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GEORGIA OSTEOPATHIC  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
1902

## Your monthly GOMA news & update

Welcome to GOMA's monthly newsletter where you can stay up-to-date on the latest osteopathic news and happenings in the GOMA community.

### Commencement 2021



The 2021 commencement for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Doctor of Pharmacy and Doctor of Physical Therapy programs at PCOM Georgia will be held: May 27 at 11 a.m. at: the Ameris Bank Amphitheatre, 2200 Encore Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30019.

The osteopathic program will be led by the new Dean and Chief Academic Officer of the Osteopathic Program **Andrea “Andy” Mann, DO, FAAP**. Dr Mann said, “I am honored to be a part of the commencement ceremonies for PCOM Georgia Osteopathic Medicine Class of 2021. This has been an exceptionally challenging year for our students. They have bravely and selflessly worked on the front lines, along with our regional clinical partners, to battle the COVID pandemic. Although I have only had the privilege to be the Dean of PCOM-Georgia for a little over a month, I am impressed and humbled by the strength and resilience our students have demonstrated. I am so proud to call these graduates colleagues, who I am confident will be outstanding osteopathic physicians, always sincerely and genuinely caring for the whole patient.”

***We featured Dr. Mann when she was just hired, but we wanted GOMA to know her on a more personal level so we sat her down for some more intimate questions. See further down for her picture and her answers.***

You can see profiles of some of the graduates by [clicking here](#).

*Use #PCOMgrad to share your PCOM Georgia commencement photos, videos, memories, well wishes and celebratory moments.*

*For questions regarding the commencement ceremony, contact [Ashley Jones](#).*

## **A Highlight of the Day: Doctor of Humane Letters awarded to GA DO**

**Richard H. Jadick, DO**, earned his Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Ithaca College and his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine in Old Westbury, New York. He completed his residency training in urology at the Medical College of Georgia and retired from the U.S. Navy in June of 2013 after 23 years of service. Dr. Jadick finished his Navy career as the Chief of Urology at the Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Florida, after returning from a nine month deployment to Afghanistan in October 2012.

Dr. Jadick is most noted for his service with the Marines out of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, in 2004 when he volunteered to go to Iraq with 1st Bn 8th Marines as the unit's Battalion Surgeon. It was during this deployment that his unit was ordered into Fallujah. On the very front lines he established a forward aid station and was credited with saving the lives of 30 Marines and sailors during the second battle of Fallujah. Dr. Jadick was awarded the Bronze Star with "Combat V" device for valor in January 2006. Dr. Jadick's story was first documented in a Newsweek cover story titled "Hero, M.D." He later published his own account of his experiences in a book called "On Call in Hell: A Doctor's Iraq War Story."

He is board certified with the American Board of Urology. His wife, Melissa, is a pediatrician and together they have three children: MacKenzie, Eva and Gregory. They reside in Peachtree City, Georgia. Dr. Jadick is currently a practicing urologist and the Chief of Surgery at Piedmont Newnan Hospital in Georgia.

## **Something to Celebrate About!**



### **Doctor's Day 2021 and National Osteopathic Medicine Week**

The first Doctors' Day took place in Winder, Georgia in 1933. Eudora Brown Almond, who was the wife of Charles B. Almond, MD, is credited with founding Doctors' Day as a way of honoring physicians. The U.S. House of Representatives adopted a resolution commemorating Doctors' Day in 1958, while President George H.W. Bush signed a resolution in 1990 that designated March 30 as National Doctors' Day. Finally, it is worth noting that March 30 was chosen as Doctors' Day because it was the date that Crawford W. Long, MD, from Jefferson, Georgia, administered the first ether anesthetic for surgery in 1842.

GOMA did a wrap up of National Osteopathic Medicine Week (April 18 – 24) by spending time with students on the PCOM Georgia campus on Friday April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Snack bags were given to the students.

*This newsletter decided to talk and get a picture of DOs in action during this year's celebration.*



**Dr. Harris**

**Dr. Kelley** (on Right)

**Dr. Katema**

**Dr. Bright**

**Megan Harris, DO** is a hospitalist at Piedmont Fayetteville Hospital and she said, “After the past year and what everyone has been through I would imagine we all have a new perspective on what our job/calling really means to us personally and to the communities we serve. Think we’ve become more unified as a profession, all different backgrounds and training had to work together in ways we’ve never done before across our country and the world. Pretty remarkable.”

