



"But my dear graduates, let me be frank, the best years are very much ahead of you. And they can be whatever you want them to be... As much as you've changed during your time here, more change is coming. You're going to continue to evolve in unforeseen ways. You are full of complexities and wonders that haven't even begun to surface. Life's unpredictability will draw these out and what defines you now will be mere shades and hues of a more vibrant you over the next five, 10, 50 years. Honestly, I can't think of anything more liberating than that, knowing that life will look differently than you think it will." –Octavia Spencer

Welcome to MCW–Central Wisconsin Commencement and Hooding Ceremony. I am grateful to have this special day to mark a milestone, not only for our graduates and their families, but for our entire campus community. Today we collectively celebrate a remarkable group of young physicians who have not only completed medical school, many of them in three years, but have also withstood the many challenges of training during the COVID-19 era. I know these young physicians are up to the challenge of helping create a new future for medicine in these challenging times.

I offer my heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to each of our graduates for their fortitude, resilience and team spirit. Their accomplishments in the classroom, in the clinical setting and the community are extraordinary.

Thank you to each of them for joining us on this challenging journey and for making MCW–Central Wisconsin a community-engaged campus working to create the next generation of physicians and leaders for our state. Each of these graduates leaves here with the hard-won opportunity to be called "doctor," and leaves behind a lasting legacy for the next generation of medical students. We hope and pray for each of them to continue to become the healers and leaders who will set things right.

Congratulations and thanks are also in order for the families, friends and the entire Central Wisconsin community who have supported these graduates. Each of you shares in the joy and inspiration of this occasion. Your support has made all the difference.

Bon voyage to our graduates. Take pride in how far you have come, have faith in how far you can go, and don't forget to enjoy the journey!

Lisa Grill Dodson, MD
Sentry and Founding Campus Dean
Medical College of Wisconsin-Central Wisconsin

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knowledge changing life

Leadership

President Chief Executive Officer

John R. Raymond, Sr., MD, joined the Medical College of Wisconsin as its sixth President and CEO in July 2010. He previously served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), where he had been a faculty member since 1996.



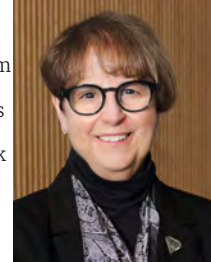
Dr. Raymond leads Wisconsin's only private health sciences university, which includes the nation's third-largest private medical school. Under his leadership, MCW continues to be a leader of innovation as Wisconsin's largest private research institution.

A practicing nephrologist with active roles in clinical care, teaching and faculty mentorship, Dr. Raymond also is a medical researcher studying the basic mechanisms of kidney cell function. He has published more than 140 full-length manuscripts and earned nearly \$40 million in funding in his career. He is a member of the Association of American Physicians and the American Society for Clinical Investigation.

Dr. Raymond is a member of the Board of Directors of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha County and served as Co-chair of the 2020 United Way Campaign. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin's Blood Research Institute. Dr. Raymond is the Past President of the Board of the American Heart Association of Metro Milwaukee. He recently was named as a 2024 *Wisconsin Titan 100*, which recognizes the state's most accomplished business leaders in their respective industries.

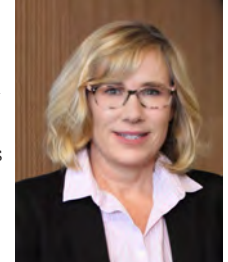
Interim Provost

Cheryl A. Maurana, PhD, is the Interim Provost, Stephen and Shelagh Roell Endowed Chair, Professor of Bioethics and Medical Humanities, Founding Director of the Kern National Network for Flourishing in Medicine, and Senior Vice President for Strategic Academic Partnerships. In her role as Interim Provost – which she assumed on January 1, 2025 – Dr. Maurana serves as the principal academic officer of the Medical College of Wisconsin and is responsible for the development, administration and execution of the academic and professional programs of the institution, as well as the education and welfare of MCW's learners. Additionally, she will lead a restructuring of the Provost's Office and chair a task force to develop a plan for MCW as a flourishing health sciences university of the future. The Deans of the MCW School of Pharmacy and School of Graduate Studies, and the Director of the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment (AHW), report directly to Dr. Maurana. Since joining MCW in 1995, Dr. Maurana has been responsible for expanding MCW's interinstitutional academic efforts and fostering collaboration among existing and new partners. She provided collaborative leadership for the development of MCW's regional medical education campuses and the creation of the MCW School of Pharmacy, launched the PhD program in Public and Community Health, and served as the first Senior Associate Dean for Public and Community Health, Founding Director of the Institute for Health & Society (now the Institute for Health & Humanity), and Founding Director of AHW.



