

"SLU School of Medicine is becoming a place of interactive learning, where students learn in small groups and have the resources and spaces that support their wellbeing."

— **Christine K. Jacobs, M.D., FAAFP**
 Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean
 Saint Louis University School of Medicine

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Christine Winter
 Director of Communications
 School of Medicine

Christine K. Jacobs, M.D., FAAFP
 Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean
 Saint Louis University School of Medicine

Schwitalla Hall M268
 1402 South Grand Blvd.
 St. Louis, MO 63104-1028

Contributors

Editorial
 Paradigm New Media Group

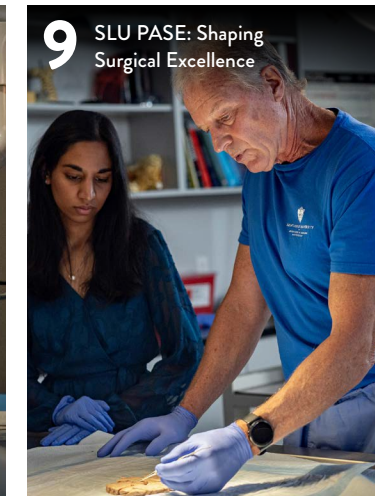
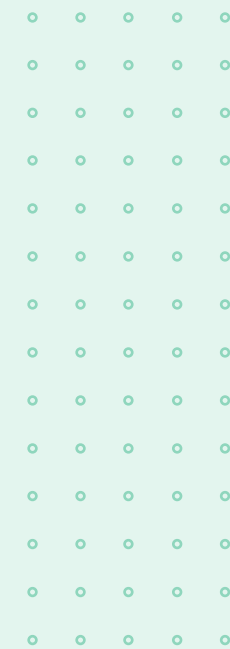
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 Sarah Conroy

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If you have any content suggestions, please email us at:
christine.winter.1@health.slu.edu

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Letter From the Dean

Dear friends,

This time of year is filled with excitement at the School of Medicine. In May, we celebrated the graduation of 176 new physicians and 61 masters and doctoral-trained scientists and health professionals. In late July, we will welcome our incoming class of highly accomplished medical students from across the region and country, soon to be followed by new graduate students.

The 2023-2024 academic year was marked by exceptional faculty and staff engagement including focused preparation for our upcoming Liaison Committee on Medical Education re-accreditation review, strengthening our research cores, implementing initiatives of our Well-being Task Force, and achieving a 99.4% residency match rate for the SLU School of Medicine class of 2024, compared to the 93.5% national rate for U.S. M.D. seniors.

We are growing and thriving. We are delighted that 23 SLU medical school graduates are joining our SLU-SSM residency programs. Our research expenditures and clinical trials continue to increase. Our academic practice, the SLUCare Physician Group, expanded to 687 clinical faculty. We are building our community engagement with our mobile clinic and service experiences for medical students. And, our pipeline programs for students in the community are diversifying.

We are living our mission of excellence in education, research, clinical care, and community engagement, guided by our five-year strategic plan. We are excited to share our Vision for the Future with you in this issue.

With gratitude for your support,

Christine K. Jacobs, M.D., FAAFP

Vice President for Medical Affairs and Dean of the School of Medicine



Give the gift of a SLU School of Medicine education.
giving.slu.edu/medicine

“We are living our mission of excellence in education, research, clinical care, and community engagement, guided by our five-year strategic plan.”



A BOLD VISION FOR TOMORROW'S CLINICIANS

The Saint Louis University School of Medicine, under the leadership of Dean Christine Jacobs, M.D., has established a bold path for transformative advancement in medical education. Remaining steadfast to its five-year strategic vision, the School emphasizes four priorities for investment — the recruitment and support of students whose diversity and background connect with the St. Louis community, the development of exceptional learning environments, the expansion of medical research, and the recruitment and retention of excellent leadership.

“One of the most exciting things about our past, present, and future is our ongoing commitment to building on the legacy of training excellent clinicians,” Jacobs said. “We’re moving into the modern age, teaching our learners classic principles in a new way.”

Accelerating Access to Medical Education

Given its renown for graduating excellent clinicians, SLU School of Medicine is tasked with drawing top-tier students from the local region and beyond. Its efforts are directed toward attracting students who align with its mission and values and have a strong affinity for the community it serves. To achieve this goal, the School is focused on establishing student Opportunity Scholarships that increase access to medical education.

These scholarships are an essential investment in underserved and economically disadvantaged students. They enrich the medical school experience — bringing together students with different perspectives and life experiences. The Opportunity Scholarships lift the burden and allow medical students to focus on their training rather than financial stress.

“It is important for us to train future physicians who are cognizant of and reflect the community that we live in,” Jacobs said. “Medical education is not just learning about diagnosis and treatment. It’s about understanding the world around us and how we can best help our people to be healthy.”



Medical students practice ultrasounds in the SLU School of Medicine Clinical Skills Center.

Adding endowed positions will allow the School to advance initiatives in research and clinical care, and inspire new approaches to medical education.

The School launched the Center for Educator Development, Advancement, and Research (CEDAR) in September 2023 to develop faculty leadership in medical education. CEDAR champions the use of evidence-based teaching and learning practices, develops faculty as educators across the School, and supports collaborative educational leadership. Its establishment reflects the School’s dedication to be a home for medical education excellence.

“We have significant scholarship and research that attracts faculty who have an academic mindset,” Jacobs said. “We value teaching, which is why we started CEDAR to help train our medical educators to be as effective as possible for our students.”

Transforming the Future Begins Now

SLU School of Medicine maintains its commitment to educating and training the highest-caliber clinicians of the future. With an innovative curriculum, dedicated community spaces, and forward-thinking leaders, the years ahead appear bright.

However, a vision without action is just a dream, so the School is taking another tangible step forward. A comprehensive campaign for resourcing the School’s vision will soon be shared with the community.

“One of the most exciting things about our past, present, and future is our ongoing commitment to building on the legacy of training excellent clinicians.”

— Christine K. Jacobs, M.D., FAAFP

Shared Experiences and a Sense of Belonging

A holistic approach to medical education requires a balance between textbook and experiential learning. Collaborative learning environments are imperative for students’ wellness, clinical experiences, and interprofessional development. The School has condensed its preclinical curriculum to 18 months to increase hands-on opportunities and apply what is learned through real-life clinical experiences.

The curriculum update also opens the door for students to translate their knowledge into clinical work alongside classmates and peers in nursing and other allied health professionals.

Newly-established community spaces give students a home where they are able to interact through experiential learning, develop as students, and form lasting connections for their future careers. Community spaces, such as the Lo Family 360 classroom and the Wellness Center, have facilitated deep

connections among students and faculty and enhanced active, collaborative learning. These physical gifts funded by generous donors transform how students learn, study, and practice medicine.

“This is not a time where we can educate our learners by having them sit in a dark amphitheater and listen to a professor,” Jacobs said. “Our learners must be engaged and interactive in order to become inquisitive and thoughtful clinicians. These spaces are a wonderful start, but we have much work ahead to create the best physical learning environment for our students.”

Innovative Researchers and Medical Leaders

SLU School of Medicine strives to be at the forefront of academic medicine. Through its steady research growth, it has developed innovative approaches in research excellence in basic, clinical, and translational science.

