



THE LECOM PAGER



To DO:

Good luck with your first week!!!



Current events:

See page 5 for SGA's upcoming events!

Comedy Central:



Why do osteopathic doctors always smell so good?

Because they use DO-dorant



Welcome back to the 2028-29 academic year with the LECOM Pager. This edition includes our monthly rotation highlight, a student highlight, and summer adventure highlights for the Class of 2028. We also included some SGA updates and events to help you jump into this school year! Take a look at our last page for a chart of the clubs here at LECOM-SH.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover page.....	1
Student Highlight.....	2
Rotation Highlight.....	2
Summer Adventure Highlights.....	3
Summer Adventure Highlights.....	4
SGA Update + Events.....	5
LECOM SH Clubs.....	6

Student Highlight



Welcome Class of 2029 and Welcome Back Class of 2028! My name is Muhammad Jan, and I'm honored to serve as your SGA President this year. Before medical school, I taught 9th-grade biology for two years and worked as an ER PA for a year. These experiences deepened my love for education and medicine and led me to pursue my DO through the APAP program here at LECOM at Seton Hill. Serving as SGA President has been one of the most rewarding parts of my journey. This year, my focus has been launching this newsletter, creating the Emergency Scholarship Fund, securing more funding for students, hosting monthly wellness events, and organizing our upcoming Field Day. Above all, I aim to represent you well—both here with administra-

tion and at the state and national levels. I was also recently elected to serve as the sole Student Trustee on the Pennsylvania Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA) Board of Trustees, where I advocate for medical students across the state and vote on policies shaping the future of osteopathic medicine. My path has been anything but traditional, but I'm grateful for every step. Please reach out if there's anything I or SGA can do for you. Welcome again, and best wishes for an amazing year ahead.

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Rotation Highlight

My name is Jake Trapanotto, and I'm a third-year medical student currently serving as President of the Class of 2026. I completed my undergraduate studies at Seton Hill University through the Early Acceptance Program and am currently rotating at UPMC East/McKeesport. One piece of advice I have for students beginning rotations is to approach each new experience as if it's your future career—this mindset allows you to fully engage and honestly evaluate whether a specialty is right for you. Attendings notice and appreciate students who show enthusiasm, ask questions, and consistently offer to help. Just remember, rotations are a marathon, not a sprint—balance your clinical responsibilities with activities that help you recharge. Personally, I've found a strong sense of fulfillment in the operating room and hope to pursue a career in General Surgery.



Summer Adventure Highlights for the Class of 2028



Shri Gandham

This summer, OMS-2, Shri Gandham, participated in the iCORE (Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research) Training Program affiliated with the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York, NY. Here is what Shri said about his experience: "Over nine weeks, I contributed to two clinical research projects in the emergency department at Mount Sinai Morningside with the potential for future publication. The first project I worked on focused on investigating whether patients boarded in the emergency department experience a higher risk of falls compared to those admitted. The findings from this research helped us understand the potential adverse effects of prolonged boarding in the Emergency Department. The second project I contributed to focused on reducing alarm frequency by customizing cardiac monitor parameter settings, ultimately aiming to improve staff response

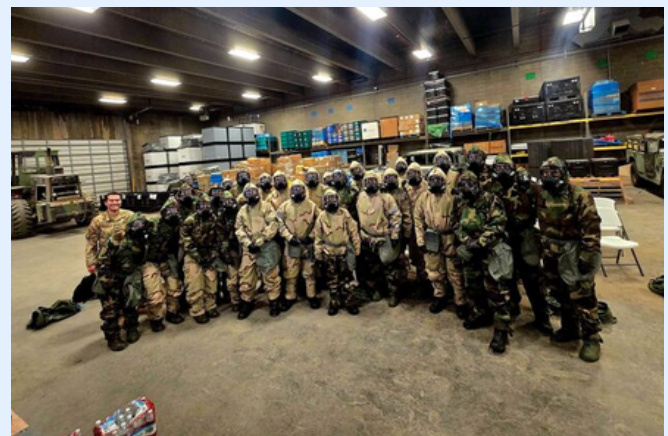
times and patient safety. In addition to research, I had the privilege of shadowing, my mentor Dr. Samuel Sondheim, MD, MBA, in the ED and building meaningful connections. It was an incredibly rewarding experience!"