Interim Dean, School of Medicine

Deborah M. Costakos, MD, MS, assumed the position of Interim Dean of the School of Medicine on January 1, 2025. She also serves as Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and was the Chair of that Department from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2024, following 11 months in the Interim Chair role. As Interim Dean of the School of Medicine (SOM), Dr. Costakos is responsible for the conduct and advancement of the programs of the SOM; maintaining the highest standards of excellence in the academic affairs of the SOM; fostering competitive biomedical research programs; and ensuring high-quality patient care and engagement of communities to advance health for all. Dr. Costakos serves as the chief administrative and academic officer of the SOM and oversees the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation. She recommends primary or secondary faculty appointments for individuals requesting appointments in the SOM and recommends appointments and reappointments to a named or endowed chair/professorship. Additionally, Dr. Costakos oversees MCW's Senior Associate Deans, Clinical and Basic Science Department Chairs, Institute and Center Directors, and the Deans of MCW's regional campuses in Central Wisconsin and Green Bay. Dr. Costakos received her MD from MCW in 1998. Following completion of her ophthalmology residency and fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology, she entered private practice. Since joining MCW in 2009, Dr. Costakos has developed a nationally recognized program for the care of infants with Retinopathy of Prematurity, started a pediatric ophthalmology fellowship, and prior to taking the chair role, served as Medical Director for Pediatric Ophthalmology.



Leadership

Sentry Dean and Founding Dean, Medical College of Wisconsin- Central Wisconsin

Lisa Grill Dodson, MD, Professor of Family and Community Medicine, joined the Medical College of Wisconsin as Founding Dean for the Medical College of Wisconsin-Central Wisconsin in August 2014. She was named the Sentry Dean, MCW-Central Wisconsin, in December 2019. Dr. Dodson provides overall leadership and management of MCW's regional medical school campus in Central Wisconsin and serves as the primary liaison for our health system, academic and community partners in that locale, as well as with MCW's Milwaukee campus.

Dr. Dodson advocates for innovation in both medical education and care delivery to ensure the availability of high-quality care to rural and other non-urban populations. Her leadership has been recognized by the receipt of several awards, including the *Oregon Family Physician of the Year* in 2009 and the MCW President's *Community Engagement Award* in 2017.



Assistant Dean, Basic Sciences, Medical College of Wisconsin-Central Wisconsin

Roy M. Long, PhD, is the Assistant Dean for Basic Sciences and an Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology. He received his bachelor and graduate degrees from the Pennsylvania State University and completed his post-doctoral work at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Upon arriving at the Medical College of Wisconsin, he was named a Pew Biomedical Scholar for his research related to the spatial regulation of gene expression in the yeast *S. cerevisiae*. He previously served as a course director in both the Medical and Graduate Schools and currently is an instructor in the Medical School, where his teaching has been recognized by his election into the Medical College of Wisconsin Society of Teaching Scholars. Dr. Long served on the admissions committee for both the Medical and Graduate Schools, and he was formerly the Assistant Dean for Recruitment and Admissions. He received Medical College of Wisconsin Faculty Service Awards for his work on the Medical School Admissions and Academic Standing Committees. Dr. Long is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Association of Medical Science Educators.



