



# St. George's University

**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

Grenada, West Indies



## WHITE COAT CEREMONY



SPRING 2022, Term 2

“Tonight is a transition in life—an opening, a passage, and a precious opportunity to reassert what we share, what we deeply believe beyond subspecialty or gender or age—that the chains of pain and suffering can and will be broken, that the world can change one person, one situation, one diagnosis, one dignity-affirming moment, one life-affirming moment at a time.”

Jonathan M. Mann, MD, MPH  
St. George's University White Coat Ceremony  
January 1998

# PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies . . . . . **Gabrielle Walcott-Bedeau, MD, MMSCI, PGCME**  
Assistant Provost, University Academic and Student Affairs  
Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology,  
Neuroscience and Behavioral Science  
and McIndoe College Director, St. George's University

Remarks . . . . . **Glen Jacobs, DEd**  
Provost, St. George's University

Remarks . . . . . **Marios Loukas, MD, PhD**  
Dean, School of Medicine,  
St. George's University

Remarks and Introduction of Keynote Speaker . . . . . **Mark Clunes, PhD**  
Senior Associate Dean of Basic Sciences,  
School of Medicine, St. George's University

Keynote Address . . . . . **G. Richard Olds, MD, MACP**  
President, St. George's University

Presentation of White Coats . . . . . Portraits of individual students

Professional Commitment . . **Gabrielle Walcott-Bedeau, MD, MMSCI, PGCME**  
Assistant Provost, University Academic and Student Affairs  
Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology,  
Neuroscience and Behavioral Science  
and McIndoe College Director, St. George's University

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

G. RICHARD OLDS, MD, MACP



An educator, physician, and administrator during a distinguished career spanning more than 30 years, Dr. G. Richard Olds has served as the president of St. George's University since August 2015. Prior to joining SGU, Dr. Olds was the vice chancellor of health affairs and founding dean of the School of Medicine at the University of California, Riverside (UCR). In 2010, he joined UCR to lead the creation of a new school of medicine—the first LCME-accredited medical school in California in more than four decades.

Dr. Olds is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and trained in internal medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. He was an infectious disease fellow and one of the nation's first geographic medicine fellows at University Hospitals of Cleveland, where he also served as medical chief resident and faculty member. He served as full professor of medicine, pediatrics, molecular, cell and development biology at Brown University, and professor and chairman of medicine at the MetroHealth Campus of Case Western Reserve University. Before joining UCR, Dr. Olds held the position of professor and chair of medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin. In addition to his academic background, Dr. Olds is a tropical disease specialist with extensive experience working in Asia and Africa.

Dr. Olds has over 100 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, primarily on international health topics. He was also the foreign principal investigator of an NIH-funded Tropical Disease Research Center in the Philippines. He currently serves on a WHO expert panel and was chairman of the board of a large Gates Foundation project to deworm children in sub-Saharan Africa.

# MASTER OF CEREMONIES

GABRIELLE WALCOTT-BEDEAU, MD, MMSCI, PGCME, MBA



Dr. Gabrielle Walcott-Bedeau is assistant professor within the Department of Physiology, Neuroscience and Behavioral Science in the School of Medicine at St. George's University, where she also serves as assistant provost of University Academic and Student Affairs.

She joined SGU in 2012, enrolling in the Clinical Teaching and Research Fellowship program. During her tenure, she became a proud alumna after completing her post-graduate studies in

medical education and Master of Business Administration in health sector administration. Dr. Walcott-Bedeau's research focuses on aspects of medical education related to gamification, simulation, QR coding, and even playing music in the classroom. In her continued committed to student well-being and success, she also supports the SOM student community as course director, McIndoe College director, and academic, AEP, and judicial advisor.

In addition to her many roles in academia, Dr. Walcott-Bedeau has a vested interest in increasing the exposure of Caribbean high school students to "Grassroots Neuroscience" and other STEM-related projects. Currently, she serves as academic consultant and quiz mistress for the Grenada Brain Bee Competition.

Dr. Walcott-Bedeau earned her master's in medical science and her MD in Guyana in 2005. Subsequently, she has accrued years of experience in health education and research working with non-governmental organizations such as PAHO, WHO, USAIDs, and CARICOM, as well as working in clinical practice in Guyana, Trinidad, and Grenada.

