



# THE LECOM PAGER

**To DO:**



Congrats to all those who have earned new SGA, Class Officer, and Club Positions. See the last page for what positions are still open!



**Current events:**

Keep an eye out for this month's wellness events!

**Comedy Central:**

Perhaps our GPA has some somatic dysfunction...



Welcome to the eleventh edition of The LECOM Pager! In this month's issue, we highlight a warm welcome to our newly elected SGA and Class of 2029 Officers, an exciting clinical rotation experience, and a faculty spotlight! Finally, we have an updated student leadership page to celebrate all those that have earned new positions with the SGA, 2029 Class Officers, and the Umbrella + Auxiliary Clubs.

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### *A Message From the Editors*

As we publish our 1st edition as the new SGA officers, we would like to say HELLO to everyone and a HUGE thank you to the previous LECOM SGA, Ms. Cross, faculty, and students for making this newsletter possible. We are so excited to be working on the Pager this year and highlighting some incredible achievements, experiences, and opportunities! So if you have any news to share, send it our way so we can showcase how proud we are!

~ Medha and Taylor

# MEET OUR OFFICERS



## SGA President - Olivia Evans

Hi! I'm Olivia Evans, and I am honored to serve as your SGA President. My primary goal this year is to advocate for student wellness and further strengthen our community at LECOM Seton Hill. When I'm not studying or in class, I enjoy singing, playing the piano, and walking my dog with my fiancé.

A fun fact about me is that I have a twin brother!

## SGA VP 1 - Medha Kasina

Hey! I'm Medha Kasina, your SGA Vice President I, and I'll be working alongside Olivia to help make your medical school experience as smooth and supportive as possible. This year, one of my biggest goals is to help clubs stay active and engaged so students have more chances to get involved and pursue their interests. I believe clubs play a huge role in supporting student success through meaningful and diverse events. When I'm not studying, you can usually find me singing, dancing, painting, or working on fun creative projects like music videos!



## SGA VP 2 - Joshua Hershey

My name is Joshua Hershey, and I am the SGA Vice President 2 for the Class of 2029. I am also the president of the Specialty Club overseeing several auxiliary clubs at LECOM - Seton Hill. A few of my goals include establishing a psychiatric medicine club and getting more LECOM involvement in the community, especially via volunteering. Some of my clinical interests include Emergency Medicine, Psychiatric Medicine, and Pediatrics. I love music, games, reading, sports and have future aspirations in either policy or education.

## SGA Secretary - Katelyn Edgar

Hi! My name is Katelyn Edgar and I am your SGA Secretary. I am looking forward to communicating with you all the activities and events of SGA and clubs! A little about me, I am originally from Dallas, Tx and have been shooting competitive shotgun since I was 8 years old!!



## SGA Treasurer - Matthew Otto

My name is Matthew Otto and I am the new SGA Treasurer. My goal is to improve financial management and accountability. My fun fact is that I studied abroad in London during my sophomore year of undergrad.

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# MEET OUR OFFICERS

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## Class of 2029 President - Taylor Dawidowicz

Hi! My name is Taylor Dawidowicz, and I am so excited to be the President of the Class of 2029! I am looking forward to planning new events and develop new ways to help us thrive, as we grow closer as a group of aspiring physicians.

When I don't have my nose in the books (AKA my laptop) I love to golf with my boyfriend and hang out with my cats, Lulu and Sullivan.

## Class of 2029 VP 1 - Thomas Uranga

I'm Thomas Uranga, Vice President 1 for the Class of 2029. I'm originally from Los Angeles but I have been living in Pennsylvania for the past seven years. I value consistency, teamwork, and showing up for the people around me, and I aim to bring that same energy to supporting our class. Fun fact: I like to play pickleball.



## Class of 2029 VP 2 - Nicholas Alexander

A major part of my role is supporting and strengthening our mentor-mentee program to ensure it remains meaningful and accessible for everyone involved. I'm committed to improving the student experience by focusing on practical, attainable goals and following through on them. A fun fact about me is I have travelled to 25 countries and 10 national parks.

## Class of 2029 Secretary - Alex Liang

Hi Friends :), my name is Alex Liang. I am your class secretary, my role is to streamline our communication and help keep our class administration running like a well-oiled machine. Fun fact about me is I still see my pediatrician and it's totally not because he still gives me dum dums...



