

A man and a woman are standing in front of a large outdoor swimming pool at sunset. The woman, on the left, is wearing a black t-shirt with 'ATSU PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES' printed on it. The man, on the right, is wearing a white lab coat over a dark shirt. They are both smiling at the camera. The pool has lane lines and a diving board is visible in the background. The sky is a mix of orange and blue.

Still

MAGAZINE

The inner athlete

How sports prepare students for patient care

Hannah Farrow, a physician assistant student at ATSU-ASHS and former collegiate swimmer, says sports taught her how progress is built through consistency and success comes from putting in the work every day. Learn what more students have to say about athletics and healthcare on Page 10.





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Former collegiate swimmers Hannah Farrow, physician assistant student, ATSU-ASHS, and Korey Schneider, medical student, ATSU-SOMA



Alana Curtis
Physician assistant student, ATSU-CHC
Former collegiate soccer player

“Coming out of this program, I am such a well-rounded clinician.”

— Julie Hall, MS, '26
Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology alumna



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EXPLORE ATSU DEGREES BY SCHOOL:

- Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health
- Arizona School of Health Sciences
- College for Healthy Communities
- College of Graduate Health Studies
- Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health
- School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona

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FIRST IN WHOLE PERSON HEALTHCARE

From the CHANCELLOR



Purpose and perseverance

Through the stories featured in this issue of *Still Magazine*, a common theme emerges: meaningful impact is built over time through dedication, collaboration, and a commitment to something greater than oneself.

Our cover story explores the many parallels between athletics and healthcare. The lessons learned through sports – the value of practice, communication, discipline, composure, and teamwork – are qualities serving healthcare professionals throughout their careers. Perhaps most importantly, athletics help individuals discover an inner strength, which remains long after the final game or competition. These qualities represent the kind of healthcare professional we strive to prepare at ATSU.

The same spirit of purpose and perseverance is reflected in the story of a dedicated alumnus who chose to change his giving plans and make a \$1 million gift to support the University and its students today. His generosity is an expression of a life spent investing in his communities. He reminds us philanthropy is more than financial support; it is about remembering

where you came from, strengthening your communities, and providing opportunities for future generations.

Additionally, we celebrate a longtime faculty member whose skill and commitment to the dental profession led to making a ceremonial staff for ATSU's Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health. Also, a renovated research space on the Mesa, Arizona, campus is bringing faculty and students together to pursue discoveries and advance knowledge ultimately improving healthcare.

Together, these stories highlight the many ways ATSU makes a difference in communities locally and beyond, through perseverance, generosity, discovery, and a commitment to serving others. I am grateful to the alumni and friends who continue to believe in the University and invest in our students. Your engagement is essential to continuing our mission and achieving our vision.

Yours in service,

Craig M. Phelps DO
Craig M. Phelps, DO, '84
ATSU Chancellor



Top left, clockwise:
ATSU-KCOM student Jordan Anderson is a former collegiate swimmer; ATSU-KCOM student Marshall Brace treats a patient; and ATSU-SOMA student Helen Dang presents research.

Still
MAGAZINE

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A.T. Still University of Health Sciences serves as a learning-centered university dedicated to preparing highly competent professionals through innovative academic programs. The University is committed to continuing its osteopathic heritage and focus on whole person healthcare, scholarship, community health, interprofessional education, diversity, and underserved populations.

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Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health
Arizona School of Health Sciences
College for Healthy Communities
College of Graduate Health Studies
Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine
Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health
School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona

ATSU | A.T. Still University
FIRST IN WHOLE PERSON HEALTHCARE

ATSU-SOMA hosts 2026 Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association Convention

By Arselia Gales

Osteopathic physicians and students across Arizona gathered March 19-21 on ATSU's Mesa, Arizona, campus for the 104th Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association (AOMA) Annual Convention. Hosted by ATSU's School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA), the three-day event brought attendees together to connect, learn, and advance the profession under the theme "Still The One – Advancing Osteopathic Medicine Together."

"I felt tremendous pride in ATSU hosting the 2026 AOMA Annual Convention on the Mesa campus," says Sharon J. Obadia, DO, FNAOME, '97, ATSU-SOMA dean. "Our ATSU leadership and all departments highlighted our warm and inviting atmosphere through the grounds, facilities, and exhibits, all showing off our ATSU spirit!"

Attendees had the opportunity to learn from conference speakers, network with peers, and earn continuing medical education (CME) credit. The convention concluded with the Annual Clinical Case Competition and Poster Forum, which was open to students and residents from ATSU and Midwestern University. Participants presented original research and casework for peer review and recognition. Among the award recipients were ATSU-SOMA students Hanna Meyers, OMS IV, who received first place in the Clinical Case Poster category for "Uterine Didelphys in Two of Three Triplets, Discovered during IUD Placement," and Setayesh Tsiao, OMS IV, and Devan Magalski, OMS IV, who earned first place in the Research Poster category for "When Hyperpigmentation Signals Malignancy: A Paraneoplastic Presentation of CML."

"The AOMA convention is always a wonderful showcase of osteopathic pride, featuring CME presentations by physicians, faculty, and students, as well as research and awards," Dr. Obadia says. "This year, it was even more special to highlight these achievements on the Mesa campus of the founding university of the osteopathic profession."

Additionally, James F. Keane, DO, MEd, assistant professor and chair, osteopathic principles & practice, ATSU-SOMA, received the 2026 President's Award, and BaoKhanh Nguyen, OMS III, received the Student Distinguished Service Award. The 2026 Excellence in Osteopathic Medical Education Award was presented to Danielle Barnett-Trapp, DO, '11, chair, ATSU Board of Trustees.

“

Hosting the AOMA convention was an honor, and we are extremely proud of our students, alumni, and faculty who were recognized."

Craig M. Phelps, DO, '84
ATSU Chancellor



Tonya Fitch and Dr. Marisa Hastie greet visitors and share information about ATSU.



Dr. Sharon Obadia welcomes guests to the Mesa, Arizona, campus.



Dr. Craig Phelps welcomes attendees.



Dr. Danielle Barnett-Trapp, ATSU board chair, receives the 2026 Excellence in Osteopathic Medical Education Award.

A woman with curly brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark blazer over a white shirt, stands with her arms crossed and a smile. The background is a blurred office setting.

I have a lot of options and opportunities thanks to the additional credentials I gained.

— Megan Newhouse-Bailey, EdD, MEd, BA, BS, CHES, ICCE
Doctor of Education in Health Professions Education alumna



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FULL INTERVIEW

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FEATURES

IN THIS SECTION

The inner athlete

The community doctor

Carving a legacy

Places & spaces:
Mesa, Arizona

Athletics teaches students many important lessons, including discipline, perseverance, teamwork, and communication, which are all important skills in the healthcare field. They also teach them to be adaptable and to stay focused on their goals. Regardless of the sport, students are shaped by their experiences and are better prepared to care for their future patients.

“In dentistry, drilling cavity preparations doesn’t come easy. It takes thousands of repetitions,” says Jay Ross, a fourth-year dental student at ATSU’s Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health and former collegiate football player. “Effort compounds over time, and those thousands of reps building on each other across a career make you a better clinician.”

The INNER ATHLETE

How former student athletes
are carrying lessons from
competition into careers
in healthcare

Hannah Farrow
ATSU-ASHS student

By Arselia Gales

Success comes from putting in the work every day.

Hannah Farrow

Physician assistant student, ATSU-ASHS
Former collegiate swimmer

Long before the white coats, anatomy labs, simulation experiences, and clinical rotations, many ATSU students were learning other kinds of lessons: how to push through when the body is tired, how to recover when things don't go as planned, and how to rely on the people beside them.

They were swimmers, dancers, wrestlers, runners, competitive trap shooters, football players, softball players, basketball players, and more. Their fields and performance spaces may have looked very different from a healthcare setting, but the lessons they learned stayed with them.

They learned discipline through early morning practices, resilience through injuries and setbacks, and teamwork through victories and losses. They learned how to perform under pressure, trust the process, and keep moving forward even when progress felt slow. And, even if they didn't know it at the time, they prepared themselves to succeed at ATSU.

"I think dance prepared me for dental school in more ways than I realized at the time," says Ira Vats, a third-year dental student at ATSU's Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ATSU-MOSDOH). "It taught me discipline, time management, and how to stay calm under pressure, especially when juggling long rehearsals, competitions, and a full course load."

Vats has been dancing since she was 5 years old. Throughout college, she competed on the University of Southern California's Bollywood fusion dance team, spending countless hours rehearsing intricate choreography before traveling across the country for competitions. Looking back, she sees striking similarities between those rehearsals and learning new clinical procedures.

"Just like learning choreography, every new skill feels challenging at first," she says. "But with consistent practice and perseverance, it eventually becomes second nature."

Her realization isn't unique. Across ATSU, former athletes from a multitude of backgrounds describe the same phenomenon. While the sports they played may differ, the qualities those experiences instilled continue to shape the way they learn, lead, and care for future patients.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Former collegiate swimmer Hannah Farrow, now a second-year physician assistant (PA) student at ATSU’s Arizona School of Health Sciences (ATSU-ASHS), remembers countless mornings beginning before sunrise. Hours in the pool were followed by classes, strength training, and studying.

“Swimming taught me that progress isn’t made through one great performance, but it’s built through consistency over time,” she says. “This mindset has carried into every aspect of my life, especially PA school where success comes from putting in the work every day, no matter how difficult it may feel at the moment.”

Farrow’s mindset echoes throughout ATSU’s three campuses. Former Division I soccer player Alana Curtis, a second-year PA student at ATSU’s College for Healthy Communities (ATSU-CHC), says soccer taught her meaningful growth doesn’t come from occasional moments of excellence.

“It comes from showing up every day and committing to small habits that add up over time,” she says.

McKenzie Lamos, a second-year ATSU-ASHS PA student and former collegiate softball player, learned a similar lesson. Balancing early morning workouts, classes, practices, and hours of studying taught her the discipline and consistency she now brings to PA school.

“Studying after long days of lectures, preparing for exams, and consistently putting in the work requires the same commitment athletics demanded of me,” she says. “I believe this same discipline will continue to shape my career as a PA. Just as I learned to consistently show up for my teammates, I will continue to show up for my patients, prepared and committed to providing the highest quality of care.”

Jay Ross, a fourth-year dental student at ATSU-MOSDOH and former collegiate football player, sees the same principle whenever he practices clinical procedures.

“In dentistry, drilling cavity preparations doesn’t come easy. It takes thousands of repetitions,” he says. “Effort compounds over time, and those thousands of reps building on each other across a career make you a better clinician.”

In addition to commitment and repetition, soccer has helped Curtis learn the importance of teamwork and clear communication.

“Even the smallest miscommunication on the field could change the outcome of a game,” she says. “In healthcare, effective communication is even more critical, where misunderstandings can have lasting consequences for patient care.”



