

National and Chapter News

2021 AΩA Fellows in Leadership

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society is pleased to announce its 2021 cohort of AΩA Fellows in Leadership.



Jay M. MacGregor, MD, FACS (AΩA, University of North Dakota School of Medicine, 2010, Resident), is the Deputy Chief of Staff of the VA Eastern Colorado (Denver) Healthcare System. He is board certified in general surgery and colorectal surgery and has served in a variety of senior leadership roles within the Veterans Health

Administration (VHA). He completed a yearlong detail as the Acting Chief Surgical Consult where he oversaw the surgical care provided to more than 440,000 Veterans in the Midwest Healthcare Network.

MacGregor is a member of the rural and ambulatory care Surgery Advisory Board where he serves as a subject matter expert for the VHA National Surgery Office. He is currently the President of the North Dakota Chapter of the American College of Surgeons and is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

MacGregor is the first VA physician selected as an AΩA Fellow in Leadership. His mentors, who will help him as he undertakes his year-long project, “Perioperative Near Misses,” include Michael Kilmer, C. Lee Parmley, MD, JD; Ronald Robinson, MD, MBA, MPH (AΩA, University of Texas McGovern Medical School, 1993) a 2015 AΩA Fellow in Leadership; and Robert P. Sticca, MD.



John P. Riordan, MD, MSc (AΩA, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, 1992), completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at the Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte, North Carolina. He is the Vice Chair for Clinical Operations and Medical Director of the Emergency Department at the University

of Virginia Health System.

Riordan’s year long project focuses on “Expanding Integration of Entrustable Professional Activities into a Restructured Post-clerkship Phase of the Medical School

Curriculum at The University of Virginia.” His mentors for the project will be Robert E. O’Connor, MD, MPH, and Maryellen Gusic, MD (AΩA, Penn State College of Medicine, 2002, Faculty).



Rachel Marie E. Salas, MD, MEd, FAAN, FANA (AΩA, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, 2020, Faculty), is a Professor in the Department of Neurology at Johns Hopkins Medicine with a joint appointment in the School of Nursing. She is board certified in sleep medicine and neurology. She is the chair of the Undergraduate Education

Subcommittee for the American Academy of Neurology and is an appointed member of the Alliance for Clinical Education. She is the director of the Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice for the School of Medicine, and a Co-Director for Interprofessional Teaming for the High Value Practice Academic Alliance.

Salas is also the founder and Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins Osler Apprenticeship Program (in Neurology), a medical education research program for senior medical students. Her yearlong project is, “Becoming the Jedi Master: The Health Professions Educator Leadership Program.” Her mentors for the project will be Jessica Bienstock, MD, MPH (AΩA, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, 2003, Faculty); Charlene Gamaldo, MD (AΩA, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, 2019, Alumni); Richard G. Milter, PhD; and Toni Ungaretti, PhD.

The fellows will each receive \$30,000 to be used to fund their respective leadership development projects. They will also receive coaching and mentorship from nationally renowned leaders in medicine to help them exemplify the qualities of leading from within, professionalism in medicine and the concept of servant leadership.

This is the eighth cohort of AΩA Fellows in Leadership, bringing the total number of AΩA Leadership Fellows to 24. For more information on the AΩA Fellow in Leadership program, or to apply to become a Fellow, visit <https://alphaomegaalpha.org/Leadership.html#gsc.tab=0>.

National and Chapter News

AΩA announces four new Chapters

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society is pleased to announce four new charters to its registry of Chapters, bringing the total number of AΩA Chapters to 135.

Alan G. Robinson, MD (AΩA, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, 1988, Faculty), Chair of the Committee on New Chapters, noted, "The Committee for New Chapters unanimously supported the establishment of an Alpha Omega Alpha Chapter at each of these outstanding institutions."



August 2020

Escuela de Medicina San Juan Bautista, Delta Chapter of Puerto Rico

Councilor: José Ginel Rodríguez, MD (AΩA, Universidad Central del Caribe School of Medicine, 1996, Faculty)

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society has chartered Escuela de Medicina San Juan Bautista in Caguas, Puerto Rico, as its 132nd Chapter.

The San Juan Bautista School of Medicine was founded in 1978 as a private, nonprofit institution and incorporated as such with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The school's mission is, "To educate a diverse generation of physicians and other health professionals. Graduates will have the knowledge, skills, values, and competence to pursue career options in medicine, deliver high-quality care, and conduct clinical research."

The school strives to advance the health of the community by focusing on community medicine and the need for having more physicians serving vulnerable and medically underserved populations.

They have an outstanding faculty that are completely devoted to teaching, caring for, and advancing students, high quality patient care, and extensive and comprehensive community service.

José Ginel Rodríguez, MD, serves as Chapter Councilor, and was appointed by Dean Yocasta Brugal, MD (AΩA, Escuela de Medicina San Juan Bautista, 2021, Faculty) Dr. Rodríguez is Dean of Health Sciences and is part of the FDI Clinical Investigation faculty, a unit dedicated to developing scientific protocols.



April 2021

The Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV, Beta Chapter of Nevada

Councilor: Gary K. Shen, MD (AΩA, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, 2004, Faculty)

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society has chartered the University of Nevada Las Vegas School of Medicine as its 133rd Chapter.

The UNLV School of Medicine was founded in August, 2014. The medical school is Nevada's response to the need for more quality health care in Nevada. Their mission is to serve the community in Southern Nevada and to create a world-class center of excellence and innovation for medical education, patient care, and research.

Gary Shen, MD, serves as Chapter Councilor, and was appointed by Dean Mark J. Kahn, MD, MBA, MACP, FRCP (AΩA, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, 1986). Dr. Shen joined the faculty of the University of Nevada School of Medicine on the Las Vegas campus as the chief of transplantation in 2020. He has been on faculty with the new school since its founding.



July 2021

Dell Medical School at the University of Texas at Austin, Iota Chapter of Texas

Councilor: Jane C. Edmond, MD (AΩA, Baylor College of Medicine, 1985)

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society has chartered the Dell Medical School at the University of Texas at Austin as its 134th Chapter.

Dell Medical School welcomed its first class of students in June 2016. It is the first medical school in nearly 50 years to be built from the ground up at a top tier Association of American Universities research university.

Dell Medical School's mission is to revolutionize the way people get, and stay, healthy, and to help create a vital, inclusive health ecosystem in the Austin community that is a model for the nation.

Jane C. Edmond, MD, will serve as Chapter Councilor, and was appointed by Dean Clay Johnston, MD, PhD. Dr. Edmond is the director of the Mitchel and Shannon Wong Eye Institute, and a professor and founding chair in the Department of Ophthalmology at Dell Medical School.



July 2021

**Central Michigan University College of Medicine,
Zeta Chapter of Michigan**

**Councilor: Wendy S. Biggs, MD (AΩA, Baylor
College of Medicine, 1989)**

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society has chartered Central Michigan University College of Medicine, as its 135th Chapter.

Central Michigan University College of Medicine launched its medical school in 2009, and primarily recruits and admits students from Michigan to care for Michiganders. It focuses on educating students who are committed to pursuing careers in primary care and providing high quality health care to the medically underserved.

The school graduated its first class in 2017, and received full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education in 2020.

Wendy S. Biggs, MD, serves as Chapter Councilor, and was appointed by Dean George E. Kikano, MD. Dr. Biggs is a Professor of family medicine at Central Michigan University College of Medicine (CMED), and serves as director of CMED's Comprehensive Community Clerkship.