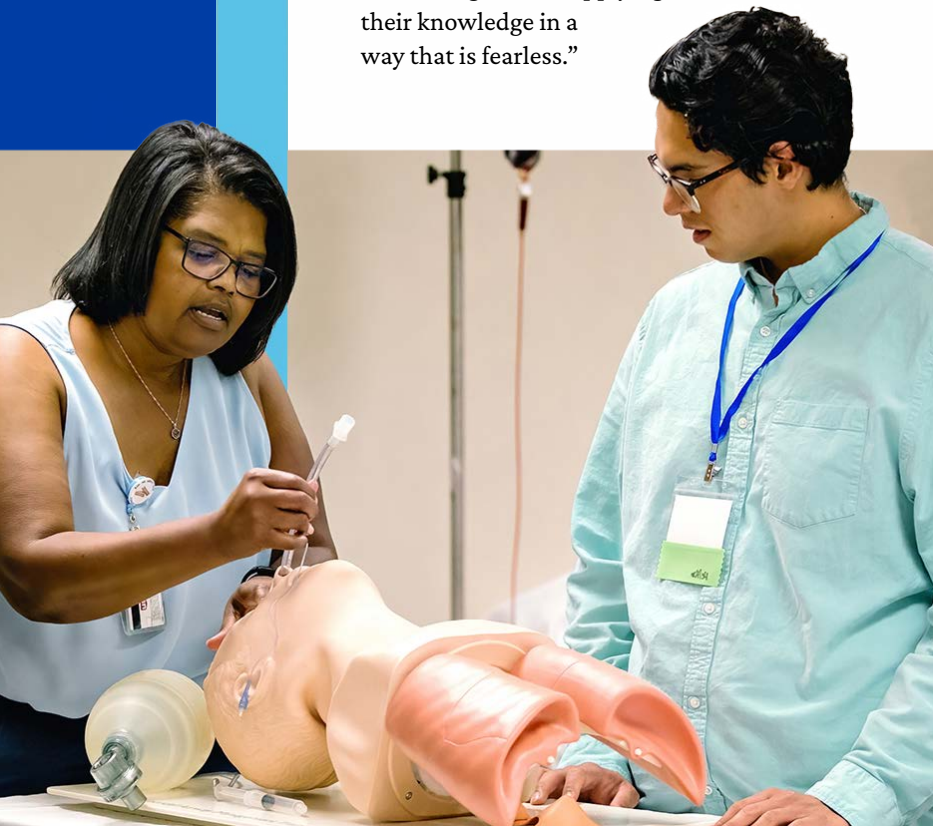
As the School elevates its status as a preeminent research institution, it will recruit visionary department chairs and faculty to broaden its research interests and academic success.

Translating Classroom Learning into Clinical Practice

The Saint Louis University School of Medicine Simulation Center strikes a balance between traditional and experiential education, preparing students for their professional careers. It cultivates an active learning environment through patient simulators where confidence, technical skills, and clinical reasoning can flourish.

Tina Chen, M.D., associate dean of simulation and clinical skills, said the Center is an essential educational site where SLU students can practice both synthesis and knowledge application before residency.

“Simulation is the medical education of the future,” Chen said. “We want students to feel comfortable experimenting, speaking their thoughts, and applying their knowledge in a way that is fearless.”



Dr. Katrina Wade teaching simulation to a student.

“Simulation is the medical education of the future.”

— Tina Chen, M.D.

Students shared that the Center helps their lectures come to life — connecting concepts directly to patient care. Brittany Bonty, (Med '27), said the simulations accelerate understanding of complex medical situations.

“Medical simulations translate clinical vignettes to the exam tables,” Bonty said. “It allows us to practice clinical diagnosis skills prior to clinical rotations and probe the expertise of our physician facilitators.”

The Center customizes simulations to connect students with their course modules. In April 2024, Chen and her team

linked simulations to their first-year medical students' cardiovascular organ module, where students learned about cardiac physiology and how to interpret an electrocardiogram (EKG).

“This simulated experience helped solidify the foundational knowledge that medical students need to be aware of,” Chen said. “This was a way of contextualizing and applying the reading they do as preclinical students.”

Zaid Khaja, (Med '27), shared that additional simulation labs improved his academic performance and bedside communication skills.

“By gaining clinical experience early, I find more meaning in my studies — connecting the concepts I am learning directly to patient care,” Khaja said.

The School of Medicine has exciting plans to expand simulation in the future. Looking ahead, Chen aims to craft more application-based learning opportunities for students — addressing their desires for facilitative feedback and real-world clinical experience.

Setting the Bar High in Surgical Simulations

In Young Hall, faculty educate residents and medical students through advanced surgery simulations. The Saint Louis University Surgical Simulation Center holds seven dedicated machines for surgery practices, including a laparoscopic simulator, vascular angiography simulator, multiple ultrasound simulators, and a da Vinci Xi surgeon console with SimNow simulation software.

Christopher Behr, M.D., director of surgical simulation and associate program director for the SSM-SLU surgical critical care fellowship, said the Center serves as a critical learning opportunity within the School of Medicine for both hands-on surgical practices and robotic procedures.

“Our goal was to create a top-of-the-line surgical center for as many general surgery specialties as possible,” Behr said. “I would put us up against any center in the country because of the machines we have and the access we give to our residents and students.”

Each student is able to practice a different skill or procedure prior to entering an operating room. The Center also holds new machines that may qualify SLU as a future testing center for surgical residents.

“We have a new simulator that allows us to do virtual colonoscopies, upper GI endoscopies and bronchoscopies for the lungs, and cystoscopies for urology,” he said. “It is so new to the market that it is currently undergoing certification to be used for the test surgeons must pass to graduate from their general surgery residency.”

Behr and the SLU Department of Surgery are actively growing the Center to support more surgical techniques to better prepare medical students and residents for the next phase in their careers.



The da Vinci Xi surgeon console with SimNow simulation software located in the SLU Surgical Simulation Center in Young Hall.



Students reflect on their coursework while sitting outside of the SLU School of Medicine.

Inside the Medical School Admissions Process

A Conversation with Associate Dean of Admissions Hiral Choksi, M.D.

Academic success is not the only factor in medical school admissions. The process also requires careful evaluation and recruitment of students who will be dedicated to their career and community.

“At Saint Louis University, we are very mission focused,” Associate Dean of Admissions Hiral Choksi, M.D., said. “We look at our Jesuit identity, and we see how applicants demonstrate and live *cura personalis*, care for the whole person.”

The School of Medicine receives upwards of 6,000 applications for only 175 new student openings. In addition to following standards set by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the Committee on Admissions conducts a holistic evaluation of each

applicant — assessing character, professional aspirations, and academic achievements.

“As much as it is about the grades and the MCAT, that does not always mean the application speaks to the school’s mission,” she said. “I always tell applicants to ensure they are a good fit with SLU’s mission.”

Today’s admissions process has evolved into a 14-month timeline, beginning with the application submission. All applications are evaluated using a standardized rubric. From there, applicants may be offered a virtual interview to determine if they will be formally accepted the following year.

Regardless of the total applicant numbers, SLU’s Committee on Admissions strives to select the most exceptional candidates from all backgrounds who will become the next generation of physicians. It welcomes recommendations from its alumni,

faculty, and supporters, although AAMC and LCME standards prohibit influence by community members or university officials outside of the Committee on Admissions to ensure a complete and fair admissions process.

“What sets [applicants] apart are those who demonstrate that serving people in need is a part of their vocation,” she said. “Our alumni have a sense of what this means as they may inspire the next generation of SLU School of Medicine candidates who embody SLU’s mission.”

By the end of the admissions cycle, the School of Medicine welcomes an exceptional cohort of medical students prepared to live out SLU’s Jesuit mission. The educational journey amplifies their values as they learn to practice with integrity and compassion.

SLU PASE: Shaping Surgical Excellence

The Saint Louis University Practical Anatomy and Surgical Education (PASE) program has become a cornerstone of excellence, shaping the future of surgical practice and patient care through innovative training and hands-on experience. The ripple effect of PASE’s work is felt in operating rooms and clinics around the world, where patients receive better care thanks to the skilled hands and sharp minds nurtured at SLU.

“PASE provides an intimate space where physicians can collaborate and share their experiences such as surgical complications, and what they can do to be better surgeons and help their patients,” PASE Executive Director Sarah Dawson said.

PASE is housed in Paul A. Young Hall — a hall dedicated to the late Paul A. Young, Ph.D., professor emeritus of anatomy. There, PASE offers hands-on cadaver workshops and surgical training for health care professionals. The laboratory is also available for practitioners who rent the space for research, training sessions, or group learning. In addition, most programs are fully-accredited through the School of Medicine and Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME).

PASE workshops have trained thousands of medical professionals, many of whom have gone on to make significant contributions to the field of surgery. Dawson shared that the program and its historic laboratory have drawn physicians from all over the world. In its first 2024 workshop, PASE hosted a sold-out pediatric foot and ankle course to 54 participants hailing from the



Ray Vollmer, AIMS Education Specialist, instructs students on the intricacies of the brain in a cadaver workshop.

