MAGNIFY | TONIGHT: 2021 UofSC SOMC Alumni and Dean's Awards Virtual Ceremony

ALUMNI AND DEAN’S AWARDS CEREMONY 2021

We invite you to tune in tonight (Thursday, October 21st) at 6:00 pm EST for our annual Alumni and Dean’s Awards Ceremony. Tonight's virtual ceremony will recognize nineteen individuals, seven of which are proud members of our alumni family and this year’s Alumni Association Honorary Life Membership Award recipient, for their contributions to the health care field and the School of Medicine Columbia. Two additional categories of achievement will be acknowledged as part of the celebratory event including the Luminary Leaders in Medicine and Science and the Award for Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine.
Please help us congratulate the following Alumni Awards recipients, as well as the other SOMC alumni who will be acknowledged in tonight’s ceremony as Dean’s Distinguished Service Awards recipients:

**2021 Alumni Awards Recipients**

- **Distinguished Young Alumni Award**
  - Christopher E. Gainey, MD, FACEP, FAEMS – ’12

- **Distinguished Master’s Alumni Award**
  - Jeffrey S. Boswell, DNAP, MNA, CRNA – ’04

- **Distinguished Genetic Counseling Alumni Award**
  - Ginger Hocutt, MS, CGC – ’13

[A recording will be available using this same link after the live broadcast]
Distinguished Doctorate Alumni Award
Sadiye Amcaoglu Rieder, PhD – '11

Distinguished Physician Alumni Award
Mary Beth Poston, MD, MSCR, FACP – ’99

Alumni Association Honorary Life Membership Award
Tan J. Platt, MD

2021 Dean's Distinguished Service Awards Recipients
FOCUS | "There's an App for That."

It's one of the biggest catchphrases in the 21st century, and we may be able to say it with pride around the School of Medicine Columbia campus in the near future! The cell phone has become our lifeline to the world and relationships around us, and almost every communication barrier can be broken with some sort of app. Efforts to keep our alumni engaged and connected are ongoing, and what better way to do it than from the palm of your hand?!

Click here to watch a recorded demo from MobileUp Software, one of the front-runner mobile app developers we've been talking to about a customizable SOMC app. After discussing the idea with our Alumni Association Board, we believe a UofSC SOMC app will help solve many of the challenges we currently face when connecting with our alumni family:

- Download once, create a profile, and never have to log in again (unless you delete or logout intentionally)

- One-stop shop for all alumni/school news, events, and engagement opportunities

- Push notifications - get alerted in real-time when messages are sent from the Alumni Office, which will stand out with icons on your home screen instead of getting buried by other messages in your email inbox
• Freedom to connect with each other and students without having to provide private contact information

• Ease of updating contact information for our office database as you relocate or have personal updates; no external links to forms that are only optimized for desktop computers

This application is definitely an investment, so we'd love to hear from you before we make a commitment. **WOULD YOU USE THIS APP?** Let us know your thoughts in the survey link below.

[UofSC SOMC Mobile App Survey]

Deadline to complete survey is December 1st; for your participation, we will pick three alumni at random to receive a SOMC swag bag.

---

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of our first class of students graduating from the Doctor of Medicine program. Throughout the year, we will be featuring members of the inaugural class.

**REFLECT | Alumni Credit SOMC Education with Their Success**
David Donelson, MD strongly believes in the value of education, so much so that he attained multiple higher education degrees before pursuing his medical degree from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia. Having already earned a bachelor’s in journalism from the University of Missouri, a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry from George Mason University, and a Master of Science in organic chemistry from the University of South Carolina, Donelson planned to pursue a PhD.

“I intended to go to the University of Pittsburgh,” he recalls, “but then I wasn’t thrilled about moving north and the School of Medicine came around, so I put in my application.”

That is how Donelson came to be a member of the first class of students for the newly launched UofSC School of Medicine in 1977.

William Newton, MD realized that he wanted to pursue medicine after recognizing the important role physicians can play in their community. Newton originally thought he might pursue general surgery but because of the influence of Edward J. Dennis, MD, professor and first chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the School of Medicine, he considered gynecological oncology.

Newton realized that he did enjoy delivering babies, and he completed residency in Obstetrics/Gynecology at the University of South Florida College of Medicine.

“It is a miraculous connection with your patients,” he says. “It was so rewarding to work with
patients who had suffered miscarriages and other problems and to then see them have a successful pregnancy."

Newton would not change anything about his experience as a medical student.

“Some days it may not have seemed worth it, but at the end of the day, we all know it was worth it,” he says. “I only hope that I have made some difference in the lives of my patients.”

Click here to read the full story about Dr. Donelson and Dr. Newton.

---

**DISCOVER** | Engagement Opportunities & News

JOIN US

November 5th

3:00-4:30pm

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FALL BOARD MEETING & SOCIAL

In-Person & Online
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

TABLETALK series
CLICK HERE TO BE CONSIDERED
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

2022 ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

APRIL 1 - 3

Celebrating

the 40TH ANNIVERSARY of the BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM
Join the

SOM 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
Elizabeth B. Wilkes, MSN, CRNA ('04) has been selected as the 2021-22 President of the South Carolina Association of Nurse Anesthetists (SCANA) with a membership of 1,400 CRNAs covering the entire state. She lives and practices in Aiken, SC, and is currently enrolled in the MUSC Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) program.

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations
University of South Carolina School of Medicine

Kim Riggi, Senior Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Holly Jefferson, Associate Director of Alumni Relations and Development
Paige Stiles, Alumni Engagement and Marketing Manager
Susan Butler, Finance/University Foundations Administrative Coordinator
Michelle Edgar, Development Research Analyst and Stewardship Coordinator
Margaret Gregory, Public Information Coordinator

The Garnet Microscope | Volume 4 | Issue 10
October 2021