



UGA College of Pharmacy
Doctor of Pharmacy Class of 2026

PINNING CEREMONY

Saturday, March 29, 2025 | 2 pm
UGA Performing Arts Center

Doctor of Pharmacy Class of 2026

Oluwasemilore Aborisade
Lin Aljandali
Ananda Anderson
Yaitza Aponte Carrasquillo
Boluwatife Araromi
Sana Arni
Akshaya Arunkumar
Rory Tate Atkins
Christopher Barry
Gisele Beaubien
Brooke Bobo
Ashley Bragg
Dhurvin Brahmhatt
Michael Benjamin Brewster
Chandler Brown
Isabel Campa
Sarah Cassell
Maegan Chambless
Morgan Chau
Yasmine Chauhan
Matthew Chin
Dooyoung Choi
Jeremy Christiansen
Martavius Cladd
Morgan Coleman
Alexander Collins
Thuan Dang
Rachael Davis
Brinkley Doherty
Sarah Dubin
Emily Duvall
Jazlyn Edwards
Gordon Elrod
Nathaniel Ensanian
Erin Foell
Ifeoma Foreman
Jill Foster
Tonisha Gaitor
Jonathan Navy Gazaway
Logan Gazaway
Z'undra Gilbert
Sasha Ginn
Bryan Gomez
Ahmad Goolsby
Alexis Grady
Ashlee Greene

Meghan Hammond
Sean Hauck
Madison Headley
Rachel Hill
Emily Hollins
Mary Horner
YuWen Huang
Brantley Hughes
Zainab Idrees
Arizona Igwe
Sheila Jaberi
Ameera Jamshad
Erin Jensen
Rylee Johns
Hunter Johnson
Andrew Kilpatrick
Tierra Kimble
Zoe Krenz
David Cole Landreth
Carryl Laserna
Hannah Lawrence
Jamie Le
Amber Lowrimore
Phuong Luong
Kim Ngan Mai
Renee Manning
Christina Mapp
Walker Maret
Madison Marquess
James May
Lindsey McLendon
Quinnetta McMichael
Ansley Mole
Madeline Nannis
Monica Ngo
Jenny Nguyen
Julie Nguyen
Emily Nieman
Lady Nyantakyiwaa Sarfo
Danielle Obijeski
Machala Abney Olson
Cynthia Paniagua
Aman Patel
Zill Patel
Juliane Payton
Emma Pearman

Brandon Pelletier
James Brody Peoples
Joseph Pham
Abigail Powell
Emma Reynolds
Jessica Paris Rosario
Isis Salmon
Elena Sanfrey
Kelsie Sapp
Ryan Sarvestani
Jordan Sennowitz
Elizabeth Sevier
Tiana Singletary
Kiana Smith
Oluwagbenga Sodiya
Sydney Speir
Elizabeth Spitzer
Catherine Paige Stegall
Molly Studebaker
Bayard Taylor II
Charles Thain
Gabrielle Tyler
Olivia Vattelana
Mallorie Vaughn
Brock Vickers
Sara Madison Walters
Lauren Wandell
Sarah Grace White
Rylan Wilkenson
Virginia Williams
Kailah Wimberly
Tamarapreye Wodu
Abigail Wohlford
Grace Zeineddine

PROGRAM

Processional

- Audience, please stand.

Welcome

- Mike Fulford, PhD, Assistant Dean, Institutional Effectiveness & Strategic Initiatives

Sponsor's Greeting

- Taylor Truelove, PharmD '11, Healthcare Supervisor, Walgreens

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

- Ahmad Goolsby, Class President

Keynote Address

- Naveed Tharwani, PharmD '11, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, SynerGrx

Presentation and Pinning of Students

- Joshua Caballero, PharmD, Associate Professor
- Duc Do, PhD, Assistant Dean, Student Affairs
- Jordan Khail, PharmD, Lecturer
- Wided Missaoui, PharmD, PhD '18, Clinical Assistant Professor
- Brian Seagraves, PharmD '04, Academic Professional

Presentation of I.Z. Harris Award

- Andrew Darley, PharmD '12, Assistant Dean, Professional Education

Closing Remarks

- Ahmad Goolsby, Class President

Recessional

- Audience, please stand.

Reception will immediately follow the ceremony at the adjacent Georgia Museum of Art building.

Dear Members of the UGA PharmD Class of 2026:

Welcome to *your* Pinning Ceremony—a special moment in your journey to becoming a pharmacist. I regret that I am unable to be with you on this special occasion.

Certainly, you have worked diligently to reach this important milestone in your academic and pharmacy career. Emerging from a world-wide pandemic, you entered the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy on August 10, 2022 with hope, anticipation, excitement...and likely a little bit of fear. You've been in the pharmacy classroom now for three years, grappling with the likes of Pharmacotherapy, Pathophysiology, Immunology, Pharmacokinetics, Integrated Patient Cases, and other challenging academics. You've experienced various stages of patient care as you ventured into the community to provide such services as flu vaccines, blood pressure checks, and other health screenings. You've been mentored by faculty who have guided you towards your goal of becoming a pharmacist. And, you have forged relationships with fellow classmates that will last a lifetime.

Now, we have deemed you “ready”—ready to journey into hospitals and health systems, clinics, community pharmacies, medical practices, public health centers, and other sites and be entrenched in Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences. You will apply the lessons you've learned in the classroom to patients entrusted in your care—with the guidance and support of outstanding preceptors.

The pin you will receive today symbolizes an important tenet you must embrace. You are committing that you will uphold the practice standards of pharmacy, and you are confident in your abilities to provide superior care. You are no longer focused on grades. You are focused on *people*—and this pin represents that priority. Wear your pin with pride and in honor of those you will serve.

You have not reached this milestone alone. I am confident there have been many individuals who have traveled with you on this path—family, friends, faculty, mentors, and others. Humbly express your appreciation to them. Let them know how much their support and encouragement mean to you. Finally, be proud of what you have accomplished—and be assured that I share in this pride.

Congratulations, Class of 2026...and GO DAWGS!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kelly M. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Kelly M. Smith, Dean
UGA College of Pharmacy

History of the Pinning Ceremony at the UGA College of Pharmacy

The history of Pinning Ceremonies for healthcare professionals dates back centuries, yet UGA Pharmacy was a trend setter in this time-honored tradition.

In the early 1200s, the nursing profession initiated the ritual of pinning future nurses, symbolizing that they had earned the privilege of serving and caring for others. Through the years, other health professions embraced this ceremonial rite of passage. Yet, it took the field of pharmacy almost eight centuries to adopt this symbolism—and the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy was the trailblazer.

Under the leadership of then-Dean Svein Øie, UGA Pharmacy established the first pinning ceremony in the United States in 2000 for Doctor of Pharmacy students as they concluded their third year of study. Other schools and colleges in the country quickly followed suit. Recognizing a student's transition from "learner" to "practitioner," the ceremony is considered a formal send-off for students transitioning to their final, experiential year of their Doctor of Pharmacy training. It symbolizes the passage of the torch of knowledge and the completion of classroom and academic studies—into a world of professionalism and practice.

The I.Z. Harris Award

The I.Z. Harris Award was established at UGA Pharmacy in 1957 by Irving Zulie Harris, a 1915 alumnus and significant donor to the College, who was a successful pharmacist, chemist, and entrepreneur. Unique in its selection process, the I.Z. Harris Award recognizes an outstanding third-year student selected from nominations submitted by fellow classmates.

*A special thank you
to our sponsor:*

Walgreens



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