



**COLLEGE OF  
PHARMACY, GLENDALE**

**2026 COMMENCEMENT**



College of Pharmacy, Glendale  
**2026 Commencement**

Midwestern University • Glendale Campus

Tuesday, the Second of June  
Two Thousand and Twenty-Six



## **ORDER OF CEREMONY**

**Processional:** *Pomp and Circumstance*

THE AUDIENCE WILL PLEASE STAND

**Introduction:** Kaila Dougherty, O.D., D.H.A., F.AAO  
*Chief Operating Officer*

**National Anthem:** *The Star-Spangled Banner* by F.S. Key

**Opening Reflection:** Charles Veltri, Ph.D.  
*Associate Dean*

**President's Address:** Joshua C. Baker, O.D., M.S.  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

**Dean's Welcome:** Mitchell R. Emerson, Ph.D.  
*Dean, College of Pharmacy*  
*Downers Grove and Glendale Campuses*

**Oath of a Pharmacist:** Stephanie Counts, Pharm.D., M.Ed.  
*Associate Professor*

**Presentation of Graduates:** Dr. Emerson

**Conferral of Degrees:** Dr. Baker

**Graduate Hooding of the Class of 2026**

**Presentation of Midwestern University Coin**  
**Honoring our Military Graduates**

**Student Remarks:** Spencer Hemmingsen  
*Student Representative & President, Class of 2026*

**Closing Remarks:** Dr. Emerson

**Closing Reflection:** Dr. Veltri

**Recessional**

**Announcer:**

Michael A. Dietrich, Pharm.D., FAzPA

**Hooders:**

Mary Gurney, Ph.D., RPh, BCPA, FAPhA

Vanthida Huang, Pharm.D., FCCP, FIDSA, FIDP

Suzanne Larson, Pharm.D.

Erin Raney, Pharm.D., BCPS, BC-ADM, FCCP

**Student Marshals:**

Kathleen A. Fairman, Ph.D., M.A.

Kellie J. Goodlet, Pharm.D., FCCP, BCIDP, BCPS, BCTXP

Mark Olsen, Ph.D.

Elizabeth Pogge, Pharm.D., M.P.H., BCPS, BCGP, FASCP, FAzPA

**Faculty Marshals:**

Melanie Jordan, Ph.D.

Volkmar Weissig, Sc.D., Ph.D., M.S.

**Mace Bearers:**

Shareen El-Ibiary, Pharm.D., FCCP, BCPS

Medha Joshi, M.Pharm., Ph.D.