# PREVIOUS WHITE COAT SPEAKERS

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**G. Richard Olds, MD, MACP** (June 2021)  
President, St. George's University

**G. Richard Olds, MD, MACP** (March 2021)  
President, St. George's University

**Richard Levin, MD, FACP, FACC, FAHA** (January 2020)  
Chief of Surgical Critical Care Services

**Anthony Tobia, MD** (August 2019)  
Professor of Psychiatry, Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine  
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

**Daniel Herr, MD** (January 2019)  
Chief of Surgical Critical Care Services, Director of Cardiac Surgery Unit,  
University of Maryland

**John J. Cush, MD** (August 2018)  
Director of Clinical Rheumatology, Baylor Research Institute,  
Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine,  
University of Texas Southwestern Medical School

**Lee Todd Miller, MD, BA** (January 2018)  
Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Dean for Student Affairs  
David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles

**Tochi Iroku-Malize, MD, MPH, MBA** (August 2017)  
Chair of the Department of Family Medicine, Northwell Health,  
Chair and Professor of Family Medicine, Hofstra Northwell School of  
Medicine

**Gerard Corcoran, BSc, MS, FRCS** (January 2017)  
Consultant in Palliative Medicine,  
Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute, Liverpool, UK

**G. Richard Olds, MD, MACP** (August 2016)  
President, St. George's University

**Arthur R. Derse, MD, JD** (January 2016)  
Director of Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities,  
Professor of Medical Humanities,  
Professor of Bioethics and Emergency Medicine,  
Medical College of Wisconsin

**Hugh Montgomery, MBA, BSc, FRCP, MD, FRGS, FRI, FFICM** (August 2015)  
Professor of Intensive Care Medicine, University College London

# PREVIOUS WHITE COAT SPEAKERS

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE Cont'd

**Matthew Wynia, MD, MPH, FACP** (January 2015)  
Director of the Institute for Ethics, American Medical Association

**Susan E. Cohen, MD** (August 2014)  
Medical Director of Palliative Care Program, Bellevue Hospital Center

**Fred Jacobs, MD, JD** (August 2013)  
Executive Vice President, St. George's University  
Chair, St. George's University Department of Medicine

**Charles H. C. Twort, HC, MA, MD, FRCP, FRCPE** (January 2013)  
Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine, Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital  
Adjunct Professor, St. George's University School of Medicine

**Catherine DeAngelis, MD, MPH** (August 2012)  
Professor, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
Editor-in-Chief Emerita, Journal of the American Medical Association

**Cindy L. Parker, MD, MPH** (January 2012)  
Co-Director, Program on Global Sustainability and Health,  
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**Iona Heath, MD, CBE, MRCP, PRCGP** (August 2011)  
President, Royal College of General Practitioners

**Jane Macnaughton, MA, MBChB, MRCGP, DRCOG, PhD** (January 2011)  
Co-Director, Centre for Medical Humanities, Deputy Head of School of  
Medicine and Health, Durham University

**Lord Walton of Detchant, Kt, TD, MA, MD, DSc, FRCP, FMedSci** (August 2010)  
President of the Royal Society of Medicine,  
Vice President of Parkinson's UK, London, UK

**Jerome Kurent, MD, MPH** (January 2010)  
Vice Chairman, South Carolina Center for Gerontology

**Sir Kenneth Calman, FRSE, PhD, FRCP, FRCS (Ed), FRCGP** (August 2009)  
Chancellor, University of Glasgow

**Joshua Hauser, MD** (January 2009)  
Assistant Director of Medicine and Palliative Care  
Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University

**William S. Andereck, MD** (August 2008)  
Medical Director, Program in Medicine and Human Values, California Pacific  
Medical Center, San Francisco

# PREVIOUS WHITE COAT SPEAKERS

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE Cont'd

**Leigh B. Grossman, MD** (January 2008)

Vice Provost for International Affairs and Chief, Division of Pediatric Infectious Disease, University of Virginia

**John J. Cush, MD** (August 2007)

Trustee, St. George's University

Chief, Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology,

Medical Director of the Arthritis Center, Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas

**John D. Lantos, MD** (January 2007)

Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Director, MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics, University of Chicago

**David Muller, MD** (August 2006)

Dean of Medical Education, Mount Sinai Medical Center

**Ezekiel Emanuel, MD, PhD** (January 2006)

Chair, Department of Clinical Bioethics, Warren G. Magnuson Clinical Center, National Institutes of Health

