



# *White Coat Ceremony*

**CLASS OF 2026**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2022  
11:00 A.M.**

**CALIFORNIA NORTHSTATE UNIVERSITY  
ELK GROVE, CALIFORNIA**

# *Message from the Board of Trustees*

Dear Members of the Class of 2026,

The White Coat Ceremony signifies the rite of passage at the beginning of the journey to becoming a member of the learned society of medicine. Today, you receive the jacket size white coat from a faculty who assists you in getting into it.

This white coat symbolizes you have accepted to learn medicine – the scientific basis of what medicine is and the art of healing with care. In the journey ahead, you will learn to understand the cliché “First do no harm.” You will commit to treating patients with empathy, advance medicine with devotion, and contribute to the profession with newfound knowledge.

Members of the faculty will continue to guide and support you throughout your learning, training, practice, and self-reflection until you are able and capable of performing the “entrustable professional activities as expected of a competent physician. As you are in your white coat day in and day out, you will soon acquire the ability, knowledge, and skill to develop your independent clinical reasoning and formulate the care plan with your patients, all after a few years of intense learning.

As you may already have realized, you are now beginning work and transforming yourself from a medical student to a medical doctor and earning your long white coat.

Congratulations,

Dr. Rob DeBruin

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

(Drs. R. DeBruin; S. Duruisseau; W. Chan; A. Chong; M. Delmore;  
D. Dominquez, A. Mikhailitchenko; A. Tong,; A. Swehar & Ex.  
Officio, A. Cheung)

# *Message from the Dean*

Dear CNUCOM Class of 2026,

When you enrolled in medical school, you started the profound and lifelong commitment to patients and their families. Now in this next step of your journey, the white coat ceremony, I wholeheartedly welcome you to this traditional rite of passage.

The White Coat Ceremony is a powerful and enduring symbol of the medical profession that reflects professionalism, humanistic values, and behavior. Placed upon your shoulders by those who have come before you, your white coat represents the value system of our program and the profession into which you are about to enter. For many of you, it is also the first time that your community, family, and friends see and recognize you as doctors.

When you receive your white coat, we welcome you and signify our confidence in you and your commitment to become a dedicated physician. The crisis of the pandemic has been incredibly challenging, but the silver lining is that it has inspired an entire generation of new medical students like you to enter this noble profession. I know each of you will stay true to your oath, and that you will continue to make our program, communities, and the medical profession proud.

Through this ceremony, you also affirm that you are meant to be in this profession and will take the responsibility of the role seriously. When you wear your white coat, you are making a promise to your patients to be what they need you to be, through crises of birth and death and everything in-between, to apply your scientific knowledge of human biology and diseases to the best of your ability, for your patients to live healthy and fulfilled lives.

## *Message from the Dean*

By donning this white coat, you have chosen to dedicate your life to the needs of others. The white coat brings with it great expectations, but they are an honor and a privilege. During your professional career, you may wear many white coats. What they symbolize will remain the same: your professionalism, the virtue of your medical calling, the trust that defines the physician–patient covenant, and the recognition that it is a privilege for us to care for our patients, not a privilege for our patients to be cared for by us. Remember that being a doctor is not simply a job, it is your life’s work, a profession, a journey. And if you love what you do, you will never work a day in your life.

Congratulations on everything that you have accomplished to get here, and I look forward to everything that you will continue to achieve.

With warm regards.



Interim Dean  
Vice President of Academic Affairs

# *Program*

## **Procession**

*CNU Adheres to Sac County Guidelines - Masks Strongly  
Recommended*

## **National Anthem**

*Amrita Ravi, Class of 2026*

## **Message from the College of Medicine Interim Dean**

*Catherine Yang, PhD*

## **Special Keynote Speaker**

*Roger D. Woodruff, MD, FAAFP  
Interim Chair of Clinical Medicine  
Professor of Family Medicine*

## **Coating of Students**

*Executives, Faculty, and Community Physician Leaders*

## **Recital of Oath**

*Michael S. Wong, MD, MBA, FACS  
Vice President of Clinical Practice  
Associate Dean of Academic and Career Advising  
Professor of Surgery-Plastic Surgery*

