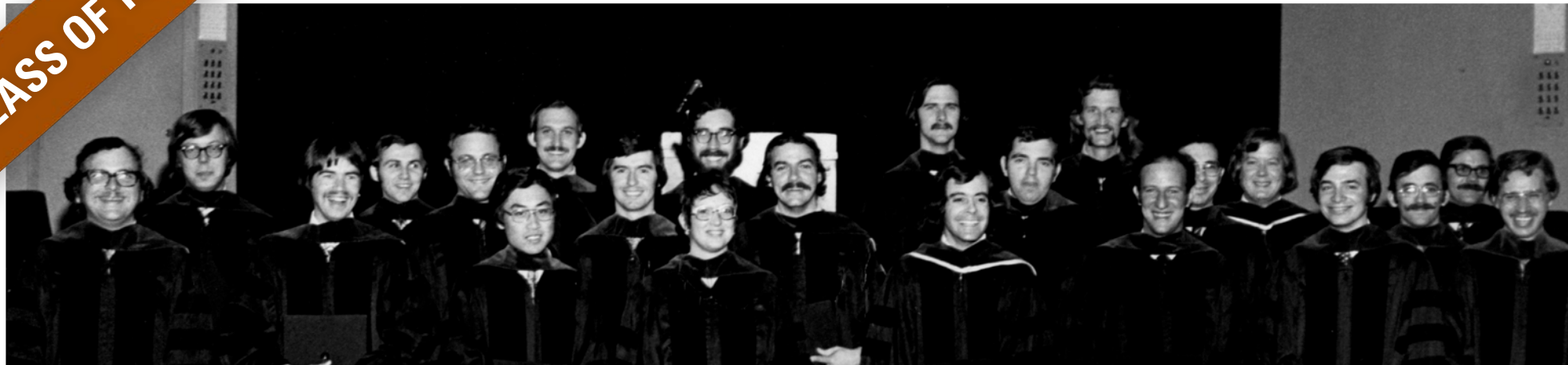


CLASS OF 1973



THE **BREEZEWAY**
ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Fall 2019



CLASS OF 2023

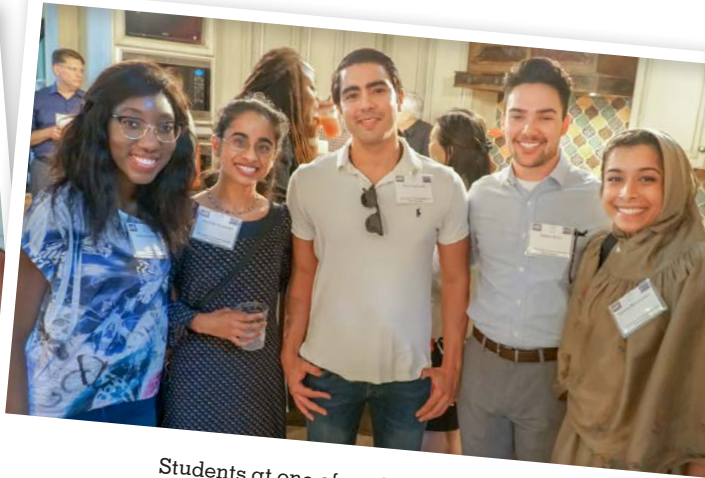
SCRAPBOOK

Check out some photos from recent alumni events.
To see more photos, please visit our website at med.uth.edu/alumni.

INCOMING STUDENT and ALUMNI RECEPTIONS



Hosts Farah Shah, MD '89, and her husband Gregory Stocks, MD, with incoming students



Students at one of our Incoming Student and Alumni Receptions



Our alumni enjoying our Austin Incoming Student and Alumni Reception

ALUMNI REUNION



Our Alumni Association Board members with an Alumni Student Network rep



Class of 2004 enjoys reconnecting at the Reunion



A few alumnae from Class of '99

Greetings from THE BREEZEWAY



Hello,

McGovern Medical School at UTHealth is honoring our past with the celebration of our golden anniversary. From humble beginnings, when the first 19 students were accepted to a medical school without a building, to today, one of the largest medical schools in the nation, we have a rich history worth celebrating.

The Office of Alumni Relations is planning special Homecoming events in the spring of 2020, inviting all of our graduates back “home” to showcase the evolution of our school. This past summer, we welcomed our Class of 2023, a group of 240 bright and talented students composed of 98 men and 142 women who have an impressive average MCAT of 512 and average GPA of 3.85. It is exciting to see these dedicated young people so full of potential embark on their McGovern Medical School journey.