**Ed Johnson, MD** (August 2005)

Dean, Kingstown Medical College

Professor of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, St. George's University

**Arnold P. Gold, MD** (January 2005)

Founder and President, Arnold P. Gold Foundation

Professor of Clinical Neurology and Clinical Pediatrics,

College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University

**Sandra O. Gold, EdD** (January 2005)

Co-Founder and Vice President, Arnold P. Gold Foundation

**Jay S. Keystone, MD, MSc (CTM), FRCPC** (August 2004)

Staff Physician, Centre for Travel and Tropical Medicine,

Toronto General Hospital and Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Consultant

to Ontario Ministry of Health

**Richard Payne, MD** (January 2004)

Chief, Pain and Palliative Care Service,

Department of Neurology, Anne Burnett Tandy Chair in Neurology, Attend-

ing Neurologist, Memorial Hospital,

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

**Daniel P. Sulmasy, OFM, MD, PhD** (August 2003)

Professor of Medicine and Director,

Bioethics Institute of New York Medical College



# PREVIOUS WHITE COAT SPEAKERS

## SGU/NU 4-YEAR MD PROGRAM

**G. Richard Olds, MD, MACP** (March 2021)  
President, St. George's University

**David Heymann, MD, MPH, FACP** (January 2020)  
Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology,  
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine  
Head, Centre on Global Health Security,  
Chatham House

**Matthew Wynia, MD, MPH** (August 2019)  
Director of Center for Bioethics and Humanities  
University of Colorado

**Matthew Wynia, MD, MPH** (January 2019)  
Director of Center for Bioethics and Humanities  
University of Colorado

**G. Richard Olds, MD, MACP** (August 2018)  
President, St. George's University

**Linda de Cossart, MD, CBE** (January 2018)  
Director of Medical Education  
Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Chester, UK

**Daniel Herr, MD** (August 2017)  
Chief of Surgical Critical Care Services, Director of Cardiac Surgery Unit  
University of Maryland

**Lee Todd Miller, MD, BA** (January 2017)  
Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Dean for Student Affairs  
David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles

**Mala Rao, MSc, MBBS, FFPH, PhD, Hon. FFSRH** (August 2016)  
Professor and Senior Clinical Fellow, Imperial College London  
Honorary Public Health Consultant, Public Health England

**Andrew Haines, MBBS, MD** (January 2016)  
Professor of Public Health and Primary Care  
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

**Arthur R. Derse, MD, JD** (August 2015)  
Director of Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities  
Professor of Medical Humanities, Professor of Bioethics and Emergency  
Medicine, Medical College of Wisconsin

# PREVIOUS WHITE COAT SPEAKERS

## SGU/NU 4-YEAR MD PROGRAM Cont'd

**Beryl DeSouza**, FRCS (Eng), MPhil, MBBS, BSc (Hons) (January 2015)  
Plastic Surgeon, Honorary Clinical Lecturer in Plastic Surgery  
Imperial College

**Gerard Corcoran**, BSc, MS, FRCS (August 2014)  
Consultant in Palliative Medicine,  
Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute, Liverpool, UK

**David Schapira**, MB, BS, MRCP, FRCP, FRCPC (January 2014)  
Consultant Pediatrician, Royal Hampshire County Hospital

**Leslie Hamilton**, MB, BCh, BaO, FRCS (August 2013)  
Consultant Cardiac Surgeon, Freeman Hospital

**David Pencheon**, MD (January 2013)  
Director, National Health Service Sustainable Development Unit

**Sir Alan William Craft**, MBBS, MRCP (UK), MD, FRCP, FRCPC, FFPHM,  
FMed.Sci, FAAP, FRCP (I), FRCP (E), FIAP, FRCR, FRCA (August 2012)  
Emeritus Professor of Child Health, Newcastle University  
Honorary Consultant Physician, Royal Victoria Infirmary

**Charles H. C. Twort**, HC, MA, MD, FRCP, FRCPE (January 2012)  
Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine, Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospital  
Adjunct Professor, St. George's University School of Medicine

**Andrew James Johnson**, MB BCh, FRCP (August 2011)  
Former Director of Medical Education, St. George's University,  
Kent and Canterbury Hospital