## **Closing of Ceremony**

*Doctorate of Medicine Students*  
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**Ihab Abed, BS, California Northstate University**

**Yavar Abgin, BA, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Nazanin Ahmadian, BS, MS, University of California, San Diego**

**Meraj Alam, BS, University of California, Davis**

**Lara Ali, BS, University of California, San Diego**

**Noorhan Amani, BS, University of California, San Diego**

**Esha Aneja, BS, University of California, Berkeley**

**Ubaid Ansari, BS, University of California, Davis**

**Katherine Arnott, BS, MPS, California Northstate University**

**Milo Aviles, BS, MPS, California Northstate University**

**Chirag Bisht, BS, MS, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati**

**Dev Brahmabhatt, BS, California Northstate University**

**Anuj Budhiraja, BS, California Northstate University College of Health Sciences**

**Brielle Bunney, BS, University of California, Santa Cruz**

**Alvan Cai, BA, University of California, Berkeley**

**Carter Chan, BA, University of California, Berkeley**

**Karina Chan, BS, MS, Columbia University in the City of New York**

**David Chen, BS, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

**Vincent Chen, BA, Dartmouth College**

**Nicholas Chicoine, BS, MPH, University of California,**

**Ryan Chowdhury, BS, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Ashley Christensen, BS, University of California, Davis**

**Jonathan Clement, BS, MPS, California Northstate University**

**Courtney Connor, BA, University of California, Berkeley**

**Dlyan Cooper, BS, University of California, Santa Cruz**

**Aaron Creswell, BS, MS, University of California, San Diego**

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**Roopreet Dab, BS, California Northstate University College of Health Sciences**

**Sabrina Dallas, BS, Emory University**

**Dina Doustmohammadi, BS, MHA, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai**

**Aakriti Dua, BS, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Shawyon Ezzati, BS, University of California, Irvine**

**Megan Fitzpatrick, BS, MS, Boston University School of Medicine**

**Sarah Fung, BA, BS, University of California, Berkeley**

**Gurkiranjeet Gakhal, BS, University of California, Davis**

**Joseph Ghaly, BS, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Jake Gordon, BS, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Andrew Goulian, BA, MPH, Columbia University in the City of New York**

**Kanika Gulia, BS, MPS, California Northstate University**

**Gubidxa Gutierrez Seymour, BS, MS, Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Science**

**Garrett Henkle, BS, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Lindsay Hewitt, BS, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Christiane How-Volkman, BS, MPS, California Northstate University**

**Megan Hsu, BS, University of California, Riverside**

**Mary Jabari, BS, MPS, California Northstate University**

**Sanjita Jain, BS, MPH, George Washington University**

**Udhayraj Kahlon, BS, California Northstate University College of Health Sciences**

**Muhammad Karabala, BS, MPS, California Northstate University**

**Mariam Khalil, BS, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Ramy Khalil, BS, California Northstate University College of Health Sciences**

**Noorafsha Khan, BS, University of California, Davis**

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**Solomon Kim, BS, MPH, University of Southern California**

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**Alisha Mehta, BS, California Northstate University College of Health Sciences**

**Robert Monroe, BS, California State University, Sacramento**

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**Zohaer Muttalib, BS, University of California, Irvine**

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**Stacey Nguyen, BS, California Northstate University of Health Sciences**

**Anh Nguyen, BS, MPS, California Northstate University**

**Kailey Nguyen, BS, California Northstate University of Health Sciences**

**Matthew Nguyen, BS, California Northstate University College of Health Sciences**

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**Alexi Omid, BS, University of California, Davis**

**Arman Omid, BS, University of California, Davis**

**Olaoluwapo Omoleke, BSN, MPH, MS, MBA, MPS, California Northstate University**



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**An Phuc Ta, BS, University of California, Los Angeles**

**Ethan Tabaie, BS, University of California, Davis**

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**Vince Thomas, BS, California Northstate University College of Health Sciences**

**Antho Tong, BS, California Northstate University College of Health Sciences**

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**Kevin Truong, BS, University of California, Irvine**