Josef Asaad



This summer, OMS-2 and Health Professional Scholars Program (HPSP) student, Josef Asaad, went to Wright Patterson Air Force Base for a 10 day training. He recapped his experience: "During this training I learned what it meant to be a Flight Surgeon and the different sub specialties that went along with it. I was given the opportunity to fly an SR-22 in order to really understand the physiological toll flying takes on a person. From this I also learned the different hazards and forces that act on the body during flight. At the end of the training we were given 2 days of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive explosives scenarios, (CBRNE) training. We were put into hazmat gear and we ran mass casualty scenes that could be seen in the military [and learned] to triage the injured and coordinate response. Communication and teamwork are key. We were taught various trauma techniques such as intubation, needle decompression, tracheostomy as well as basic trauma first aid. The experience was unforgettable.



Summer Adventure Highlights for the Class of 2028 (continued)



Alli Halbleib

This summer, OMS-2, Alli Halbleib, and 10 other LECOM-SH students traveled to the Dominican Republic for a volunteer medical service trip with a program called the Kerolle Initiative. During the 10 day experience, Alli stayed with a host family in the village of Bella Vista where she was immersed in the language and culture of the Dominican Republic. Alli and other students participated in health clinics in remote and underserved areas of the country traveling by safari bus and even trekking through rivers to reach the communities they served. Students also conducted research on the perception of diabetes in the communities, and presented posters at a health fair. About the experience, Alli said “The experience was both inspirational and humbling. Staying with the host family truly immersed us into their way of life. We saw firsthand how social factors affect their health outcomes. The trip solidified my passion for healthcare, especially caring for those who are in the most need.



Andrea Krolikowski



This Summer, OMS-2, Andrea Krolikowski, became a member of the Pennsylvania Radiological Society. She also became the liaison between this organization and LECOM-SH. In addition to joining to organization, Andrea also started working on an ultrasound research project this summer with Dr. Cummings and with one goal of adding ultrasound education to the first year curriculum. Along with that Andrea is in the RAD-AID Medical Student program. RAD-AID is an organization made to answer the need for more radiology and imaging technology in the resource-limited regions and underserved communities of the world. The organization brings radiology to low-resource areas by delivering education, equipment, infrastructure, and support. In joining this program, Andrea will soon apply for fieldwork with their teams and complete a field project in the future.



SGA Updates and Upcoming Events

Welcome to the Class of 2029, and welcome back to the Class of 2028! We're excited to kick off the new academic year with a variety of fun and community-building events. To help everyone connect, we're hosting a Field Day where students can mingle, play games, and just have fun together. We'll also be holding a Welcome Picnic—a great opportunity to learn more about the many clubs and organizations at LECOM-SH and how you can get involved. In addition, we're sponsoring a night of live music at Greensburg's Summer Sounds concert series, so bring your friends and enjoy the food and music! We will be continuing with our newly implemented monthly wellness events to help us all stay energized, connected, and supported throughout the year. Let's make it a great start to the semester!

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**Summer Sounds Concert- Friday
August 29th at St. Clair Park**