Assistant Dean, Clinical Learning, Medical College of Wisconsin-Central Wisconsin

Jacob P. Prunuske, MD, MSPH, is an Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine and the Assistant Dean for Clinical Learning at the Medical College of WisconsinCentral Wisconsin campus. He learned his bachelor and medical degrees at the University of Wisconsin. He completed his Family Medicine Residency and Master of Science in Public Health at the University of Utah. His research has focused on family medicine and public health education. Dr. Prunuske is board-certified by the American Board of Family Medicine and his clinical practice is with Aspirus Wausau Family Medicine. He enjoys mountain and fat biking, snowboarding, reading, cooking and games with family and friends.



Board of Trustees



Board of Trustees

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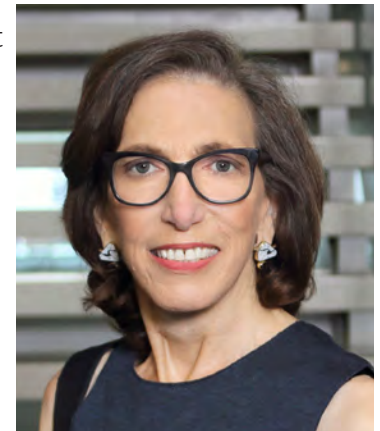
Chair of the Board:

Elizabeth “Betsy” Brenner is an active volunteer in the Milwaukee community. Along with her service as a Medical College of Wisconsin trustee and member of its executive committee, she sits on the executive committees of the Greater Milwaukee Committee, and has held leadership roles in Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, The Boys & Girls Club and Milwaukee Film.

Ms. Brenner stepped down in 2016 after more than three decades in the newspaper industry. She was named Publisher and President of the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* in January 2005, and also served as Executive Vice President of Journal Communications and its spinoff company, Journal Media Group. During her tenure at Wisconsin’s largest newspaper, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* won three Pulitzer Prizes, including one awarded in 2011 that told the story of groundbreaking genomic research conducted at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Prior to coming to Milwaukee, Ms. Brenner was President and Publisher of *The News Tribune* in Tacoma, WA and *The SUN* in Bremerton, WA. She had earlier leadership responsibilities at the *Denver Rocky Mountain News*, *The Miami Herald* and *The New York Times*. She began her career as a business news reporter at *The Chicago Tribune*.

Ms. Brenner attended Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in journalism in 1976 and Master of Business Administration degree in 1978.



Keynote Speaker

Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, MD, MPH, FAMIA, FASA

Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, MD, MPH, FAMIA, FASA, serves as Director of the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment (AHW) and Senior Associate Dean and Professor at the MCW School of Medicine. He divides his time among clinical practice, research, and directing the strategic and operational advancement of AHW, a statewide philanthropy established by MCW to serve as a resource to health research, education, and community initiatives across Wisconsin.

Under Dr. Ehrenfeld's leadership, AHW has awarded an average of \$16 million in grant awards annually into community and research initiatives aimed at improving health and advancing health equity in Wisconsin. In 2020, he led the coordination of AHW's rapid response to the COVID-19 pandemic, deploying more than \$4.8 million in grants to partners across the state. He was named by Managed Healthcare Executive Magazine as one of its 10 Emerging Industry Leaders.





Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Executive Director of Alumni Relations

Anthony J. Perez, MSEd

Graduates of 2025:

On behalf of our MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association, I congratulate you on all of your accomplishments during your education at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Your Commencement ceremony is a recognition of your hard work, your dedication to advanced learning, and your commitment to future service in our communities.

We welcome you to our proud, accomplished and growing alumni community, now greater than 20,000 in number. Like your interprofessional studies that saw you learning with other types of students to improve health, your future involvement with our alumni community promises to provide additional opportunities to interact with, inspire, and support students and each other.

We will follow your progress and success with great admiration, anticipation and pride. As MCW will always be a part of you, you will always be part of MCW. Be sure to register with or update your information on Engage (mcwengage.com), our online directory and connection platform. We are grateful for your active support of MCW.

