



The 38th Annual Commencement

The College of Health
Related Professions

and

The College of Nursing

of

SUNY Downstate
Medical Center

Half-Past Seven
Tuesday Evening, May 24, 2005
Carnegie Hall • New York City, New York

The Commencement Program

Presiding Marshal
Mary Germain, EdD, ANP, BC
Associate Professor, College of Nursing

Processional
(Audience, please rise for the Processional.)

Opening Remarks
John C. LaRosa, MD, FACP
President

Greetings from the Deans
Daisy Cruz-Richman, PhD, RN
Dean, College of Nursing

Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PD, PA-C
*Assistant Professor and Dean,
College of Health Related Professions*

Greetings from the Graduates
Amy Lynn Hartford
*College of Nursing
Class of 2005*

Charin Marie Borrero
*College of Health Related Professions
Class of 2005*

Presentation and Conferring of the
Honorary Degree
John C. LaRosa, MD, FACP
Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PD, PA-C

Honorary Degree Recipient
Jacqueline Bolden Beck, EdD, RN

Presentation of the Ailanthus Award
John C. LaRosa, MD, FACP

Ailanthus Award Recipient and
Commencement Address
Jim Hinojosa, PhD, OT, FAOTA

College of Nursing
Presentation of Candidates
Daisy Cruz-Richman, PhD, RN

Conferring of Degrees
John C. LaRosa, MD, FACP

Awarding of Diplomas
John C. LaRosa, MD, FACP
Daisy Cruz-Richman, PhD, RN

College of Health
Related Professions
Presentation of Candidates
Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PD, PA-C

Conferring of Degrees
John C. LaRosa, MD, FACP

Awarding of Diplomas
John C. LaRosa, MD, FACP
Dawn Morton-Rias, EdD, PD, PA-C

Closing Remarks and Administration of
the Oath of Professional Practice
John C. LaRosa, MD, FACP

Recessional
*(Audience: Please rise and remain standing until the
graduates have left the hall.)*

College of Nursing

Bachelor of Science

Nursing

Irede Ominira Adegboyega
Sandra Irene Agyei
Davina Alert
Gifty Joycelyn Appiah
Cynthia Adassa Baker
Sonia J. Banton
Veronica Bird-James
Shelly Blackman-Cort
Sindy Genoris Boyce-Peters
Arestides Bravo
Nidia Yolanda Brown
France Andree Brun
Monica Yineth Caicedo
Charmaine Dorothy Calliste
Geneive Donna-Marie
Campbell
Beverley Mae Connell
Angeleath Elizabeth Daley
Marie Brunette Damis
Ingrid Agmay Daniels
Shirley Christine Daniels
Mc Clean Danzell
Rachelle Dormevil
Suzanne Raquel Dube
Cheron Elaina Duncan
Maria Duncan
Kathryn Ann Durdaller
Camille Allecia Edwards
Evette A. Facey
Winnfred May Francis
Uclin Francis-Villafana
Desiree June Frank
Linda Rose Freckleton-Lewis
Mario Joaquin Garcia

Sylvia Kathleen Gauthier
Fiona Natasha Gill
Dahomey Avenel Grant
Norman Anthony Grant
Michelle D. M. Gray
Chipo Natasha Greene
Cheryl L. Greenidge
Dennies Olivia Greenidge
Vallary Hamilton
Audrey Yvette Harris
Petrina Nicole Harrison
Tracy Yonette Holder
Margarita Israilova
Bernadine Baptiste Jacob
Norma Nickole Jacobs
Marlin Abissia Jagganarine
Paula James-Blackman
Jenny Andrea Jeremiah-Brown
Nadine Jeune
Osra Ann John
Delva Rose Johnson
Lukmon F. Kalejaiye
Carline Duvera Lamour
Janice Denise Leacock
Antonia Veronica Lewis
Si-zhuo Li
Lorna Jacqueline Livingston
Armand
Abiola Lokoyi
Lorna L. Loza
Tanya Lucas
Wioletta Edyta Madziar
Denise Bernadette Maitland
Ronda A. Malabe
Maranda Manieram
Lourdes Monia Marotiere
Sharon Theresa Marshall

Varona McCall
Wendy Marcia McIntosh
Felicia L. Meyers
Julene Denise Milton
Gisela Mondelas
Gladys Melvina Morson
Philecia Simone Mullings
Kerwin Dominick Napoles
Jacqueline Neseta Nelson-
Lawrence
Jacqueline Loriane Nugent
Chiamaka U. Nwoke
Ruby Phareau
Lisa Principal
Alexandra Prophete
Noreen Agatha Radix
Julissa Ramos-Aguila
Heather-Ann Samuel
Terrance Seepersaud
Paulette Delores Shade Pierre
Jeannine Marguerite Sherwood
Marie Helene Simon
Vivekanand Kumar Singh
Lorna A. Smith
Sharda Sukhu-Gafoor
Parbatie Taylor
Joanne Thomas
Sharon Antoinette Thomas
Tracy-Ann Natalie Thomas
Kawanna Renee Thompson
Olga Tsybulevskiy
Elaine M. Wade
Karen Loise Watson
Ilana Weinstein
Sandra Maureen Whyte
Susan Wolff
Xiao Hua Zhang