**Lord Walton of Detchant**, Kt, TD, MA, MD, DSc, FRCP, FMedSci (January 2011)  
President of the Royal Society of Medicine,  
Vice President of Parkinson's UK, London, UK

**Jane Macnaughton**, MA, MBChB, MRCP, DRCOG, PhD (August 2010)  
Co-Director of Centre for Medical Humanities, Deputy Head of School of  
Medicine and Health, Durham University

**Sir Kenneth Calman**, FRSE, PhD, FRCP, FRCS (Ed), FRCGP (January 2010)  
Chancellor, University of Glasgow

**Ezekiel J. Emanuel**, MD, MSc, PhD (August 2009)  
Chair, Department of Clinical Bioethics, Warren G. Magnuson Clinical Center,  
National Institutes of Health

**John Powell-Jackson**, MA, MD, FRCP (January 2009)  
Associate Director, Office of Career Guidance and Student Development,  
St. George's University School of Medicine

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

G. RICHARD OLDS, MD, MACP

Today should have special meaning to both you and your families in that it symbolizes your entry into the medical profession. Doctors in training are afforded very special privileges. Taking on the mantle of doctors also carries great responsibilities. Although you may not in the beginning know a great deal about medicine, you will be expected to hold yourselves to the very highest standards of integrity, honesty, and compassion. Today is but the first step in what I hope is a great career for you.

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

CHARLES R. MODICA, JD, DCL (HONORARY)

I welcome all of you to St. George's University School of Medicine. You have chosen a great and noble career. This White Coat Ceremony symbolizes your entry into the medical profession, a milestone in your life that carries with it a profound obligation of service to others.

As you begin your studies for this challenging career, you must weigh opportunity against responsibility. St. George's University will equip you with all the right tools for the job, but how much you take away with you will depend on how you approach the experience and how much effort you invest in it. I wish you every success.

# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

MARIOS LOUKAS, MD, PHD

Today bears reflecting on a few of the principles of the oath you will affirm upon graduation from this institution. At the heart of that oath is a resolve to treat the sick to the best of your ability, to preserve patient privacy, and to safeguard life. It also calls to mind a responsibility to share your wisdom with others. Recognize that in entering the field of medicine you join a community, wherein the team is as pivotal to success as individual effort. To this end, you must strive for excellence in your pursuit of knowledge, for you can only give your best when you fulfill your potential.

As you don these white physician coats, you pledge an oath of professionalism and service. While these values are under attack, they are a necessary requirement in medical practice. Professionalism is a commitment to integrity, altruism, competence, and ethics in the service of others.

A physician must constantly balance the needs of his patients and society against the available resources and his own interests. We must endeavor to honor the sacred trust and privilege that society places in medical professionals, cognizant that the standard is an ideal that we must continuously aim to achieve.

# HONOR CODE

## ST. GEORGE'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

As a member of the student body of St. George's University School of Medicine, an institution of medical education dedicated to a high standard of ethics and academic achievement, and recognizing that it is the duty of the University community to nurture responsible, competent, and safe physicians who exhibit professional maturity and sound moral character, I agree:

- To adhere to the University policy of maintaining a high standard of honor and academic integrity;
- To uphold these ideals by refraining from cheating, plagiarism, lying, and theft; and,
- To accept the responsibility of reporting such wrong doing upon witness.

It is understood that any breach of this Code necessitates disciplinary action, subject to the discretion of University officials. Once signed, acquiescence to this Code is in effect.

## PROFESSIONALISM COMMITMENT

Today is the beginning of my medical education and training as a physician. I acknowledge my responsibility to continue the pursuit of knowledge and understanding until that day when I will cease to be a practicing physician.

I am entering training for a noble profession in which my interest must always be subservient to those who may seek my assistance. I must be ever conscious of the value of my fellow health professionals and treat them with respect at all times. My classmates at St. George's University are now my colleagues and I owe to them the same support and encouragement to achieve their goals as I hope to receive from them. I will work alongside my colleagues and professors with tolerance, compassion, and honesty.

I acknowledge my obligation to adhere to the University Honor Code and to conduct myself with integrity and in an ethical manner at all times henceforth. I shall do all within my power to show in myself an example of all that is honorable and good throughout my medical career. It is a privilege to have been given the opportunity to become a physician. May I be ever conscious of that privilege and never abuse it.

