ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA
National Honor Medical Society

www.alphaomegaalpha.org
AΩA and Leadership

William W. Root

The Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society was organized in 1902 to “recognize and perpetuate excellence in the medical profession.”
Responsibilities of ΑΩΑ members as defined by the founders:

• Foster scientific and philosophical features of the medical profession
• Enter into a contract with patients and society
• Build a foundation of medical professionalism
• Define medicine’s values and responsibilities in the care of the patient
AΩA and Leadership

Service

The AΩA motto “worthy to serve the suffering” reflects the principle that “with honor comes responsibility.”
AΩA and Leadership

William Root’s leadership vision for AΩA continues today in promoting and advocating for:

✓ High academic achievement
✓ Leadership
✓ Professionalism
✓ Service
✓ Research
✓ Teaching
AΩA and Leadership

AΩA is successful in selecting leaders in medicine:

- 51 Nobel Prize winners in Physiology, Medicine or Chemistry exemplify leadership in science.
- About 75% of deans of medical schools are members of AΩA.
- 11 of 19 Surgeons General, including Vivek Murthy
- Many AΩA members are excellent leaders in academic medical societies, health care institutions and their communities
Election of medical student members

- Total number of student members not to exceed 1/6 of total number of expected graduates in each class.
- Election of student members limited to candidates whose scholastic qualifications place them in the top 25% of their class.

ΑΩΑ constitution, revised 2012
Election of medical student members

Scholastic achievement should be the primary, **but not the sole basis**, for election of student members to ΑΩΑ.

- Leadership capabilities
- Firm sense of ethics
- Fairness in dealing with colleagues
- Demonstrated professionalism
- Potential for achievement in medicine
- Service to the school or community at large

ΑΩΑ constitution, revised 2012
Election of medical student members

- ΑΩΑ election **should not be** a popularity contest or a simple recording of class rank.

- ΑΩΑ election **should be** a thoughtful and well-considered judgment of present accomplishments and the potential future contributions of a medical student.

ΑΩΑ constitution
AΩA chapter
at the Medical College of Wisconsin

- Wisconsin beta chapter organized in 1947
  - Executive Director: Lesley Mack
  - Treasurer: Nancy Havas
  - Councilor: Michael Lund
- Local chapter has established a tradition of providing academic/community service.
“Be Worthy to Serve the Suffering”