We will celebrate our 50th anniversary throughout this year with a number of special activities, which started with a kickoff event in September 2019 for our entire McGovern community. We are also planning a series of special talks and invited lectures with faculty experts talking about important and timely topics of interest to the whole community.

Our most esteemed gift is our graduates – nearly 8,000 physicians have graduated from McGovern Medical School, bringing outstanding patient care, research, and knowledge to benefit our local communities and beyond.

I hope to see you at these events and encourage you to celebrate this special milestone with us. Thank you for being a part of the McGovern Medical School's history.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara".

Barbara J. Stoll, MD

Dean, McGovern Medical School

H. Wayne Hightower Distinguished Professor in the Medical Sciences

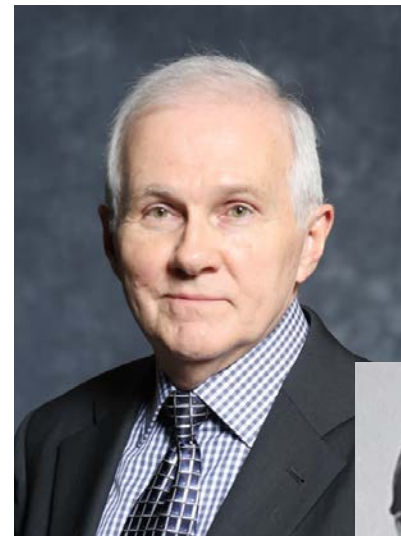
Member of the first

GRADUATING CLASS REMINISCES

ON MEDICAL SCHOOL

written by
Jessica Vanderpool
Office of Development

The year 1973 was an important time in history. The Watergate scandal was in full swing. American troops were withdrawn from Vietnam. The first American space station was launched. And amid it all, the first class of students graduated from the school now known as McGovern Medical School at UTHealth (The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston).



CELEBRATING

50^{YEARS}



Among the first graduates was Thomas Marbury, MD. His walk across the stage to receive his diploma signified the beginning of a successful career in medicine.

He moved to the University of Florida for a nephrology fellowship with James Robert Cade, MD, the inventor of Gatorade, and broadened his knowledge of kidney health and disease. In the years following, he served on faculty at the university, as Chief of Nephrology at the Malcom Randall Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Gainesville, Florida, and as head of the Adult Dialysis Program at University of Florida Health Shands Hospital. Marbury moved to Orlando in 1981 for private practice and founded the Orlando Clinical Research Center, where he serves as president. Due to the center's growth, he retired from private practice in December 2000 to focus on research and his duties as the organization's president.

Almost 50 years after graduating, he still easily recalls his student days — back when the medical school did not even have its own building and he was one of 19 medical students in his class. In fact, these students were enrolled at University of Texas campuses in three cities. Marbury spent the first two years of his medical school journey in San Antonio before transitioning to Houston.

It is his electives, however, that stand out to Marbury. For two of his electives, he trained in the small, medically underserved Texas communities of Iraan and La Grange. Going into these types of communities for electives is something he would highly recommend to current medical students. He received not only one-on-one training but also a boost in confidence. He said there was a time shortly before his electives when he was afraid he would never be able to integrate all the medical knowledge he was being taught.

"But when I went into these communities, medicine came together," Marbury explained.

A lot has changed since Marbury and his classmates received their degrees. For instance, there has been an increase in technology and diagnostic tools.

"We didn't have computers, and all records were paper," Marbury said. "There was a lot of emphasis on a thorough patient history and physical examination and being able to ascertain a lot from even looking at the patient in the room. Now it seems like we're more X-ray-driven and lab work-driven, but it's important not to take the patient out of the picture."

Looking back at all he has learned, he wants to pass some advice on to young alumni.

"Frequently, if you listen to patients and ask them enough questions, they'll actually tell you what's going on. And always examine them," he advised. "A physical examination is extremely important because sometimes you find things that you couldn't get from the history or even from the X-rays.

"And then the other thing is patients are smart — they know if you care. Treat them as people, with kindness and caring, because if they know that you're looking out for them and that you're caring for them, I think it helps their positivity and their overall healing and confidence."