## DOCTOR OF PHARMACY CLASS OF 2026

**AJ Adams**  
Miami, FL

**Haneen Alkaylanie**  
Surprise, AZ

**Cheleen An**  
Las Vegas, NV

**Melvin Ani**  
Phoenix, AZ

**Gilberto Arroyo**  
*Summa Cum Laude*  
Phoenix, AZ

**Samuel Azizian**  
Turlock, CA

**Kooshan Azodi**  
Houston, TX

**Louis Badang**  
Columbus, OH

**Mona Bayat**  
San Diego, CA

**Tiffany Cabrera**  
Phoenix, AZ

**Jasmin Chaparro Martinez**  
Phoenix, AZ

**Chiedoziem Chukwu**  
El Paso, TX

**Taylor Cova**  
Mesa, AZ

**Jacqueline David**  
Chicago, IL

**Lorin Deese**  
*Cum Laude*  
Nederland, TX

**Keval Desai**  
Avondale, AZ

**Ejemen Eichie**  
Denver, CO

**Erica Therese Esteban**  
Whittier, CA

**Logan Farrington**  
Scottsdale, AZ

**Samantha Fisher**  
Glendale, AZ

**Haley Fraser**  
Gillette, WY

**Nancy Gonzalez Vazquez**  
Glendale, AZ

**Spencer Hemmingsen**  
Sioux City, IA

**Amanda Hodges**  
Sacramento, CA

**Kyra Ina\***  
Tampa, FL

**Robert Isbell**  
*Magna Cum Laude*  
Santa Barbara, CA

**Caleb Jackson**  
Colorado Springs, CO

**Thomasine James**  
Buckeye, AZ

**Kristina Jasso-Lopez**  
*Summa Cum Laude*  
Bakersfield, CA

**Maria John**  
Mount Dora, FL

**Ramandeep Kaur**  
Glendale, AZ

**Heleen Khan**  
San Diego, CA

**Brian Khuong**  
Glendale, AZ

**Sabrina Kizy**  
Bloomfield Hills, MI

**David Kyle**  
San Diego, CA

**Kent Layton**  
Mesa, AZ

**Jenny Le**  
Phoenix, AZ

**Lishan Liu**  
*Cum Laude*  
Glendale, AZ

**Berkeley Livingston**

*Summa Cum Laude*  
Lincoln, NE

**Paola Lugo**

Fort Worth, TX

**Rania Mamo**

La Crescenta, CA

**Andrew Marcelo**

*Summa Cum Laude*  
Casa Grande, AZ

**Natasha Mebius**

Peoria, AZ

**Ali Mohsin**

Baghdad, Iraq

**Mahsa Mosavi**

Glandale, AZ

**Arleen Mundian**

Detroit, MI

**Jihan Nawara**

Phoenix, AZ

**Kevin Nguyen**

Avondale, AZ

**Michelle Nguyen**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
Phoenix, AZ

**Ayushi Patel**

*Cum Laude*  
Eden Prairie, MN

**Jennifer Plummer**

Glendale, AZ

**Gabriela Rajic\***

*Cum Laude*  
Urbana, IL

**Alexander Rayis**

Detroit, MI

**Stormi Rich**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
Salt Lake City, UT

**Natalie Sarabia**

Inglewood, CA

**Keri Scheidt\***

Arvada, CO

**Healie Situ**

Peoria, AZ

**Aya Tayeb**

*Cum Laude*  
Tampa, FL

**Stephanie Tena Gutierrez**

Phoenix, AZ

**Carla Terrazas Arroyo**

*Cum Laude*  
Phoenix, AZ

**Behnoush Tohidnia**

Phoenix, AZ

**Lauren Toma**

Troy, MI

**Christopher Tu**

Huntington Beach, CA

**Jasmine Grace Tuason**

*Cum Laude*  
Los Angeles, CA

**Andrianna Walsh\***

*Cum Laude*  
Plano, TX

**Noelle Walton**

Chicago, IL

**Alina Waxman**

*Cum Laude*  
Surprise, AZ

**Reina Wrinkle**

*Magna Cum Laude*  
Creswell, OR

**Suzie Yoon**

Philadelphia, PA

**Mona Zegar**

Peoria, AZ

## OATH OF A PHARMACIST

***I promise to devote myself to a lifetime of service to others through the profession of pharmacy. In fulfilling this vow:***

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

**I will** promote inclusion and belonging, respect differences in all individuals, and address health disparities to advance health equity for all people.

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

**I will** respect and protect all personal and health information entrusted to me.

**I will** accept the responsibility to improve my professional knowledge, expertise, and self-awareness.

**I will** hold myself and my colleagues to the highest principles of our profession's moral, ethical and legal conduct.

**I will** embrace and advocate changes that improve patient care.

**I will** utilize my knowledge, skills, experiences, and values to prepare the next generation of pharmacists.

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

## COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, GLENDALE FACULTY

### **Pharmacy Practice**

Jeffrey Barletta, Pharm.D.  
Kelsey Buckley, Pharm.D.  
Melinda Burnworth, Pharm.D.  
Stephanie Counts, Pharm.D.  
Lindsay Davis, Pharm.D.  
Nicole Early, Pharm.D.  
Shareen El-Ibiary, Pharm.D.  
Kathleen Fairman, Ph.D.  
Dawn Gerber, Pharm.D.  
Kellie Goodlet, Pharm.D.  
Mary Gurney, Ph.D.  
Alexis Hayes-Porter, Pharm.D.  
Vanthida Huang, Pharm.D.  
Elizabeth Pogge, Pharm.D.  
Erin Raney, Pharm.D.  
Michael Rupp, Ph.D.  
Tara Storjohann, Pharm.D.

