

NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



Public Relations Office
Savitt Medical Sciences Building / 356
Reno, Nevada 89557-0046
(702) 784-6003
FAX: (702) 784-6096

Public Relations Office
2040 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite #503
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102-2386
(702) 383-2638
FAX: (702) 486-3582

FOR THE GOOD HEALTH OF NEVADA

Dr. Thomas Scully will be Hooding Speaker

Lynne Williams, medical school information
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

This year, the graduating class of 1995 at the University of Nevada School of Medicine has chosen a favorite faculty member to be the featured speaker at their Hooding Ceremony. They selected Thomas Scully, M.D., a well-known and respected pediatrician, who is one of the School of Medicine's original faculty members, and one of its visionaries.

The Hooding Ceremony, which will be held on Friday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Pioneer Theater, is the highlight of graduation week for medical students. During this ceremony, they receive their academic hoods and take the Hippocratic Oath, which is their formal acceptance into the medical profession.

As their featured speaker, Dr. Scully joins a distinguished list of speakers from throughout the country. All have been greeted with respect, but none have been welcomed with the affection that will be accorded this year's speaker. Virtually every graduate of Nevada's medical school has been touched by this physician and teacher.

As a young physician from New York, Dr. Scully decided to take a chance and join Nevada's newly formed medical school. In the 26 years since that decision,

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has served the school in a number of capacities, including three years as its dean. During his stint as dean, Dr. Scully was the architect of the school's conversion from a two-year to a four-year, degree-granting institution. For a short period of time, government funds were available to two-year schools if they converted, and the message was convert or close. In two short years, he accomplished the change and, in all probability, saved the school from closing.

In 1990, Dr. Scully was appointed by Governor Bob Miller to chair the State of Nevada's Maternal and Child Health Advisory Committee; he served a four-year term on the National Board of Medical Examiners; and for nearly two decades has been an active member of the Nevada State Board of Examiners, where he has devoted time and energy to licensure and certification issues.

Because of his extensive work on public health programs, such as the Washoe County Child Sexual Assault Investigation Team (WCC-SAINT) and the Special Children's Clinic, the Washoe County Medical Society nominated Dr. Scully for the Wyeth-Ayerst Award, which is given by the Nevada State Medical Association for outstanding community service. He was presented with the award this April.

Dr. Scully is the co-author, with his wife, Celia, of a widely-acclaimed book, "Playing God: The New World of Medical Choices," which was reprinted in paperback under the title, "Making Medical Decisions: How to Make Difficult Medical and Ethical Choices for Yourself and Your Family."

He currently is serving as associate dean for Alumni Affairs and teaches medical ethics to School of Medicine students.