This year, the medical school celebrates its 50th anniversary. A lot has changed in that time, not only in medicine but also at the school itself, which now welcomes classes of 240 students per year. Yet despite the passing of time, one thing remains constant: As exemplified by Marbury, genuinely caring about patients is key to good health care. ■

Medical School History

Established by the Texas Legislature in June 1969, the first class of 19 students entered in 1970. By 1979, class sizes of 200 were legislatively supported through state formula funding. From a new school with no buildings or students, to one of the nation's outstanding centers of academic medicine, John P. and Kathrine G. McGovern Medical School at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) continues its commitment to excellence in medical education, research, quality patient care, and community outreach. Take a moment to review a summary of milestones that tell the unfolding story of McGovern Medical School.

JANUARY 1968

Original affiliation agreement is signed between the Hermann Hospital Estate and The University of Texas System Board of Regents, making Hermann Hospital the primary teaching facility for the proposed medical school.

NOVEMBER 1972

The Medical School joins The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston organizational structure.

1970

DECEMBER 1973

The first class of 22 medical students graduates from the original class of 19 (includes three transfer students).



JUNE 1976

The nearly completed Medical School Building, connecting the John H. Freeman Building and Hermann Hospital, is devastated by flood.



AUGUST 1976

The first flight of Hermann Life Flight®.



APRIL 1986

The first group of students travel to China with Henry Strobel, PhD, as part of the ongoing senior program.

MARCH 1986

Webber Plaza is dedicated in honor of deceased dean C. Frank Webber, MD.



JANUARY 1990

The affiliation between The University of Texas Medical School at Houston and Harris County Hospital District (Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital) is approved.

1990

SEPTEMBER 1970

The first class of 19 students is selected and enrolls at UT campuses in three cities.

MAY 1969

The Texas Legislature approves The University of Texas Medical School at Houston.



AUGUST 1977

The first weekend orientation retreat for new students is hosted by second-year students.

SEPTEMBER 1977

The first four-year class admitted (class size: 150). The three-year curriculum is phased out with the graduation of the 1976 entering class.

1980

AUGUST 1982

James "Red" Duke Jr., MD, professor of surgery, airs the first televised program that would eventually evolve into an internationally syndicated health segment for television.



SEPTEMBER 1994

Problem-Based Learning (PBL) is incorporated into the second-year curriculum.

AUGUST 1996

The annual White Coat Ceremony is introduced for new students.



NOVEMBER 1997

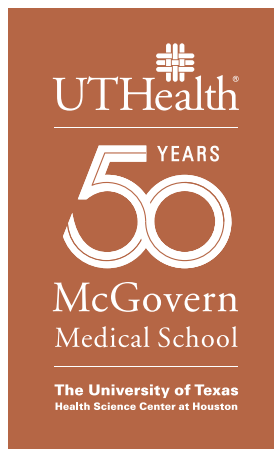
The merger of Hermann Hospital with Memorial Healthcare System is approved and named the Memorial Hermann Healthcare System.

OCTOBER 2015

A transformational gift from the McGovern Foundation renames the school to John P. and Kathrine G. McGovern Medical School, placing a renewed emphasis on humanism, ethics, research, and scholarship.

AUGUST 2007

The University of Texas Medical School welcomes its largest class to date, 230 students, to address national physician shortage concerns.



SEPTEMBER 2019

Yearlong 50th Celebration kicks off.

2010

2000



JUNE 2001

Tropical Storm Allison unleashes 10 million gallons of rain runoff into the Medical School Building, causing an estimated \$205 million in damages. Memorial Hermann Hospital is forced to close for the first time in 70 years.



SEPTEMBER 2004

UTHealth purchases the Hermann Professional Building and renames it The University of Texas Health Science Center Professional Building.

2019

AUGUST 2016

McGovern Medical School introduces an extensive curriculum revision, integrating medical science with systems of care and introducing clinical experience in the first year.

Save the Date Alumni Homecoming Weekend

Celebrating 50 Years



MARCH 27-28, 2020

Houston, Texas

Friday

Homecoming Kickoff and Class-Led Events

Saturday

Culinary CME, Tours, and Reunion Dinner

Details to follow

FOURTH-YEAR STUDENTS ADD PERSPECTIVE TO

INTERVIEW PROCESS



written by

The Office of Admissions and Student Affairs

The national landscape of best practices in medical school admissions criteria and processes is ever-changing, presenting unique challenges in staying current and being comprehensive in the review of applicants. In an effort to enroll students who will shape the future of medicine, McGovern Medical School is always working to stay abreast of these practices. Beginning in August 2019, the school has integrated fourth-year medical students into the interview process alongside faculty interviewers to seat the classes to come. There is a rich body of evidence that supports the addition of seasoned medical students as interviewers, touting their perspectives and recent experiences as learners and student doctors as an added value when reviewing applicants. Additionally, research has shown that medical

student interviewers provide more potentially useful information in their evaluation of applicants, most specifically in the areas of applicant communication skills and overall motivation for medicine.