McKenzie Lamos
ATSU-ASHS student

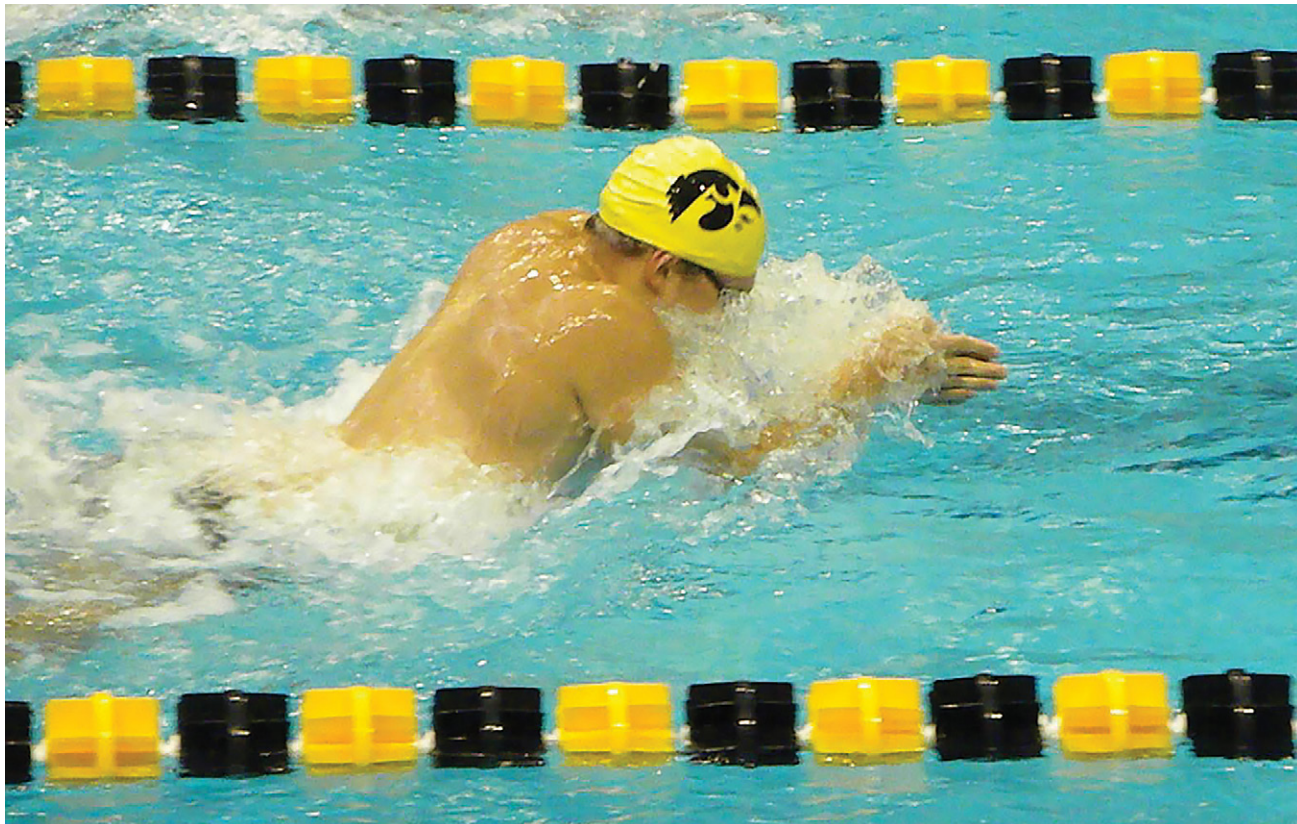
**Just as I learned
to consistently
show up for
my teammates,
I will continue
to show up for
my patients.**

McKenzie Lamos
Physician assistant student, ATSU-ASHS
Former collegiate softball player





Alana Curtis races to score a goal.



Korey Schneider competes against other collegiate swimmers.

TURNING SETBACKS INTO STRENGTH

While discipline laid the foundation, many students say their greatest lessons came from adversity. For Farrow, injuries and chronic health issues forced her to medically retire from collegiate swimming. After dedicating most of her life to the sport, it was incredibly difficult to let go of that identity. However, the experience became one of the defining moments in her journey toward healthcare.

“Going through the rehabilitation process gave me a firsthand appreciation for the impact healthcare providers have on their patients during vulnerable moments,” she says. “It also strengthened my resilience and reminded me that setbacks don’t define us, they often redirect us toward new opportunities, which for me was working toward my career as a PA. That experience continues to shape the empathy I hope to bring to my future patients.”

For Ashlyn Tait, a third-year medical student at ATSU’s Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM), resilience didn’t always mean pushing through alone. Years of competing in cross country and track taught her one lesson she continues to carry into medicine.

“When things get hard, look for someone to help,” she says.

Whether on a cross-country course or in a clinical setting, Tait says success depends on trusting the people around you. Healthcare, much like athletics, requires teammates who can rely on one another, adapt to changing situations, and remain calm under pressure while working toward a common goal.

For recent ATSU-CHC graduate Zack Wally, MS, ’26, wrestling taught him another important part of resilience: accountability. After 14 years in the sport, he learned to look inward when things didn’t go as planned rather than looking for someone else to blame.

“Over time, I learned to value those failures because they became the moments that helped me grow and improve the most,” he says.

That lesson became especially important when Wally broke his leg early in his senior season, costing him scholarship opportunities and putting his athletic career in jeopardy. He worked his way back and still finished the season successfully.

“That experience taught me that setbacks don’t define me,” he says. “As a student, I carry that same mindset by focusing on what I can control and continuing to move forward despite challenges.”

Ross also faced his own turning point after two back surgeries ultimately ended his football career.

“I was able to use this setback and hardship to get through the dental application process, school, and hopefully whatever else gets thrown my way,” he says. “I gained empathy, which I value deeply as a future clinician because it will help me understand my patients and provide better care. I want to give people back their confidence one smile at a time.”

For soccer player and second-year ATSU-CHC student Kayla Montoya, tearing her ACL during her freshman year of college and enduring three knee surgeries offered her a new perspective.

“At the time, I was heartbroken by the news and the long recovery. Looking back, I can reflect on how I felt as a patient,” she says. “This has shaped me as a student and future healthcare provider because I have a better understanding of the emotional toll a diagnosis can have on someone.”

These heartbreaking experiences remind students that healing isn’t only about treating injuries or illnesses; it’s also about understanding what patients have lost and helping them regain the ability to do the things they love.

When chronic back pain threatened to end her lifelong passion for dance, second-year ATSU-KCOM student Mikayla Dennis remembers feeling as though no one asked what dancing meant to her.

“As a future physician, I want to understand what matters most to each patient and develop treatment plans that help them continue the activities that give their lives meaning,” she says. “Whether it’s dancing, walking with friends, or playing with grandchildren, preserving quality of life should be a central part of care. That philosophy is one of the reasons I was drawn to osteopathic medicine and its whole person approach to health.”

**Preparation
is what
allows
you to
perform
when the
stakes are
high.**

Korey Schneider
Medical student, ATSU-SOMA
Former college swimmer



THE POWER OF TEAMWORK

In addition to teaching resilience and learning how to power through adversity, many of these former athletes believe working in a team helped them transition to a future role in healthcare.

Vats says dance is far more collaborative than many people realize.

“Every person has to communicate, trust one another, and work together for the performance to be successful,” she says.

Former collegiate basketball player Nickolas Coyle, an ATSU-ASHS student pursuing a doctor of athletic training degree, also believes the values learned playing team sports translate perfectly into healthcare.

“No one wins games alone, and no healthcare professional works in isolation,” he says. “Success depends on individuals bringing their expertise together while remaining focused on a common goal.”

Third-year ATSU-School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA) student Courtney Lohmeier reached a similar conclusion after more than two decades playing competitive soccer. A willingness to contribute – even when the role changes – is one she learned early in her collegiate career when inconsistent playing time forced her to find new ways to support her teammates off the field.

“In medicine it is crucial to know and play whatever role serves the team and patient best,” she says.



Ira Vats dances at a college Bollywood fusion competition.

With
consistent
practice and
perseverance,
it eventually
becomes
second
nature.

Ira Vats
Dental student, ATSU-MOSDOH
Former collegiate dancer



SUCCESS UNDER PRESSURE

Athletics teaches something less tangible but extremely valuable: how to stay composed under pressure.

Jordan Anderson, a second-year medical student at ATSU-KCOM, spent years competing in both swimming and trap shooting. On the trap range, she quickly learned there would always be variables outside of her control, including wind, rain, snow, or bright sunlight.

“You have to adapt to the conditions in front of you, stay focused on the next target, and trust your training,” she says.

Anderson now recognizes these same demands in medicine.

“Every patient and every situation is different, and unexpected challenges are inevitable,” she says.

Former collegiate swimmer and second-year ATSU-SOMA student Korey Schneider agrees.

“Performance under pressure is central to both swimming and healthcare,” he says. “Preparation is what allows you to perform when the stakes are high.”

BEYOND THE FINISH LINE

Eventually, every athlete plays their last game, swims their final race, or performs their final routine. For many, that ending marked a new beginning and an opportunity to discover the qualities built through sport extend far beyond athletics.

“Sports end for everyone eventually,” Ross says. “What matters is having the strength, when that day comes, to redirect all that dedication toward a new dream.”

Schneider describes that lesson as discovering the “inner self” – the quiet voice developed during thousands of hours training alone, learning how to respond to discomfort, setbacks, and success.

“In a field where many decisions are shaped by outside pressures, athletics taught me that fulfillment comes from pursuing excellence in a direction aligned with who you are,” Schneider says.

For these students, their inner athlete – the part shaped by years of competition, preparation, challenge, and growth – remains with them, influencing how they approach their education, careers, and future patients. Although the arena may have changed, the pursuit to keep learning, growing, and striving toward something greater continues. ■



Top: Courtney Lohmeier outmaneuvers a defender.
Lower: Mikayla Dennis prepares for a performance.



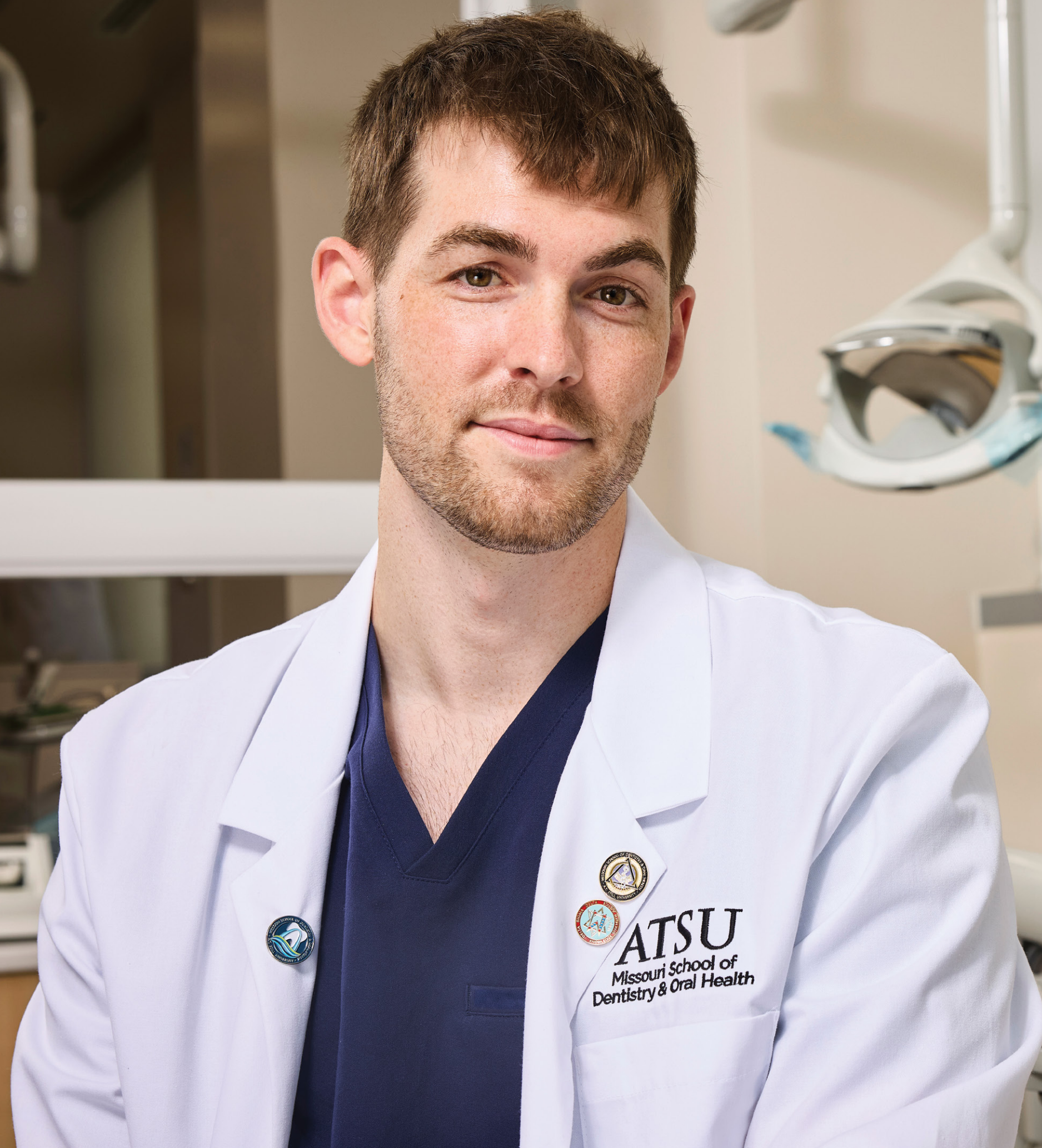
Left: Zack Wally wrestles to take down his opponent.