Congratulations and best wishes,

Thomas E. Palmer MD '71, GME '76, FEL '85
President, MCW/Marquette Medical Alumni Association

Medical School Oath

AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION:

I PLEDGE TO DEDICATE MYSELF to the service of humanity through the art and science of medicine;

The health and well-being of my patients will be MY FIRST CONSIDERATION

I WILL RESPECT the autonomy and dignity of my patients;

I WILL VALUE the individuality of my patients and care for all of them to the best of my ability;

I WILL SAFEGUARD the confidentiality of my patients;

I WILL PRACTICE my profession with conscience and integrity and in accordance with medical standards;

I WILL SHARE my medical knowledge for the benefit of the community and the improvement of health care;

I WILL GIVE to my teachers, colleagues, and students the respect and gratitude that is their due;

I WILL ATTEND to my own health, well-being, and abilities so that I am able to provide the best care for my patients;

I WILL ENGAGE in honest self-reflection upon my character, acknowledging both my strengths and limitations;

I WILL NOT USE my medical knowledge to violate human rights or civil liberties, even under threat.

I MAKE THESE PROMISES solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.

This oath, based on the Declaration of Geneva, was written in 2019 by MCW students:
Alexandra Cohn, Clara Bosco, Erica Woertz, Jamie Jasti, Maraika Robinson, Mohamed Khalil and Sarah Brink

James L. Adkins

Columbus, IN

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2018
Indiana University-Bloomington

Community Project

Longitudinal Evaluation of the
Healthy Habits Program

Residency

Internal Medicine
West Virginia University





Jennifer A. Backus

Cedarburg, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2019
Saint Louis University

Community Project

Nutrition Programming for Caregivers
Who Have a Loved One with Down Syndrome

Residency

General Surgery
Baylor College of Medicine

Lauren J. Beranek

Marathon, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2018
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

Community Project

Ongoing Analysis of Pap Smear Guidelines
in High-Risk Populations

Residency

Neurology
University of Colorado





McKenzie N. Borkovec

Muskego, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2018
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Community Project

Ongoing Analysis of Pap Smear Guidelines
in High-Risk Populations

Residency

Pediatrics
Medical College of WI Affiliated Hospitals

Grace M. Buechel

Lake Mills, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2022
Purdue University

Community Project

Substance Use Disorder Comorbidities in
Those Seeking Long-term Addiction Treatment

Residency

Psychiatry
Medical College of WI Affiliated Hospitals –
Northeastern Wisconsin





Reilly A. Coombs Turunen

Marquette, MI

Conferred Degrees

Master of Science, 2020
Georgetown University

Bachelor of Science, 2019
University of Michigan

Community Project

Exploring Healthcare Barriers for the Unhoused:
Insights from a Rural Midwestern Community

Residency

Neurology
University of Wisconsin

Drake W.S. Giese

De Beque, CO

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2018
University of Colorado

Community Project

Medical Students Mentoring Adolescents
to Mitigate Adverse Childhood Experiences

Residency

Orthopaedic Surgery
University of Nebraska Medical Center





Erin R. Gruber

Wausau, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2022
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Community Project

Period Poverty at John Muir Middle School

Residency

Pediatrics
Medical University of South Carolina

Alec C. Hafferman

Edgar, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2021
St. Cloud State University

Community Project

Importance of Mental Health in Adolescents

Residency

Psychiatry
Medical College of Wisconsin-Central Wisconsin





Ellie E. Mallek

Plover, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2022
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Community Project

Implementation of the Peer Shopping Program
for New Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
Participants

Residency

Family Medicine
University of Minnesota Medical School-Duluth

Marissa S. O'Hair

Boyd, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2019
Indiana Wesleyan University

Community Project

Recipes for Increased Food Literacy and Fresh
Produce Utilization Among Pantry Attendees

Residency

Radiology
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine





Meghan M. Peterson

MN

Community Project

Improving Healthcare Utilization of Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers

Residency

Psychiatry
Case Western Reserve University/University
Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

Jaclyn K. Schneider

Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2020
St. Norbert College

Community Project

Art for Dessert: The Effect of Art Kits on
Depression Scores in Wausau's Elderly Population

Residency

Pediatrics
Medical College of WI Affiliated Hospitals





Celine M. Scholin

Marshfield, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2021
Loyola University Chicago

Community Project

The DC Everest Mental Wellness Day

Residency

Anesthesiology
University of Illinois–Chicago

Elijah J. Szymanski

La Crosse, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Arts
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota

