

## Med School's Hooding Ceremony is Friday

Lynne D. Williams, medical school information  
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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forty-one new Nevada physicians will be honored at the University of Nevada School of Medicine Academic Hooding Ceremony at **6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 17 at the Pioneer Theatre.**

During this ceremony, senior medical students receive their academic hoods and take the Hippocratic Oath, symbol of their acceptance into the profession of medicine.

The Class of 1991 is the twelfth graduating class to receive their medical degrees in Nevada.

During the ceremony, Dean Robert M. Daugherty will present Dean's Awards to people who have made important contributions to the School of Medicine. One will go to former Governor Grant Sawyer and Bette Sawyer of Las Vegas, "for political, philosophical and financial support of the medical school and its dreams." The Sawyers recently made a large contribution to the school in honor of Gov. Sawyer's father, Dr. Harry Sawyer.

The second Dean's Award will be presented posthumously to The Honorable Marvin M. Sedway of Las Vegas, "for believing in education as the foundation of a

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civilized society and for being the champion of those in need." The award will be accepted by his widow, Kim Sedway.

The "Praeceptor Carissimus" Award will be given to Noah Smernoff, M.D. of Reno, who completed an oral history of his career for the school's Great Basin History of Medicine program. The award will be given annually to a physician whose personal and professional example serves as a role model for new physicians. Dr. Smernoff is the first recipient of this special award.

The keynote speaker is Lloyd Hollingsworth Smith, Jr., M.D., associate dean of the School of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco.

Dr. "Holly" Smith is co-author of five widely-used textbooks: Review of General Internal Medicine, which is in its fourth edition; International Textbook of Medicine, Cecil Essential of Medicine; and Cecil Textbook of Medicine, which is in its 18th edition. He has served on a number of editorial boards and is currently an associate editor for The Western Journal of Medicine.

Dr. Smith earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School, magna cum laude, and has been a visiting investigator/professor at Oxford University in England, the University of Geneva in Switzerland, Pahlavi University in Shiraz, Iran, the University of Sidney and University of Auckland.

Interested media representatives should contact Lynne Williams at 784-6003.

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Attachments: class list, according to home town

history of the school

explanation of academic dress

**Class of 1991**

**Las Vegas**

**Angela M. Andrich, M.D.**  
**Ned M. Busch, M.D.**  
**Randal H. Colquitt, M.D.**  
**Gregory J. Johns, M.D.**  
**Diane Mazzu, M.D.**  
**Larry E. Paulson, M.D.**  
**Kathleen M. Rodriques, M.D.**  
**Gerald M. Sylvain, M.D.**  
**Francis W. Teng, M.D.**  
**Carl D. Virgil, M.D.**

**Reno**

**Mark T. Brune, M.D.**  
**John D. Chambers, M.D.**  
**Bret H. Dales, M.D.**  
**Tracey D. Green, M.D.**  
**Emily A. Kellogg, M.D.**  
**Scott D. Mellum, M.D.**  
**Stacy E. Mellum, M.D.**  
**Charles S. Merriman, M.D.**  
**James E. Murphy, M.D.**  
**Katherine P. Raven, M.D.**  
**Sonia J. Schuemann, M.D.**  
**Carol L. Scott, M.D.**  
**Darin Swainston, M.D.**  
**John M. Watson, M.D.**  
**Robert R. Weaver, M.D.**

**Jeffrey C. Haskell, M.D., Caliente**  
**Roland L. Sparling, M.D., Henderson**

**Donald D. Damschen, M.D., Plains, MT**  
**Rhonda E. Damschen, M.D., Plains, MT**  
**Stephanie J. Dyer, M.D., Rosewell, NM**  
**Bryan Ellsworth, M.D., Mesa, AZ**  
**Jon R. Fishburn, M.D., Red Lodge, MT**  
**Fraun Flerchinger, M.D., Lewiston, ID**  
**Randall R. Hardison, M.D., Mesa, AZ**  
**Larry A. Levine, M.D., Anchorage, AK**  
**Linda L. Schicker, M.D., San Jose, CA**  
**Griffith C. Steiner, M.D., Anchorage, AK**

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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*The University of Nevada School of Medicine was established in 1969 by the Nevada State Legislature to provide medical education and training for Nevadans. The charter class of 32 students entered a two-year basic sciences program in 1971 on the University of Nevada System's Reno campus. Until that time, Nevadans who wished to enter the field of medicine had to seek educational opportunities out of state.*

*Members of the first five classes transferred to degree-granting programs at 35 medical schools throughout the United States. Many of these students completed their education with high honors.*

*In December 1976, the University of Nevada Board of Regents unanimously approved the school's conversion to a four-year, degree-granting program with residencies in primary care. The 1977 Nevada State Legislature firmly endorsed this proposal, passing Assembly Concurrent Resolution 18. The first four-year class was graduated in 1980. (A total of 212 alumni have returned to the state after completing residency training.)*