Over 80 fourth-year students signed up to participate in the pilot program this interview season. Most students who signed up have been active in our Student Ambassador program or have been heavily involved in other student organizations. These students have received training and participated in a mock interview program with seasoned interviewers to give them the foundation necessary to successfully identify quality applicants. The student leaders who spearheaded the initiative are Ramzy Meremikwu and Shrina Parikh, co-presidents of the Student Ambassador organization. Under the guidance of Ramzy and Shrina, other Student Ambassador members reached out to peer institutions in Texas and across the nation to learn

more about each school's student interview program in order to draft a Student Interviewing Policy that reflects McGovern Medical School's values. The group was also instrumental in preparing resources to equip fourth-year students for interviewing applicants. Additionally, this new program allows second- and third-year students the opportunity to take on a leadership role through participation in the committees tasked with researching the processes at other medical schools, drafting student policy, creating the student interviewer application, and managing the student availability for each interview day.

Student Ambassadors, overseen by the Office of Admissions and Student Affairs, is the largest student organization at the medical school. The student interviewer program is a welcome addition to the process of evaluating applicants to McGovern Medical School. ■



MCGOVERN STUDENTS CELEBRATE

A WEEK TO REMEMBER

written by
Roman Petrowski
Office of Communications

McGovern Medical School kicked off 2019 Match Week with the second annual A Week to Remember reception, jointly hosted by the Alumni-Student Network and the McGovern Medical School Alumni Association.

“The Alumni Association is happy to join with the Alumni-Student Network for the second annual A Week to Remember reception,” said Melanie Collins, MD '91, McGovern Medical School Alumni Association President. “As alumni, we want to celebrate this special occasion with the students and hope the memories of their four years at McGovern Medical School will keep them involved in their medical school alumni association for many years to come. They have worked so hard to get to this point in their medical career, and we are all excited to raise a toast to their accomplishments. Cheers!”

A Week to Remember gives graduating fourth-year students one final chance to get together as a class in celebration of Match Week. Students gathered in the McGovern Medical School lobby for food and beverages before writing a letter to their future selves and commemorating the evening with photos with various props.

“Even though we had Match Day and graduation, there wasn’t really an event that was exclusively about our class being together,” said Claire Ellis, a founding member of the event. “This event is about us — classmates reuniting after being away from each other on rotations and interviews — just exclusively to celebrate all we’ve accomplished without the distraction of anything else. We thought it was a great idea to have it before all the hecticness of Match Week started, before we started having to worry about graduation and the future.”

Medical students build close bonds with their classmates before being separated for clinicals and various interviews. A Week to Remember allows them to reconnect before the most important week of their academic careers.

“When everyone is around each other talking, mixing, and mingling, it helps quell the nerves before Match Day,” fourth-year student Stephanie Ihezue said. “As you’re talking, you’ll find other people in the same boat. As qualified as many people here are, everyone is still worried if they’re going to match. Being able to talk with the class, coming back to that community, you know you’re not alone.”

Following a trip down memory lane with a slideshow of photos featuring the graduating medical students, McGovern Medical School Association Board Member Pedro Mancias, MD '88, and fourth-year Class President Alex Wetzig addressed the group.

Mancias reminded the graduating class that they have worked hard to get to this point, and that they have succeeded in every part of their medical career, and they will continue to do so. He encouraged the students to set healthy goals to stay fresh and make sure that they make a difference in helping each patient be the best that they can be.

Wetzig capped the night by leading the students in a toast, saying, “To the Class of 2019: May you live as long as you want, and may you never want as long as you live.” ■

New Programming >>>

HOST PROGRAM



The McGovern Medical School at UTHealth Office of Alumni Relations is pleased to announce the Help Our Students Travel (HOST) program. The HOST program connects current students traveling for residency interviews with alumni hosts in the vicinity of their interview sites. Alumni HOSTs may offer housing, helping to ease the financial burden and stress of the interview process.

Alumni who cannot offer housing may also be an eHOST by providing guidance on the local community, specialty, hospital, research, and more. The HOST program provides a wonderful opportunity to build connections between students and alumni that can last a lifetime.

The Office of Alumni Relations works with our alumni and students to create meaningful matches. We encourage participation but cannot guarantee that all volunteers will be matched.