Community Project

Assessing the Use of Emergency Rooms for
Ambulatory Sensitive Conditions by Patients
Without Insurance in Weston, WI

Residency

Family Medicine
Aspirus Wausau Family Medicine





Andrew M. Turunen

Antigo, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2017
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Community Project

Assessing the Use of Emergency Rooms for
Ambulatory Sensitive Conditions by Patients
without Insurance in Wausau, WI

Residency

Internal Medicine
University of Wisconsin

Nicholas S. Weiler

Colby, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2019
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

Community Project

Medical College of Wisconsin-Central Wisconsin
in the Hmong Gardens

Residency

Emergency Medicine
Creighton University





Grace F. Wittenberg

Rapid City, SD

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2021
Villanova University

Community Project

Addressing Barriers to Advance Care Planning
within the Hispanic Population at the Wausau
Free Clinic

Residency

Internal Medicine
University of Michigan

Jennifer L. Woodworth

Lyndon, IL

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2018
Illinois State University

Community Project

Weight Bias Among Medical Students

Residency

Obstetrics-Gynecology
University at Buffalo, Jacobs School
of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences





Lauren J. Woyak

Plover, WI

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2021
Oklahoma State University

Community Project

Installing Overdose Aid Kits in Portage County

Residency

Pediatrics
University of Wisconsin

Justin M. York

Muscatine, IA

Conferred Degree

Bachelor of Science, 2018
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Community Project

Assessing Medical Student Perception and
Awareness of Mental Health and Suicide on the
CW Campus

Residency

General Surgery
Bassett Medical Center





Join us on Engage! Maintain and create new connections.

Stay connected to classmates and keep your bond to MCW strong by registering on Engage, our online community for students and alumni.

Visit mcwengage.com to register.

Expand Your Network: Connect with alumni and students through our exclusive directory.

Grow Together: Offer mentorship or find the guidance you need through the Mentor Connections Program.

Advance Careers: Post or browse job and internship opportunities.

Stay Informed: Catch up with the latest MCW news.



Be part of the MCW community that grows, mentors, and inspires together.

alumni@mcw.edu
mcw.edu/alumni

Dear Doctors...

Your journey toward this very special day has included many ups and downs, and you have successfully navigated many challenges and difficult decisions along the way. You have worked hard to earn the privilege of becoming a physician. We know you will have many uplifting and rewarding days ahead of you, as well as days that will be difficult and overwhelming. Our team at MCW-Central Wisconsin will continue to cheer for you, believe in you, and think of you often. Our care and concern for your well-being will continue into residency and beyond, and we will be available when you need us. Remember to take time for yourself along the way. Be proud of what you have achieved and enthusiastic about the opportunities ahead! We wish you the best and hope to hear from you often... **MCW-Central Wisconsin**

Neil Ahles

Jeff Amundson, PhD

Steve Bergin, MD

Anita Bublik-Anderson, MD

Lisa Dodson, MD

Mariah Drach

Leslie Fischer-Preuss, MS

Sumeet Goel, DO

Chris Knight, MA

Ed Krall, MD

Kris Lahren, MD

Jeff Lamont, MD

Savannah LaQue

Kay Lockwood, MD

Roy Long, PhD

Michele Montgomery, MD

Kelly Mulder, MEd

Carolyn Nash, MD, MPH

Corrie Norrbom, MD

Amy Prunuske, PhD

Jake Prunuske, MD, MSPH

Heather Roth

Bob Sander, MD

Kari Schultz, MA

Charles Shabino, MD

Colette Solatka, MD, FACEP

David Vogel, MD

Terri Walkush, MBA

John Wheat, DO

Christine Wilson

Catherine Yang



knowledge changing life

Our Mission

We are a distinguished leader and innovator in the education and development of the next generation of physicians, scientists, pharmacists and health professionals.

We discover and translate new knowledge in the biomedical and health sciences.

We provide cutting-edge, collaborative patient care of the highest quality.

We improve the health of the communities we serve.

mcw.edu

Congratulations Class of 2025!

#MCWKNOWLEDGE #MCW25 #MCWGrads25