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**Catherine F. Yang, PhD, Interim Dean, Professor of Molecular Pharmacology and Clinical Biochemistry**



# *Coat Presentation*

**Mohamed Ahmed, MD, MSc**  
*Assistant Professor of Anatomy*

**Marwan M. Ali, MD, MBA, FACOG, FACMG**  
*Subspecialist, Maternal Fetal Medicine and Clinical Genetics President & Medical Director, CALIFORNIA MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of California, Davis Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, California Northstate University Director, Maternal Fetal Medicine, Dignity Health Northern California Division*

**Ghalib Alkhatib, PhD**  
*Professor of Microbiology, Chair of Basic Science*

**Robert Assibey, MD**  
*Core Faculty, Medical Student Clerkship Director, Family Medicine Residency Program, San Joaquin General Hospital*

**Rachel Chou, MD**  
*Clinical Professor of Radiation Oncology, Kaiser Permanente Sacramento Medical Center*

**Floyd Culler, MD**  
*Professor of Pediatrics and Endocrinology*

**John Cusick, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor of Immunology, Cell Biology, and Biochemistry*

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*Assistant Professor of Virology*

**John Fitzgibbon, MD**  
*Associate Professor of Internal Medicine*

**Dermet Fong, MD**  
*Assistant Professor in Internal Medicine*

**Jennifer Gullo, MD**  
*Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, Interim Obstetrics & Gynecology Clerkship Director*

**Forshing Lui, MD**  
*Professor of Neurology, Neuroscience Course Director, Neurology Clerkship Co-director*

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**John Lutch,**  
*Associate Professor of Medicine*

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*Assistant Professor of Immunology*

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*Assistant Dean of Student Affairs and Admission*

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*Assistant Professor of Clinical Science Medical Skills Course Co-Director*

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*Clinical Faculty Member Surgery*

**Raj Ramsamooj, MD**  
*Professor, Assistant Dean of Curriculum*

**Leonard Ranasinghe, Ph.D., MD, DABEM**  
*Director of Emergency Medicine Clerkship, Professor of Emergency Medicine,*

**Martin Rubin, MD**  
*Course Director Masters Colloquium, Course Director of Behavior Medicine,  
Associate Professor*

**Garret Wong**  
*Clinical Professor of Cardiology, Director of Cardiology ICE, UCD Clinical  
Professor of Cardiology, CNSUCOM*

**Michael Wong, MD, MBA, FACS**  
*Associate Dean of Academic & Career Advising, Vice President of Clinical  
Practice, Professor of Plastic Surgery*

# *Oath*

I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this oath:

I vow to commit myself to the spirit and the letter of my duties as a medical professional, and the responsibilities of a physician-in-training.

In the pursuit of excellence, I will dedicate myself to a lifetime of learning, teaching and advancing the practice of medicine.

I will approach my medical education with integrity and humility, respecting patients, teachers, and fellows from whom I will learn. I will eagerly share such knowledge with my colleagues and those who follow in our footsteps.

I value the privileges afforded to me as a physician-in-training and vow not to abuse them. I will hold the truth in the highest regard, and will embody and promote the ethical practice of medicine.

I will strive to honor the trust that my patients place in me and the respect that society places upon my profession. I will tread with care in matters of life and death.

I will remember that I treat not malady, but humanity. I will be vigilant toward my biases to counter their effects on my patient care, and will advocate for change when I recognize injustice.

I will practice medicine as an art as well as a science. Compassion, empathy, and understanding strengthen the surgeon's knife and the chemist's drug.

I will respect the diversity of my patients' cultures, values and experiences. I will empower my patients in their autonomy to live in alignment with their beliefs.

I pledge to acknowledge my limits. I will not be ashamed to say "I don't know;" nor will I hesitate to call for help when in need of the expertise of another.

I will maintain my own health and well-being so that I can effectively care for my patients. I will never cease to cultivate my passion for medicine and healing, and hereby devote my life to providing the utmost quality of care to every person I serve.

I make this oath solemnly, freely, and upon my honor as a member of society, a medical student, and a future physician.

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