



## Uniformed Services University

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## News Release

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### NAVY OFFICERS EARN MEDICAL, GRADUATE, NURSING DEGREES AT UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY

**BETHESDA, Md.** – Sixty U.S. Navy officers were among 238 students recognized during the 24<sup>th</sup> Commencement of the Uniformed Services University's F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine and Graduate School of Nursing May 17.

There were 49 medical and nine graduate students from the School of Medicine, as well as two students in the GSN's nurse anesthesia program who were recognized at graduation, but will complete their master's degree requirements this fall.

The USU graduation took place on the school's athletic field under a large tent that seated about 3,000 graduates, faculty, family and friends. The venue was chosen this year as a tribute to the numerous USU alumni who during the last several months cared for the wounded in deployable hospital tents in the Middle East during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

U.S. Public Health Service Vice Adm. Richard H. Carmona, the U.S. Surgeon General, was the Commencement 2003 guest speaker. Carmona was also one of three honorary degree recipients, receiving the degree of Doctor of Military Medicine and Surgery, *Honoris Causa*. John A. Mannick, M.D., also received the degree of Doctor of Military Medicine and Surgery, *Honoris*

*Caus*, and U.S. Army Maj. Alfred V. Rascon received the degree of Doctor of Medical Jurisprudence, *Honoris Causa*.

USU was established by Congress under the Department of Defense in 1972 and has the nation's only fully accredited federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. With its motto "Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way," the university has a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for military medical education and research.

### **F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine**

Forty-nine Navy officers were among 152 medical students graduating from the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine.

The Honorable Everett Alvarez, Jr., chairman of USU Board of Regents and a former naval aviator, and retired Navy Capt. Larry Laughlin, dean of the school of medicine, conferred the medical degrees. Laughlin also administered the Hippocratic Oath to the graduates.

Rear Adm. William J. Lynch, special assistant, medical department staff at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, represented the Surgeon General of the Navy. Lynch reaffirmed the Oath of Office to the Navy students, who were promoted to lieutenant upon graduation and commissioned as medical corps officers.

The year-round, four-year school of medicine's curriculum is nearly 700 hours – or about 20 weeks – longer than those found at other U.S. medical schools. The extra hours focus on epidemiology, health promotion, disease prevention, tropical medicine, leadership and field exercises, medical effects of weapons of mass destruction, and other subjects that relate to the unique requirements of career-oriented military physicians.

Below are the Navy doctor of medicine graduates for the Class of 2003, who will perform their internships at the locations listed:

Lt. Marco Antonio Ayala, NH San Diego, Calif.  
Lt. Christian Andrew Beebe, Camp Lejeune, N.C.  
\* Lt. Grant Howard Bonavia, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.  
-- John F. Maher Award  
Lt. Corey Allan Carter (internship not listed)  
Lt. Richard Andrew Catherina, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.  
Lt. Travis Granger Deaton, NH San Diego, Calif.  
\* Lt. Eric Bruce Draper, NH Portsmouth, Va.  
-- U.S. Navy Surgeon General's Award  
-- Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges  
-- Admissions Committee Certificate of Appreciation  
Lt. Jenifer Karine Drinkwine, NH Portsmouth, Va.  
Lt. Marc Alaric Franzos, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.  
-- Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S. (AMSUS) Award  
-- Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges  
-- Admissions Committee Certificate of Appreciation  
Lt. Alexander Byron Galifianakis, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.  
Lt. Steven John Gauerke, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.  
Lt. Jeffrey Wayne Gertner, NH Pensacola, Fla.  
Lt. C. Frank Gould, NH Portsmouth, Va.  
Lt. Bradley William Hickey, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.  
Lt. Thomas Richardson Hicks, NH Portsmouth, Va.  
Lt. Tara Beth High, NH Portsmouth, Va.  
-- Navy League Award  
\* Lt. Kerry John Hollenbeck, NH San Diego, Calif.  
-- Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges  
Lt. Alexander Michael Holston, NH Portsmouth, Va.  
-- Admissions Committee Certificate of Appreciation  
\* Lt. Kerry Ann Hudson, NH Portsmouth, Va.  
-- Armed Forces District, ACOG, Outstanding Student in Obstetrics and Gynecology Award  
-- Glasgow Memorial Achievement Citation  
Lt. Craig Jordan Hurt, NH San Diego, Calif.  
-- Admissions Committee Certificate of Appreciation  
Lt. Lisa M. Inverso, NH San Diego, Calif.  
Lt. Christopher Stephen Joas, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.  
Lt. Mickaila James Johnston, NH Portsmouth, Va.  
Lt. Carlos Conrad Kennedy, National Capital Consortium, Washington, DC  
Lt. Joshua Titus Kindelan, NNMC, Bethesda, Maryland  
Lt. Tamara Worlton Kindelan, NNMC, Bethesda, Maryland  
-- Glasgow Memorial Achievement Citation  
-- Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges  
Lt. Allan Nakane Kremp, NH San Diego, California  
Lt. Elizabeth Anne Leonard, NH Jacksonville, Fla.  
Lt. Sean Patrick Leonard, NH Jacksonville, Fla.  
\* Lt. Philip Ryan Letada, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.  
Lt. Robert M. Marks, NCC, Washington, DC  
-- Admissions Committee Certificate of Appreciation