### **Pharmaceutical Sciences**

Tamer Elbayoumi, Ph.D.  
Oliver Grundmann, Ph.D.  
Melanie Jordan, Ph.D.  
Medha Joshi, Ph.D.  
Mark Olsen, Ph.D.  
Volkmar Weissig, Ph.D.  
Molly Yao, Ph.D.

### **Office of Experiential Education**

Laura Hanson, Pharm.D.  
Suzanne Larson, Pharm.D.

## ACADEMIC REGALIA AND PROCESSIONAL

### *Gown*

The gown is the cornerstone of the academic costume that has its origins in 12th and 13th century Europe, a period when universities were being formed. Today, Midwestern University follows guidelines established by the American Council on Education. All graduates wear black gowns, with the front panels of the doctoral gown trimmed in black velvet. Each sleeve of the doctoral gown is adorned with three bars of black velvet with bell-shaped wrist ends. The master's gown is unadorned, with the wrist ends of the sleeve open oblongs that extend beyond the hand.

**Arizona College of Optometry**  
 Discipline Color: Seafoam  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine**  
 Discipline Color: Kelly Green  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**Arizona College of Podiatric Medicine**  
 Discipline Color: Nile Green  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Dental Medicine–Arizona**  
 Discipline Color: Lilac  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Graduate Studies Biomedical Sciences Program**  
 Discipline Color: Gold  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Graduate Studies Precision Medicine Program**  
 Discipline Color: Gold  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Graduate Studies Public Health Program**  
 Discipline Color: Salmon  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Cardiovascular Science Program**  
 Discipline Color: Gold  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Clinical Psychology Program (Doctor)**  
 Discipline Color: Royal Blue  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Clinical Psychology Program (Master)**  
 Discipline Color: Gold  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Nurse Anesthesia Program**  
 Discipline Color: Apricot  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Nursing Program (Doctor)**  
 Discipline Color: Apricot  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Nursing Program (Master)**  
 Discipline Color: Apricot  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Occupational Therapy Program**  
 Discipline Color: Sage Green  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Physical Therapy Program**  
 Discipline Color: Teal  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Physician Assistant Program**  
 Discipline Color: Gold  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Health Sciences Speech-Language Pathology Program**  
 Discipline Color: Crimson  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Pharmacy, Glendale**  
 Discipline Color: Olive  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold

**College of Veterinary Medicine**  
 Discipline Color: Gray  
 Liner Color: Navy  
 Chevron Color: Gold



### ***Hood***

The hood, a commencement accessory placed around the neck that drapes down the back of the graduate's gown, signifies achievement in higher education. Its velvet top layer is the discipline color of the program of study. Both the lining and the chevron trim colors are those of the college or the program. The doctoral hood is four feet in length; the master's hood is three and one-half feet in length. At Midwestern University, the hood is carried over the right arm of the graduate in the processional and is placed on the graduate during the ceremony.

### ***Tam***

All Midwestern University graduates wear black velvet tams with black (master's programs) or gold (doctoral programs) tassels that hang to the right front side.

### ***Honor Cords***

The honor cord, nearly six feet in length, is worn around the graduate's neck and drapes down the front of the gown. The different cord colors designate the academic achievement or honor status in a national academic/professional society. A graduate can wear multiple cords if he or she qualifies for individual honors.

### ***Midwestern University Coins***

A custom minted coin is a military tradition to recognize achievement, create incentive, improve safety, or show appreciation for duty, dedication, or a job well done. Midwestern University proudly presents graduates who are in the military or entering the military following graduation with a coin to honor their service to our country.