United States, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, and Poland.

“Through lectures and hands-on cadaver labs, [our participants] learn surgical techniques from world-renowned surgeons that will benefit people all over the world,” Dawson said.

But, for Dawson, her role as its executive director has become more

than organizing programming — it is answering a call to serve others.

“It is not just the SLU community; it is the world we are serving,” she said. “By giving surgeons the knowledge and skills to be better, the patients they serve will benefit from this as well. Doctors that come here to teach and participate see it in the same way because these courses help them with their careers and their calling to serve.”

“It is not just the SLU community; it is the world we are serving.”

— Sarah Dawson

Research Success Driven by Collaboration

When Richard Gruzca, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine and the Department of Health Outcomes Research, arrived at Saint Louis University in 2020, he was drawn to the School of Medicine's ambitious goals. But, it is the School's collaborative nature that distinctly impacts his research efforts.

"SLU School of Medicine researchers are a highly collaborative group," Gruzca said. "We have a strong sense of our shared mission to put ourselves on the map and improve connections amongst ourselves and the whole University."

As a researcher in substance use disorders, Gruzca seeks to improve policies and treatments for substance and opioid use. His work is among the top five percent of researchers in the U.S. — amassing an impressive h-index of 64, which is calculated by counting the number of publications an author has been cited by other authors at least that same number of times. Yet, he explained his h-index would not be where it is without collaboration.

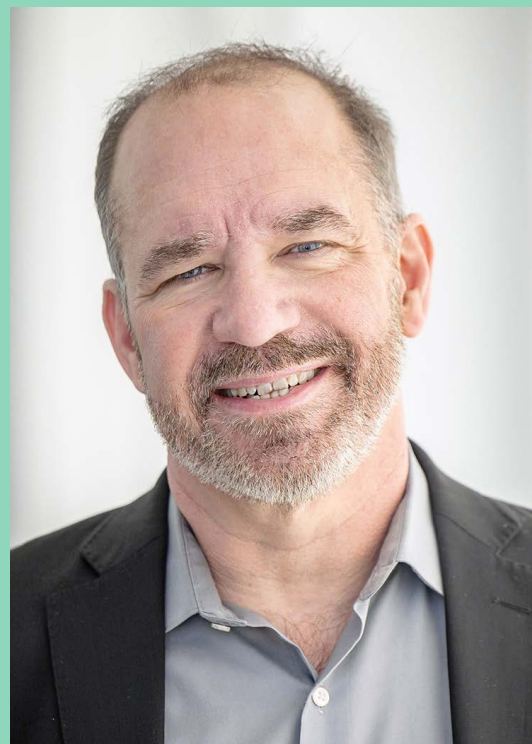
"I'm going on 25 years in this research, and today, many of my research questions are driven by the younger colleagues who I am mentoring," he said.

Gruzca has mentored students and junior faculty members throughout his career. Most recently, his efforts have focused on the Building Integrated Learning and Coaching Networks for Research (BILCN-Research) Program. Led by the Office of Vice President for Research, it offers junior faculty members mentorship to help them grow into grant-funded researchers.

This has spurred additional alliances between his current mentees at SLU and prior mentees at Washington University in St. Louis. Gruzca has connected two of his mentees, Jennifer Bello-Kottenstette, M.D., associate professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at SLU School of Medicine and Kevin Xu, M.D., M.P.H., assistant professor of psychiatry at Washington University in St. Louis, based on their mutual interest in increasing access to high-quality treatment for pregnant women with substance use disorder.

"It's turned into a very fruitful collaboration that is yielding a lot of publications," Gruzca said. "It's a great example of interdisciplinary cross-university collaboration."

As Gruzca looks ahead, he aims to continue providing crucial research to aid individuals suffering from substance use disorder and to foster further collaborations at SLU and beyond.



"SLU School of Medicine researchers are a highly collaborative group. We have a strong sense of our shared mission to put ourselves on the map and improve connections amongst ourselves and the whole University."

— Richard Gruzca, Ph.D.



Sameer Siddiqui, M.D., speaks at an event honoring SLU's team of doctors who performed the first heart transplant in Missouri on February 8, 1972.

The Innovative Spirit of Surgical Research

The Saint Louis University Department of Surgery, founded in 1837, has an illustrious history marked by countless breakthroughs in innovative surgical practice. The department opened the first cardiac catheterization lab west of the Mississippi and completed the first open-heart surgery and heart transplant in the Midwest.

Over the last 10 years, it has expanded to include 10 clinical divisions and over 80 faculty members, with diverse research to benefit the SLU patient community and global population. Sameer Siddiqui, M.D., Professor and Department Chair, C. Rollins Hanlon Endowed Chair of Surgery, said its current research spans disciplines such as plastic surgery, vascular disease, transplant surgery, and cancer.

"At any one time, we have around 15 clinical trials ranging from cancer drug trials to surgical device interventions," Siddiqui said. "Additionally, almost all of our divisions are starting to examine the utilization of artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance patient care."

The AI research team — led by Henry B. Randall, M.D., FACS, associate professor of surgery, division chief of adult and pediatric abdominal transplantation, and surgical director of



Keith Naunheim, M.D., (left), and Charles Andrus, M.D., (right), pioneering one of the earliest laparoscopic cases at Saint Louis University Hospital.

liver transplantation — focuses its efforts on developing "Deep Learning" methodologies for the application of neural networks.

Neural networks are a type of machine learning that teaches computers how to process data like the human brain. The team has been redesigning the national system for the allocation and distribution of organs to further improve the utilization of hard-to-place organs such as kidneys. As this research develops, it will help physicians make critical transplant decisions to increase access to life-saving organ donations.

The department also stands at the forefront of transformative surgical practices, specifically with the creation of the Elective Surgery Acuity Scale (ESAS) by Siddiqui in 2020. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, he created the ESAS protocol to lead surgeons through a decision-making process to triage non-emergent operations. This tiered, acuity-based scale is now recommended by the American College of Surgeons and adopted by surgical societies worldwide.

"The future is bright for the department," Siddiqui said. "To quote Isaac Newton, we stand on the shoulders of giants. We strive to be the most technically gifted surgeons, the most outstanding researchers and educators, and the key thought leaders in our field."

"The future is bright for the department."

— Sameer Siddiqui, M.D.

OPPORTUNITIES IN MEDICINE



“I don’t think I could have found a better fit for me than SLU if I tried.”

— Jasnoor Malhotra, Med ’26

ENHANCING IN MEDICINE

Making a Dream Career Possible

Jasnoor Malhotra, (Med ’26), has dreamed of attending medical school since she was five years old. After completing her undergraduate degree, she had the opportunity to be a clinical research assistant at a cancer center. Through this experience, she discovered her passion for the specialty of hematology and medical oncology, connecting deeply with patients during their medical care.

After working as a clinical research assistant, she applied to medical school with a full understanding of the daunting financial requirements that awaited her.

“Having worked prior to starting medical school, I learned to appreciate the value of every dollar I earned,” Malhotra said. “While I was excited to begin medical school, I knew the next four years would be ones of financial uncertainty.”

Malhotra entered the medical admissions process with the goal of achieving her childhood dream. When she was accepted into the Saint Louis University School of Medicine, she was offered a Cura Personalis Scholarship — a four-year scholarship granted to highly talented students who excel academically in leadership or service.

“The scholarship allowed me to limit the amount of loans I took out,” Malhotra said. “This opportunity greatly alleviated the financial burden I was anticipating.”

In her second year of medical school, she reflects on her gratitude for receiving a scholarship, and the great impact that donor gifts to the SLU School of Medicine have on students’ experiences.

“Your generosity allows students, who are from disadvantaged backgrounds or who have limited financial support, to pursue a career that requires higher education,” she said. “I don’t think I could have found a better fit for me than SLU if I tried.”

The Saint Louis University School of Medicine aims to attract talented students to its community, yet economic challenges may prevent their pursuit of this dream. Scholarships provide our students with access to top-tier medical education, rooted in the SLU Jesuit mission. A gift to the SLU School of Medicine can significantly impact the next generation of exemplary clinicians by alleviating their financial burdens.

