WHEN VIEWING FROM YOUR PHONE, PLEASE ROTATE YOUR DEVICE TO A LANDSCAPE/HORIZONTAL POSITION TO AVOID MISSING CONTENT WITHIN THE NEWSLETTER.

EVENTS    GIVE    SHOP    CONTACT

MAGNIFY | New Year; New Us!

Kim Riggi  
Executive Director of Advancement

Holly Jefferson  
Director of Alumni Engagement and External Affairs

Emily Miles  
Director of Communications and Marketing
Effective January 1, the School of Medicine Columbia’s Office of Development and Alumni Relations officially changed its name to the Office of Advancement, signaling an organizational structure and mindset shift that is more focused on the larger strategic vision and approach to advancing our school’s mission. As a result of this change, our office now encompasses alumni and student engagement, events, development, and communications and marketing, bringing all of these facets under one roof and providing a more integrated and holistic approach to the process of building brand awareness, cultivating relationships to encourage philanthropy, and serving our alumni and student communities.

As part of this change, we’re pleased to announce that Kim Riggi was recently promoted to executive director of advancement, Holly Jefferson was promoted to director of alumni engagement and external affairs, and Paige Stiles was promoted to assistant director of alumni and student engagement. In early January, we also added a new team member, Emily Miles, as the director of communications and marketing.
Over the next year and as we prepare for our building campaign, the Office of Advancement plans to expand by adding an events manager and additional staff members to the communications and marketing team. We hope these changes will help to strengthen and unite our SOMC family, strategically share our brand within the state and beyond, more effectively support our alumni and students, and most importantly, advance the School of Medicine Columbia's mission of serving the healthcare needs of our state and communities for which we all live.

**FOCUS** | Spread the Word: January 26th is Carolina Day!
Today is Carolina Day, where UofSC alumni and advocates come together in support of the university’s efforts to build a stronger, healthier state — and to thank state legislators who have helped the university fulfill its mission to provide an affordable, accessible education.

In addition to tuition mitigation, the university is making the case for funding to complete a new state-of-the-art medical education facility in the BullStreet district. The project, which will replace the existing School of Medicine Columbia, is the first step in a transformational health sciences hub in downtown Columbia. Read more about how UofSC as an institution is advancing our state.
Mary Burke, M.D. took an unusual route on her way to earning her medical degree from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia as part of the first class to graduate in 1981. Burke had completed two years of study at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health when her husband accepted a position as a chemistry professor at UofSC.

“I have always said I was the last one because of the transfer,” she says, “and I was the first one out because my name was called first at graduation.”

Burke, who was a chemistry major as an undergrad at St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin, worked in a hospital chemistry lab before deciding the field was not challenging enough.

“It was a spur of the moment decision, and I applied to medical school and got in,” she says.

Click here to read the full story about Dr. Burke.
**BREAKTHROUGH | Important Updates**

Alumni Reunion Weekend Ticket Sales Postponed to February 14th

With the recent surge of COVID-19 cases, we’ve sought guidance from Dean Les Hall and senior leadership to determine how to move forward with our reunion weekend planning for early April. Some of you have expressed concerns, and we share those same concerns. We want to reassure you that **we will not consider going through with major reunion events if we are still in a significant surge and levels in the community remain high.**

There is too much uncertainty right now to make a decision either way. For this reason, **we have decided to postpone opening up ticket sales until mid-February.** If at that point we feel comfortable moving forward with reunion plans, **tickets will go on sale Valentine’s Day (February 14th).**

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**Now Accepting 2022 Alumni Awards Nominations - Deadline is Friday, June 3, 2022**

The nomination process is officially open for our seven 2022 Alumni Awards. Recipients will be selected in late summer, and celebrated at the Alumni and Dean’s Awards Ceremony in October 2022.

**CLICK HERE TO NOMINATE**

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**DISCOVER | Engagement Opportunities & News**
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

2022 ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

APRIL 1-3

Celebrating

the 40TH ANNIVERSARY of the BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM
NOW ACCEPTING
Alumni Awards
NOMINATIONS

CLICK HERE TO NOMINATE AN ALUMNUS/ALUMNA
DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS JUNE 3, 2022

TIME TO LAY IT ALL OUT
ON THE TABLE

Looking for HOSTS from ALL DISCIPLINES working in the following areas:

PEDIATRICS • EMERGENCY MED
ORTHOPEDICS & SPORTS MED

TABLE TALK series
CLICK HERE TO BE CONSIDERED
Join the SOMC Alumni Private Group

Research. Clinical. Day to day. All medical careers.

Give the gift of your time.

Our students are looking for shadowing opportunities.

CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEER
Where on Earth are you now?

Click here to update your contact information

DID YOU KNOW...

When you graduate from the UofSC School of Medicine, you are automatically a member of the SOM Alumni Association?

Please contact Paige Stiles at paige.stiles@uscmed.sc.edu to learn ways you can get involved!

REVERE | Class Kudos
Anastasia Castillo, MD ('19) has matched with a fellowship at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL where she will be subspecializing in pediatric critical care. She is currently completing her pediatric residency at Nemours Children’s Hospital in Orlando, FL. Congratulations, Dr. Castillo!

Ashley (McCaskill) Forman, MD ('19) was married to Reid Forman in Okatie, SC on November 20, 2021. They currently reside in Savannah, GA where she’s completing her OBGYN residency at Memorial Health University Medical Center. Congratulations to you both!

Would you like to send a personal note to congratulate our alumni? Or do you have news of your own you’d like us to share? We’d love to hear from you!

Click Here to Contact Holly Jefferson

Deadline to submit Class Kudos is February 21st.

The Office of Advancement
University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia

Kim Riggi, Executive Director of Advancement
Holly Jefferson, Director of Alumni Engagement and External Affairs
Emily Miles, Director of Communications and Marketing
Paige Stiles, Assistant Director of Alumni and Student Engagement
Susan Butler, Finance/University Foundations Administrative Coordinator
Michelle Edgar, Development Research Analyst and Stewardship Coordinator

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