Accelerated Nursing
Esther P. Alter
Jackson Asamoah
Alina Boshakova
Victoria Elisa Braidotti
Ioulia Cheiko
Jennifer Lauren Cohan
Kerry-Ann Alecia DaCosta
Alcides Manoel da Silva
Tameil Dauphin
Miles Edward Everett
Danielle Eden Fishman
Mary L. Garcia
Ma. Theresa Cortez Gatcho
Xuemei He Guglielmi
Nila Erica Hollis
Géralda Jean-Philippe
Marie Denise Joazile
Michal Kelman
Janet Khaim
Yelena Kulish
Elisa Kim-lien Le Tuan
Lai Shan Lee
Tsering Lhadon
Anthony David Lubrano
Diana Leigh Maras
Patricia Osei-Owusu
Esther Ostreicher
Aya Pierre
Felicia Price-Nigel
Mary Elizabeth Regan
Miriam Reiss
Stacey Ann Rubin
Susan Ruocco
Dawnique Lynn Seon
Irina Slavinsky
Annemie Jude Tonken
Lori Beth Zellner

Master of Science

Nursing
(Adult Track–Clinical
Nurse Specialist)
Carnice Placidia Lee

Nursing
(High-Risk Mother and Infant
Track–Clinical
Nurse Specialist)
Juliette Andria Lowe
Pauline Richardson
Joan Beverly Ridley-Clarke

Family Nurse Practitioner
Rebeca Clerville-Deratus
Gail Cudjoe
Ivion Alvira Davis
Rose Smith Duckett
Nora Jesusa Ventura Fernando
Amy Lynn Hartford
Roslyn Coreen Hazell
Annette Erica Isaacs
Gwendolyn L. James
Jean Claude Laborde
Lilibeth Geolingo
Maduramente
Rosie M. Malcolm
Metzie Jennifer McClarty
Cheryl Ann Mitchell
Herlande Penn-Durandisse
Rosamund Electra Peters
Eileen Ann Ryan
Kelly Marie St. Lewis
Kim Lorraine Whyte

Nurse Anesthesia
Augustus Aryee
Steven Assifuah
Chhanda Tennelia Beckford
Jeannette Anne Blaha
Tamara Borukhova
Adeel Shahid Cyril
Maria M. Federico
Sandra Alicia Foster
Sabine Gardiner
Jeremy Todd Gentry
Christina Hendershot
Jennifer Yeun Jin Kim
Mini Thresa Kurian
Susan Lee
Michelle Lee May
Kisha Nicola McCain
Samuel del Rio Milanez, Jr.
Aida Gaviola Nuguid
Sarah A Owens
Sofia Pinkhasova
Maria Eloisa Dela Pena
Repuyan
Troy St. Mark Stiebel
Rizalyn Lorena Turcotte
Robyn Amy Widelitz
Avraham Yarmove
Sookie Y. Youm
Svetlana Zavurova

Nurse Midwifery
Charmaine Alexa Brereton

Advanced Certificate

Family Nurse Practitioner
Sandra McCray Nembhard

College of Health Related Professions

Bachelor of Science

Diagnostic Medical
Imaging

Esther Beer

Naomi Z. Bryks

Vadim S. Chernov

Bella Yee-ling Choi

Edman Dibra

Allison E. Fabbie

Dina Israelov

Diana Kaminer

Jane (Joo-Ah) Kim

Roya Kohansedgh

Blimie Lisa Kohn-
Ehrenfeld

Jeuwelle C. McLean

Olga Olfir

Francis Raymond Pucci

Miriam Rosenfeld

Jennifer Rosenthal

Michal Soffer

Michele A. Spang

Leah Stern

Masayo Yaegashi

Physician Assistant

Samantha M. Adelsberg

Anelia Ivanova Apostolova

Elizabeth Augustin

Saher Baig

Wayne Joseph Blair

Charin Marie Borrero

Kacie Marie Bracher

Tisha M. Brizz

Arika Yvonne Bryant

Annisha Nikeisha Creary

Zepheronookie T. Davis

Ian Carlo DeJesus

Sandy Dorcelus

Isabel Emilia Estrella

Krystal Marie Ferreras

Lori Ann Friedman

Nicole Jacqueline

Gajadhar

Elina Gavrilova

Faymarie Hall

Wayne Andrade Henry

Farah Husain

Fritza Nathalie Jean-Louis

Michael Lavianlivi

Terri-Ann Michelle

Leverett

Chadde S. Levy

Max Masgudov

Konstantin Medyuk

Sonia M. Nash

Patrick Kwasi Owusu

Christine Marie Perito

Michael Karran Persaud

Cathia Saint Jean

Faiga Weiss

Bachelor of Science

Health Sciences

Master of Science

Physical Therapy

Elzbieta Baran

Agnes Bielawska

Trisa Petula Campbell

Jonathan Alexander Cohen

Alexander Benjamin Gross

Daniel Amos Heltzer

Yves Joseph, Jr.