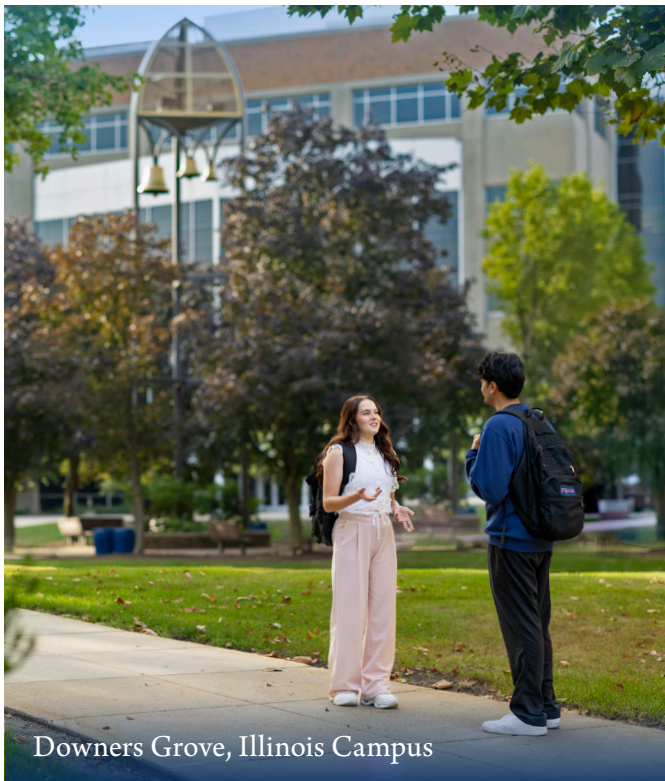
## HISTORY OF MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1900 as the American College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in Chicago, Illinois, Midwestern University began with a clear mission to educate healthcare professionals in a not-for-profit, student-centered environment. Early leadership and faculty built a strong reputation for academic excellence and hands-on clinical training, helping shape the future of osteopathic medicine.

The University's growth reflects both vision and responsiveness to the needs of healthcare. In 1986, the institution relocated to Downers Grove, Illinois, creating space for expanded programs across the health sciences. In 1995, Midwestern University established a second campus in Glendale, Arizona, significantly broadening its reach and impact. Over time, the University expanded to include programs in pharmacy, dental medicine, optometry, health sciences, podiatry, nursing, biomedical science, and veterinary medicine.

Today, Midwestern University is a comprehensive graduate university with two campuses, multiple colleges, and a wide range of healthcare programs. Students learn in modern facilities and gain valuable experience through interprofessional education, clinical education, and community-based clinics. The University's One Health initiative further emphasizes the connection between human, animal, and environmental health, preparing students to collaborate across disciplines to address complex global challenges.

Throughout its history, the University has remained committed to its founding principles of academic excellence, compassionate care, and student success, preparing our graduates to thrive in a rapidly changing healthcare environment.





## ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP TEAM

Joshua C. Baker, O.D., M.S.  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

Thomas A. Boyle, D.O., M.B.A., FACEP, FACOEP  
*Dean, Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine*

Sheri Brownstein, D.M.D., M.Ed.  
*Dean, College of Dental Medicine-Arizona*

Jared Chamberlain, Ph.D.  
*Dean, College of Health Sciences,  
Glendale Campus*

Megan Dallianis, Ed.D.  
*Dean of Student Services, Downers Grove Campus*

Mitchell R. Emerson, Ph.D.  
*Dean, College of Pharmacy,  
Downers Grove and Glendale Campuses*

Alicia E. Feis, O.D., FAAO  
*Dean, Arizona College of Optometry*

Carla Gartrell, D.V.M., J.D., DACVIM  
*Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine*

Harold J. Haering, Jr., D.M.D.  
*Dean, College of Dental Medicine-Illinois*

Brianne N. Hobbs, O.D., Ph.D., FAAO  
*Dean, Chicago College of Optometry*

Sandra E. Inouye, Ph.D.  
*Dean, College of Graduate Studies,  
Downers Grove and Glendale Campuses*

Jeffrey L. Jensen, D.P.M., FACFAS  
*Dean, Arizona College of Podiatric Medicine*

Lori A. Kemper, D.O., M.S., FACOFP  
*Dean, Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine*

Coretta C. Patterson, D.V.M., DACVIM-SA  
*Dean, Chicago College of Veterinary Medicine*

Sarah Radtke, Ed.D., ATC  
*Dean, College of Health Sciences,  
Downers Grove Campus*

Shannon Sesterhenn, Ed.D., M.S.  
*Dean of Student Services, Glendale Campus*

Yir Gloria Yueh, Ph.D.  
*Provost*



SAHUARO HALL



*Tomorrow's Healthcare Team*

Glendale Campus  
19555 North 59th Avenue  
Glendale, Arizona 85308  
[www.midwestern.edu](http://www.midwestern.edu)