## Class of 2029 Treasurer - Austin Burnett

Hi, I'm Austin Burnett, originally from North Carolina. I'm interested in serving in a student leadership role to help strengthen communication and collaboration within our class and ensure everyone feels supported and informed throughout the year. I value organization, reliability, and approachability, and I hope to contribute to a positive and cooperative learning environment. Outside of school one of my favorite things to do is to go scuba diving. One of the coolest thing I've seen while diving was an octopus fighting a fish while I was diving in Maui.



## *Rotation Highlight*

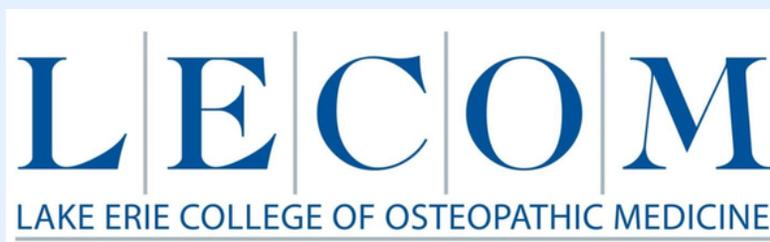
My name is Kaycee DeLitta, and I am an OMS-III from the Seton Hill campus. I grew up in Loudoun County, Virginia, and completed my undergraduate degree in Kinesiology at Purdue University. Before starting my journey at LECOM, I spent two years working as a physical therapy technician.



Although I don't have much time outside of rotations and studying, I've enjoyed exploring the different restaurants and coffee shops in Pittsburgh. I am currently on my inpatient psychiatry rotation at Forbes-AHN. During this rotation, I work with one other medical student and the attending physician to interview patients, monitor their progress daily, and complete notes. I also had the opportunity to observe Electroconvulsive Therapy!

For second-year students beginning to think about COMSAE and COMLEX, my advice is to take practice tests. They help you get used to the wording of questions, and you'll start to notice patterns in the content (you can find free practice exams online). Also, keep in mind that changing your COMLEX exam date within a certain timeframe can be costly, so plan your schedule carefully.

In terms of rotations, never be afraid to ask questions (even "stupid" ones), and try to secure letters of recommendation early—ask attendings to write them and save them until residency applications open. This way, you can also ask them to fine-tune the letter before it is officially submitted. As of now, I am planning to pursue Family Medicine, but I am keeping an open mind as I continue to gain experience and learn more about each specialty throughout my rotations.



# Faculty Highlight - Dr. Lia Edmunds

## Welcome!!!



Dr. Lia Edmunds joined Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) in January 2026 as faculty in Biochemistry and Genetics at the Seton Hill campus, bringing with her a strong background in cancer biology, metabolism, and a deep passion for medical education. She graduated from Washington & Jefferson College with a degree in Biochemistry and a minor in History before earning her Ph.D. in Molecular Genetics and Developmental Biology from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. During her doctoral training in the laboratory of Ed Prochownik, she studied cancer metabolism and the transcription factor c-Myc. She went on to complete postdoctoral training in the UPMC Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism in the lab of Michael Jurczak, where she focused on mitochondrial metabolism and Parkin-mediated mitophagy.

In August 2025, she and her husband moved to Greensburg's Academy Hill neighborhood with their three children (ages 10, 6, and 2), a cat, and a black lab. Shortly after settling in, she applied to LECOM and officially joined the faculty at the start of the new year.

At LECOM, she teaches PBL 1001 and 1002, as well as the Genetics component of the master's programs (MMS/MSP). She is also in the early stages of launching her own research program, which explores how excess nutrients disrupt gut signaling and mitochondrial function — work that bridges basic biochemical mechanisms with clinically relevant metabolic disease.

While she is excited to build her research program, her favorite part of the job so far has been the students.

In addition to developing her research, she is collaborating with the EBM club and Drs. Galley and Divito to strengthen research initiatives at LECOM Seton Hill. She is also reviewing and updating the biochemistry and genetics test bank to ensure questions are clear, fair, and focused on the mechanisms that will truly support board preparation and clinical reasoning.

Outside of work, her three children keep her busy. When she finds spare time, she enjoys walking her dog, caring for her (thriving) houseplants, building LEGO sets — without help from her kids — and reading a steady stream of pulp mystery novels.