Mohammed Kraish

Leah Miller

Pascale Pierre

Irene M. Sturla

Yehuda Leib Wasser

Chana M. Weintraub

Atara Esther Zuckerman

Master of Science

Medical Informatics

Nadine Cassandra
Blackwood
Dothlyn May Dunkley
Cloyette Allison Harris-
Stoute
Francis Newman Larbi

Midwifery

Charmaine Alleyne
Elizabeth Gallego
Sharon Denise Johnson
Rebekah Ellie Korine

Yohanah Bahirah Leiva
Lisa Renee Modell
Joey Lynn Pascarella
Asya Portnaya
Kathlen C. Shankar
Laura Catherine Sheperis

Occupational Therapy

Chava N. Baum
Shira Chana Block
Oleg E. Dron
Marcia J. Duverne
Debra Leah Ehrenberg
Miriam L. Greenspun
Sarah Greenstein

Sara Ramona Hakimi
Tatiana Kitaitchik
Keith Michael Melluso
Miriam S. Mendlowitz
Esther Malka Mittelman
Hadassah Esther Penn
Leah B. Rosenblum
Esther Sepowitz
Stacey Tamir
Cheryl Tannenbaum
Dauri I. Tribble
Rachel Michele Turk
Allison B. Wong

Honorary Degree Recipient

Doctor of Humane Letters: Jacqueline Bolden Beck, EdD, RN

Jacqueline Beck is a leader in allied health education, known for her studies in cultural diversity and allied health. As professor and founding dean of the School of Allied Health Sciences at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU)—one of the nation's historically Black colleges—she has played a major role in providing health education and career opportunities for disadvantaged students and people of color.

A native of Gulfport, Mississippi, Dr. Beck earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Dillard University and Indiana University, respectively, and her doctorate in education from the University of Florida. She began her service at FAMU as an instructor in the School of Nursing and advanced to become acting dean. In 1980 she was given a mandate by the university's president to create a School of Allied Health Sciences, which under her leadership grew and flourished.

A strong advocate for young people, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, Dr. Beck established innovative programs to encourage greater numbers of minorities to enter the health care field. Over the years, FAMU has attracted more than \$13 million in extramural funding for programs to increase minority participation in the allied health professions and has graduated more African-American allied health professionals than any other school in the State of Florida.

During her tenure as dean of allied health sciences, Dr. Beck served on the Pew Health Professions Commission, the board of directors of the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (ASAHP), and the board of the National Society of Allied Health. She was appointed by the governor to serve as chairperson of the Florida Commission on Minority Health on behalf of FAMU. Dr. Beck currently is president of the board of the Big Bend Area Health Education Center, which establishes partnerships with community groups to extend health care to underserved communities, and also a member of the Big Bend Hospice.

Dr. Beck's scholarship focuses on cultural diversity and allied health education. Her honors include the Cultural Pluralism Award and election to fellow of the ASAHP. Most recently, the Florida House of Representatives authorized the naming of the new allied health building at FAMU for her and the former dean of nursing.

Commencement Speaker and Ailanthus Award Recipient

Jim Hinojosa, PhD, OT, FAOTA

Jim Hinojosa is professor and chairman of the Department of Occupational Therapy at the Steinhardt School of Education, New York University. Specializing in pediatrics, he is a strong advocate for family-centered care, believing that everyone benefits when health professionals work closely with families to develop interventions that reflect their needs and values.

A graduate of Columbia University's Teachers College and New York University, Dr. Hinojosa has more than 20 years' experience as an OT practitioner, researcher, and educator. Before assuming his present position, he was associate chair of the Occupational Therapy Program at SUNY Downstate, where he received high marks from students and faculty for his teaching, administrative, and clinical skills.

Much of Dr. Hinojosa's extensive research focuses on examining the therapist-parent relationship. He has surveyed occupational therapists nationwide to identify the values and attitudes that inform their working relations with parents of preschool children who have developmental delays. He also is interested in the complex relationships between parents and their children within the context of family life. In one recent study, he examined the challenges families face when parents try to help children do their homework.