**Robert “Bob” Kelley, DO** pictured with Kerac Falk, MD (fellow in Urogynecology) at Emory Saint Joseph Hospital. Dr. Kelley reflected on Doctors’ Day and Osteopathic Medicine Week saying, “Doctors’ Day, normally feels strange to me, maybe not as strange as national bring your teddy bear to work day (Oct 5th), but strange nonetheless. I think it’s the idea of being celebrated for a profession that most of us feel is a calling or vocation. However, after a year of pandemic medicine, I relish this day to pat colleagues on the back, who have truly been on the front lines. Those in the ER, the ICU, L&D, Anesthesia, and many more have carried the highest burden and deserve our praise well beyond 24 hours. Osteopathic Week is a great way to spread awareness of the profession and to highlight the similarities and the key differences with allopathic medicine. It’s important to reach out to the public with this information on parity and clarity. It is also a fun way to see what one’s alma mater is doing in celebration, and what they have achieved recently.”

**Anna Fulano Katema, DO** is Vascular Neurologist who graduated from VCOM at Virginia Tech in 2007 pointed out the long road to this point in time in her Facebook post: “In honor of Physician day. It truly is a calling and God’s doing. I am a Vascular Neurologist. 2 years of nursing school. 4 years of premed/undergraduate. Bachelors in Economics. 4 years of medical school. 4 years of Residency. 1 year of fellowship. Exams: NCLEX, MCAT, Medical school step 1, 2, 3, clinical skills. Neurology board certification. Vascular Neurology boards. Success is not built in a day. More than 15 years of school, I would do it again.” The Carrollton, Georgia community is lucky to have her providing the latest techniques in stroke care.

**Jacob Bright, DO** is a family physician stationed at the Army’s Fort Gordon near Augusta, Georgia. Dr. Bright stated, “2020 was quite the year for me (COVID-19 deployment to Manhattan and Combat Deployment to Afghanistan).” He has a busy and noisy household with 3 kids all under 6 years old and a pregnant wife.



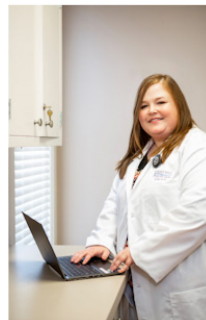
Dr. Williams



Dr. Jones



Dr. Fisher



Dr. Duskin

**Terry Williams, DO** is a 2004 graduate of West Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine who practices obstetrics & gynecology in Ringgold, Georgia. “Doctor’s day a year into the pandemic was a bit different. There was a sense of more accomplishment, more sincerity in the thank you’s, and more gratefulness to God for seeing us through. Blessed to be in the position I am in, helping to bring life into the world instead of the opposite end of the spectrum that so many of my colleagues have had to deal with this past year. They are the true heroes of the pandemic.”

**Barbara Joy Jones, DO** has been featured previously in this newsletter. She is “Dually family medicine boarded with proficiency in osteopathic manipulative treatment pursuing functional medicine board certification.” who has the busiest of years. She continues to see patients at Gwinnett Medical Group’s Gwinnett Family Medical Care and once a week teaches Northside Gwinnett family practice residents OMT. She is a medical correspondent for a metro-Atlanta television station, and on the weekends frequently is modeling wedding dresses. Oh yeah, she got married this past year. So, she expressed a tremendous range of emotions reflecting on the past twelve month, but expressed appreciation how everything has worked out for her and that she is able to have great relationships with her patients. “I recognize that as a D.O. I’m being sought out as a holistic physician”.

**David Fisher, DO** is a pediatrician in Martinez, Georgia (near Augusta) who was willing to share his picture of his response to being presented roses by his office staff on Doctors’ Day. “Ha! We like to cut up every now and then.” And maybe in those ten words, Dr. Fisher has summarized how to remain sane during a pandemic.

**Catie Duskin, DO** is a 2017 graduate of Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine who gives the perspective of a family physician in Moultrie who has just started a career in this most unusual of years. In response to a question about her feelings about Doctors’ Day, she wrote, “Both my office and the hospital made it special. I certainly will remember this year’s Doctors’ Day since it’s my first Doctors’ Day as an attending. I was really touched to be remembered by the community, my clinic, and the hospital Colquitt Regional and Sterling Primary Care has given me a great start in practice since starting in September. I graduated from Georgia South FM residency (at CRMC) in June. Finishing residency and starting practice during this past year has been a challenge. I am blessed to have had such a great community to help.”