Below: Jay Ross runs a pass route.



**Those
thousands of
reps building
on each other
across a
career make
you a better
clinician.**

Jay Ross
Dental student, ATSU-MOSDOH
Former collegiate football player



The community doctor

After a lifetime of service to his community, Dr. Andrew Berry is giving back to his alma mater and helping build the foundation for the next generation of healthcare professionals.

By Katie Hubbard

For decades, Andrew Berry, DO, '55, had planned to leave a gift to ATSU in his estate. But recently, he began to think differently about his legacy. Rather than planning for what his generosity would accomplish, he wanted to see the outcome for himself.

The result of his decision – a \$1 million gift to ATSU – was a significant investment in the university he credits with giving him the foundation for a career he loved.

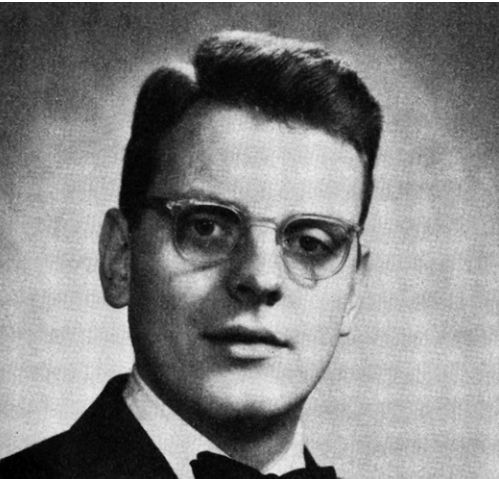
“Everything I have is because of what I learned in Kirksville,” he says.



Dr. Andrew Berry is investing in the next generation of healthcare professionals.



Dr. Andrew Berry (second from left) served on the Kirkville Osteopathic Alumni Association (KOAA) executive board in 1967. He then served as KOAA president in 1970. *Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirkville, Missouri [1998.57.241]*



Dr. Andrew Berry's graduation photo from the 1955 Osteoblast yearbook. *Museum of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirkville, Missouri*



Dr. Andrew Berry holds one of his children outside of his medical practice in Commerce Township, Michigan.

A BOY FROM DETROIT

Long before he stepped foot in Kirkville, Missouri, Dr. Berry understood the importance of education and the value of hard work. He grew up in the bustling city of Detroit near the old state fairgrounds and rode the streetcar to and from school every day. He also worked a paper route for several years, which helped him earn money to put toward his education.

Eventually, Dr. Berry attended Cass Technical High School, a selective public school where students were required to pass an entrance examination, and then the University of Michigan for his undergraduate studies. Although he

wasn't sure what career he wanted to pursue, he knew he wanted to do something involving biological sciences.

His family physician was a doctor of osteopathic medicine (DO), which led him to consider osteopathic medical education. At the time, only about six DO schools were established across the U.S. He applied to a few of them, but ATSU-KCOM was the first to accept him. So, he left the University of Michigan early and headed to Missouri. This decision would shape the rest of his life.

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED CARE

After graduating from what is now ATSU's Kirkville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM) in 1955, Dr. Berry returned to Michigan and completed a one-year internship at Detroit Osteopathic Hospital. While deciding where to set up his family practice, he found the small community of Commerce Township, which had a population of about 10,000. A house across from the local fire station was for sale, so he decided to make it his office – and his home. Dr. Berry and his family lived upstairs, and his medical practice was downstairs.

What began as a small family practice became the center of a 56-year career. Dr. Berry cared for generations of families in that location until he retired. His five children grew up around the practice and eventually worked there, helping at the front desk and as the maintenance crew. One of his daughters, Betsy, eventually became his office manager.

As the community grew, so did Dr. Berry's role within it. He was instrumental in helping establish a hospital near his practice, bringing an important healthcare resource to the growing community. In addition to seeing patients at his practice, he made daily rounds at the local hospital, Huron Valley Hospital, and Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital, where he twice served as chief of staff. He also made house calls, often after hours.

Dr. Berry's approach to medicine reflected the education he received at ATSU-KCOM. He combined modern medicine with osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) and was known as one of the few hands-on physicians in his community. Many patients sought him out specifically for OMT, and his colleagues regarded him as a skilled diagnostician.

A LIFE OF SERVICE

For more than half a century, Dr. Berry provided whole person healthcare to the same community, which had grown considerably to a population of over 40,000. At age 80, he sold his practice. However, he didn't officially retire until age 83 because he stayed on to help the physician who took over the practice.

Osteopathic medicine wasn't the only part of Dr. Berry's commitment to his community. Throughout his career and into retirement, he found additional ways to help others. He was involved with the local chamber of commerce and supported various local organizations and initiatives. Through his Methodist church, he

helped secure grants for missions and connected resources with inner-city communities.

Even Dr. Berry's hobbies reflected his desire to cultivate growth and contribute meaningful work. He always enjoyed gardening and construction projects, including remodeling homes, building additions, making stained-glass windows, and preserving pieces of history. He and Betsy continued volunteering with Habitat for Humanity well after his retirement.

His pattern of generosity was consistent: If something could be built, repaired, preserved, or strengthened, Dr. Berry was willing to help.



Mrs. Jayne and Dr. Andrew Berry

REMEMBERING THE SOURCE

The same philosophy of serving his community guided Dr. Berry's philanthropy. He has been a longtime supporter of ATSU and served on the Kirksville Osteopathic Alumni Association, including a stint as president in 1970. Dr. Berry and his wife, Jayne, established and funded the Dr. Andrew and Jayne Berry Endowment Fund for General Operations in 2003. In 2010, he received the A.T. Still Fellow Lifetime Giving Award in recognition of his philanthropic generosity.

Privately, Dr. Berry had already made plans to leave a final gift to the University through his estate. He had spent years thinking about what he would leave behind and what positive

change it would bring, but at age 96, he decided he didn't want to wait. He wanted to see the result of his gift himself.

This recent decision to give \$1 million now to ATSU is making a widespread impact across the Missouri campus and beyond. His reason for choosing to give such a significant gift is "solely due to Kirksville." His education at ATSU-KCOM gave him the knowledge and skills to build the life and career that followed, and he wanted to pay it forward.

Without Kirksville, he says, he would not have had the life he ultimately lived

INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION

Dr. Berry's \$1 million gift will support the Missouri campus through investments in four areas directly contributing to the education of future healthcare professionals. Of the gift, \$500,000 will support the Interprofessional Education Building expansion, particularly the dental simulation lab, with a naming opportunity. \$300,000 will support ATSU-KCOM's anatomy research lab, including a new microscope and slide scanner, with another \$100,000 supporting the Drabing Human Patient Simulation Center and ultrasound lab. An additional \$100,000 is designated for the ATSU unrestricted general fund.

Additionally, the full gift will be used to support matching gift challenges, allowing Dr. Berry's generosity to stretch even further. Through these matching opportunities, the \$1 million gift has the potential to generate an additional \$1 million for the University, resulting in a total impact of \$2 million.

Dr. Berry and his family noted their appreciation for the University's support throughout the process of directing the gift. ATSU's Development team helped make the process clear and straightforward while giving the family the opportunity to determine how the funds will be used. Additionally, by working collaboratively with Development, Dr. Berry was able to leverage and maximize his investment in the next generation of healthcare providers.

For Dr. Berry, the opportunity to see his gift make an immediate and lasting difference is especially meaningful. The funds will strengthen educational resources and facilities on the Missouri campus, helping provide students with the opportunities to develop the knowledge and hands-on skills they will carry into their own careers and communities.

"Don't forget where you came from," Dr. Berry says. "It's not a matter of just giving back. Don't forget the source." ■

If you are interested in making a gift to ATSU or would like to discuss your giving options, please contact ATSU Development at development@atsu.edu or **660.626.2494**.



Dr. Robert Collinge shapes pieces of the staff by hand in his workshop.

Carving a legacy

An ATSU-MOSDOH faculty member handcrafts a symbol of service, education, and Missouri roots

By Katie Hubbard

ATSU's Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health (ATSU-MOSDOH) celebrated its 10th graduating class on Friday, May 15, in Kirksville, Missouri. The day marked a milestone for the School and for communities where 70 new dentists will increase access to oral healthcare.

Among the pomp and circumstance, this year's ceremony included an added element of significance. Robert Collinge, DDS, one of ATSU-MOSDOH's original faculty members, served as grand marshal, leading the procession with a staff he handcrafted specially for the School.

Dr. Collinge thoughtfully planned and carefully constructed the staff's every detail, relying on his hand skills and decades of experience working with various materials. The effort poured into this project is an attestation of his work ethic and passion for his craft. It's the same level of care and effort he gave his patients, from his time as a dental technician with the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard to his more than 35 years as a dentist.

Now retired from clinical practice, Dr. Collinge serves as an adjunct faculty member at ATSU-MOSDOH. He spends his days mentoring and teaching students, not out of obligation, but out of dedication to his profession.

"What better way to end a career than by passing knowledge on to the next generation," he says. "I enjoy one-on-one mentorship and getting to know the students."

Dr. Collinge has been part of ATSU-MOSDOH's faculty since the first class matriculated in 2013. He has watched each class of students learn and grow, developing the skills and knowledge needed to serve their future patients. He has also celebrated each milestone alongside them, from receiving their white coats to earning their diplomas.

As a faculty member and mentor, Dr. Collinge makes a point to demonstrate professionalism and expects it in return. He is known for his trademark greeting, "Good morning, doctor," which is the

first thing he says to students on their first day in the simulation lab. This phrase sometimes catches new students off guard but always leaves a lasting impression.

Beyond his time at ATSU-MOSDOH, Dr. Collinge keeps a busy schedule, volunteering in his community and working on his farm in Edina, Missouri. As someone who has always enjoyed working with his hands, it was only natural for him to discover the art of woodworking, which has become one of his favorite pastimes.