**Continuing on with monthly
wellness events**

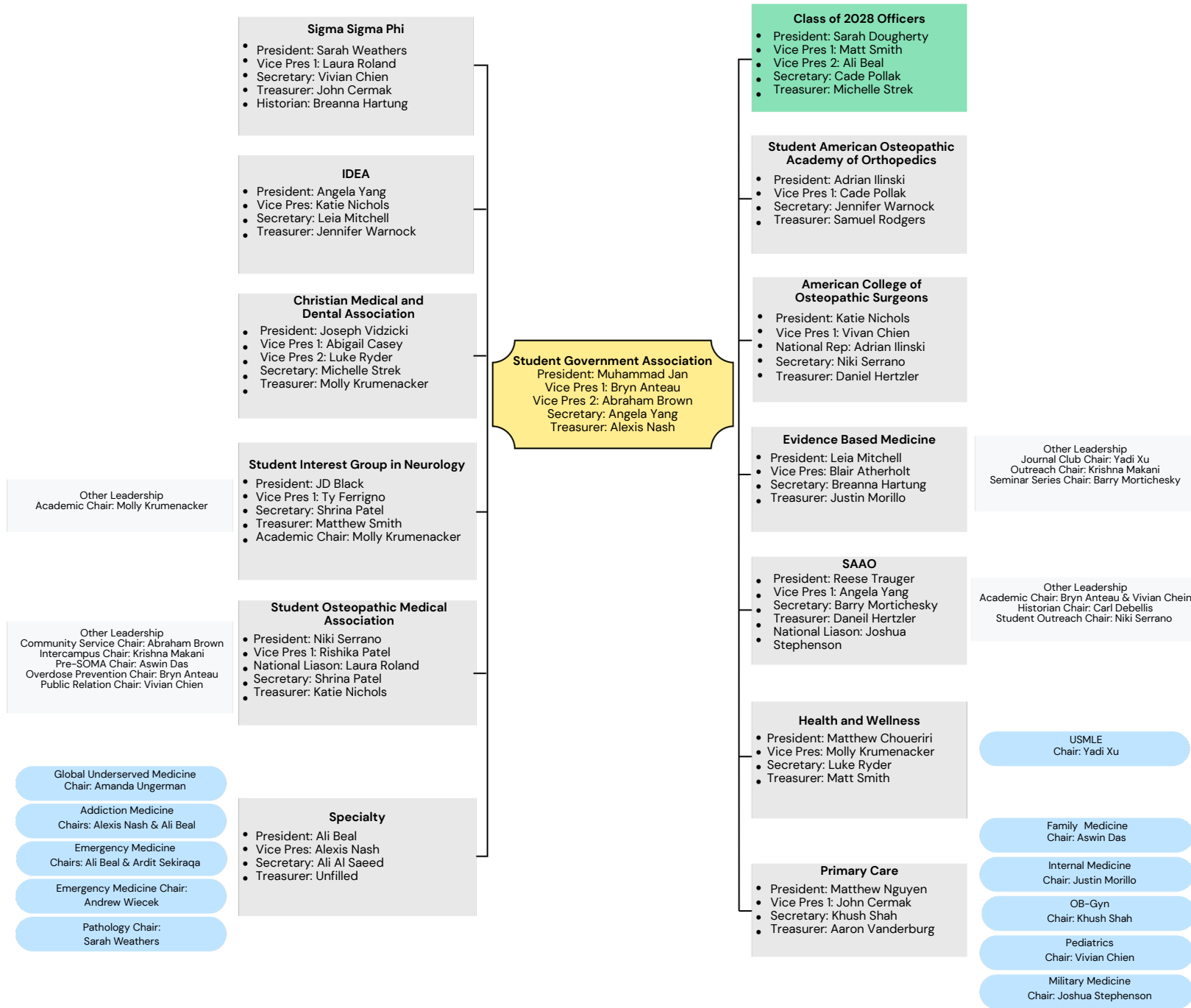
**Welcome Picnic- Friday August
15th at Twin Lakes Pavillion**

**Field Day- Saturday September
13th at Seton Hill**

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For students attending conferences—including those presenting posters—SGA will provide a \$250 reimbursement to help offset the cost of attendance. We're proud to support your professional growth and encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities to represent LECOM-SH and expand your medical education beyond the classroom.

LECOM Seton Hill Clubs



- Student Government Association – governing body over umbrella clubs
- Class Officers – representation of the Class of 2028
- Umbrella Clubs – clubs that run auxiliary clubs, headed by presidents
- Auxiliary Clubs – clubs that fall under an umbrella club, headed by chairs