## Awards Season

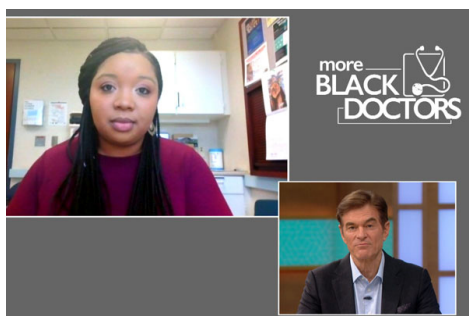
### Distinguished Service Award recipient

**Congratulations** are in order for Walter C. Ehrenfeuchter, DO, FAAO, professor of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine and Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, who was recently honored with the **2021 Fellow of American Academy of Osteopathy Distinguished Service Award.**

This award is presented annually to just one recipient by the Committee on Fellowship of the American Academy of Osteopathy. Get the whole story and read about [Dr. Ehrenfeuchter's distinguished career](#) in medicine and medical education



### An Inspiring Student



In March, PCOM Georgia Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine student Kayla Thomas (DO '21) was awarded a Diversity in Medicine scholarship from The Doctor Oz Show, where she was eager to share her story and thank her support system – her mother.

As a child, Student Doctor Thomas' interest in medicine was piqued when she was diagnosed with a brain tumor. In a recent interview, she shared, "I think, really, what I aim to do is through residency and through the rest of my career, is to bring not only the book knowledge that I have learned from school but also take my personal journey and what it's like coming from an underserved area, a single-parent family, having chronic complex issues and using those to meet my patients where they're at." Get the whole story [here.](#)

## The Good you DO

### Vaidehi Ambai Patel, DO Sniffs Out Sex-Trafficking Case



Vaidehi Ambai Patel, DO and the pediatrics nursing team worked together with the Children's Advocacy Centers of GA to investigate and shed light on an intricate sex-trafficking case. For her excellent work, WellStar Kennestone awarded her the Safety First Hero Award. Dr. Ambai Patel graduated from GA-PCOM in 2018, and is currently serving as Chief Resident and PGY-3 at WellStar Kennestone's Family Medicine Residency Program. After graduation, she will begin a Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship at Emory in July.

## Robert Lloyd, DO, FACOS Brings Rural Tennessee Knowledge to PCOM South Georgia

Robert Lloyd, DO, FACOS spent his medical career in rural Tennessee practicing surgery in a town where he was often the only surgeon. It's that real-world experience of practicing medicine in a rural area that Dr. Lloyd benefits the PCOM South Georgia medical students. As an Associate Professor of Surgery, Dr. Lloyd is not only teaching students about clinical techniques, but also the opportunities and benefits of practicing in underserved communities. Learn [more](#) about Dr. Lloyd.



### In the News

#### Sequester Relief Legislation Signed Into Law

On April 14, 2021, President Joe Biden signed into law legislation that would eliminate the 2% across-the-board cut to all Medicare payments, known as sequestration, until the end of 2021. The legislation also makes several technical changes to the rural health clinic (RHC) provisions that were included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2021. Specifically, the CAA required that the payment rate for RHCs be capped at \$100 per visit beginning April 1, 2021.

#### ACA Enrollment Period Extended Further

President Biden is extending Affordable Care Act enrollment through most of the summer. Biden had signed a law temporarily boosting "Obamacare" subsidies. Now, he's trying to ensure no one misses the chance to sign up, by keeping HealthCare.gov enrollment open for half the year. The special enrollment season will now last until August 15.

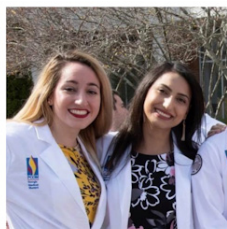


### Georgia State 2021 Legislation

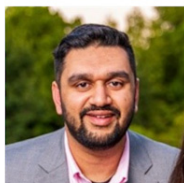
There were 1,176 bills introduced this Georgia Legislative Session and only 393 passing through both Houses. With 180 legislators in the State House, it is hard to get unanimity on every bill. However, over three quarters supported any given bill 88.6% of the time. This means that the vast majority of bills are passed with bipartisan support. Only 8 of the bills were passed on nearly party-line votes. Of course, these are the bills that make the press, and give the illusion that bipartisanship is impossible. 109 of the passed bills were "local legislation" that only affect one or so cities or counties instead of the entire state.