On his farm, nestled among the trees and rolling hills, Dr. Collinge's workshop is a treasure trove of tools and building materials. This is where he often finds himself puttering, as a way to unwind and recharge.

His projects are wide-ranging, from furniture to urns for veterans. His career in dentistry afforded him the ability to buy equipment for such projects over the years, and it's in this workshop with this equipment where ATSU-MOSDOH's staff began to take shape.

Over the course of a year, Dr. Collinge worked diligently to make a piece he and the School could be proud of. Every element of the staff was thoughtfully designed to represent the dental profession and the School's Missouri roots. He even made a prototype to ensure the final product would pass muster.

Standing 5 feet tall, the staff is made from black walnut, a tree species native to Missouri. The tree used for the staff was cut by Dr. Collinge on his farm more than 30 years ago and had been air drying in his workshop ever since. When



These two images show the top and center sections of the staff with inlaid medallions representing the profession, the School's locations, and the School's origins.

the tree was harvested, it was estimated to be between 60-70 years old, dating the wood back nearly a century.

Preparing the log for use was no small feat. Dr. Collinge spent nearly three days sawing the log into workable sections. He then began trimming and shaping pieces necessary for the project. He shaped the head of the staff by hand, ensuring each side was symmetrical. While turning the post sections, his lathe broke and he had to finish the job with an older lathe his uncle had given him, a detail making this project even more special to Dr. Collinge.

One of the staff's defining features is the black walnut's natural beauty. Dr. Collinge says northern Missouri black walnut trees tend to have richer color than their southern-grown counterparts. And, because the log was air-dried rather than kiln-dried, the wood maintained deeper variations in color when Dr. Collinge applied the finish. To highlight these tones, he first applied tung oil to bring out the dark, rich colors of the wood, followed by a polyurethane coating for increased protection and durability.

Getting every detail centered and aligned proved challenging. Dr. Collinge routed circles on the head and center sections to inlay medallions flush with the surface. The two larger medallions on the top of the head show the seal of the dental profession with the four slightly smaller medallions representing ATSU-MOSDOH's locations in Kirksville and St. Louis. The smallest medallions in the center section display the University seal and year the School was founded. He also routed sections along the post for brass inlays, which he wrapped carefully to avoid any creases.

"The brass was polished on a dental lathe - I can't live without a dental lathe," Dr. Collinge says.

To further signify ATSU-MOSDOH's origins, Dr. Collinge used white oak, another native Missouri wood, to make two stands - one for year-round storage and one for the commencement stage. White oak is significantly heavier than black walnut, providing added stability for the staff to stand securely.

For the year-round stand, which features a long post with a leather strap to secure the staff in place, he shaped the post by hand because it was too long for his lathe. To add weight and stability to the commencement stage base, he melted down lead strips from dental film he saved from his years of clinical practice. He poured the molten lead into undercut bored holes, a process similar to how a dentist would apply tooth fillings.

As a finishing touch, Dr. Collinge's wife, Peggy, sewed a cloth covering for the staff when not in use. The couple chose blue satin and lilac velour fabrics, colors representing ATSU and the dental profession.

ATSU-MOSDOH's staff is as unique to Missouri and dentistry as the School itself. Even if it were possible to purchase a staff of similar quality, material, and level of detail, it would cost thousands of dollars. Dr. Collinge chose to donate it to the School as a gift, calling it a labor of love.

"I was satisfied with the project, and most importantly, the School was satisfied with the project," Dr. Collinge says. "It's been a real privilege." ■



Places & spaces: Mesa, Arizona

The Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory

A shared research space brings faculty and students together to explore questions crossing disciplines and pushing healthcare research forward.

NEW LOCATION

Established in 2004, the Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory (IRL) was relocated to the second floor of 5845 Building where it opened its renovated space in summer 2025.

RENOVATED SPACE

The approximately 1,000-square-foot shared space is divided into six working zones, with dedicated areas for bioinstrumentation and biometric data collection and analysis.

TOOLS FOR DISCOVERY

The IRL brings together an array of technologies, including diagnostic ultrasound, muscle and nerve activity recording, gait and balance analysis, eye tracking, physiologic sensors, and 3D imaging.



Top: Dr. Kellie Bliven (second from left) instructs ATSU-ASDOH students using diagnostic ultrasound technology.
Lower: Research associate Jason Hiramine (left) and Dr. Inder Makin (right) use elastography and blood-flow testing for collaborative research.

THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

The IRL is more than a collection of sophisticated equipment; it is a physical space where multiple disciplines, perspectives, and questions come together. The lab is a shared space, not restricted to a single department or research team. Students are able to join active projects as research assistants or complete mentored capstone and scholarship work with faculty, gaining experience in research extending beyond what they learn in a classroom.

“The support we’ve received from the University is what makes this lab possible – not just the space and the instruments, but the trust to build something shared,” says Kellie C. Huxel Bliven, PhD, ATC, FNAP, professor and chair of interdisciplinary health sciences at ATSU’s Arizona School of Health Sciences (ATSU-ASHS) and director of the IRL. “Each of us is advancing knowledge in our own discipline, and because we do it in the same room, we end up generating knowledge together that none of us would have reached on our own.”



Dr. Amy Spies conducts forensic anthropology research using geometric morphometrics and 3D imaging.

One project brings together Dr. Bliven’s expertise in musculoskeletal imaging with the ultrasound and blood-flow expertise of Inder Raj S. Makin, MD, PhD, professor at ATSU’s School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona; the occupational therapy and hand therapy expertise of Tania Shearon, DHSc, CHT, C-IAYT, FNAP, associate professor, ATSU-ASHS; and four third-year dental students at ATSU’s Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health.

Together, the team is studying the median nerve in dental students and practicing dentists, looking for early signs of strain that could eventually affect hand function. In addition to helping design the study and conduct pilot testing, the students will play an integral role in data collection and analysis.

Another collaboration examines how patient positioning affects the muscles surrounding the shoulder blade. Four physical therapy students conducted the project under the guidance of Dr. Bliven and J.A. Graves, PT, DPT, assistant professor and co-director of clinical education, physical therapy, ATSU-ASHS, using diagnostic

ultrasound to observe changes in muscle orientation and depth as a patient shifts position.

Additionally, the IRL demonstrates how interdisciplinary research extends beyond physical health. Quincy Conley, PhD, director of ATSU’s Teaching & Learning Center, led a team using eye tracking and other biometric tools to study how graduate health sciences students navigate different Canvas course layouts. The research helps faculty develop evidence-based course designs to make online learning easier to navigate and more effective.

For Dr. Bliven, the space’s value ultimately comes down to what happens when researchers with various expertise work alongside one another.

“It’s rare for a university to invest in a research space that doesn’t belong to any one of us, and ATSU did exactly that,” she says. “Each of us walks in with questions from our own discipline, and because we work side by side, we walk out with questions we never would have thought to ask alone.” ■

“I knew I wanted to be a part of ATSU's mission to make healthcare more accessible in America.”

— Ellery Sanchez De Jesus
Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies student



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FULL INTERVIEW

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- Biomedical sciences
- Dental medicine
- Occupational therapy
- Orthodontics
- Osteopathic medicine
- Physical therapy
- Physician assistant studies
- Speech-language pathology

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CONNECTIONS

IN THIS SECTION

- Reconnect
- Class notes
- Career insight
- Chancellor's Circle
- Meet the board
- Faculty & staff news
- In memoriam

Charmi Patel, a second-year student at ATSU's Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, conducts anatomy research with Sumitra Miriyala, PhD, MPH, MBA, FAHA, associate professor. Above, Dr. Miriyala (left) helps Patel (right) review cerebral venous drainage using a 3D-printed skull model produced by A.T. Still Memorial Library 3D Printing Services. Using 3D-printed models demonstrates how integrating innovative technology benefits anatomical education and student learning.

“Technology gives us the opportunity to make anatomy come alive for our students,” Dr. Miriyala says. “With tools such as 3D-printed models, students can visualize and explore complex anatomical relationships in ways that are difficult to appreciate from a textbook alone. By integrating these innovations with hands-on teaching, we can make learning more interactive, clinically relevant, and memorable.”

RECONNECT

When members of the ATSU family gather, a common thread emerges. Friends reconnect, new bonds develop, and students find inspiration. From coast to coast and many points in between, recent events brought energetic, diverse, accomplished groups of individuals together – enriching and reinforcing the tapestry of social and professional networks that bind the University community together.

Spring-Summer 2026

DO Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) Convocation
The Broadmoor
Colorado Springs, Colorado

DO Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) Annual Convention and Scientific Seminars
Signia by Hilton
Orlando, Florida

ATSU Diversity & Inclusion Annual Reunion: Scholars in Health
ATSU Arizona campus
Mesa, Arizona

Audiology Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Annual Convention + HearTECH Expo
San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter on the River Walk
San Antonio, Texas

Occupational Therapy Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) INSPIRE Annual Conference & Expo
Hilton Anaheim
Anaheim, California

Dental Alumni Informal Meet-up | American Association of Endodontists (AAE)
The Roof
Salt Lake City, Utah

Orthodontic Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Association of Orthodontists Annual Session
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Orlando, Florida

ATSU-KCOM Words of Wisdom Alumni-Student Engagement Event
ATSU Missouri campus
Kirksville, Missouri

Physician Assistant & Doctor of Medical Science Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Association of Physician Associates Annual Conference
Hilton New Orleans Riverside
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dental Alumni Informal Meet-up | American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
The Flamingo
Las Vegas, Nevada

Athletic Training (AT) Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Clinical Symposia & AT Expo
Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



AAO Convocation 2026



ACOFP reception



AAA reception



AOTA reception



AAE informal meet-up



NATA reception

Upcoming alumni events

DO Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Osteopathic Association Osteopathic Medical Education (AOA OMED) Conference
Caesar's Palace | Las Vegas, Nevada
October 24, 2026

Dental Alumni Informal Meet-up | National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA)
Seattle, Washington
October 2026

Speech-Language Pathology Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Convention
Indianapolis, Indiana
November 2026

Physical Therapy Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Combined Sections Meeting
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
February 2027

Give Kids A Smile, ATSU-ASDOH Alumni Reunion & Class of 2007 20-year anniversary
ATSU Arizona campus | Mesa, Arizona
Feb. 26-27, 2027

DO Alumni, Student & Friends Reception | American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) Convocation
Dallas, Texas
March 2027

ATSU Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Congress on Healthcare Leadership
Nashville, Tennessee
March 2027

DO Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) Annual Convention and Scientific Seminars
Louisville, Kentucky
March/April 2027

Occupational Therapy Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) INSPIRE Annual Conference & Expo
Boston, Massachusetts
April 2027

Audiology Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Academy of Audiology (AAA) Annual Convention + HearTECH Expo
St. Louis, Missouri
April 2027

Orthodontics Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) Annual Session
Vancouver, British Columbia
April/May 2027

Physician Assistant & Doctor of Medical Science Alumni, Students & Friends Reception | American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA) Annual Conference
Phoenix, Arizona
May 2027

Dental Alumni Information Meet-up | American Academy of Pediatric Dentists (AAPD) Conference
Washington, D.C.
May 2027

Attention job seekers and employers!

Alumni employment opportunities are available across the U.S.

The University provides an online job board for ATSU alumni seeking employment and for employers searching for ATSU graduates to fill vacant positions. These job opportunities are shared by external employers and other alumni who value the skills and expertise of ATSU graduates. As a free resource for employers and job seekers, check back often when you are looking for a new opportunity or when you have positions at your organization or company to advertise.