Gifting the Tools for Success

William Callahan, (Med ’27), felt the initial draw toward a career in medicine after a knee surgery in high school. After expressing an interest in orthopedic surgery as a profession, Callahan’s surgeon invited him to shadow and he jumped at the opportunity.

“In the operating room, I saw how the surgeon was using tools I was familiar with, as I am from a family of construction workers,” Callahan said. “I saw myself in his shoes, using the tools I have grown up working with to help others.”

His interest led him to work as an emergency medical technician (EMT) while obtaining his undergraduate degree. Callahan’s experience exposed him to critical medical situations and inspired him to pursue his medical education.

As he researched medical schools, he was drawn to Saint Louis University School of Medicine’s supportive community and diverse work with patients in the St. Louis area. When he was accepted into the School, he received the prestigious Excellence in Diversity Opportunity Scholarship — granting him full tuition for four years at SLU as an underrepresented student in medicine.

“The scholarship has had a huge impact on my time as a medical student,” Callahan said. “Most of us assume hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt. Scholarships like this one alleviate the financial pressure so we can spend more time focused on patients rather than how to get out of debt.”

As a first-year medical student, Callahan focuses on his studies, actively engages with his supportive classmates, and is excited to pour his heart into caring for patients. The gift he received from SLU has made his dream possible, and he is proud to be a member of its medical community.

“Donors [to the School] have the opportunity to drive someone to unlock their potential,” he said. “Scholarships take brilliant people from difficult financial backgrounds and propel them to become physicians, who will impact thousands for the better.”



“Donors [to the School] have the opportunity to drive someone to unlock their potential.”

— William Callahan, Med ’27

“I think this is why I went into oncology because people need you at that moment.”
 — Jeevin Shahi, M.D.

ALUMNI

Precision in Cancer Medicine



During his undergraduate studies in Canada, Jeevin Shahi, M.D., (Med '14), explored the field of cancer care research. Collaborating closely with radiation oncologists, he was deeply involved in enrolling patients for breast cancer clinical trials. Shahi attributes this pivotal experience to igniting his passion for medical school.

“They were trying to figure out if fewer [breast cancer] treatments were just as effective in not just controlling the cancer, but also in terms of the patient’s quality of life,” Shahi said. “That got the wheels turning on what radiation oncology was for me.”

His journey led him to enroll for his medical degree at Saint Louis University School of Medicine. Following his residency and fellowship in Canada, he returned to SLU as a radiation oncologist specializing in stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT) and stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS). Both specialties are advanced radiation techniques that deliver high dose and precise radiation treatments to help cure or control a cancer diagnosis.

“Radiation oncology is varied so you see different things throughout your day,” he said. “But it is also very patient focused, and there is a technical component to it where you perform procedures and plan radiation treatment for patients.”

The treatment plans for his patients are a full-team effort. Shahi remarked that SLU’s collaborative atmosphere has improved the lives of those with complex cancer diagnoses, opened options in treatment planning, and presented opportunities for new research.

Every aspect of his work ultimately circles back to two focuses, assisting patients during challenging times and guiding them through it with utmost success.

“I think this is why I went into oncology because people need you at that moment,” he said. “If you’re able to translate something complex to their level of understanding while also meeting their goals, that’s really the most important thing.”

At the Heart of the Work



Toniya Singh, M.D., FACC, has an immense dedication to the field of cardiology. As a graduate of Saint Louis University’s internal medicine residency and cardiology fellowship programs, she developed the skill of deeply and passionately caring for patients. Now, she brings these values into her clinical practice, setting the standard for cardiologists caring for women

as well as inspiring future female cardiologists.

Over the course of her career, she has encountered a wide variety of patients, particularly an increased proportion of women seeking her compassionate care and empathetic ear.

“One of my passions is listening to the symptoms of my female patients because heart disease presents differently in women than in men,” Singh said. “I ask about all features of a woman’s life so I can be more thoughtful in addressing the factors that have more of an impact on their health.”

Beyond the walls of her office, Singh is a leader among women in cardiology — imparting her expertise and passion to both established professionals and those intrigued by the field. She created the Midwest Women and Cardiology Symposium to share best practices with clinicians who care for female cardiovascular patients. Singh was also honored as the recipient of the SLU School of Medicine 2024 Alumni Merit Award for her work in the field.

Her primary objective is to foster greater interest in cardiovascular medicine among women.

“When we talk to other women cardiologists, we want to model all kinds of cardiology,” Singh said. “There is not one mold. It’s important to display a diversity of both people and specialties to help get others excited about the profession.”



Read more about the 2024 Alumni Merit Awards.
slu.edu/alumni/news/2024-alumni-merit-awards.php

Writing for the Greater Good



Captain Gerald Nieters, M.D., (Med '66), bravely served his country in Vietnam, yet never wanted to talk about that time of his life. However, it was a simple question from his granddaughter that compelled him to reconsider what legacy he wanted to leave behind.

“Most men that are in combat for any reason, the thing you hear most

is ‘they never talk about it,’ and I never talked about it,” Nieters said. “My granddaughter asked, ‘Grandpa, what did you do in Vietnam? When I get married and have kids, I’d like to be able to tell them what you did.’ This was the impetus for my book.”

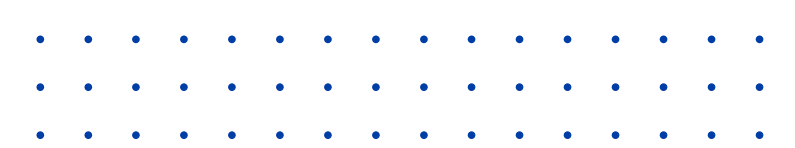
Ever the learner, he discovered a writing class for veterans that turned out to be a therapy class for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) writing. This class would teach him to write his memoir about his work as a physician in Vietnam from September 1967 to September 1968.

“It was very emotional,” Nieters said. “But it was also therapeutic when I finished because the class allowed me to put my personal feelings that I felt at the time into my book.”

Nieters initially created his Vietnam War memoir as a family manuscript detailing his journey in Vietnam, from operating rooms to field surgeries. In December 2022, after encouraging feedback from fellow veterans, he published his book “Cryless” with the hopes of helping other veterans who struggle with PTSD and telling their own stories.

“The one thing I want out of this book is to help as many veterans as possible,” he said.

His book is currently available for purchase on Amazon. Nieters hopes that it will positively impact other veterans now and into the future.



A Champion for Medical Education

Preparing well-rounded physicians begins with an exceptional medical education. When Kristina Dzara, Ph.D., MMSc, associate professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, arrived at Saint Louis University, she knew this was critical to the School of Medicine's strategic goals and its path forward.

Dzara is the School's assistant dean for scholarly teaching and learning and the director of the new Center for Educator Development, Advancement, and Research (CEDAR). CEDAR champions the use of evidence-based teaching and learning practices to develop SLU's faculty and support collaborative educational scholarship.

In under a year, the Center launched educator development resources, sent faculty to a virtual medical education conference, and established a peer-reviewed blog. The entire community is invited to contribute evidence-based posts highlighting expertise in medical education.

"Each of these posts cover diverse topics that medical educators should want to know," Dzara said. "They are succinct, evidence-based, and peer-reviewed by an editorial board. When you read the CEDAR community blog, you are reading the highest quality posts that we have to offer."

Additionally, Dzara and her team promote deeper discussions through small group sessions, workshops, and their newest program, the PRIMED Initiative. This Initiative, in collaboration with the Office of Curricular Affairs, assembles three teams comprised of faculty, students, staff, and residents to explore significant questions in educational scholarship.

Dzara hopes the Initiative will also uncover ways to better align the School with Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation expectations.

"We are taking a big picture approach to best help our institution — outlining what we could understand more deeply, thinking about making a positive change, and investigating these questions in a scholarly and collaborative fashion within teams," she said.

As CEDAR's programs develop, she keeps SLU's pillar of medical education at the forefront of her planning and goals for the future.

"I want the Center to be a place that is a community for every educator," Dzara said. "When people think about becoming a better educator, I want the answer to be, 'Have you talked to CEDAR?'"



"I want the Center to be a place that is a community for every educator."