Now, we wait to see what Governor Kemp will sign or veto. Constitutionally, Kemp has 40 days to sign legislation or veto it. He can also let a bill become law without his signature, leaving a gray area for some bills to become law. As a general note, any legislation that did not pass can be reconsidered during another legislative session this term (next year). This newsletter will have healthcare legislation summarized next month after it is determined what will become the law of Georgia. In the meantime, the picture above shows the legislators celebrating the end of the legislative session in the last minutes of March 30.

### CME on the GO!



Daftarian & Javadi



Patel



Horuzsko



Carter & Richie

### V.O.C. is short for: Convenient Quality CME

The Virtual Osteopathic Conference was held April 16 through April 18, and got great reviews from DOs around the country from all different specialties. The 48 lectures offered all the doctors whatever they wanted. And the good news is that even if you missed it, you can still earn some CME credit by watching the recordings which will be available until June 30. [Sign up](#) for this great opportunity soon!

GOMA was proud of the PCOM Georgia and PCOM South Georgia osteopathic medical students who presented their research. On Saturday April 17, PCOM South Georgia second year student **Daniel Horuzsko, MS, MPH** did an 8-minute presentation entitled "*Novel Humanized Mouse Model for Donor Selection in Organ Transplantation*". The research was inspired by the "need to develop a sensitive in vivo model to predict graft alloreactivity and survivability of grafts post-transplant"

since 65% of the USA transplants are imperfect matches. At the end he thanked many from MCG including **Laura Malloy, DO** as well as two PCOM South Georgia students **Katherine Metts, DNP, APRN, OMS-1** and **Anthony Sciuva, OMS-1**.

Other Georgia students did shorter 3-minute poster presentations that were pre-recorded and played throughout the weekend. *"Implementing and Assessing the Electric Health Record Objective Structured Examination (HER-OSCE) at the School of Pharmacy at PCOM-GA"* presented by PCOM Georgia second-year osteopathic students **Shideh Haji Seyed Javadi** and **Ariana Daftarian**. They gave credit to **Andy Vu, MS** and Irandokht **Khaki Najafabadi, PharmD** at the end. Their research adds to the knowledge base on how pharmacy students can best adapt to integrating computers into clinical pharmacy work.

*"Bleeding After Endoscopic PEG Tube Removal on Patient Taking Clopidogrel"* presented by OMS-3 at PCOM Georgia student **Sahil Patel**. He gave credit to Columbus gastroenterologist **Michael Steinbook, MD**. This case report explained how a blood clot note after EGD and PEG removal was coming from posterior nose region, and was deducted to be due to COVID nasal swab done three days prior (pre-procedure).

*"Direct Oral Anticoagulants and Prosthetic Heart Valves: A Systemic Review of Case Reports"*, presented by PCOM Georgia second year osteopathic students **Tyler Richie** and **Steven Carter, Jr, MS** used 967 citations. In summary, "it is still uncertain whether DOACs are safe or effective in preventing valve thrombosis for different types of valve replacements. The use of DOACs in patients with valve replacement should be limited to those with no other alternative." They gave credit to **Jayden Lee, PharmD, BCACP, CACP**.

## Shot on the Spot

### PCOM Georgia Students Stick it to the Teachers



More than 450 PCOM Georgia medical, pharmacy, and physician assistant students have played a critical role in scaling up inoculation efforts and helping deliver 1,200 doses of COVID-19 vaccines to Newton County School System teachers. Student **Arya Kishor (DO '23)**, shared,

"Vaccinating Newton County teachers was especially rewarding because I was able to show my appreciation for all that they have overcome this past year, while also helping them feel safer doing what they love!"

[Read](#) what students and other community members had to say about this rewarding experience:

### PCOM South Georgia Students Vaccinate Against COVID



Students in the DO program at PCOM South Georgia have been volunteering at Colquitt Regional Medical Center's drive-through vaccine clinic since mid-March. Because of these efforts and the hard work of Colquitt Regional, hundreds of community members have received the COVID-19 vaccine. Student volunteer, **Ravi Soni (DO '23)**, said,

"I'll be rotating in Moultrie next year, so it's been great to meet and work with some of the staff through this vaccination effort. We learn so much in class, but it's important to be able to really participate in patient care . . . It's great to know we're helping to make our community safer."

