



# St. George's University

**SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**

Grenada, West Indies



## WHITE COAT CEREMONY



SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2024

Patrick F. Adams Hall  
True Blue Campus, Grenada

# PROGRAM

- Grand Marshal ..... **David Marancik, DVM, PhD, CERTAQVET**  
Associate Dean of Graduate Studies,  
School of Veterinary Medicine, St. George's University
- Master of Ceremonies ..... **Allison Inga, DVM '14, Dipl ACVD**  
Veterinary Dermatologist, Animal Dermatology Clinic,  
Wayne, NJ
- Remarks ..... **Glen Jacobs, DEd**  
Provost, St. George's University
- Remarks and Introduction of Keynote Speaker ..... **Neil C. Olson, DVM, PhD**  
Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine,  
St. George's University
- Keynote Speaker ..... **K. Paige Carmichael, DVM, PhD, Dip ACVP**  
Professor, Veterinary Pathology,  
College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia
- Announcer ..... **Tara Paterson, DVM, MSc**  
Associate Dean, 4th Year Clinical Training,  
School of Veterinary Medicine, St. George's University
- Individual Presentation of White Coats ..... **Dr. Muhammad I. Bhaiyat,  
Dr. Satesh Bidaisee, Dr. K. Paige Carmichael,  
Dr. Thomas Hanson, Dr. Allison Inga,  
Dr. Kamashi Kumar, Dr. Nyoni Winchester**
- Professional Commitment ..... **Sonia Cheetham Brow, DVM, PhD**  
Associate Dean of Research,  
School of Veterinary Medicine, St. George's University

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

K. PAIGE CARMICHAEL, DVM PhD, Dip ACVP



Dr. K. Paige Carmichael is professor of veterinary pathology at The University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine (UGA CVM). Dr. Carmichael is committed to diversifying the veterinary profession through mentoring and “pathfinding” for students and early career faculty. She is also the founder of the UGA CVM’s VetCAMP and the Dog Doctors Outreach program.

Dr. Carmichael’s passion for teaching has garnered her numerous teaching awards, including the Lilly Teaching Fellowship, the Norden-Pfizer Teaching Award, and the Tyler Award for Teaching Innovation. She was inducted into the University’s Teaching Academy in 2005, and a year later, she became the first African American professor at UGA to receive the Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professorship.

Throughout her career, Dr. Carmichael has served in many leadership roles. Currently, she is the co-chair of the UGA Teaching Academy and one of the founders and coordinators of its Early Career Fellows program. She serves as director of the UGA One Health Undergraduate Degree Program and was elected to the Board of Directors of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP) in 2021. She was also UGA CVM’s associate dean for Academic Affairs from 2006 to 2015.

For her contributions to diversity and inclusivity in the veterinary profession, Dr. Carmichael has received many awards during her career, including becoming the inaugural recipient of UGA’s Dawn D. Bennett Alexander Inclusive Community Award in 2021. She was honored as a Distinguished Member of the ACVP in 2019, and that same year she also received UGA’s President’s Fulfilling the Dream Award for her diversification and mentoring efforts.

Dr. Carmichael received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine (TUSVM) in 1987. She later completed a combined pathology residency and PhD at UGA in 1994, before becoming board certified in veterinary anatomic pathology in 1995. Dr. Carmichael has also been honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award from both her alma maters, TUSVM and UGA CVM.

# MASTER OF CEREMONIES

ALLISON INGA, DVM '14, Dipl ACVD



Allison Inga, DVM '14, is a veterinary dermatologist at Animal Dermatology Clinic in Wayne, NJ. She is also a proud alumna of St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine, having earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 2014. She later completed her clinical rotations at the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine.

After receiving her DVM, Dr. Inga undertook a small animal rotating internship. She then worked for two years in general practice and emergency medicine before completing a three-year dermatology residency training program at Red Bank Veterinary Hospital in Tinton Falls, NJ.

A New York City native, Dr. Inga completed her undergraduate studies at Wells College in Aurora, NY, where she received her bachelor's degree in biological and chemical sciences with a concentration in biology.

Dr. Inga achieved her diplomate status with the American College of Veterinary Dermatology (ACVD) in 2020.

# PREVIOUS WHITE COAT SPEAKERS

**Dean Hendrickson**, DVM, MS, DACVS (January 2024)  
Professor, Equine Surgery, Department of Clinical Sciences,  
Colorado State University

**Lisa K. Nolan**, DVM, PhD, MS (September 2023)  
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia

**Lori Teller**, DVM, DABVP (canine/feline), CVJ (January 2023)  
President, American Veterinary Medical Association

**Ruby L. Perry**, DVM, MS, PhD, DACVR (August 2022)  
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, Tuskegee University

**Calvin M. Johnson**, DVM, PhD, DACVP (August 2021 - March 2022)  
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, Auburn University

**John A. Howe**, DVM, CertAqV (January 2021)  
AVMA Past President

**Sarah Ballie**, BSc, BVSc, MSc (IT), PhD, PFHEA, MRCVS (February 2020)  
Emeritus Professor of Veterinary Education, University of Bristol

**Willie M. Reed**, DVM, PhD, DACVP, DACPV (August 2019)  
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University

**Janet D. Donlin**, DVM (February 2019)  
Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, American Veterinary  
Medical Association

**Andrew T. Maccabe**, DVM, MPH, JD (September 2018)  
Chief Executive Officer, Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges

