

2021



celebrate

honors day

Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing
and Health Professions

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

2020 Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions
Teaching Excellence Award recipient

Dr. Kimberly Morelli, Clinical Associate Professor and
Program Director, Department of Physical Therapy

Dr. Kimberly Morelli has been a physical therapist for 19 years, with her clinical practice focus in outpatient orthopedics. Dr. Morelli received a degree of Doctor of Physical Therapy from Emory University. She joined the department of physical therapy in 2009, and has been the director of the DPT program since 2016. Dr. Morelli's dedication to supporting student success in the program contributed to her being awarded the 2020 Lewis College Teaching Excellence Award.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Nursing Student Leadership Award

The Nursing Student Leadership Award recognizes a student who has demonstrated initiative, motivation, dedication, and a strong commitment to a Georgia State nursing student program or organization. This award is given to a student who demonstrates leadership abilities both within and outside of Georgia State University.

Undergraduate

Sara Bharwani

Graduate

Marie Bell (MS)

Jovon Caldwell Taylor (PhD)

Nursing Student Research Award

This award recognizes students who have made outstanding research contributions, become a role model for other students and exhibited potential of becoming a significant contributor to the nursing professions.

Undergraduate

Brooke Condrey

Graduate

Claudette Johnson (DNP)

Janice Hull (DNP)

Kimberly Foster (PhD)

Nursing Student Service Award

This award recognizes a student for outstanding service as the student representative to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

Graduate

Jasmine Berry (DNP)

Sigma Theta Tau National Honor Society in Nursing

Sigma Theta Tau was founded in 1922 with the mission to advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service. The name was chosen using the initials of the Greek words Storgé, Tharsos, Timé meaning love, courage, honor.

Sigma Theta Tau was organized to encourage and recognize superior scholarship and leadership achievement at the undergraduate and graduate levels in nursing.

Membership in Sigma Theta Tau is an honor conferred on students in baccalaureate and graduate programs who have demonstrated excellence in their nursing programs.

Undergraduate

Eleni Bante	Emily Fuentes	Erica Neal
Jennifer Bohannon	Joanna Galan	Lauren Newhouse
Anisah Boldon	Gina Gunia	Vanessa Pinnock
Shernese Bryan	Rachel Handschuh	Soodabeh Rabbani
Hung Bui	Magan Katnis	Zena Salam
Kristen Butler	Simran Kaur	Manjie Sanneh
MiNa Choe	Madeleine Lee	Heidi Schult
Larissa Christophe	Hannah Levy	Jacqueline Thompson
Kanika Coburn	Richa Mathema Shrestha	Cassidy Thornton
Fatimah Diarrassouba	Meghan McKinney	Anh Tran
Annie Emani	Alyssa Milton	Cuijing Wang
Racquel Escoffery	Feven Mussie	Jing Yang
Deka Farah		

Masters

Belkesa Adem	Selamawit Mola
Marie Bell	Olajide Opaleye
Laurie Gerhard	Mia Stancil
Hilda Jacobo	Katie Thompson
Tiara Mack	
Catherine Martin	

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Ebonee Gresham	Michelle Knox	Evah Wangungu
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HEALTH INFORMATICS

Georgia State University Outstanding B.I.S. in Health Informatics Program Student Award

Georgia State University recognizes one or two outstanding bachelor of interdisciplinary studies health informatics students from each graduating cohort per year. This award is given to students who have demonstrated academic achievement, have strong leadership skills, and strong potential as future health IT professionals.

Maher Ahmed
Norris Jones

Georgia State University Outstanding Masters in Health Sciences in Health Informatics Program Student Award

Georgia State University recognizes one or two outstanding master's health informatics students from each graduating cohort per year. This award is given to students who have demonstrated academic achievement, have strong leadership skills, and strong potential as future health IT professionals.

Stephanie Scales
Brienna Sylvester

DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION

Georgia State University Outstanding Nutrition Science Student Award

Georgia State University recognizes an outstanding student or students each year. Criteria for the award include academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, and potential as a future dietetics professional.

Emily Carmichael

**Georgia State University
Outstanding Graduate Student Award**

This award is given to a graduate student or students with outstanding academic performance and professional contributions.

Will Conrad

**Georgia State University
Outstanding Coordinated Program Student Award**

Georgia State University recognizes one outstanding Coordinated Program student each year. Criteria for the award include academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, and potential as a future dietetics professional.