— Kristina Dzara, Ph.D., MMSc

CENTER FOR
 EDUCATOR
 DEVELOPMENT
 ADVANCEMENT AND
 RESEARCH

14 School of Medicine Faculty Honored at the 2024 Investiture Ceremony

Saint Louis University held the 2024 Investiture Ceremony in March, honoring the accomplishments of distinguished faculty members and the donors who have generously established endowed positions. The SLU School of Medicine included 14 honorees from diverse medical specialties.

The 2024 Investiture Ceremony included the following honorees:

Gary M. Albers, M.D.
 George and Patricia Erker
 Chair of Pediatric Pulmonary Medicine

Vernat Exil, M.D.
 Wieck-Sullivan Endowed Chair in Pediatrics

Diana Greene-Chandos, M.D.
 Sylvia N. Souers Endowed Chair in Neurology

George T. Grossberg, M.D.
 Henry and Amelia Nasrallah
 Endowed Professorship

Noah Hillman, M.D.
 Kein Beckmann Chair of Neonatal Research

Brian A. Mailey, M.D.
 Lisa and Vasu Pandrangi, M.D., and
 Family Professorship in Plastic Surgery

Hersh S. Maniar, M.D.
 Tenet Chair in Cardiovascular Surgery

Philip L. Mar, M.D., Pharm.D.
 Jack Ford Shelby Endowed
 Professorship in Cardiology

Amit Mathur, M.D., M.B.B.S., M.R.C.P. (UK)
 William J. Keenan Chair of
 Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

Adriana M. Montano, Ph.D.
 Dr. Robert Wilmott IMMUNO
 Chair in Pediatric Research

Niloofer Piri, M.D.
 Dr. Walter F. and Sharon Ryan Davisson
 Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology

Wing-Kin Syn, M.D., Ph.D.
 James F. King Chair in Gastroenterology

Paula Vanderford, M.D.
 Dennis O'Connor Chair of Palliative Care

Andrew J. White, M.D.
 Dr. Robert Wilmott Endowed Chair of Pediatrics



Read more about
 the 2024 Investiture
 Ceremony.
[slu.edu/give/news/
 investiture-preview.php](https://slu.edu/give/news/investiture-preview.php)



A New Era in Neurology

The Saint Louis University School of Medicine and SSM SLUCare Physician Group welcomed Diana Greene-Chandos, M.D., FNCS, FANA, as the Sylvia N. Souers Endowed Chair in Neurology in January 2024. She brings a wealth of knowledge of neurocritical care, medical education, and leadership to the School of Medicine.

Alongside her work as a practicing neurointensivist, Greene has energetically embraced her new role as chair. She is developing a five-year strategic plan for the neurology department that includes hiring exceptional neurologists and enhancing research opportunities; sharpening SLU's capabilities in patient care and neurology education; treatment in epilepsy, neuromuscular disorders, movement disorders, neurocritical care, and stroke; and recruiting academic neurologists in neuroimmunology, neuro-oncology, and memory disorders will be another clear focus.

But what Greene appreciates most of all is the warm welcome she has received from the community. Not only are her colleagues excited she is here, but they are rallying around her leadership to propel SLU neurology forward into a new realm of possibilities.

"As a team, we work together for the patients, the education, and the research," Greene said. "As long as we are transparent with where we are going and supporting one another along the way, I think we will be in really good shape and good things are on the horizon."



Honored faculty pose for a photo at the annual SLU Investiture Ceremony in March 2024.

Inhalers Within Reach: M1 Students' Guide to Affordable Access

For Saint Louis University medical students, caring for the whole person is taught early and often throughout their medical school journey. M3 students, Hannah Wiseman (Med '26) and Krishny Karunanandaa (Med '26), experienced this firsthand as they helped address a community need — approved access to inhalers for asthma and allergy patients.

During their M1 year, Wiseman and Karunanandaa worked under Professor Emeritus Raymond Slavin, M.D., to provide patients with low-cost inhalers in his asthma and allergy clinic in the former Health Resource Center (HRC). The two would also follow up with patients, calling to ensure they had a primary care provider for their asthma. Although they often did, cost remained a common barrier to treating their condition.

“In our phone calls, a common issue that came up was, ‘Yes, I have a primary care provider, but I can’t get access to the lower priced inhalers that I used to,’” Karunanandaa said. “Dr. Katherine Mathews encouraged us to research access to lower-cost inhalers and other resources.”

After researching federally-qualified health care centers, resources for lower-



Krishny Karunanandaa (Med '26), pictured left, and Hannah Wiseman (Med '26), pictured right, evaluate inhaler options for their patients.

cost medications, and the complexities of medical insurance, the students created a step-by-step guide for their peers to help uninsured patients find low-cost inhalers and other medications.

“Initially, it was about inhalers, but additional research expanded the issue,” Karunanandaa said. “[The video and guide] were geared toward educating

the clinical students that will actually be working at the new clinic.”

Now as they embark on their clinical years, Karunanandaa and Wiseman expressed that their experiences taught them invaluable lessons in patient care and effective communication, extending to not only their patient interactions but also their peers. Wiseman shared that these critical communication skills are extremely valuable and will translate well into their future careers.

“We have the most patient interaction now as medical students, and our background in knowing ways to help them obtain lower-cost medications or just being able to relate to them as patients is a huge deal,” Wiseman said.

“Initially, it was about inhalers, but additional research expanded the issue.”

— Krishny Karunanandaa, Med '26

A Voice for Missouri Mothers

Before Karen (Bri) Dale (Med '26) began her medical school journey at Saint Louis University, she felt a pull toward a career in women’s health. Once on campus, she immediately joined the Labor of Love program, where SLU medical students provide doula services to disadvantaged pregnant mothers in St. Louis.

“It was interesting having conversations with these women, especially to understand the issues medical professionals have in addressing long-term care and reducing the high rate of maternal mortality in St. Louis,” Dale said.

These experiences sparked Dale’s interest in expanding doula care

offerings throughout Missouri. She is actively advocating for two specific bills that will help reimburse and expand doula care coverage and bring further awareness to physicians throughout the state. Dale shared that SLU has provided her with additional resources to further advance her advocacy efforts.

“Currently, I am trying to get doula care reimbursed by insurance, especially Medicaid, to cover the majority of underserved women in Missouri,” she said. “SLU does a good job of emphasizing that we have a voice. I think that is why it inspires medical students to do projects that benefit the community because each day we are encouraged to find the challenges our patients face and do something about them.”

Dale presented her advocacy work for doula services to the Missouri State Medical Association (MSMA) Annual Convention in April 2024. Her work has garnered the support of the Women Physicians Section of the MSMA, the guidance of the Saint Louis County Executive Dr. Sam Page, and the help of numerous state physicians. She hopes all her efforts will ignite conversations that translate into better health care for women in and beyond St. Louis.

“My ultimate goal is to help people advocate for themselves and have a better health care experience, then I’ve accomplished something,” Dale said.



Isabelle Carbone (Med '24), pictured right, receiving the Excellence in Public Health Award.

Isabelle Carbone Awarded 2024 U.S. Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Award

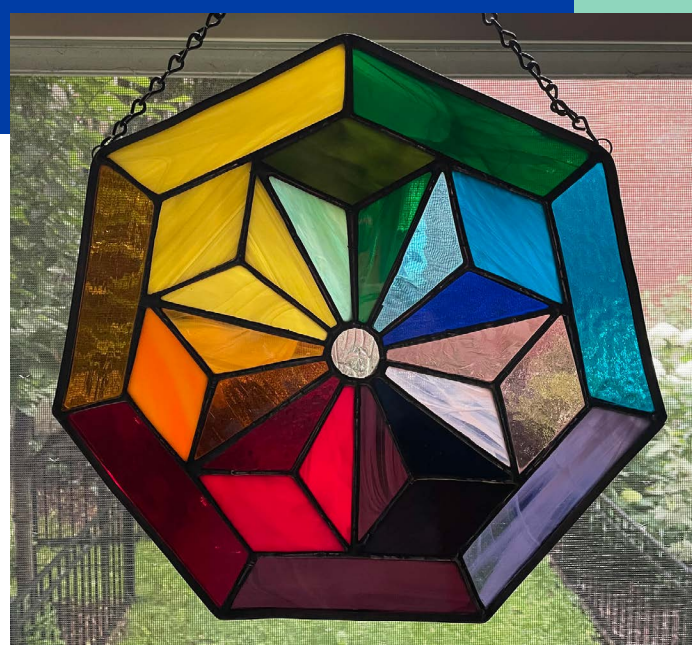
Isabelle Carbone (Med '24) recently received the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) 2024 Excellence in Public Health Award. This award was just one of many she received as a reflection of her lifelong devotion to service. Carbone obtained her master’s in public health degree in 2023 and graduated from the School of Medicine in May 2024. She will soon begin residency at the University of California-Davis Medical Center in Family Medicine.