**Ronald K. Cott**, DVM (January 2018)  
Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, Advancement Consultant,  
College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Missouri

**Kent Hoblet**, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVPM (September 2017)  
Professor and Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, Mississippi State  
University

**Douglas A. Freeman**, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACT (January 2017)  
Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan

## PREVIOUS WHITE COAT SPEAKERS (cont.)

**Sheila W. Allen, DVM, MS** (August 2016)

Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia

**Trevor Ames, DVM, MS, DACVIM** (January 2016)

Professor and Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota

**Clark Fobian, DVM** (August 2015)

Owner/Veterinarian, Companion Animal Practice,

Thompson Hills Animal Clinic

Past President, American Veterinary Medical Association

**Donald F. Smith, DVM, Diplomate ACVS** (January 2015)

Professor of Surgery, Austin O. Hooey Dean Emeritus

College of Veterinary Medicine, Cornell University

**Raymond F. Sis, BS, DVM, MS, PhD** (August 2014)

Dean Emeritus, School of Veterinary Medicine, St. George's University

**Theodore J. Cohn, DVM** (January 2014)

President-Elect, American Veterinary Medical Association

**Lila T. Miller, BS, DVM** (August 2013)

Vice President, Veterinary Outreach, American Society for the Prevention of

Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)

**Rene A. Carlson, DVM** (January 2013)

Past President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**Jan K. Strother, DVM** (August 2012)

Vice President, American Veterinary Association

**Tim Ogilvie, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVIM** (January 2012)

Past Dean, Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island

**Marguerite Pappaioanou, DVM, MPVM, PhD, DACVPM** (August 2011)

Executive Director, Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges

(AAVMC)

**Gary Brown, BS, DVM** (January 2011)

Past Vice President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**Bonnie Beaver, BS, DVM, MS** (August 2010)

Past President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

## PREVIOUS WHITE COAT SPEAKERS (cont.)

**James Cook**, DVM (January 2010)

Past President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**Alan M. Kelly**, BSc, BVSc, PhD (August 2009)

The Gilbert S. Kahn Dean Emeritus and Professor, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

**Gregory S. Hammer**, DVM (January 2009)

Past President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**Charles M. Hendrix**, DVM, PhD (August 2008)

Professor, Auburn University's College of Veterinary Medicine,  
Past Vice President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**Larry R. Corry**, DVM (January 2008)

Chair, Executive Board, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**Roger K. Mahr**, DVM (August 2007)

Past President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**Ralph C. Richardson**, DVM (January 2007)

Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, Kansas State University

**Sam H. Ridgway**, DVM, PhD (August 2005)

Professor, Department of Pathology, School of Medicine, University of California

**Oscar J. Fletcher**, DVM, MS, PhD (February 2005)

Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, North Carolina State University

**Samuel E. Strahm**, DVM (August 2004)

Past President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**Richard M. Linnehan**, DVM (January 2004)

Astronaut, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

**Jack O. Walther**, DVM (August 2003)

President, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

**J. Stephen Ware**, BVM&S, MRCVS (January 2003)

President, Royal College Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)

**John A. Schmitz**, DVM, PhD (August 2002)

Head, Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences,  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT EMERITUS

G. RICHARD OLDS, MD, MACP

It is a great honor to be a part of this University and to welcome you as you take your first step in this noble journey. Today should have special meaning to both you and your families, in that it symbolizes your entry into the veterinary profession.

Veterinarians 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 veterinary 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.

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

CHARLES R. MODICA, JD, DCL (HONORARY)

I welcome all of you to St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine. You have chosen a great and noble career. As you receive these white coats, you pledge an oath of professionalism and service. Professionalism is a commitment to integrity, altruism, competence, and ethics in the service of 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

NEIL C. OLSON, DVM, PHD

This White Coat Ceremony is a symbolic representation of your entry into the profession of veterinary medicine and a demonstration of your commitment to upholding the code of professional conduct expected of medical professionals.

It is my privilege to welcome you to St. George's University and your next step along the road to becoming a veterinarian. I request that you honor the sacred trust and privilege that society places in medical professionals, cognizant that the standard is an ideal we must continuously aim to achieve.

The experiences you will have at St. George's University will serve to enrich you personally and professionally. You have all worked diligently to become veterinary medical students, and I wish you every success as you strive to excel in your pursuit of the knowledge, skills, and attributes necessary for your career.

## 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 veterinary profession. St. George's University embraced the White Coat Ceremony in 2001.

Affirming this oath of commitment to the veterinary medical profession at the beginning of their studies inducts our DVM students into the veterinary 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, twice a year, 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.

# HONOR CODE

## ST. GEORGE'S UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

As a member of the student body of St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine, an institution of higher learning 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 professionals who exhibit maturity and sound moral character, I agree:

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

It is understood that any breach of this code necessitates disciplinary action, subject to the discretion of University officials.

# PROFESSIONAL COMMITMENT

Being accepted into the profession of veterinary medicine, I solemnly swear to further my knowledge and skills for the benefit of society through the protection of animal health, the relief of animal suffering, the conservation of animal resources, the promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical knowledge.

I will conduct my studies conscientiously, with dignity and in keeping with the principles of veterinary medical ethics. I accept my responsibility to assist my colleagues to achieve our mutual goals.

I acknowledge my obligation to adhere to the University's Honor Code and to conduct myself with integrity and in an ethical manner at all times.

It is a privilege to have been given the opportunity to become a veterinarian. I will be ever conscious of that privilege and never abuse it.