LuAnn Parker

Outstanding Undergraduate Nutrition Researcher Award

This award recognizes a graduating senior who demonstrates a commitment to research, evidence of critical thinking skills, and a strong potential in nutrition research.

Alivia Setka

Johnnie W. Prothro Academic Excellence Award

This award is given to an undergraduate student who has achieved a high level of academic excellence in the nutrition program.

Lotte Meyberg

Sara M. Hunt Clinical Excellence Award

This award is given to a Coordinated Program student who has displayed outstanding performance in the clinical setting.

Caroline Williams

DEPARTMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Academic Excellence Award

This award is given to a graduating second year student with a grade point average of 4.0 in the Occupational Therapy program and exhibits overall academic excellence.

Shannon Kosmatka

Leadership Excellence Award

This award goes to the individual who provides ongoing, dynamic leadership and guidance to his/her class and maintains a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Katherine Chesbro

Professional Excellence Award

This award is presented to the student who has most actively participated in professional activities within the community, demonstrating high standards of professionalism and maintains a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Madeline Burke

Professional Integrity Excellence Award

This award is given to a graduating senior that personifies high character articulation through leadership, community service and overall personal integrity and academic history.

Jessica Olsen

Student Service Excellence Award

This award is given to a student who, through example, maintains the structure and integrity of the class. The recipient demonstrates a strong commitment to the occupational therapy profession, is an avid patient advocate, and is respected by faculty and peers. This student also maintains a 3.5 GPA or higher.

Alexis Mallis

Research Excellence Award

This award recognizes the student who has made an outstanding contribution to the research efforts of the Department of Occupational Therapy and who exhibits the potential of becoming a significant contributor to the field of occupational therapy research. This student also maintains a 3.5 GPA or higher.

Helena DeGrazia
Sarah Jacoby

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Georgia State Physical Therapy Alumni Scholarship

This scholarship was set up by the GSU Physical Therapy alumni in 2017 to support Physical Therapy students who demonstrate promise of becoming an excellent professional in the future.

Macie Sims

Giangoc Alice Tran

PT Achievement Award

This award is given to graduating seniors with a grade point average of 4.0 in the Physical Therapy program.

Courtney Armstrong

Mallory Law

Macie Sims

Gordon Seagraves Cummings Scholarship/Award

Professor Gordon Cummings taught in the Georgia State University physical therapy program for 27 years. This scholarship recognizes individuals who are critical thinkers and caring, competent practitioners.

Macie Sims

Virgil Jacobs Scholarship/Award

Given in memory of Dr. Virgil Jacobs, former anatomist in the physical therapy program, this scholarship goes to the students who best exemplify Dr. Jacobs' qualities of intelligence, compassion, fairness, honesty, and sincerity.

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Cortney Armstrong

Yusan Humphrey

Keystone Award

This award is given to students who demonstrate a strong commitment to the physical therapy profession, are avid patient advocates, and are respected by faculty and peers.

Quinton Buckner Mallory Law

Leadership Award

This award is given to the individual who provides ongoing, dynamic leadership and guidance to his or her class.

Trexler Bennett Laura Hope

Professional Merit Award

This award is presented to the student who has most actively participated in professional activities within the community and demonstrates high standards of professionalism. It is bestowed upon the students who exhibit the greatest potential for sustained contribution to the profession and professional associations.

Megan Branch

Research Award

This award recognizes the student who has made an outstanding contribution to the research efforts of the Department of Physical Therapy and who exhibits potential of becoming a significant contributor to the field of physical therapy research.

Mallory Law Katy Thirey

DELTA PHI TAU HONOR SOCIETY

This national honor society, established by the American Council of Academic Physical Therapy, recognizes Doctor of Physical Therapy students in their last year of PT school, who have demonstrated excellence, integrity and professionalism in the areas of academic achievement, leadership, service or research, and have demonstrated strong moral character, ethics and the core values of PT profession.

Yonatan Eshetu

Conner Homan

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DEPARTMENT OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY

James Ancil Lewis Award

This award was established in memory of James Ancil Lewis and honors his exemplary work in respiratory therapy, from his graduation in 1973 until his death in 1992. The award is given to juniors in the program who exemplify Mr. Lewis' characteristics of service to others, particularly in clinical work and direct patient care.