*The School of Medicine is university based and community integrated. Today, clinical rotations and electives take place in almost every medical facility in the state. The patients, facilities and staffs of its affiliated hospitals and clinics provide a broad educational base for the school's clinical curriculum. Its affiliation agreements provide access to more than 2,000 beds.*

*The relatively small number of students in each class permits a degree of personalization and individualization essential to attaining excellence in medical education. The full-time faculty and 631 community physicians involved in the school's programs are highly qualified to conduct programs in clinical medicine, research and education.*

*The school and its affiliated hospitals sponsor residency programs in Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics/Gynecology and Surgery.*

*In addition, research focusing on scientific and clinical problems that affect Nevada in particular and the nation in general is conducted by the school's faculty and students. Such research has been awarded national and international recognition by the scientific community. Research funding at the medical school in 1989-90 topped \$3.5 million and comes from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and other national, regional and local sources.*

*Programs leading to advanced degrees in research disciplines include the combined M.D./Ph.D. degree, the M.S. and Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology, the Ph.D. in Pharmacology and the M.S. and Ph.D. in Biochemistry.*

*Through its Office of Rural Health, the school is dedicated to the support of rural health care providers and institutions throughout the state. The office helps recruit and retain physicians and allied health professionals statewide and also administers the National Health Service Corps contract in Nevada.*

*An Area Health Education Center was begun in 1987 to further enhance the school's and the university's ties with rural Nevada. Initially funded by a federal grant of \$1 million, AHEC provides community-based educational programs for health professionals in rural and underserved areas. Program offices have been established in Elko and Las Vegas.*

*The School of Medicine also has innovative programming in the developing medical fields of nutrition, geriatrics and ethics. The Nutrition Education and Research Program seeks to integrate good nutrition practices into overall health care delivery. Faculty members coordinate nutrition education for both students and physicians and conduct outpatient clinics and other public education programs.*

*The Geriatric and Gerontology Center is a University of Nevada, Reno interdisciplinary program which seeks to advance scientific knowledge of aging and the special problems of the aged, and to improve health and social services for Nevada's elderly citizens. Program staff often collaborate with the state's Division of Aging Services in educational and service programs.*

*Ethics has been incorporated into the curriculum to teach students and residents the guidelines and thinking processes needed to make difficult decisions in the changing world of medicine. Formal courses and grand rounds discussions have been well received by students, residents and attending physicians alike.*

*Another resource for all of Nevada is the Savitt Medical Library, which houses materials covering all areas of medicine and the life sciences. The facility has been designated the state medical resource library for Nevada and is open to the public for use.*

*Full accreditation was initially awarded to the two-year basic sciences program in 1976 by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. In April 1980, the accreditation was expanded to include the clinical years of the four-year program. In late 1987, the school underwent a site visit to extend its full accreditation and was awarded a seven-year accreditation, the longest period offered by the LCME. The school's affiliated residencies are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.*

*The Class of 1991 is the twelfth class of physicians to be graduated from the University of Nevada School of Medicine.*

## EXPLANATION OF ACADEMIC DRESS

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*Historically, academic costumes date back to the 11th and 12th centuries to the first organized institutions of learning in Europe. In 1895, the academic institutions in the United States adopted a code of academic dress which gave this country a beautiful and impressive method of signifying scholastic honors. With the exception of revisions in 1932 and 1959, the code has been virtually unchanged since its inception.*

*Gowns: The gown is derived from early medieval civilian dress which was modified at Oxford and Cambridge to fit monastic and ecclesiastical purposes. A long gown, closed in front like the Benedictine habit, was considered "decent" attire for clerks and students. The doctor's gown is fuller than either a bachelor's or master's and has full-length velvet panels on the front and three velvet crossbars on each sleeve. The crossbars may be black or of a color relating to the field in which the degree is awarded. The medical doctor's crossbars are green. The gown is generally black, but the doctor's may be of a color representing the institution that conferred the degree.*

*Caps: The squared cap was adopted for university use after 1520, in imitation of a custom at the University of Paris; it was a modified version of headgear worn by the public. The academic gold tassel represents "tuft-hunting," or thrusting oneself into the society of one's superiors. Use of the gold tassel was at one time limited to noblemen. Today, the tassel is normally worn in the left front quadrant of the cap and is of a color appropriate to the subject of the degree. The medical doctor's tassel is green.*

*Hoods: The hood was derived from the everyday mantle worn by medieval clergy. It is draped over the shoulders and down the back and indicates both the institution granting the degree and the academic area of specialization. The silk lining of the hood represents the colors of the institution; the higher the degree, the more the lining is revealed. The level of degree is designated by the length of the hood and width of the velvet edging. The medical doctor's hood is green.*