[Learn more](#) about the PCOM South Georgia students' volunteerism at the clinic by going to the following link:

## The Lowdown

### *Bet You Didn't Know...* .. Andrea "Andy" Pax Mann, DO



***Best advise one of your parents gave you?*** "Smile. Treat every person with kindness and respect. Be present and appreciate every day."

***My most exotic vacay was ...*** "Aruba"

***If they made a movie of my life, I would choose to play the lead ...*** "Demi Moore"

***If I had one more talent, it would be ...*** "to be able to walk on my hands and do a muscle up - ring or bar...or better yet both!"

***Most unusual job?*** "I worked the front desk at a fitness center. It wasn't that unusual, but it was certainly fun!"

***What's your guilty pleasure?*** "Pizza and French fries"

***My favorite cocktail?*** "Beer"

***My kids say ...*** "that their friends think I am a cool mom."

***This year has taught me ...*** "that hard work and authenticity matter"

***If not medicine, I would be doing ...*** "CrossFit and working at Lululemon :-)"

***I can't live without my ...*** "family – and my 3 black golden doodles."

## And the Nominees are...

**NOMINATIONS  
FOR THE**

American **Osteopathic** Foundation

## AOF AWARD DUE BY MAY 9

American Osteopathic Foundation is now accepting recommendations/nominations for the **2021 AOF State Emerging Leaders Award**. This award was created in 2019 to recognize outstanding new physicians in their first two to six years of practice across the country and last year, the AOF was thrilled to partner with 10 state associations in celebrating ten amazing individuals.

Each state osteopathic association has the opportunity to recognize an early career leader from their state by nominating an exceptional DO as their State Emerging Leader for 2021. From this group of State Emerging Leaders Award winners, one DO will be chosen to receive the **James M. Lally, DO, National Emerging Leader Award**. All State Emerging Leaders will be recognized in a national publication such as U.S. News & World Report's Best Hospital Issue and highlighted in both AOF and state-specific communications.

Last year, Georgia nominated GOMA Board Member **Gregory E. Harris, DO** who was chosen to be one of the ten that AOF selected as a 2020 AOF State Emerging Leader.

Please [email](#) GOMA Executive Director Valerie Okrend if you feel one of the new osteopathic physicians in Georgia would be a worthwhile nomination. Include details about the nominee and your rationale for the nomination.

**Please email by May 5 so that GOMA can select and submit by May 9.**

### Nominations for AOA Award due by May 10

The American Osteopathic Association announced that nominations are being accepted for the AOA's highest honor, the **Distinguished Service Award**. This prestigious award is presented annually to deserving physicians or lay individuals for outstanding contributions to the understanding and advancement of osteopathic medicine through research, education, financial aid, or other areas that enable the profession to make a greater contribution to public health. **Nominations are due by 11:59 PM (CT) Monday, May 10.**

The award recognizes contributions to the overall profession, rather than regional or local efforts, in the following areas:

- Contributions to the advancement of the osteopathic medical profession
- Contributions to the art and science of osteopathic medical education
- Contributions to the osteopathic profession through research
- Contributions to the osteopathic profession through philanthropic leadership

Nominations should go directly to: <https://aoaforms.formstack.com/forms/distservice>

Nominations should include the following

1. Curriculum vitae of nominee

2. Letter of recommendation from the nominating affiliate's governing board (e.g. state osteopathic medical, osteopathic specialty society, college of osteopathic medicine, and/or non-practice affiliate)
3. Photo of nominee (optional)
4. Any additional supporting documentation (optional)

## In Memoriam...

### Raymond Fuller, DO Dies from COVID-19



Raymond Fuller, DO died on January 26, 2021 at the age of 74 years. He practiced Internal Medicine and Pulmonology in Hendersonville, Tennessee. He was an out of state member of GOMA who annually drove down to Atlanta to attend GOMA's Fall Conferences. Click [here](#) to view his obituary.



## Support GOMA!

*Helping your professional society,  
and the osteopathic community weather these  
uncertain times.*

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Mona Masood, DO is a general adult psychiatrist in the greater Philadelphia area is the founder and chief organizer of the Physician Support Line. , a free confidential peer support line by volunteer psychiatrists was started. It is supported 8 AM to Midnight seven days a week.

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