In his role as educator, Dr. Hinojosa is committed to preparing professionals who will respond to the changing needs of families and society. He has found that education programs that emphasize the value of family-centered intervention give occupational therapists the confidence and skill to work successfully with parents. He also believes that therapists should collaborate with other health professionals and with educators to develop effective interventions.

Dr. Hinojosa has presented and conducted workshops throughout the United States and Canada. In addition to more than 90 scholarly articles and chapters, he has co-edited several well-received texts, including *The Texture of Life*, a collection of essays on the importance of meaningful activities in one's professional life.

A Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association, Dr. Hinojosa has served on many of its commissions and boards and was awarded its highest honor, the Award of Merit. He also served as director of the American Occupational Therapy Foundation Board and received its Meritorious Service Award.

SUNY Downstate Medical Center

SUNY Downstate Medical Center, formally known as the State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn, is one of four academic health centers within the 64-unit State University of New York. Located on an urban campus in the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn, SUNY Downstate, a major research center, includes the College of Medicine, School of Graduate Studies, College of Nursing, College of Health Related Professions, Master of Public Health Program, and University Hospital of Brooklyn.

Over its history, the institution has undergone several name changes. Initially chartered as the teaching division of Long Island College Hospital, it was renamed The Long Island College of Medicine in 1931. The “Downstate” era began on April 5, 1950, when a merger contract was signed with the newly constituted State University of New York. The College of Nursing and College of Health Related Professions were founded in 1966 in recognition of the critical need for multi-disciplinary health-care professionals.

Today, SUNY Downstate is the focal point of a health education network that encompasses 30 hospitals. It has a total student body of 1,500, a faculty of 4,755 (including full-time, part-time, and voluntary staff), and support staff of 3,182 who study and work on its 13-acre campus. In 1998, one of its researchers, Dr. Robert F. Furchgott, received the Nobel Prize in Medicine.

Philosophy of Health Care Professional Training

“To Learn-To Search-To Serve”

That is the motto of the State University of New York and the mission of SUNY Downstate. As an urban medical center that is part of a large public university system, SUNY Downstate is keenly aware of its special obligation for public service and is a vital contributor to the health-care needs of its community. SUNY Downstate provides an atmosphere of scientific scholarship designed to inspire students to observe, analyze, and interpret scientific and social phenomena in a systematic manner. Collaboration among the health professions helps develop the community health-care concepts needed to deal with the health and social needs of a changing society.

Faculty Serving as Marshals

Nellie Bailey, EdD, RN, CS Clinical Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs, College of Nursing
Ann Ganzer, MA, MSN, NP Lecturer, College of Nursing
Mary Germain, EdD, ANP, BC Associate Professor, College of Nursing
Nancy Giordano, EdD, FNP Clinical Associate Professor and Director, Nurse Practitioner Program, College of Nursing
Grace Holmes, MS Clinical Assistant Professor, Midwifery Program, College of Health Related Professions
Margaret Kaplan, PhD Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy Program, College of Health Related Professions
Joanne Katz, PhD Associate Professor and Chairperson, Physical Therapy Program, College of Health Related Professions
Mark L'Eplattenier, MPAS Clinical Assistant Professor, Physician Assistant Program, College of Health Related Professions
Edna Lewis, MSN, CS Clinical Assistant Professor and Director of Continuing Education, College of Nursing
Joyce Miller, EdD Clinical Assistant Professor and Acting Chairperson, Diagnostic Medical Imaging Program, College of Health Related Professions
Yvonne Nathan, EdD, RN Assistant Professor and Director, RN/BS Program, College of Nursing
Jacqueline Patterson-Johnson, EdD, FNP Clinical Assistant Professor, College of Nursing
Suzanne Schechter, MS, CNM Clinical Assistant Professor and Education Director, Midwifery Program, College of Health Related Professions
Laurie Seckel, MS Lecturer, Physical Therapy Program, College of Health Related Professions
Laila Sedhom, PhD, RN Professor and Associate Dean of Graduate Programs, College of Nursing
Victoria Titiloye, PhD, OTR, RN Clinical Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy Program, College of Health Related Professions
Sheryl Zang, EdD, RN, FNP Clinical Associate Professor and Director, Nursing Center, College of Nursing

SUNY Board of Trustees

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Oath of Professional Practice

As a member of the graduating classes of the College of Health Related Professions and the College of Nursing,

I solemnly pledge my commitment to the faithful practice of my profession and the provision of high-quality health-care services with honesty, integrity, and dedication.

I recognize and value human diversity and will provide individualized services for all who seek my care.

I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare, and dignity of all human beings.

I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of my professional service.

I will accept responsibility for my actions and uphold the standards of my profession.

I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills as I engage in lifelong learning.

I will use my experiences to contribute to an improved community.

My functions and goals are based upon my commitment to the improvement of health-care delivery and service for all those in need of the skills of my profession.

I make these commitments freely and with honor.