Please contact alumni@atsu.edu with any questions.

atsu.edu/alumni-jobs



Upcoming continuing education opportunities

For a full list of upcoming opportunities, please visit atsu.edu/ce

ATHLETIC TRAINING

Best Practices for Managing Mental Health Conditions in the Collegiate Athlete

Clinical Documentation in Athletic Training

Clinical Outcomes Assessment in Athletic Training: An Overview

Concepts of Diagnostic Accuracy in Athletic Training

Elevating Concussion Care in Practice: The NATA Bridge Statement

Evidence-Based Practice in Athletic Training

Examination of Concussion Reporting Influences and Educational Programs

From Research to Practice: Insights and Strategies for Salary Negotiation

Got Data? Using Patient Care Documentation to Drive Clinical Decisions and Improve Care

Health Information Technology in Athletic Training

How Much Information is Too Much? The Role of Unlearning in Athletic Healthcare

Incorporating EBP into Athletic Training: Overview of Practice-Based Partnerships

Incorporating the 6th International Conference on Concussion in Sport Recommendations into Practice

Introduction to Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Imaging

Learner-Centered Care: A Holistic Framework for Improving Equity in Athletic Training Education

Lower Limb Preventive Training Program Best Practice and Implementation

Management of Sports Trauma and Emergency Action Plans

Medicolegal Considerations for Sport-Related Concussion

Menstrual Symptoms and Dysfunction: Clinical Strategies for Athletic Trainers

Mentors, Mentees, and Psychological Safety: Unlocking High-Trust Athletic Training Relationships

Optimizing Lateral Ankle Sprain Rehabilitation

Pain: How it Affects Stability and Movement

Promoting Patient Mental Health: Lessons and Considerations from a Sport Psychology Perspective

PROs, You Have Taken Them ... Now What?

Quality Improvement in Athletic Healthcare

Role of Sports Specialization on Injury, Overtraining, Burnout, and Mental Health Considerations

Social Determinants of Health in Athletic Healthcare

Synergy in Learning: Unlocking the Potential of Bidirectional Mentorship in Athletic Training Clinical Education

The Nervous System in Motion: Integrative Approaches to Somatic Healing and Athletic Performance

Using the AT Milestones to Guide Professional Development

Home study courses are available year-round and are web-based. Please email atce@atsu.edu for more information.

DENTAL *Programs offered by ATSU-MOSDOH*

Seeing Beyond the Obvious: Improving Oral Cancer Detection in Practice
Oct. 23, 2026

Beyond the Drill: Contemporary Minimally Invasive Pediatric Dentistry
Nov. 6, 2026

The All-Ceramic Dentistry Cookbook – Evidence-Based Steps to Achieve Predictable Restorative Outcomes with Dental Ceramics
Nov. 13, 2026

From Single Implants to Full-Arch Cases: Key Insights for Static Guided Surgeries
Nov. 18, 2026

Posterior Partial Coverage Restorations: Decision Making and Preparation Designs
Dec. 8, 2026

Frontline Defense: The Dental Team's Role in Oral Cancer Prevention
Dec. 12, 2026

Seeing is Believing: How Phase Contrast Microscopy Improves Patients' Oral Health and Outcomes
Dec. 17, 2026

ATSU-MOSDOH is ADA CERP and AGD PACE approved.

All opportunities are held virtually. For more information, please email mosdohce@atsu.edu or call 314.685.3557.

MEDICAL *Programs offered by ATSU-KCOM*

Big Cedar – Primary Care Update
Dec. 3-5, 2026
Big Cedar Lodge | Ridgedale, Missouri

ATSU-KCOM CME Cruise
Primary Care Update
Jan. 28-Feb. 4, 2027
Royal Caribbean – Serenade of the Seas®
Departure port: San Diego, California
Serenade to Mexico

Las Vegas
Primary Care Update
Feb. 25-27, 2027
Treasure Island | Las Vegas, Nevada

ATSU-KCOM CME Alaskan Cruise
Primary Care Update
June 18-25, 2027
Royal Caribbean – Voyager of the Seas®
Departure port: Seattle, Washington
Alaska Adventure Cruise

ATSU is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association to provide osteopathic continuing medical education for physicians.

For more information, please email continuingeducation@atsu.edu or call 660.626.2232.

To register for courses online or learn about upcoming activities, please visit atsu.edu/ce or call 866.626.2878, ext. 2232.

ATSU | CONTINUING
EDUCATION

CLASS NOTES



Dr. Sterkens '06



Dr. Knievel '07



Williams '13



Dr. Jejna '15



Dr. Dolan '16



Dr. Jensen '20

1980s

Ellie Campbell, DO, '89, wrote a chapter about integrative management of hypertension for a medical textbook, “Integrative Nephrology.” Additionally, Dr. Campbell co-published the article, “The Liver as the Central Regulator of Cholesterol Homeostasis: Statins, Gut Microbiota, Hepatic Inflammation, and the Proposed Oral-Gut-Liver-Artery Axis in Atherogenesis” in *Metabolites*.
Dr. Campbell is the co-chair of a continuing interprofessional dental/medical education course on oral-systemic health connections through the Augusta University Medical College of Georgia. She is also a co-host of an educational podcast about the ways oral health is related to the rest of the body.

1990s

Marshall S. Grillo Jr., DO, '90, Grand Blanc, Michigan, was recognized as a fellow by the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons during the 2026 Annual Clinical Assembly Ceremonial Conclave in New Orleans.
John S. Barton III, DO, '91, Gallatin, Missouri, was recognized as a fellow by the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons during the 2026 Annual Clinical Assembly Ceremonial Conclave in New Orleans.

2000s

Michael Millette, MS, '03, is a physician assistant with Michigan Better Health & Wellness in Gaylord, Michigan. He provides care to the public as well as contracting with Bear River Health in Boyne Falls, Michigan, to care for approximately 130 men with in-patient substance abuse treatment offering detox and medically assisted therapies.
Julie Rake, MS, PA-C, '03, delivered a TEDx Talk titled “Can love heal what divides us?” in Glasgow, Ireland.

Kelly M. Van Fossen, DO, FACOS, '04, Fayetteville, North Carolina, received the Guy D. Beaumont Award of Academic Excellence from the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons during the 2026 Annual Clinical Assembly Ceremonial Conclave in New Orleans.

Amanda Baright, DO, FACOS, FACS, '06, was promoted to associate dean of clinical affairs at Campbell University’s Jerry M. Wallace School of Osteopathic Medicine.
Juliëtte Sterkens, AuD, '06, retired from her Oshkosh, Wisconsin, private practice. She is currently an advisor on hearing loop and other assistive listening technology with the nonprofit Center for Hearing Access. Her TEDx Talk “What You Don’t Know About Hearing Aids” recently passed 1.3 million views.

Kerry Knievel, DO, '07, an ATSU-KCOM graduate, was named one of *Phoenix Magazine’s* Top Doctors for 2026. Dr. Knievel is a board-certified neurologist specializing in headache medicine at Barrow Neurological Institute. Prior to attending ATSU-KCOM, she completed a master of science in neuroanatomy and neurobiology, solidifying her love for neurology and creating a deeper understanding of neuroscience.

2010s

Mark Brown, DO, '11, was named medical director for Freeman Fort Scott Hospital Inc.’s emergency department in Fort Scott, Kansas. Dr. Brown resides in Carl Junction, Missouri, with his wife **Melinda Brown, MHA, '09**, director of the Gipson Center for Healthcare Leadership at Missouri Southern State University, and their children, Zakory; Maggie, an ATSU-CGHS student; and Ashdyn.
Travis Williams, MS, PA-C, '13, is now providing spine care services in the Specialty Clinic Department at Van Diest Medical Center in Webster City, Iowa. Williams received his master’s degree in athletic training from ATSU-ASHS and spent eight years working as an athletic trainer in high schools, junior colleges, and Division 1 athletic programs. Now, he focuses on treating orthopedic spine conditions, including radiculopathy,

spinal stenosis, myelopathy, and chronic neck and lower back pain. Williams practices at the Van Diest Medical Center once a month and practices full time at Iowa Ortho in Des Moines, Iowa.

Michael Jejna, DMD, '15, acquired Desert Breeze Dentistry in Tempe, Arizona, after nearly a decade practicing as an associate dentist in the Phoenix area. As owner, Dr. Jejna is focused on providing comprehensive, patient-centered dental care by offering access to in-house specialists, advanced digital technology, and treatment options designed to help patients with dental anxiety. Dr. Jejna is a graduate of ATSU-ASDOH.

Taisei Suzuki, DO, MIPH, CCHP-CP, FAAFP, '15, completed a 10-day trip to provide medical aid following the earthquakes in Venezuela. This work was a part of the Association of Medical Doctors of Asia, an international nongovernmental organization founded in Japan that focuses on global medical and humanitarian relief. Dr. Suzuki is a graduate of ATSU-KCOM and a member of the Kirksville Osteopathic Alumni Association board.

Charles Dolan, DHSc, MBA, FACHE, '16, was appointed to the board of trustees of Wor-Wic Community College by Maryland Gov. Wes Moore. Dr. Dolan is vice president of clinical operations at

TidalHealth, where he is responsible for system-level direction of ambulatory surgical services, pharmacy, medical imaging, and laboratory medicine.

2020s

Troy Jensen, DO, '20, is now accepting patients at CommonSpirit Medical Group – Family Medicine – Ringgold in Ringgold, Georgia. Dr. Jensen is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians and a graduate of ATSU-KCOM.

Matthew West, DO, '20, an ATSU-SOMA graduate, finished an addiction medicine fellowship at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) in 2024. He is now the addiction medicine medical director of Washington state’s first Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) located in a jail, which he discussed on the Oregon Public Broadcasting radio show “Think Out Loud.” He is also working in multiple OTPs across Washington; in medically supervised substance withdrawal in Portland, Oregon; and as a subject matter expert for OHSU to help jails across Oregon improve their addiction treatment for adults in custody.



Shannon Youngblood, EdD, '20, was elected president of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Technologist Section. In

this role, Dr. Youngblood will lead initiatives focused on advocacy for nuclear medicine professionals, expanding equitable access to education and mentorship, and advancing professional development to keep pace with innovations in theranostics and cardiac PET-CT.



Melinda Knudson-Stanley, EdD, '21, was promoted to teaching professor of healthcare management at Indiana University Kokomo. Dr. Knudson-Stanley joined the university as an adjunct faculty member in 2014 before becoming a visiting lecturer in 2015. She is a three-time recipient of the IU Trustees Teaching Award. Additionally, she has received the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Technology and an IU Bicentennial Medal.

CLASS NOTES



Holden '22

Maria Holden, MS, '22, joined Good Shepherd Primary Care in Hermiston, Oregon. She earned her master of science in physician assistant studies from ATSU-ASHS.



Kevin Cooper, DHSc, '23, was named head of marketing of T2 Group, a healthcare IT consulting and technology services company. In this role, Dr. Cooper will lead enterprise marketing strategy across the company's four business divisions.



Dr. Kamal '24

Faisal Kamal, DHSc, MS, PA-C, '24, a graduate from ATSU-CHC's Central Coast Physician Assistant program, completed his Doctor of Medical Science degree from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas.