DINNERS WITH A DOC

Dinners with a Doc are casual gatherings that provide McGovern Medical School at UTHealth alumni and current students with opportunities to discuss careers in medicine and to develop mentoring relationships. Our medical students gain invaluable insight from seasoned alumni physicians, who, in turn, learn from students about the current state of their medical alma mater.

Dinners with a Doc typically match four to five students per alumnus physician, which allows students to learn more about daily work and how to make the most of their medical school, residency, and fellowship training. Alumni hosts cover the expense of the meal that is held at either their home or a local restaurant.

The Office of Alumni Relations works with our alumni and students to create meaningful matches. Alumni and students are encouraged to maintain contact with one another following these dinners in order to develop mentoring relationships.

We are more than happy to work with our out-of-town alumni. Please give us notice when you know that you are coming to Houston and we will work with your schedule to set up a Dinner with a Doc at your convenience.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE PROGRAMS,

WOMEN IN MEDICINE



Women in Medicine is an alumnae group encouraging women to connect and to engage with McGovern Medical School at UTHealth. The purpose of Women in Medicine is to strengthen the relationship between McGovern Medical School and its alumnae. We welcome all of our alumnae to lead and to be active participants by attending events and volunteering with our programs.

Get involved with our Women in Medicine programming:

- › Engage with fellow alumnae
- › Attend an upcoming Women in Medicine event
- › Volunteer to lead professional development and career opportunities for our women medical students



YOUNG ALUMNI

Young Alumni is a group encouraging those who have graduated within the past 15 years to connect with each other and to engage with McGovern Medical School at UTHealth. We welcome Classes of 2004-2019 to lead and to be active participants by attending alumni events and volunteering with various programs.

You can get involved with existing Young Alumni programming:

- › Helping Our Students Travel (HOST) program
- › Dinners with a Doc
- › Attend an upcoming event

We're thrilled to welcome you into the Young Alumni group.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE! [MED.UTH.EDU/ALUMNI](https://med.uth.edu/alumni)



An interview with

Roger S. Khetan, MD '94

Residency:

UTHealth - internal medicine 1994-95, chief resident 1998-99,
Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA - anesthesiology 1995-96

Current Job Title:

Internal medicine physician – Signature Medicine at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas
Quality Medical Director – Baylor Scott & White Heart and Vascular Hospital

CONVERSATIONS From The Leather Lounge

written by

Derrick J. Miller

What is your fondest memory of your time at McGovern Medical School?

Two favorites: hosting the retreat for the incoming class when we were second-year medical students and the tropics party that we hosted during that time after the block of exams. We had probably the best class with all of us knowing each other and watching out for each other, even to this day.

What are your hopes for today's McGovern Medical School students?

I hope that each of you will always watch out for your fellow classmates. The thing that makes our medical school stand out is not only the intelligent physicians it produces, but the fact that all those physicians rely on their fellow students and develop close bonds to them. The four years bring you some of the closest friendships you will ever have – I encourage all of you to harvest that feeling and as you get older like me, you will be glad you can call on any one of them personally or professionally knowing they will gladly help you.

What inspires you?

Inspiration is multi-faceted – lots of it comes from my nieces and nephew, my twin brother and sister-in-law, but we all grow from little doctors and little people to bigger doctors and bigger roles. I would like to do the right thing for patients, friends, and family. Inspiration also comes from humility and being honest – I would like to be able to say I'm sorry for mistakes I make, and feel that when it is said, it is genuine to those I have wronged. I feel my family makes me a better person in that way.

Who is your mentor?

Several mentors – Dr. Herb Fred was an important mentor to me and I miss him dearly – it was great to call him up for a chat or a diagnostic dilemma. Dr. David Winter, my current boss, has been a great mentor since I moved to Dallas in 1999. And throughout my life, my twin brother, Rainer – he keeps me grounded and focused.

What skill is most vital to your job?

Listening – talking to patients about a nonmedical issue and letting them feel like they can vent about anything.

Laughing – making patients have fun in the office and stating the obvious is sometimes the most relieving thing to them.

What music are you currently listening to?

Never Enough, by Loren Alred; I'd Really Love to See You Tonight, by England Dan & John Ford Coley; Don't Stop Believin', by Journey; Proud of the House We Built, by Brooks & Dunn

What is the one thing you can't live without? Why?

My twin and his family – without them, I could not do what I do on a daily basis.

And my housekeeper – if she did not take care of my dog and keep my home life in order, I would be lost!

What fulfills you most?