Read more about Carbone’s achievements.
slu.edu/medicine/news/2024/isabelle-carbone-public-health-award.php

TALENTS BEYOND MEDICINE

Nurturing their own talents enables physicians and medical students to provide better care and establish stronger connections with their patients. To continue our “Talents Beyond Medicine” series, we connected with four SLU School of Medicine community members to learn their passions outside of their profession.



Adam Merando, M.D., FACP, SFHM

*Associate Dean of Student Affairs;
Associate Professor Internal Medicine*

When Adam Merando’s father passed away during his medical school years, he discovered his stained glass and tools. While working with a local stained glass studio to create a commissioned piece, the studio owners convinced him to attend a class to craft something himself. Since then, he has continued his stained glass work, developing his own techniques along the way.

“When I first started, I was intimidated by glass art, but I found there is actually a lot of great science in working with glass, lead, and solder techniques. It’s been fun using my science and chemistry background to apply some of the finishes and outcomes of the pieces.”

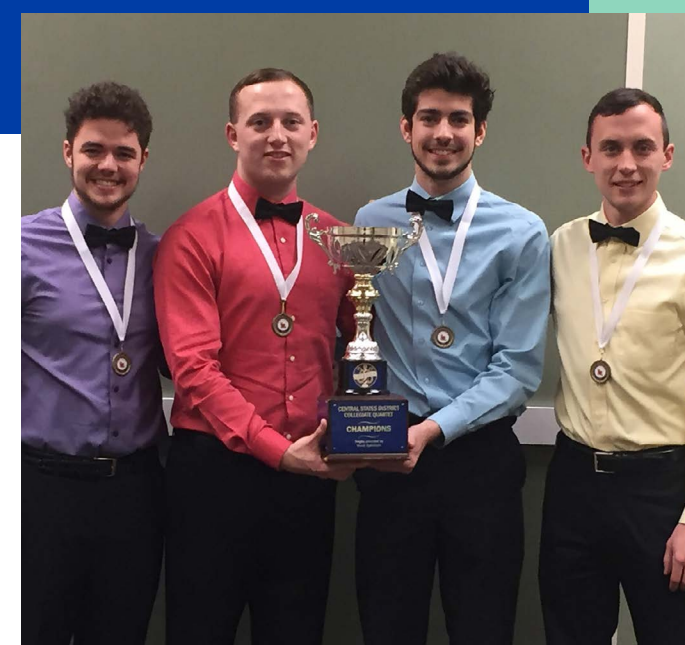


Heidi Sallee, M.D.

*Medical Director of the Danis Pediatric Center at SSM
Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital; Professor of Pediatrics*

Heidi Sallee developed a passion for sewing after watching her mother make clothing and household items. Gifted with her own sewing machine, she continued the tradition by creating her own family’s clothing, including her daughters’ First Communion dresses, their flower girl dresses, and even a suit for her son. She explained that sewing is both a creative outlet and an escape from the daily stresses of working in pediatrics.

“I really enjoy the planning aspect of sewing. I like challenging myself to make things on my own that I would not be able to find in a store.”



Zachary Culley

Class of 2028

While attending an open rehearsal for a local barbershop choir, Zachary Culley, pictured in light blue, did not know what to expect. Not long after, he discovered his passion for singing the bass notes with the Boonslick Chordbusters Choir and his smaller quartet, the Four Hoarse Men. From the vibrant chords to the community he has formed, Culley appreciates that barbershop music is an exciting musical challenge and gives him a new community beyond work.

“Having a hobby keeps you grounded. It reminds you of life outside of work, and it gives you a chance to express yourself in other meaningful ways.”



Madeleine Schwab

Class of 2026

When Madeleine Schwab hears the buzzing of bees, she immediately feels at peace. Following her participation in an experiential “Save the Bees” course, she immersed herself in beekeeping and found joy in observing the bees’ behaviors. From learning about their main communication method, “the waggle dance,” to discovering the personalities buried inside each hive, it is a rewarding hobby.

“Caring for the bees has taught me patience and flexibility and brings me a sense of peace and renewal. Sitting with the bees and listening to their hum fills me with calmness and joy.”

A BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD



Fourth-year medical students celebrate their matches at the 2024 Match Day celebration.

Celebrating Match Day 2024

On March 15, 2024, nearly 170 fourth-year medical students found out where they would be spending their residency training after being matched through the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP). Students gathered with their friends and families at the Ritz-Carlton in Clayton to reflect on their medical school journey and celebrate the excitement of their residency matches.

The Class of 2024 entered the SLU School of Medicine at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, yet amid the uncertainty, they triumphed four years later — matching into residency programs throughout the country with locations in 33 different states. Graduates matched into 21 different specialties, including residency programs in internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, neurology, and more.



Enjoy our Match Day 2024 stories in our recap video.

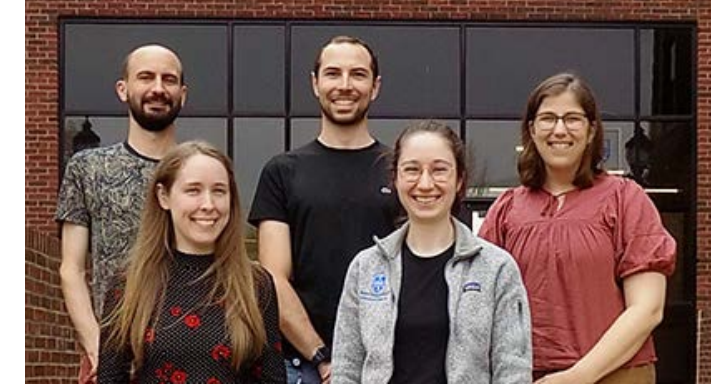
slu.edu/medicine/medical-education/md/match-day.php



Ellen Barhorst (Med '24) celebrates her match to the University of Wisconsin on Match Day.



Christopher Yoo (Med '24) celebrates his match at University of California, Irvine with his family.



SLU M.D./Ph.D. program students before 2024 Match Day. (Top row, left to right) - Zach Grese, Valerio Rasi, Emily Cybulla. (Bottom row, left to right) - Meghan Murray and Jess Bourque

Preparing Successful Physician-Scientists

The Saint Louis University School of Medicine offers an M.D./Ph.D. program focusing on academic excellence in clinical medicine and scientific research. With goals to train students to become physician-scientists, this dual-degree program positions its students to become successful leaders in academic medicine, health policy, research, and related careers.

The School offers five M.D./Ph.D. degree pathways, including biochemistry and molecular biology, molecular microbiology and immunology, pharmacological and physiological science, health and clinical outcomes research, and health care ethics. Throughout the seven to nine years of study, students develop into self-motivated intellectual leaders, creative scientists, and compassionate problem solvers. This leads them to Match Day, where students are matched into residency and fellowship programs in their respective fields.

On 2024 Match Day, five students matched at impressive programs across the country after completing both of their degree requirements. Please join us in congratulating the following members of our M.D./Ph.D. program.

Jess Bourque, M.D., Ph.D.
Internal Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital

Emily Cybulla, M.D., Ph.D.
Internal Medicine, Ohio State University Medical Center

Zach Grese, M.D., Ph.D.
Psychiatry, SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital

Meghan Murray, M.D., Ph.D.
Psychiatry, Barnes-Jewish Hospital

Valerio Rasi, M.D., Ph.D.
Internal Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine

Join the Saint Louis University White Coat Society



The white coat has long stood as a symbol of the integrity and respect accorded to the medical profession, signifying the achievements of the physicians and scientists working to help others by advancing health care.