### Her advice to students?

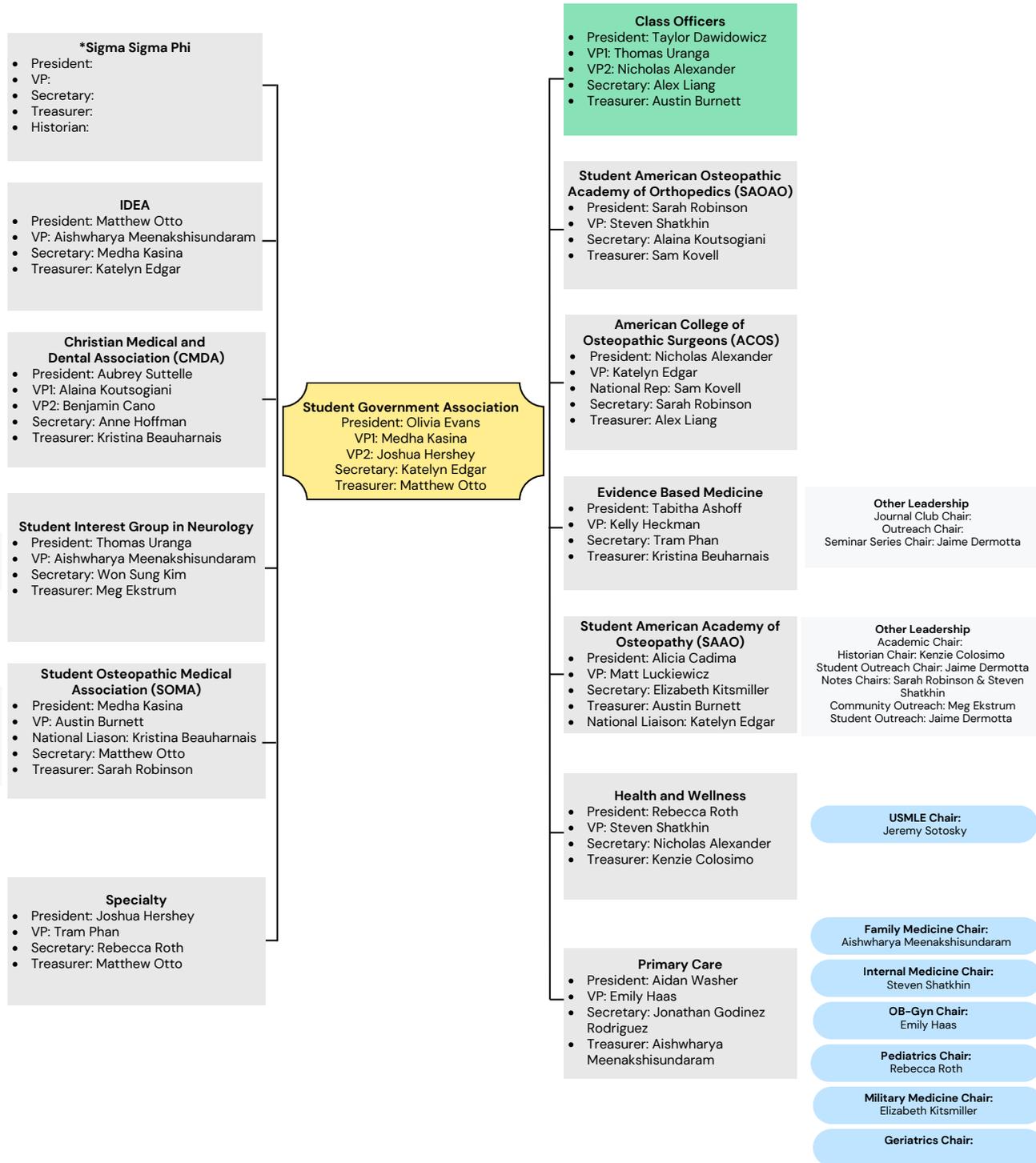
**"You are just beginning your careers and have tremendous potential," she says. "I'm grateful to be here at the start of that journey and to support you as you carve out your own path."**

**"Learn the why. Understanding mechanisms is critical, even if an exam doesn't explicitly test them. Deep understanding will serve you well on boards and in clinical reasoning."**

**And perhaps just as important: "Protect your sleep. It is not optional. Sleep is when learning consolidates — and you cannot outwork biology."**



# LECOM Seton Hill Clubs



- Student Government Association - governing body over umbrella clubs
- Class Officers - representation of the Class of 2029
- Umbrella Clubs - clubs that run auxiliary clubs, headed by presidents
- Auxiliary Clubs - clubs that fall under an umbrella club, headed by chairs