCE WONG
Sigma Sigma Phi

PAUL YANG
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
Family Medicine
Desert Regional Med Ctr-CA
Palm Springs, CA

TYLER YATES
Obstetrics-Gynecology
Beaumont Health-MI
Trenton, MI

YOUSIF YOUHANA
Long Term Care Track
Internal Medicine
Tucson Hospitals Med Ed-AZ
Tucson, AZ

KRISTEN ZACHARIAH
Military Medicine
Family Medicine
USAF Regional Hospital
Eglin AFB, FL

MATTHEW ZAREMBA
Academic Medicine and Leadership Track
General Surgery
Ascension Genesys Hospital-MI
Grand Blanc, MI

MICHELLE ZHANG
Long Term Care Track
Family Medicine
Ocean Med Ctr-NY
Brooklyn, NY

THE UNIVERSITY MACE



Historically, the mace has been used as a symbol of authority in military, first originating as a weapon to protect the king. As the custom of carrying a mace into war disappeared, it made its way into governmental ceremonies.

The mace made its way into the university setting in the 15th century and is primarily associated with commencement ceremonies. With the Class of 2012 Commencement on the horizon, a search was launched for the perfect mace to represent RVU. All options were made of metal, looked generic, and didn't reflect who we are.

Instead, RVU decided to commission the creation of something special. Chuck Hunsberger, husband of Katy Hunsberger, previous Associate Director of Admissions, was asked to carve the mace from wood. A skilled woodworker, Chuck used over five kinds of Colorado wood, creating an elegant yet rustic mace that represents RVU through and through.

The mace has been present at every commencement ceremony, starting with its first appearance at the inaugural class graduation.

THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

The Presidential Medallion of Rocky Vista University is made of brass and weighs 24 ounces.

It displays the seal of RVU in blue and gold. The chain consists of two plates each depicting the Rod of Asclepius (a snake encircling a staff)—the symbol of medicine and healthcare in the United States.

There are an additional nine plates that display each of RVU's core values: Collegiality, Compassion, Diversity, Equity, Excellence, Inclusivity, Innovation, Integrity, and Service.

Above the seal, there are four plates displaying the current President, David A. Forstein, DO, FACOOG, as well as three previous presidents: Clinton E. Adams, DO, Cheryl D. Lovell, PhD, and Robert R. Roehrich, PhD.



The Medallion is worn by the sitting President during commencement and, when not in use, is displayed in the President's Suite.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Rocky Vista University Alumni Association was founded in 2012 as a way to provide graduates with an active and united organization, dedicated to the advancement of osteopathic medical education and related health and biomedical sciences. The Association members mentor current students, interview prospective applicants, and attend networking events. The Alumni Association identifies sources of—and educates the public on the need for—clinical rotations, internships, and residency programs for students and graduates. Additionally, the Association offers scholarships to incoming students of Rocky Vista University.



*RVU wishes to express acknowledgement and appreciation to
Ms. Erica Whatley, Mrs. Kailyn Salmon, the Graduation Committee,
and the numerous volunteers whose efforts made this ceremony possible.*