The SLU White Coat Society celebrates the robust partnership between the School of Medicine and its alumni and supporters. Membership is granted to those who support SLU's School of Medicine with leadership gifts of \$2,500 or more each fiscal year.

White Coat Society membership benefits include:

- Invitations to special events, such as a cocktail reception with the dean and a special invitation to a reception during Med Reunion.
- Quarterly newsletters from the dean, *Grand Rounds* magazine, and special recognition in *Grand Rounds* and the digital SLU Honor Roll.
- White Coat Society members are also part of SLU's President's Circle annual giving society and receive:
 - Invitations to exclusive VIP leadership-giving events throughout the year.
 - Special perks at University events.
 - Parking vouchers and concierge service for select on-campus University activities.
 - On-campus access to the Pius XII Memorial Library.
 - Acknowledgement in donor recognition materials and special donor communications throughout the year.

The School of Medicine is proudly and generously supported not only by our alumni but also by friends in the community and many of our faculty members who understand that it takes ongoing support to provide an excellent learning environment for our medical students and residents and to engage in meaningful research.

Join the White Coat Society today!

slu.edu/give
leadershipgiving@slu.edu
 314-977-3145

150+ White Coat Society members



Dave Haukeness, M.D., Med '83

Halfway through Dr. Dave Haukeness' second year of medical school at SLU, his father passed away very suddenly and unexpectedly. Haukeness was forced to finance the remainder of his medical school education through Health Education and Assistance Loans (HEAL) at a high interest rate.

Out of the blue, one of his father's friends started sending him \$600 every six months, which was greatly appreciated.

"My dad's friend told me, 'there are no strings attached to this money, but I would ask you to pay it forward in the future if you are ever in a position to do so,'" Haukeness said. "That money was so valuable to me at the time that my family and I decided to donate to the White Coat Society, hoping that it would offset the huge financial burden medical education can be. I will never forget the generosity of my friend, and our donation is our way of paying it forward."

- Dave Haukeness, M.D.

Walt Schroeder, M.D., Med '85

Now retired from otolaryngology and living in Cape Girardeau, MO, Walt Schroeder, M.D., gives primarily to the Harkins Lectureship Fund and the School of Medicine Dean's Education Fund, but has supported many other funds over the years, including the Otolaryngology Resident Research Fund.

"We demonstrate gratitude for the opportunity and education we received by contributing to the development of future generations of physicians."

-Walt Schroeder, M.D.

\$1.8M given by White Coat Society members in fiscal year 2022-23

White Coat Society

List of White Coat Society donors who contributed from July 1, 2023 to May 13, 2024. Donations made after this date that are not reflected here are appreciated. For a full list of donors to SLU, please visit giving.slu.edu/honorroll.

Doreen* (Nurs '62) & Eugene (A&S '60, Med '64) Adelman

Mary (A&S '83, Med '88) & Kent Agne

John (A&S '69, Med '73) & Colleen Anstey

Robert (Med '81) & Sally Backer

Robert (Med '63) & Barbara Balen

Steven (A&S '75) & Patricia Bander

Georgia (Nurs '60) & Jerome (A&S '59, Med '63) Basinski

Christopher (Med '04) & Beth Bauer

Victor (Med '68) & Ruth Bazzoli

Jeanine (A&S '70) & Robert (Med '75) Blaskiewicz

Patricia (Nurs '76) & John (Med '78) Bomalaski

John (Med '73) & Lisa Bonacorsi

James (PH '74) & Mary Brophy

Doug (CSB '66) & Ann Brown

Michael (Med '00) & Alice Jane Brush

Nicholas & Nicole Burkemper

Paul (Grad A&S '79, Med '82) & Diane Busse

Michael Butler (Med '84)

Carroll Brennan (Med '81) & William Carlson (Med '81)

Patrick Cestone (Med '95) & Carla Montevideo

Jennifer Chan (Med '02)

Vincent* (Med '56) & Yuri Chiu

Doreen & Robert* (Med '59) Christopher

Susan* (Med '64) & Young (Med '63) Young

John Codd (Med '63)

Joanne (Med '87) & Wade (Med '87) Cressman

Neal Cutler (A&S '71, Med '75)

Alexander Cutler

Samantha Cutler

Barbara (Med '78) & David Detjen

Maria Gurrieri & Enrico Di Cera

John Dombrowski & Vacharee Kitiphongspattana

Frederick (Med '84) & Pamela-Marie Dore

Marilyn Kacica-Dudek (A&S '78, Med '83) & Joseph Dudek (A&S '77, Med '83)

Gerald (Med '67) & Patricia Dzurik

Johann & Richard Ellerbrake

Mark (Med '76) & Mary Clare Fildes

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Timothy (Med '86) & Laura Friedlein

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Arthur (Med '67) & Judith Gelb

Michael Goldstone (Med '86) & Susan Goldstone Vetrovsky

John (Med '73) & Sharon Goltschman

Steven (A&S '88, Med '92) & Stefanie Granberg

John (Med '73) & Gloria (A&S '71) Grandone

Paul Grmoljez (Med '71) & Alice Gordon

M. Kathlyn (A&S '68) & R. Michael (Med '70) Gross

Susan (Nurs '71) & Dean (Med '68) Hageman

Doris Haverstick (Grad Med '82)

Richard Hempstead (Med '76)

Hugh (Med '69) & Nina Henderson

Gregory (Med '88) & Barbara Hill

Geoffrey Hill (Med '10)

Chuck (Med '62) & Grace Hoppel

Jung Huang

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Joseph (Med '85) & Karen Kelley

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Jean (A&S '58, Med '62) & Thomas Kilbridge

Charles (Med '87) & Sandra Kinsella

Robert (A&S '50, Med '54) & Adelaide Kistner

Ronald (Med '74) & Marilyn Koepke

Shiney Koshy (Med '13) & Jeffrey John

Andrew (Med '75) & Pamela Kulesza

Matthew (Med '58) & Jeanette Kuluz

Thomas (Med '54) & Margaret Lang

Peggy (Grad A&S '03) & Dave (Med '99) Lee

Wayne (Med '76) & Barbara Leong

Emily & Patrick Lo

Rosemary & James* (Med '58) Mackey

Gerald Maguire (Med '91)

Maria & Paul Streiff

Lester* (Med '62) & Leota Mann

Deborah Manne (Nurs '91, Grad Nurs '98)

Sharon (Nurs '64) & Nick (Med '63) Mansour

Kevin Martin

Shaden Marzouk (Med '98)

Alan (Med '88) & Judy (Med '88) Massengill

Mary McLennan & Ronald Pearson

Frances & Gerald (Med '64) McNally

Marian (Nurs '74, Law '82) & Terrence (A&S '74) Mehan

C. & Kelly Minifie

Andrew (Med '80) & Pamela Muller

Ginger & John Myers

Stephen (Med '85) & Janis Naber

Kenneth (Med '78) & Cheryl* Nadeau

Amelia & Henry Nasrallah

Martin (A&S '66, Med '70) & Barbara O'Brien

Edward (Med '67) & Colette O'Brien

Patrick O'Connor (Med '70)

Charlotte (A&S '70) & Philip (Med '71) O'Connor

Dennis (Med '73) & Lynn O'Keefe

Phyllis (Grad SW '71) & William (Med '73) Oetgen

Stephen Peiper (Med '77) & Zi-Xuan Wang

Charles (A&S '62, Med '66) & Therese Peter

Frank (Med '73) & Kathryn Petkovich

Ross (Med '72) & Donna Pettit

Stephen (Med '73) & Patricia Pezzella

William Pinsky (Med '73)

Raphael Pollock (Med '77)

Elaine Pritchard (Med '82) & Timothy Mahood (A&S '78, Med '82)

Georgia (Nurs '69) & John (A&S '65, Med '69) Purcell

Gilbert (Med '73) & Madeline Putnokoy

Llewelyn Rao (A&S '00, Med '04)

Sheryl (A&S '82, Med '86) & Robert Ream

Thomas Revak

Matthew (A&S '77, Med '82) & Suzanne Riffle

Nancy (Med '82) & Douglas (Med '82) Romer

Charles (Med '68) & Judith Rosenblatt

Fred Rottnek (Med '95)