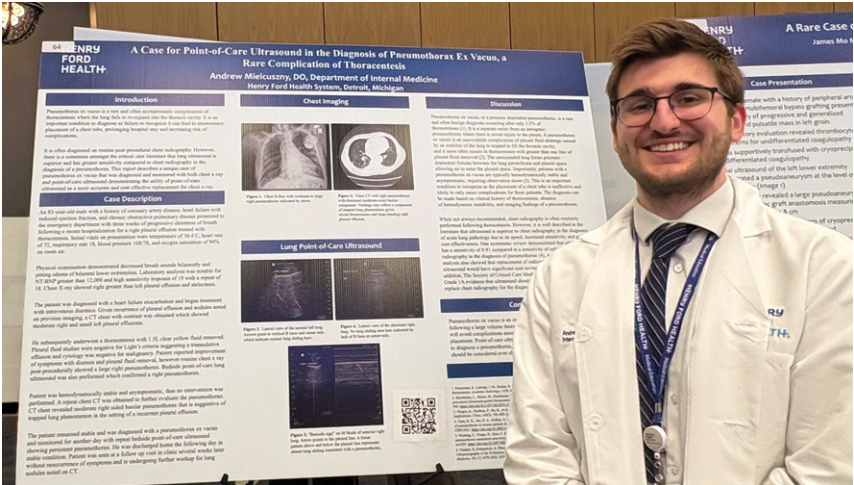
Michelle Congdon, DHSc, MBA, '25, presented a poster at the International Stroke Conference in New Orleans. Dr. Congdon's poster, "Wisconsin Stroke Nurses Support Implementation of New Tools for HRSN Assessment," was based on research she conducted for her applied research project.



Hillerman '25

Kelley Cooper, EdD, '25, published his doctoral research project manuscript from ATSU-CGHS and started a new faculty position at Texas Christian University.

Kelli Hillerman, MPH, '25, was named the new administrator of Sullivan County Health Department in Milan, Missouri. Hillerman, an ATSU-CGHS graduate, brings more than 26 years of experience in public health, including knowledge of communicable disease management, epidemiology, emergency preparedness, WIC, public health education, and regional public health leadership.



Dr. Mielcuszny '25

Dina Jarjees, DHA, '25, and her faculty mentor, **Lihua Dishman, DHA, MBA, FACHE**, professor, health administration, ATSU-CGHS, published a paper based on Dr. Jarjees' doctoral research project. The publication, "Do Allied Health Professionals' Workplace Experiences Affect Their Decisions to Stay? A Quantitative Investigation Into the Relationship Between Wellness and Employee Retention in United States Hospitals," appeared in *Patient Experience Journal*, Vol. 13, Issue 1.

Andrew Mielcuszny, DO, '25, an internal medicine resident at Henry Ford Health in Detroit, Michigan, presented a poster at the hospital's 33rd annual Medical Education Research Forum. Dr. Mielcuszny received first place for a junior case report titled "A Case for Point-of-Care Ultrasound in the Diagnosis of Pneumothorax Ex Vacuo, a Rare Complication of Thoracentesis," which was based on the ultrasound skills he learned as a student at ATSU-KCOM.



Dr. Oshikoya '25

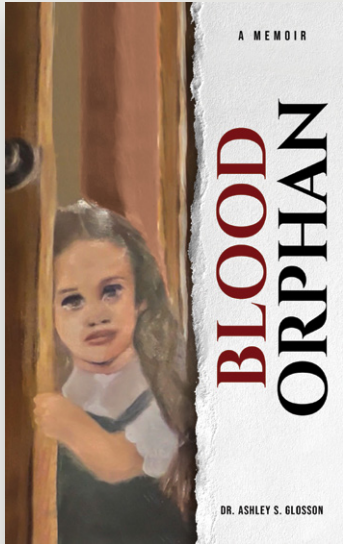
Olatunde Oshikoya, DMSc, MPAS, PA-C, '25, was appointed director of Correctional Healthcare Partners' medication-assisted treatment (MAT) services and rapid response. In this role, Dr. Oshikoya will lead the development of clinical protocols and the implementation of person-centered policies aimed at expanding access to evidence-based substance use treatment, including MAT, for individuals within the criminal justice system. Dr. Oshikoya brings more than 10 years of clinical experience in urgent and emergency care, infectious diseases, psychiatric care, and addiction medicine.

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Have you recently met up with a fellow ATSU alum? Did you get a promotion, reach a milestone, or earn recognition? Maybe you have a story you'd like to share. Tell us about it at stillmagazine@atsu.edu



THE BOOKSHELF



Blood Orphan
By Ashley Glosson, DHSc, '22
Published March 2026, Barnes & Noble Press

In this memoir, Dr. Glosson tells her story about abuse, survival, and the lifelong cost of growing up in fear. She takes readers through the moments that nearly destroyed her, the faith that sustained her, and the determination that helped her rise beyond the horrors of her past to become an accomplished scientist, advocate, and survivor.

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

What are
some of your
favorite memories
from ATSU?



Email your answer to
stillmagazine@atsu.edu

Responses may be shared
in the next issue.

The original influencers

In the spring/summer 2026 issue of *Still Magazine*, we asked readers to share who influenced them the most during their ATSU education. The responses highlighted some of the beloved former professors from ATSU's Kirkville College of Osteopathic Medicine.

From Jack Stinogel, DO, '84

***Influencer: Pressley Crummy, PhD,
former anatomy professor***

"He had a quiet, easy-going mannerism. He was always positive and encouraging. A very kind man! I was always impressed how he could dissect with his bare hands and his anatomy knowledge."

From David Glickman, DO, '61

***Influencer: Max Gutensohn, DO, '41,
former president and professor emeritus
of internal medicine***

"It was Dr. Max Gutensohn. He overcame many physical and social handicaps to become the physician he was."

From Margaret Wilson, DO, '82

***Influencer: Delbert Maddox, DO, '55,
former professor and head of general
practice***

"Dr. Delbert Maddox greatly influenced me during my years at ATSU-KCOM. He was a role model and mentor who significantly shaped my decision to become a family medicine physician. He was truly the compassionate, caring doctor who took care of the whole family (which he did for my parents, siblings, grandparents, and me as a kid growing up in Kirkville). He created the Rural Clinic system for ATSU-KCOM and gave so much of his service to the community as a whole through clubs and other activities."

Alumni career insights: Internal and sports medicine

Q&A with Frederick Workman, DO, '96

Dr. Workman serves as regional medical director for Rural Physicians Group and chief hospitalist at Sterling Regional Medical Center in Colorado. He is an assistant professor of clinical medicine at Rocky Vista University School of Medicine, where he received the 2023 Educator of the Year award for the Northern Colorado Family Practice Residency. Additionally, he has been a team physician for U.S. Figure Skating for more than 25 years. At the 2026 Winter Olympics held in Milan, Italy, Dr. Workman represented Team USA Figure Skating, which brought home a combined four medals.

Education

Medical school: ATSU's Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (ATSU-KCOM)
Rotating internship: Mt. Sinai Medical Center East, Richmond Heights, Ohio
Residency: Internal medicine, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Fellowship: Sports medicine, University of Toledo, The Northwest Center for Sports Medicine

Q: How did you become a team physician for Olympic figure skaters?

A: I've had a passion for sports for quite some time, playing them, watching them, and coaching. When the opportunity came to do a sports medicine fellowship after I graduated from internal medicine residency, I seized it. I was fortunate to be assigned to work as the head team doc for professional hockey and a Division I university. My mentor and the program director is a highly respected figure skating physician who played an important role in introducing me to the sport's medical community and giving me the opportunity to travel with the athletes.

Q: What is the most rewarding – and the most challenging – part of caring for elite athletes?

A: It's about forming relationships and helping the athletes to perform at their highest level. We work as a team behind the team, and we do our best to prepare them. Then, we sit back and watch everything unfold – the emotions, the ups and downs, and unrealized goals. But, even when we do our best, athletics can lead to disappointment. They don't always achieve the goal, but it helps us prepare for the next challenge in the sport and in life.

Q: What's one piece of advice you'd give your younger professional self?

A: Be sure to enjoy the process and bring your family into your work as much as you can. Your family will enjoy being part of the experience, regardless of the costs or inconvenience, and you will have the chance to make lasting memories.

Q: What experiences or skills should recent alumni or students who are pursuing internal medicine or sports medicine prioritize right now?

A: Say yes to opportunities as they arise, whether that means giving a lecture, publishing an article, covering a team, or volunteering at an event. Each experience will help you discover what you enjoy, what you don't, and where you want to focus your time and expertise. Also, get as much experience in osteopathic manipulative medicine as possible. These skills will give you an advantage, regardless of your professional goals. Being a DO from ATSU-KCOM has broadened my skillset and given me more tools to care for patients and athletes.



Above: Dr. Frederick Workman and his wife, Carla, at opening ceremonies. Lower: Dr. Frederick Workman (back row, left) with Team USA athletes and trainers.

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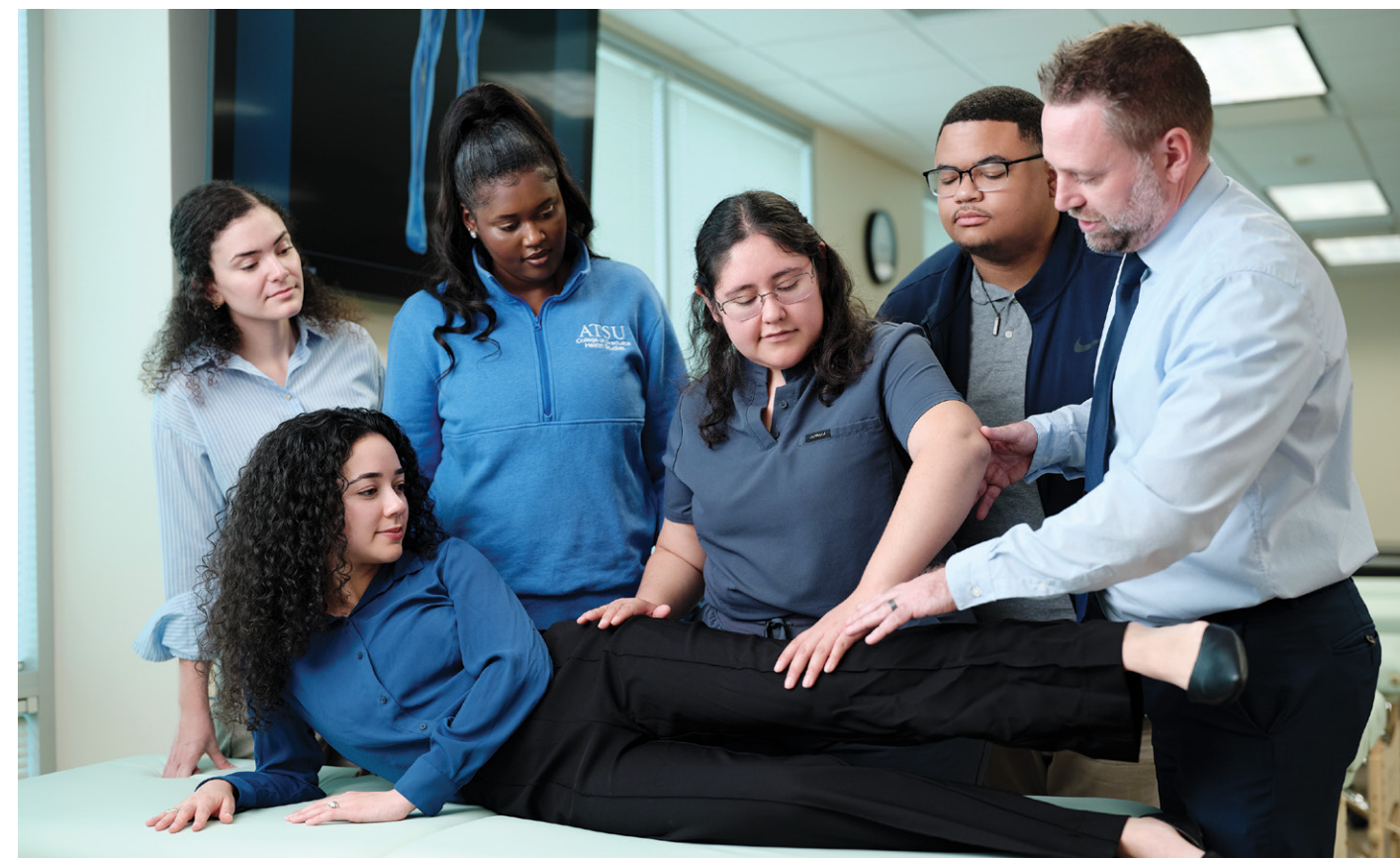
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10-year recognition

ATSU receives the 2026 Health Professions HEED Champion Award



ATSU received the 2026 Health Professions Higher Education Excellence and Distinction (HEED) Champion Award from *Insight Into Academia* magazine. The Champion Award is a national honor recognizing U.S. health sciences colleges and universities with an unyielding commitment to higher education excellence and belonging throughout their campus communities, across academic programs, and at the highest administrative levels.