Undergraduate

Vincent Buglione

Julie Fulton

Graduate

Ollie Yu-Wei

Academic Excellence Award

This award recognizes a graduating student or students with the highest grade point average achieved in the respiratory therapy program.

Undergraduate

Tai Thai Nguyen

Graduate

Kevin Chen

Jordan Kenney

Faculty Recognition Award

This award is presented to graduating students who, in the opinion of the faculty, exhibit a positive professional attitude and a willingness to serve the needs of classmates, the community, and the profession of respiratory therapy.

Undergraduate

Carmen Aguilar

Graduate

Kevin Chen

Clinical Excellence Award

This award is given by the faculty to graduating seniors and master's candidates. The award recognizes students who have displayed outstanding performance in clinical rotations.

Undergraduate

Carmen Aguilar

Cache Downer

Alexandria Gardner

Graduate

Jordan Kenney

Faculty Recognition Award

This award is presented to graduating students who, in the opinion of the faculty, exhibit a positive professional attitude and a willingness to serve the needs of classmates, the community, and the profession of respiratory therapy.

Undergraduate
Carmen Aguilar

Graduate
Kevin Chen

Student Service Award

This award is presented to a graduating student or students who, in the opinion of the faculty, exhibit a strong willingness to provide service to the department's outreach efforts.

Undergraduate
Diane Bak

Graduate
Juliana Cartwright
Keenan Robinson

Deshpande Rau Award

The Deshpande Rau Award promotes academic excellence in respiratory therapy by recognizing students who show strong academic promise and demonstrate leadership qualities. The award was created in 2020 by retired RT department chair Joe Rau and retired RT faculty member Vijay Deshpande.

Undergraduate
Justin Jarrells

LAMBDA BETA NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN RESPIRATORY CARE

The purpose of this honor society is to promote, recognize and honor scholarly achievement, as well as service and character in the profession of respiratory therapy. The letters L and B are derived from the goals of sustaining life and breath.

Carmen Aguilar
Alexandria Gardner
Johnathan Le

Kevin Chen
Luke Howell
Tai Thai Nguyen

Annie Chung
Jordan Kenney

ALPHA ETA NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN HEALTH PROFESSIONS

The purpose of this honor society is the promotion and recognition of significant scholarship, leadership, and contributions to the allied health professions. Baccalaureate degree candidates have maintained an overall GPA of 3.5 or better. Graduate degree candidates have maintained an overall GPA of 3.8 or better and have the top 20% highest GPAs. The Alpha Eta motto is “Together We Serve” to represent all of the allied health professions.

Undergraduate Students

Health Informatics

Samina Alam

Michael Cummings

Katrina Edwards

Seharish Hameed

Gold Huntar

Medisa Martinovic

Helen Meles

Oumme Sairally

Shuo Yang

Jaye Kimsey

Lotte Meyberg

Respiratory Therapy

Carmen Aguilar

Annie Chung

Cache Downer

Luke Howell

Johnathan Le

Tai Thai Nguyen

Nutrition

Emily Carmichael

Rebecca Greenhouse

Graduate Students

Nutrition

Erika Betterman

Will Conrad

Tonya Curry

Kathryn Philippi

Claudia Winter

Cally Pospisil

Mary Rush

Allison Walker

Physical Therapy

Cortney Armstrong

Yonatan Eshetu

Conner Homan

Laura Hope

Reba Jones-Childers

Kim Lam

Mallory Law

Macie Sims

Ericha Webb-Mikolaizyk

Occupational Therapy

Virginia Cartwright

Katherine Chesbro

Helena DeGrazia

Sarah Jacoby

Shannon Kosmatka

Alexis Mallis

Elizabeth Miller

Jessica Olsen

Respiratory Therapy

Kevin Chen

Jordan Kenney

Dr. Huanbiao Mo, Dean

Dr. Lynda T. Goodfellow, Sr. Associate Dean for Academics

Dr. Regena Spratling
Associate Dean and Chief Nursing Officer, School of Nursing

Dr. Joan Cranford
Assistant Dean for Nursing

Dr. Sujay Galen
Chair, Department of Physical Therapy

Dr. Doug Gardenhire
Chair, Department of Respiratory Therapy

Dr. Kinsuk Maitra
Chair, Department of Occupational Therapy

Dr. Anita Nucci
Chair, Department of Nutrition

Dr. Cedric Truss
Director, Health Informatics

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