Thank you to this year’s sponsors.

Thomas D’Angelo, R.Ph. ’89P and Joseph LiPera, R.Ph. ’86P, Americare Pharmaceutical Services

Prior Keynote Speakers

2014  Hiren Patel ’08Pharm.D.
2015  Evan Robinson, R.Ph., Ph.D., FNAP
2016  Magaly Rodriguez de Bittner, Pharm.D., FAPhA, FNAP
2017  Victoria F. Roche, Ph.D.
2018  Thomas E. Menighan, M.B.A., Sc.D. (hon), FAPhA
2019  Tina Bayuse, Pharm.D.
2020  There was no speaker due to the pandemic.
2021  Danielle DiBari ’04Pharm.D.
2022  Donney John ’04Pharm.D.
2023  Hassan Sheikh, J.D., Pharm.D.

The faculty, administrators, and staff of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences wish to extend their congratulations to the Doctor of Pharmacy Class of 2027.
The White Coat Ceremony is a symbolic rite of passage for students of the healing arts. For the pharmacy student, it signifies the professional relationship with other colleagues who provide health-care services.

This ceremony reaffirms the academic community’s support of the educational process that prepares future health providers for practice. On this day, students pledge their commitment to the profession of pharmacy and the health of the patients they serve.

Contributing to the care and healing of others is a privilege and a responsibility. The white coat worn by each pharmacy student is more than a familiar lab coat: it is a cloak of caring, compassion, and service.

Pledge of Professionalism

As a student of pharmacy, I believe there is a need to build and reinforce a professional identity founded on integrity, ethical behavior, and honor. This development, a vital process in my education, will help ensure that I am true to the professional relationship I establish between myself and society as I become a member of the pharmacy community. Integrity must be an essential part of my everyday life and I must practice pharmacy with honesty and commitment to service.

To accomplish this goal of professional development, I as a student of pharmacy should

DEVELOP a sense of loyalty and duty to the profession of pharmacy by being a builder of community, one able and willing to contribute to the well-being of others, and one who enthusiastically accepts the responsibility and accountability for membership in the profession.

FOSTER professional competency through lifelong learning. I must strive for high ideals, teamwork, and unity within the profession in order to provide optimal patient care.

SUPPORT my colleagues by actively encouraging personal commitment to the Oath of Maimonides and a Code of Ethics as set forth by the profession.

INCORPORATE into my life and practice, dedication to excellence. This will require an ongoing reassessment of personal and professional values.

MAINTAIN the highest ideals and professional attributes to ensure and facilitate the covenantal relationship required of the pharmaceutical caregiver.

The profession of pharmacy is one that demands adherence to a set of rigid ethical standards. These high ideals are necessary to ensure the quality of care extended to the patients I serve. As a student of pharmacy, I believe this does not start with graduation; rather, it begins with my membership in this professional college community. Therefore, I must strive to uphold these standards as I advance toward full membership in the profession of pharmacy.

“The Star-Spangled Banner”

Welcoming Remarks

Joseph M. Brocavich, Pharm.D.
Senior Associate Dean of Pharmacy Program, and
Associate Clinical Professor,
Department of Pharmacy Practice
St. John’s University

Invocation

Rev. Hugo M. Medellín, C.M. ’05C
University Chaplain
St. John’s University

Keynote Speaker

Milap C. Nahata, Pharm.D., FASHP, FCCP, FAPhA, FPPA
Director, Institute of Therapeutic Innovations and Outcomes (ITIO), and
Professor Emeritus, Pharmacy, Pediatrics, and Internal Medicine,
Division of Pharmacy Practice and Science
The Ohio State University

Presentation of Students

Hyunah Cho, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences
St. John’s University

Monica Hwang, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Pharmacy Administration and Public Health
St. John’s University

Sarah Smith, Pharm.D., BCPS
Associate Professor/Industry Professional
Department of Pharmacy Practice
St. John’s University

Pledge of Professionalism

Victoria Perez
Member, Class of 2025
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
President
Student Society of Health-System Pharmacy
St. John’s University

Closing Remarks

Anne Y. F. Lin ’84P, ’86Pharm.D., FNAP
Dean and Professor
St. John’s University

Recessional
Preamble
Pharmacists are health professionals who assist individuals in making the best use of medications. This code, prepared and supported by pharmacists, is intended to state publicly the principles that form the fundamental basis of the roles and responsibilities of pharmacists. These principles, based on moral obligations and virtues, are established to guide pharmacists in relationships with patients, health professionals, and society.

I. A pharmacist respects the covenantal relationship between the patient and pharmacist.
Considering the patient-pharmacist relationship as a covenant means that a pharmacist has moral obligations in response to the gift of trust received from society. In return for this gift, a pharmacist promises to help individuals achieve optimum benefit from their medications, to be committed to their welfare, and to maintain their trust.

II. A pharmacist promotes the good of every patient in a caring, compassionate, and confidential manner.
A pharmacist places concern for the well-being of the patient at the center of professional practice. In doing so, a pharmacist considers needs stated by the patient, as well as those defined by health science. A pharmacist is dedicated to protecting the dignity of the patient. With a caring attitude and a compassionate spirit, a pharmacist focuses on serving the patient in a private and confidential manner.

III. A pharmacist respects the autonomy and dignity of each patient.
A pharmacist promotes the right of self-determination and recognizes individual self-worth by encouraging patients to participate in decisions about their health. A pharmacist communicates with patients in terms that are understandable. In all cases, a pharmacist respects personal and cultural differences among patients.

IV. A pharmacist acts with honesty and integrity in professional relationships.
A pharmacist has a duty to tell the truth and to act with conviction of conscience. A pharmacist avoids discriminatory practices, behavior, or work conditions that impair professional judgment, and actions that compromise dedication to the best interests of patients.

V. A pharmacist maintains professional competence.
A pharmacist has a duty to maintain knowledge and abilities as new medications, devices, and technologies become available and as health information advances.

VI. A pharmacist respects the values and abilities of colleagues and other health professionals.
When appropriate, a pharmacist asks for the consultation of colleagues or other health professionals or refers the patient. A pharmacist acknowledges that colleagues and other health professionals may differ in the beliefs and values they apply to the care of the patient.

VII. A pharmacist serves individual, community, and societal needs.
The primary obligation of a pharmacist is to individual patients. However, the obligations of a pharmacist may at times extend beyond the individual to the community and society. In these situations, the pharmacist recognizes the responsibilities that accompany these obligations and acts accordingly.

VIII. A pharmacist seeks justice in the distribution of health resources.
When health resources are allocated, a pharmacist is fair and equitable, balancing the needs of patients and society.

This was adopted by the membership of the American Pharmacists Association on October 27, 1994.