This is the 10th consecutive year ATSU has received a HEED award.

"We use a detailed scoring process as well as a holistic approach to reviewing each application to determine who will be named a HEED Award recipient. Our standards are high, and we look for institutions where academic excellence and belonging are woven into the work being done every day across their campus," says Lenore Pearlstein, co-publisher of *Insight into Academia* magazine.

For more information, visit insightintoacademia.com



Chancellor’s Circle

Your support paves the way for the next generation of whole person healthcare leaders. As a Chancellor’s Circle member, you provide essential support for ATSU and its programs. By contributing \$1,000 or more annually to any University fund or initiative, you join a distinguished group of individuals who are making a powerful impact. Your generosity helps ensure ATSU remains at the forefront of whole person healthcare.

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A perfect fit

National Rural Health Association CEO Alan Morgan brings a lifelong commitment to rural healthcare and public policy to ATSU's Board of Trustees

By Arselia Gales

When it comes to joining ATSU's Board of Trustees, Alan Morgan, MPA, says it was a "perfect fit" both personally and professionally.

Morgan was born in rural northeast Kansas and has always been passionate about rural healthcare and serving underserved populations. He dreamed of becoming a newspaper reporter; however, his career path ultimately took him in a different direction.

After graduating from the University of Kansas, Morgan began working on Capitol Hill, where he developed an interest in public policy and healthcare issues. He eventually transitioned into healthcare advocacy, lobbying for healthcare organizations before finding a home at the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) nearly 25 years ago.

Morgan initially joined NRHA to lead the organization's lobbying activities. Drawn to the opportunity to advocate for an issue he cared deeply about, Morgan moved from the for-profit sector into the nonprofit space, serving as NRHA's head lobbyist for four years before being named CEO more than two decades ago.

As CEO, Morgan oversees the organization's conferences, educational opportunities, and networking opportunities and serves as a resource to the national media.

"My job is to tell an accurate story of what's happening in rural healthcare today," he says. "So, in that sense, I'm back to being a journalist, but now telling the story of small town America."

His commitment to improving healthcare access and serving communities in need is also what drew Morgan to ATSU's Board of Trustees. After being recruited to join the board in 2020, Morgan quickly recognized the alignment between ATSU's mission and the work he had dedicated his career to advancing.

"It was a perfect fit for me. For the past 25 years, osteopathic health has been a guiding point for our organization," Morgan says. "We've always had osteopathic clinicians in our leadership. It just was a good fit all the way around."

Morgan says his own professional background in rural healthcare, public policy, and healthcare organizations allows him to bring a unique perspective to board discussions.

"Your background always, both personally and professionally, influences how you operate in a leadership context," he says. "I feel like I'm able to add an important voice to the discussion of where ATSU is now and hopefully where it's heading in the future."



Looking ahead, Morgan hopes ATSU continues its trajectory of growth while remaining grounded in its founding mission.

"ATSU's growth has just been phenomenal, certainly during my tenure on the board," he says. "Seeing such significant growth while still managing to stay true to the mission — that's not always an easy task, and ATSU absolutely excels at it."

As healthcare continues to evolve, Morgan believes ATSU has an opportunity to help shape the future of

clinical education and practice through thoughtful adoption of emerging technologies, ultimately advancing ATSU's mission of improving access to compassionate, patient-centered care.

"I don't think anyone goes to medical school because they love to fill out paperwork," Morgan says. "The promise of utilizing new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, can hopefully allow the clinician to spend more time face-to-face with the patient and utilize cutting-edge tools to fulfill the promise of what ATSU is all about."



Mr. Morgan's commitment to rural healthcare brings tremendous value to the board and benefits our students and programs."

Craig M. Phelps, DO, '84
ATSU Chancellor

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

ATSU

Don Altman, DDS, DHSc, EdD, '12, vice chancellor, academic support, retired from ATSU on July 31. Since joining the University in 2006 as director of public health & research at ATSU-ASDOH, Dr. Altman has served in numerous leadership roles across ATSU-ASDOH, ATSU-SOMA, ATSU-CGHS, and ATSU-MOSDOH. He was appointed vice chancellor for academic support in July 2024.

Dr. Altman's commitment to service has been widely recognized, including receiving the ATSU Michael Samuels Leadership Award and the COVID-19 Pandemic Civilian Service Award. His career reflects a deep dedication to advancing health professions education and serving communities in need.

Cailee Welch Bacon, PhD, ATC, was named interim vice chancellor for academic support at ATSU. Dr. Bacon also serves as a professor of athletic training for ATSU-ASHS and research professor for ATSU-SOMA.

Robby Beighey was promoted to desktop support analyst for Information Technology Services Customer Service.

Donna Brown, MBA, SHRM-SCP, SPHR, assistant chief, human resources, received the Missouri campus Distinguished Service Award at the annual Faculty & Staff Recognition Ceremony.

April Colbert was promoted to director of assessment & accreditation.

Tiffany Davis, administrative support, enrollment services, received the Missouri campus Employee Excellence Award for the first quarter of 2026.

Jared Dover was promoted to grants assistant & office manager for Sponsored Programs.

Ricardo Dozier was promoted to security supervisor on the Missouri campus.

Alan Freeman, DMgt, MBA, FACHE, was appointed interim chief strategy officer, effective Sept. 1. Dr. Freeman joined ATSU in 2023 as senior director of patient care centers.

Jill Graves, MA, was named assistant vice chancellor of admissions. She previously served as interim assistant vice chancellor.

Sara Grgurich, MPH, was promoted to director of research & grants administration for Research, Grants & Scholarly Innovations.

Deanna Hunsaker, DHed, MBA, '08, was appointed vice chancellor of student affairs, effective July 1, after serving as interim vice chancellor since May 1, 2025. She will continue to oversee Admissions, Enrollment Services, Learning Resources & Accommodation Services, Behavioral Health & Wellness, Student Wellness, and Student Life. Since joining ATSU in 2005, Dr. Hunsaker has served in several leadership roles, including associate dean, registrar, assistant vice president of enrollment services, and assistant vice chancellor of enrollment services.

Christopher Jones was promoted to technical support specialist for Information Technology Services Customer Service.

Haley Lorenzen, digital content & public relations manager, communication & marketing, received the Arizona campus Employee Excellence Award for the second quarter of 2026.

Kaylee Morgenstern, MBA, was named assistant vice chancellor of enrollment services.

Kim Perry, DDS, MSCS, chief partnership officer, associate professor, received the ATSU-CGHS Michael Samuels Impact Award at the College's annual Awards Banquet.

Olivia Ross, admissions counselor, residential admissions, received the California campus Employee Excellence Award for the first quarter of 2026.

Megan Snyder was promoted to manager of sponsored programs projects for Sponsored Programs.

Ramey Weichelt, manager, Thompson Campus Center, was selected as a recipient of the Five Under 40 awards from Kirksville Chamber of Commerce and the Kirksville Young Professionals.

ATSU-ASDOH

Kerry Anderson was promoted to predoctoral clinic coordinator for on-site clinical education.

Kellie Bebo was promoted to dental assistant for orthodontics.

Mai-Ly Duong, DMD, MPH, MAEd, FAGD, FSCD, '12, was promoted to professor. Additionally, Dr. Duong was named the 2026 Faculty Advisor of the Year by the Academy of General Dentistry. She was selected by her peers for her exceptional commitment to student mentorship, leadership development, and advancement of organized dentistry.

Tamer El-Gendy, DMD, BDS, MS, was named interim associate dean of clinical affairs, effective July 13. Dr. El-Gendy serves as professor, senior director of pre-doctoral specialty clinics, and director of prosthodontics.

Lindsay Garcia, RDH, AP, instructor, predoctoral instruction, received the 2026 Advisor of the Year award for her leadership with ATSU-ASDOH's Give Kids A Smile event, commitment to student growth, and service as a role model.

Erin Maruska, DMD, MPH, '20, was promoted to clinical associate professor.

Adriana Mendonça da Silva, DMD, PhD, MS, was promoted to assistant professor of clinical translational research.

Binita Mool was promoted to director of business operations & clinic analytics. She also received the Arizona campus Employee Excellence Award for the first quarter of 2026.

Jae Hyun Park, DMD, PhD, MSD, MS, was promoted to associate dean of global relations. He also serves as professor, chair, and program director of the Postgraduate Orthodontic Program.

Seena Patel, DMD, MPH, '10, was promoted to professor. Dr. Patel also serves as director of oral medicine at the School.

Tressa Pierce was promoted to clinical education specialist for on-site clinical education.

Emily Shields was promoted to sterilization manager for on-site clinical education.

Sandra Smith was promoted to inventory coordinator for the Advanced Care Clinic.

Ann Spolarich, PhD, MS, RDH, was promoted to associate dean of research.

Hanann Tomeh, DDS, MPH, '20 was named associate dean of academic affairs. Dr. Tomeh also serves as a clinical associate professor, CCU 4 director, and faculty development director.

ATSU-ASHS

Kathryn Bauer, OTD, was promoted to assistant professor of occupational therapy.

Michelle Brady, BDS, joined the School as an associate professor and director of interprofessional education in the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences department. Dr. Brady previously served as an associate professor with ATSU-ASDOH where she led community-based dental education and interprofessional initiatives.

Ann Lee Burch, PT, EdD, MPH, FNAP, dean and associate professor, was accepted to the Association of Governing Boards

(AGB) Institute for Leadership in Higher Education 2026-27 as a 2026 AGB fellow.

Randy Danielsen, PhD, DHL (hon.), PA-C Emeritus, DFAAPA, professor and director, medical science, published his memoir, "Standing on the Shoulders of Giants: A PA's Journey Through Five Decades of Healthcare," in January 2026.