Watching my nieces, Jasmine and Riley, and my nephew, Ryan, grow into wonderful young adults who also want to do medicine because they like seeing how Rainer (MD '94), Anita (MD '95), and I enjoy our jobs. They are just really wonderful people who I am lucky to enjoy seeing frequently. I have lived next door to them for the last 16 years.

Who would you most like to meet (alive or deceased) and why?

Queen Elizabeth – I recently watched "The Crown," and I'm amazed at how she has maintained decorum and respect through the years through some very difficult times.

What has been your greatest adventure?

My best friend and I did a 10-day adventure through South Africa last year from Cape Town to Hermanus to a safari in Kruger National Park. It was a fantastic trip and just so beautiful. ■

HENRY STROBEL RETREAT USHERS IN

CLASS OF 2023



written by
Roman Petrowski
Office of Communications

McGovern Medical School at UTHealth officially welcomed the Class of 2023 with the 43rd annual Henry Strobel Retreat on Aug. 9-10 at Camp Allen in Navasota, Texas.

As is tradition, second-year McGovern Medical School students from the Class of 2022 transformed camp into the theme for retreat, which was a throwback to the '90s.

The retreat began with an orientation where the students played a match game to find their medical school "soul mate" and heard from faculty and current students about what to expect from orientation and medical school. From there, they split into small groups to mingle with their fellow classmates, current students, faculty, and alumni.

During the afternoon session, the Class of 2023 hit the outdoors for some friendly competition. The students divided into teams based on '90s cartoon characters, and students competed in various games such as tug of war, water balloon toss, and a Slip 'N Slide relay to beat the heat.

After dinner, students returned for skits. The skits taught the entering class about the medical school experience in a funny way, while following the theme for the weekend

and even including special cameos from a few of the professors. Following the skits, the students donned their best '90s costumes and mingled with fellow classmates, faculty, and alumni for the Friday night social.

The Class of 2023 features 240 incoming students, ranging in age from 20 to 33. In all, 225 of the students hail from Texas, while 10 additional states are represented among the group. The entering class holds an average MCAT score of 512 and an average grade point average of 3.85.

Henry Strobel, PhD, founded the retreat in 1977 after he noticed the first-year class had become disenchanted following a storm that devastated the Texas Medical Center (TMC) and temporarily delayed the beginning of the school year. Partnering with leadership from the second-year class, Strobel organized a weekend for students and significant others to leave the hustle and bustle of Houston and the TMC to appreciate the McGovern Medical School family and community around them. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS



OCTOBER

18	6-9 pm	Distinguished Alumnus Award Ceremony	InterContinental Houston-Medical Center
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NOVEMBER

2	6-9 pm	MD/PhD Alumni Reunion	Houston - Brennan's
7	5:30-7:30 pm	Women in Medicine Mixer	Austin
13	5:30-7:30 pm	UTHealth JAM	Houston



DECEMBER

4	6-8 pm	Student Welcome Reception	College Station
7	3-5 pm	Student Welcome Reception	Austin



MARCH

27	6-9 pm	Alumni Reunion Homecoming Weekend	Houston
28	9 am-9 pm	Alumni Reunion Homecoming Weekend	Houston

APRIL

23	5:30-7:30 pm	UTHealth JAM	Houston
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MAY

1	Noon	Commencement	Houston Hobby Center
1	5-6:30 pm	TexMed Alumni Reception	Fort Worth

JUNE

Stay tuned for Incoming Student and Alumni Receptions in Austin, Houston, and Dallas.

For up-to-date information on our events, visit med.uth.edu/alumni

COMING SOON!

New online alumni network
with opportunities to
mentor, volunteer, and connect.

CONTACT

Send in your Class Notes!

Let us know what is happening with you and find out what your classmates have accomplished. Please email us at ms.alumni@uth.tmc.edu regarding your personal and professional accomplishments for our "Class Notes" section of the website, med.uth.edu/alumni.

UPDATE YOUR INFO

Have a new phone number? Changed your email address? Want to receive the electronic version of The Breezeway? If so, please take a moment to update your contact information at www.uth.edu/index/alumni-form.htm or fill out and return the attached self-mailing form.



McGovern Medical School photos
43rd Annual Henry Strobel Retreat (top)
2019 Commencement Ceremony (center)
2019 Decades Party (bottom)

Photo of Dean Stoll (Page 3/Robert Seale Photography, Inc.)





McGovern Medical School

Office of Alumni Relations

6431 Fannin Street, J1L 411

Houston, Texas 77030

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