Garry (Med '68) & Kathleen Rupp

Ira (Med '75) & Beth Rutkow

Setsuko & Dan Sakamoto

Carlos Sanchez (Med '66) & Dorothy Kurimsky

Subbu Sarma (Med '99) & Sarah Grady

Eric Schenk (Med '80)

Timothy (Med '02) & Julie (DCHS '97) Schloss

Jerome (Med '55) & Elaine Schmidt

James (Med '85) & Diane Schneider

Thomas (Med '58) & Joyce Schneider

Eugene* (CSB '57) & Elaine Schorb

Erin (Med '01) & Martin* (Med '01) Schutte

Maurice & Jeanne Schutte

John (Med '69) & Marguerite Scullin

James Sear (Med '83)

George Shaw

Patricia & Jack* Shelby

Toniya & Inderjit Singh

Margaret (A&S '59) & William (Med '57) Sly

Frederick Smith (Med '73)

John (Med '63) & Margaret Sopuch

Debra (Nurs '80) & Louis (A&S '62, Med '66) Stickley

Ayse (A&S '90) & Paul (Med '60)* Stromsdorfer

Ella Swierkosz

Wing-Kin Syn

Thomas (Med '79) & Molly Tami

Paivi & Brent Tetri

Anne Stewart (Med '80) & Eldon Trame (Med '78)

Jay Tureen (Med '78)

Marylou (A&S '71) & Terrence (A&S '69, Med '73) Tyrrell

Kirubahara Vaheesan

Karen Hoelzer (Med '80)

Thomas Vimont (Med '72)

Carole Vogler

Peggy (Nurs '62) & Daniel (Med '62) Waligora

Jan Garavaglia (A&S '78, Med '82) & Mark Wallace (Med '81)

Jule Wetherbee Nelson (Med '80) & Michael Nelson (A&S '76, Med '80)

Andrew White

Linda & Martin Willman

Bruce Wolfe (Med '67)

Alexander Yeh (Med '98)

Mary (Nurs '77) & Peter (A&S '77, Med '81) Yoon

Kenneth (Med '73) & Mary Ann Zehnder

Jinsong Zhang & Chun Guo

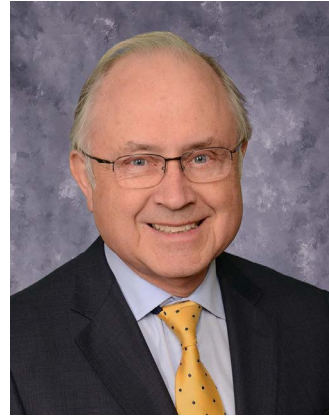
* denotes the individual is deceased

In Memoriam

In remembrance of our colleagues who have passed away. The following notices of deaths were received from October 1, 2023 - May 13, 2024.

- Dr. Peter Danis, *Class of 1931*
- Dr. William O’Meilia, *Class of 1946*
- Dr. Donald Ballyk, *Class of 1952*
- Dr. Maurice Marcotte, *Class of 1952*
- Dr. James Coviello, *Class of 1955*
- Dr. Paul Kuenzig, *Class of 1955*
- Dr. Lionel Da Silva, *Class of 1956*
- Dr. Richard Kemme, *Class of 1956*
- Dr. Thomas Mangelsdorf, *Class of 1956*
- Dr. Martin Ostolaza, *Class of 1956*
- Dr. Francesco Sciarrone, *Class of 1956*
- Dr. Richard Danis, *Class of 1957*
- Dr. Joseph Dooley, *Class of 1958*
- Dr. J. Tracy Schreiber, *Class of 1958*
- Dr. Charles Thierauf, *Class of 1958*
- Dr. Donald Trauner, *Class of 1958*
- Dr. Edward Wittgen, *Class of 1958*
- Dr. Ronald Hinds, *Class of 1959*
- Dr. Roland Pattillo, *Class of 1959*
- Dr. Frederick Lisse, *Class of 1960*
- Dr. Vartan Aynacian, *Class of 1963*
- Dr. Bernard Baalman, *Class of 1963*
- Dr. Ernest Gentchos, *Class of 1963*
- Dr. Thomas McIntosh, *Class of 1963*
- Dr. Willis Tipton, *Class of 1963*
- Dr. Thomas Bourke, *Class of 1964*
- Dr. Robert Middendorf, *Class of 1964*
- Dr. David Caster, *Class of 1967*
- Dr. Stuart DuPen, *Class of 1967*
- Dr. Joseph Mawhinney, *Class of 1967*
- Dr. Benjamin Richman, *Class of 1967*
- Dr. Joseph Zammuto, *Class of 1967*
- Dr. Stanley Chmielewski, *Class of 1969*
- Dr. Frederick Fleury, *Class of 1969*
- Dr. Virginia Herrmann, *Class of 1974*
- Dr. Elizabeth Barice, *Class of 1977*
- Dr. Kathleen Thiel LeVeck, *Class of 1980*
- Dr. James Stuckmeyer, *Class of 1980*
- Dr. Thomas Wallace, *Class of 1986*
- Dr. Scott Werner, *Class of 1986*
- Dr. Claudia Butler Busiek, *Class of 1987*
- Dr. Stephen Swisher, *Class of 1995*
- Dr. Peter Conley, *Class of 2004*
- Dr. Larry Samuels, *Professor Emeritus*

Robert W. Wilmott, M.D. 1948-2024



Former Dean of the Saint Louis University School of Medicine and Vice President of Medical Affairs

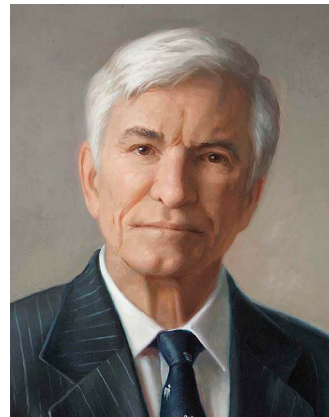
Robert William Wilmott, M.D., former dean of the Saint Louis University School of Medicine and vice president of medical affairs from 2019 to 2021, died Sunday, May 19, 2024, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Wilmott lived an accomplished and full life as a distinguished pediatrician, professor, researcher, and university administrator, and as a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He led SLU School of Medicine and SLUCare medical practice through the turbulent first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, punctuating a long career that included serving at the helm of SLU’s Department of Pediatrics for 17 years.



Read more about Wilmott’s life and legacy.
slu.edu/news/2024/may/robert-wilmott-obituary.php

Kenneth Rupert Smith, M.D. 1932-2024



Former Chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery

Kenneth Rupert Smith, M.D., a neurosurgeon at Saint Louis University, died on May 21, 2024. Smith was a giant in his field of work as well as a loving husband to his wife, Marjorie, of almost 68 years, seven children, one of which died in 1991, and 12 grandchildren.

Smith established the Department of Neurosurgery at Saint Louis University in 1966 and headed the department until 2002. He continued his surgical practice until his retirement in 2004 and volunteered at various medical clinics, in the city, in rural areas and in Africa.



GET ENGAGED

With the SLU School of Medicine



SLU students walk to classes on south campus.

Join Us

We hope to see you soon at an upcoming event. Please visit slu.edu/alumni for the latest Saint Louis University events and alumni information.

How can we better serve you?
Contact christine.winter.1@health.slu.edu with your comments and recommendations.

Stay in Touch

We are interested in our graduates’ news and accomplishments, both personal and professional. We encourage you to update your contact information so we may keep you informed about reunions, events in your area, and news from the School of Medicine. If you have news to share or wish to update your address, please email us at som-deansoffice@health.slu.edu.

SLU Med Reunion- Save the Date!

Congratulations, Saint Louis University School of Medicine classes of 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014, and 2019 — your reunion will be celebrated this year. Save the date and plan to return to campus for Med Reunion weekend, October 25-27, 2024.

Volunteers are still needed! Help us plan the perfect weekend for yourself and your classmates. No matter how much time you can commit, we have an opportunity for you! Contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at reunions@slu.edu for more information.

Visit the SLU School of Medicine online

There’s a lot more to learn about SLU School of Medicine online at slu.edu/medicine. Read this issue of Grand Rounds online at slu.edu/medicine/grand-rounds/index.php



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