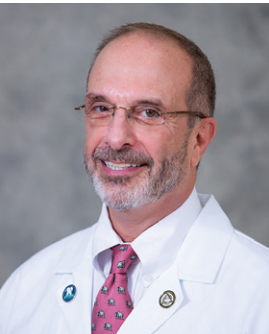
David Doubblestein, PT, PhD, CLT, Cert MDT, LLCC, associate professor, director of student progress & retention, physical therapy, received the 2026 Service of the Year award during the annual ATSU-ASHS faculty assembly in May. He was also elected chair of the University Faculty Senate for academic year 2026-27.

Rachel Geoghegan, DAT, ATC, '20, assistant professor, athletic training, received the Dignity Health Values in Action Excellence Award for her service to the Dignity Health system and the patients they serve.

Melanie Gibson, MA, was named director of curricular coordination & support in the Department of Audiology.

Abbey Glenn, OTD, MS, OTR/L, CBIS, was promoted to associate professor of occupational therapy.

Nikki Harris, DAT, LAT, ATC, CSCS, '17, associate professor, director of student recruitment, athletic training, received the 2026 Emerging Educator Award from the National Athletic Trainers' Association Executive Council on Education.



Dr. Altman
ATSU



Dr. Bacon
ATSU



Brown
ATSU



Dozier
ATSU



Dr. Hunsaker
ATSU



Dr. Duong
ATSU-ASDOH



Garcia
ATSU-ASDOH



Dr. Tomeh
ATSU-ASDOH



Dr. Doubblestein
ATSU-ASHS



Gibson
ATSU-ASHS

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

Thomas Hartman, DMSc, '21, PA-C, '08, was promoted to associate professor of physician assistant studies.

Janette Kuhns, MS, OTR/L, PRPC, '22, joined the School as a full-time instructor in the Occupational Therapy department.

Racella Lagasca joined the School as program manager in the Speech-Language Pathology department.

Kenny Lam, ScD, ATC, FNATA, professor, interdisciplinary health sciences, was part of a research team that was named the 2025 recipient of the *Journal of Athletic Training's* Clint Thompson Award for Clinical Practice Advancement.

Virginia Little, PhD, PT, NCS, ADHD-RSP, associate professor, director of research, physical therapy, received the 2026 Faculty Educator of the Year award during the annual ATSU-ASHS faculty assembly in May.

Lourdes Martinez-Nieto, PhD, associate professor, speech-language pathology, received the 2026 Faculty Scholar of the Year award during the annual ATSU-ASHS faculty assembly in May.

Jennifer Radziak, OTD, OTR/L, CHT, was promoted to associate professor and director of occupational therapy programs.

Tania Shearon, DHSc, OTR/L, CHT, C-IAYT, '22, was promoted to associate professor of occupational therapy.

Andrea Sylvia, PhD, joined the School as an assistant professor of biostatistics in the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences department.

Clay Walker, MSPAS, PA-C, assistant professor, director of didactic education, physician assistant studies, received the 2026 Junior Faculty of the Year award during the annual ATSU-ASHS faculty assembly in May.

ATSU-CGHS

Eiman Alghmdí, DrPH, MS, joined the College as an assistant professor of public health. Dr. Alghmdí most recently served as associate director of the Education Recognition program for the American Diabetes Association.

Scott Battley, PhD, MS, adjunct faculty, kinesiology, received the ATSU-CGHS Adjunct Faculty of the Year award at the College's annual Awards Banquet.

Emily Bonazelli, DHA, MS, '21, adjunct faculty, health administration, received the ATSU-CGHS Adjunct Faculty of the Year award at the College's annual Awards Banquet.

Ray Borges, DHSc, MBA, MA, adjunct faculty, health sciences, received the ATSU-CGHS Adjunct Faculty of the Year award at the College's annual Awards Banquet.

Bethany Clatt, MEd, academic advisor, received the ATSU-CGHS Outstanding Employee Award at the College's annual Awards Banquet.

JoNeil Conley, DM, MBA, adjunct faculty, health administration & nursing, published a book, "The Biology of Bullying: Why Nurses Eat Each Other and How to Take Them Off the Menu," which draws on her nearly 50 years of nursing experience and bridges the gap between quantitative findings and clinical reality.

Lihua Dishman, DBA, MBA, professor, health administration, was re-elected to serve as Health and Human Services Section's chair for another one-year term beginning Oct. 1, 2026.

John Fick, EdD, FACHE, professor, health administration, was re-elected to serve as Health and Human Services Section's vice chair for another one-year term beginning Oct. 1, 2026. Dr. Fick was also reappointed to serve on the Academic Publishing Editorial Board of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Julie Frantsve-Hawley, PhD, CAE, assistant professor, public health, was appointed to the editor-in-chief search committee for the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry*.

Annie Johnson, DMD, MPH, adjunct faculty, public health, received the ATSU-CGHS Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award at the College's annual Awards Banquet.

Michael Ryan, PhD, MSK, CSCS, Pn2, '19, adjunct faculty, kinesiology, earned his doctorate in psychology from Grand Canyon University's College of Doctoral Studies.

Laura Santurri, PhD, MPH, joined the College as a faculty member in the Health Sciences department.

Kate Schultz, MS, adjunct faculty, health professions education, received the ATSU-CGHS Adjunct Faculty of the Year award at the College's annual Awards Banquet.

Daniel Smith, PhD, MBA, associate professor, public health, is the new director of ATSU-CGHS' Office of Scholarly & Professional Development.

Lisa St. Pierre, DNP, MSN-Ed, APRN, assistant professor, nursing, received the ATSU-CGHS Professor of the Year Award and the DAISY Award for nursing education at the College's annual Awards Banquet. Additionally, Dr. St. Pierre was appointed as program director for the College's Doctor of Nursing program, effective Aug. 1.

ATSU-KCOM

Kristin Blunk, EdD, MBA, was promoted to associate dean of academic affairs.

William Brechue, PhD, professor and chair, physiology, retired from the College in June after nearly 12 years of service.

Jeff Davis, DO, CMD, '00, was named vice dean of the College. He previously served as assistant dean of clinical affairs. Additionally, Dr. Davis received the 2026 Wilbur T. Hill, DO, Distinguished Service Award from the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (MAOPS).

This award is MAOPS' highest honor recognizing extraordinary commitment, leadership, and service to the osteopathic profession.

Katherine Holbrook, DO, was promoted to director of ATSU Kirksville Family Medicine.

Richelle Lee, academic coordinator, osteopathic manipulative medicine, received the Missouri campus Employee Excellence Award for the second quarter of 2026.

Tim Ostrowski, PhD, was promoted to professor of physiology.

Jordan Palmer, DO, '17, assistant professor, family medicine, received the A.T. Still Staff Award for Excellence in Teaching at the annual Faculty & Staff Recognition Ceremony.

ATSU-MOSDOH

Romana Muller, EdD, MSDH, CEPH, RDH, '22, associate professor, clinical education, was elected vice president of the Give Kids A Smile St. Louis organization.

Ammar Musawi, MDS, BDS, MPH, '21, assistant dean of simulation clinic & preclinical education, professor, received the ATSU-MOSDOH Elsie Gaber Compassion & Integrity Award at the annual Faculty & Staff Recognition Ceremony.

Whitney Schmitz, instructor, dental hygiene, received the Advisor of the Year award for her service and support as the advisor for the ATSU-MOSDOH Pediatrics Club.

Herbert Silva, DMD, FICD, assistant professor, comprehensive care unit director, was named the 2025 Missouri Dental Association (MDA) Dentist of the Year. This prestigious award recognizes a member who has demonstrated outstanding service to the association, the dental profession, or the community in the past year. Dr. Silva was honored at MDA's annual awards banquet hosted during its House of Delegates meeting in June 2026.

ATSU-SOMA

Eboni Anderson, PhD, DHed, MSW, MEd, MA, '19, associate professor of public health, director of community-oriented primary care, received the Alumni Distinguished Service Award at ATSU-CGHS' annual Awards Banquet. Dr. Anderson is a graduate of ATSU-CGHS' Doctor of Health Education program.

Lawrence LeBeau, DO, was promoted to assistant dean of graduate medical education and associate professor.

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Dr. Lam
ATSU-ASHS



Dr. Sylvia
ATSU-ASHS



Dr. Conley
ATSU-CGHS



Dr. Fick
ATSU-CGHS



Dr. Ryan
ATSU-CGHS



Dr. Brechue
ATSU-KCOM



Dr. Davis
ATSU-KCOM



Dr. Muller
ATSU-MOSDOH



Dr. Musawi
ATSU-MOSDOH



Dr. LeBeau
ATSU-SOMA

IN MEMORIAM

Still Magazine remembers those who have passed away and extends deepest sympathies to their families and friends.

Visit stillmagazine.atsu.edu to read full-length obituaries.

1940s

Josephine M. Rakow, DO, '45
Feb. 16, 2025
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania

1950s

Richard J. Burman, DO, '59
April 23, 2025
Magnolia, Texas

Benedict J. Miriani, DO, '59
Feb. 16, 2026
High Hill, Missouri

1960s

John D. Englehart, DO, '61
July 12, 2025
Marble Hill, Missouri

Nicholas S. Sellas, DO, '61
July 13, 2026
Clearwater, Florida

Carl R. Gillette, DO, '62
April 9, 2026
Ft. Myers, Florida

Lester H. McLachlan, DO, '62
March 10, 2026
Seminole, Florida

John A. Neily, DO, '63
Oct. 28, 2025
Plantation, Florida

John J. Oliver, DO, '66
May 6, 2026
Manistee, Michigan

Donald F. Yorkey Jr., DO, '66
April 8, 2026
Falmouth, Maine

Richard A. Candig, DO, '67
Feb. 11, 2026
Wellington, Florida

1970s

Richard A. Langsdorf, DO, '70
April 2, 2025
Canal Fulton, Ohio

Charles H. Zeigler, DO, '70
June 18, 2025
Harmony, Pennsylvania

Michael D. Nathan, DO, '71
April 4, 2025
Simpsonville, South Carolina

Jerry L. Dickey, DO, '75
June 10, 2026
Winslow, Arkansas

William D. Myers, DO, '76
Jan. 26, 2026
Rolla, Missouri

Richard R. Dailey, DO, '78
June 29, 2026
Overland Park, Kansas

Robert G. Zerull, DO, '78
Jan. 6, 2026
Shalimar, Florida

1980s

Jeffrey G. Kraft, DO, '80
March 8, 2026
Libby, Montana

Aaron N. Didich, DO, '83
April 18, 2026
Strongsville, Ohio

Stephen M. Damiani, DO, '84
Dec. 30, 2025
Apple Valley, California

Meredith L. Lowry, DO, '86
Feb. 3, 2026
Ashland, Oregon

Gerald E. Lane, DO, '87
Jan. 25, 2026
Gardner, Kansas

1990s

Ernest L. Mollohan, DO, '93
April 25, 2026
Tuscumbia, Alabama

Adam S. Nally, DO, '99
March 11, 2026
Waddell, Arizona

2000s

Karen Van Doorne, AuD, '03
July 18, 2026
Grand Haven, Michigan

Faculty, staff & friends

John E. Krogh, PhD
Aug. 19, 2026
Mona, Utah

Emmett S. Manley Jr., PhD
April 17, 2026
Memphis, Tennessee

H. Charles Moore, PhD
April 26, 2026
Tucson, Arizona

Sonya L. Moore
April 12, 2026
Tucson, Arizona

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First-year ATSU-ASDOH students state their oath to the profession at the White Coat Ceremony in Mesa, Arizona.





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— Mariam A. Olaniyi, DPT, '25
Postprofessional Doctor of Physical Therapy alumna



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