**Lt. Sean Patrick McBride**, NH Bremerton, Wash.

-- **Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges**

**Lt. Michael Roy Melia**, NH Portsmouth, Va.

-- **Admissions Committee Certificate of Appreciation**

**Lt. Todd J. Mondzelewski**, NH San Diego, Calif.

**Lt. Matthew Needleman**, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.

**Lt. Timothy J. Neher**, NH San Diego, Calif.

**Lt. Cameron James Lord Nelson**, NH Bremerton, Wash.

**Lt. Matthew Thomas Peña**, NH San Diego, Calif.

**Lt. Michael James Perry**, NH Portsmouth, Va.

**Lt. Thomas Arthur Pluim, II**, NH Portsmouth, Va.

-- **The American Academy of Pediatrics, Uniformed Services Chapter East,  
Outstanding Achievement in Pediatrics Award**

**Lt. William Wayland Reynolds, Jr.**, NH San Diego, Calif.

**Lt. Ryan Christopher Rockhill**, NH Portsmouth, Va.

**Lt. Tammy Elizabeth Servies**, NH San Diego, Calif.

**Lt. Cari Elaine Slafsky**, NH San Diego, Calif.

\* **Lt. James Benjamin Solomon**, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.

**Lt. Samuel Lindsey Steele, Jr.**, NH San Diego, Calif.

-- **Navy Chapter of the American College of Physicians Outstanding Achievement  
Award**

-- **Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges**

**Lt. Daniel Matthew Sutton**, NH Portsmouth, Va.

**Lt. Tuong Nguyen Vu**, NH San Diego, Calif.

**Lt. Tara Michelle Walker**, NNMC, Bethesda, Md.

-- **Emma L. Bockman Memorial Award**

\* **Elected to Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society**

## **School of Medicine's Graduate Program**

Nine Navy officers were among 62 graduates in the School of Medicine's Graduate

Program in biomedical sciences and public health. They are:

Doctor of philosophy -- **Lt. Bonnie Chavez**  
**Cmdr. Gary Hook**

Master of public health – **Lt. Cmdr. Francis Hall**  
**Lt. Cmdr. Suezane Holtzclaw**  
**Cmdr. Joanne Leal**  
**Lt. Cmdr. Steven Matis**  
**Lt. Cmdr. Paul Seeman**  
**Lt. Cmdr. Jeffrey Tjaden**

Master of tropical medicine and hygiene – **Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Luke**

## **Graduate School of Nursing**

Since the GSN was created in 1993, 197 officers have received their master of science in nursing degrees from the school.

This year, two Navy officers were among 24 GSN students walking across the stage. They are in the nurse anesthesia program and will complete their master's degree requirements this fall.

They are:

**\* Lt. Victor H. Auld**

**-- 2003 Outstanding Student Award**

**-- Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges**

**-- 2003 Dean's Award for Research Excellence**

**Lt. Victor M. Diaz**

**-- 2003 Dean's Award for Research Excellence**

**\* Elected to Uniformed Services University Graduate School of Nursing Honor Society**