Written by the Student Ethics Task Force  
and Alexander P. Ross, MS, FRCS

# GOLD HUMANISM HONOR SOCIETY

Every academic year, a group of students is inducted into St. George's University School of Medicine Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS). Inductees are nominated by their peers and selected on the basis of their humanistic qualities and community service. Our GHHS strives to promote humanism and high ethical standards in medicine and medical education. The White Coat Ceremony Committee extends congratulations to our most recent inductees:

## INDUCTEES

Sakshi Agarwal  
Kunal Aggarwal  
Uzayr Ali  
Elissa M. Bailey  
Fadi Barkho  
Arika Boswell  
Lauren Nicole Brannan  
Maria A. Briceno  
Ikttesh Kaur Chahal  
Ian Clark  
Joel Collins II  
Claire Elizabeth Collins-Ham  
Sowmya Dandu  
Dustin Allen Davenport  
Christiana Oluwadamilola David  
Matthew DeLuca  
Vidisha Desai  
Rebecca Dimanche  
Taurah Dizadare  
Eguono Ejayeriese  
Kirolos Eskander  
Vyacheslav Fatkhiyev  
Paul Felieu  
Taylor Holmes Finch  
Shawn Eric Friedland  
Amanda Frondella  
Grace Victoria Gilbert  
Ariel Rosendo Gonzales  
Sara Grace Greene  
Ashna Gupta  
Anas A. Haq  
John Logan Hiatt  
Jared Hobson  
Janie Hu  
Ahmed Hussein  
Ramsey K. Jaber  
Clayton James  
Danielle Jayanty  
Sophia H. Ji  
Thomas Joyce III  
Georgina Dede Kemeh  
Ali S. Khalil  
Emily J. Kim  
Olivia Lahey  
Matthew Lerner

Marie Alessandra Liu  
Aiysha Mahmood  
Mostafa Meleis  
Robert Mason Mendenhall  
Michael Mikhail  
Nino Miletic  
Daniel Mozell  
Kelsey Murray  
Stephanie Nguyen  
Charissa Nichols  
Ogechi G. Nwosu  
Conor Paul O'Day  
Precious Ofodile  
Sara Oglesbee  
Manushi Patel  
Tushar Mahendra Patel  
Lauren A. Peterson  
Phenyo Victor Phuu  
Ehssan Pour Ramezani  
Rashelle Ripa  
Andrew Robinson  
Ezequiel Rodriguez  
Leah H. Rosoph  
Titilope Sandra Saheed  
Ishan Sahu  
Teenabhargavi Samanthapudi  
Lilia Shaban  
Bhavin C. Shah  
Sakshi Sharma  
Suyashi Singh  
Sawrajpal Singh  
Fiyinfoluwa Priscilla Soluade  
Chelsea Spencer  
Krishna Suhagia  
Colleen Tautkus  
Marina Azmi Tucktuck  
Pia Urtubia  
Lisa Vittayarukskul  
Ajith Vivek  
Casey Weller  
Tiffany Ko White  
Catherine S. Wissa  
Young Heay Yun (Stella)  
Vanessa Zabala

# THE WHITE COAT CEREMONY

More than 25 years since its inception at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University in 1993, the White Coat Ceremony has become an important ritual symbolizing a student's induction into the medical profession. St. George's University School of Medicine embraced the White Coat Ceremony in 1996.

Affirming this oath of commitment to the medical profession at the beginning of their studies inducts our MD students into the medical profession—and its highest ethical and professional standards—from the very beginning of their career.

The ceremony is significant not just to each incoming class, but for all who attend including: St. George's University faculty; its staff; students' families and friends; and the White Coat Ceremony keynote speakers who inspire first-term students with heartfelt words of wisdom and personal reflections. It is their spoken contributions that we treasure, and are honored to share with past, present, and future generations of St. George's University students.

“Time, sympathy, and understanding must be lavishly dispensed, but the reward is to be found in that personal bond which forms the greatest satisfaction of the practice of medicine.

One of the essential qualities of the clinician is the interest in humanity, for the secret of care of the patient is caring for the patient.”

Francis W. Peabody

*From a lecture to Harvard medical students in 1925  
Accessed from the American College of Physicians, 2007*

*Special thanks to The Arnold P. Gold Foundation for lapel pins and guidance.*

***gold-foundation.org***