

Your monthly GOMA news & update

Welcome to GOMA's monthly newsletter where you can stay up-to-date on the latest osteopathic news and happenings in the GOMA community.

An Atypical Path for an Exceptional DO

If at first you don't succeed... persevere, persevere again!



Danielle Terry Ward, DO had her first book published just last month. "Atypical Premed: A Non-Traditional Student's Guide to Applying to Medical School" is currently available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Kindle. The paperback is perfect for those considering medicine who don't fit the traditional image of a medical student. It has been described as "incredibly well-written and inspirational book".

Dr. Ward was inspired to become a physician at the age of 5 when she watched a doctor perform surgery on television. Her mother was the first African-American female from Mississippi to graduate from West Point. Dr. Ward was born in Germany, but moved frequently during her childhood - something many children of military personnel are familiar with. She graduated in 2005 from North Cobb High School in Kennesaw, Georgia before heading to Louisiana State

University. She was only a freshman in college when she married and conceived a daughter, but her life took a downward spiral. Her husband started to physically abuse her, and a year later, she and her daughter Tiana were forced to flee to the Ward's home in Mississippi. She persevered, and returned to LSU for summer classes which allowed her to graduate with a B.S. in Biochemistry on schedule in 2009.

With her divorce finalized, she began her work as a research associate in LSU's School of Veterinary Medicine, and during those four years, she worked on getting her master's degree in biochemistry from the University of Saint Joseph in Connecticut. Her applications to medical schools were repeatedly unsuccessful due to weak MCAT scores. It was on her third attempt and after five years that Dr. Ward joined the PCOM – Georgia osteopathic medical school in 2014. She became heavily involved with the SNMA student organization by representing the osteopathic profession. And then, in 2016, she won a runoff election to become the first osteopathic medical student to assume the presidency since the SNMA's founding in 1964. Dr. Ward graduated from GA-PCOM in 2018. She is working at an urgent care facility in Atlanta, and still hoping to get accepted into a general surgery residency so she can become the doctor performing surgery like she saw on television 28 years ago.

William "Bill" Bostock, DO was selected by Governor Brian Kemp to become a member of the Georgia Composite Medical Board. Dr. Bostock was installed in this position on January 7, 2020. He becomes the second of the two osteopathic physicians on the Board by statute, joining Vice Chairperson Barby J. Simmons, DO. Dr. Bostock is currently part of the faculty of Northside Gwinnett Medical Center's family practice residency after having had a private practice in Lawrenceville, GA for many years. GOMA is certain that Dr. Bostock will work hard to protect the citizens of Georgia by making sure medical providers provide high quality care. Dr. Bostock and Governor Kemp pictured right.



GOMA GETS INVOLVED



Join GOMA at the GA Capitol for Legislative Day Mar 5!

Join GOMA for the Primary Care Physicians Coalition's Legislative Day at the Capitol on Thursday, March 5!

There will be ample discussion about what is happening under the Capitol dome as well as time to talk to your legislators and express concerns. It will be a great opportunity for us to show DO commitment to driving our profession's destiny rather than allowing others to take the wheel and determine the direction of medicine in the state.

You will spend a day out of the office, but it could make an important difference on all the rest of your days in practice.

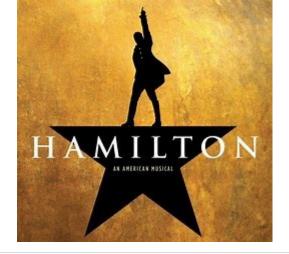
REGISTER by FEBRUARY 24

via EMAIL gomaosteo@aol.com
or
FAX 678-225-7579
or for further information:
TEL 678-225-7571
or visit the Legislative tab.

AGENDA

8:30 am – 9:15 am Breakfast discussing legislative Priorities 9:15 am – 10:15 am Policy briefing 10:15 am – 12:00 pm Legislative visits at the Capitol 12:15 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch w/ legislators & Wrap up

JOIN / RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP PRIOR TO MARCH 1!



The musical <u>Hamilton</u> by Lin-Manuel Miranda has been a pop culture phenomenon since its Broadway premiere in 2015. It won 11 Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Original Score and Best Book!

GOMA is giving away **4 tickets** to the Saturday, April 4th evening showing of Hamilton at the <u>Fox Theater</u> to ONE lucky doctor!

The only way to qualify for these tickets at Atlanta's Fox Theater is to be a member of GOMA before March 1st when a drawing will be held. If you win, you will instantly become a very popular individual!

Opening Doors!

PCOM Georgia and PCOM South Georgia will hold host Open House events in April. Tour the campuses, meet with program faculty, hear from current students and learn about the admissions process for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Program.



PCOM Georgia
Open House
5:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
Friday, April 24
625 Old Peachtree Road, NW
Suwanee, GA 30024



PCOM South Georgia
Open House
5:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
Thursday, April 2
2050 Tallokas Road
Moultrie, GA 31769

GOMA President-Elect Serves as Doctor of the Day

Dr Karen Turner, DO, GOMA President-Elect served as Doctor of the Day at the Georgia State Capitol on January 30, 2020 as a part of Savannah Day.

Pictured below: Dr. Turner and Governor Brian P Kemp (left). Dr. Turner being introduced to the Senate by Senator Dr. Ben Watson of Savannah and Lieutenant Governor Geoff Duncan (right).







A CME Opportunity at PCOM-GA

Hosted by PCOM Georgia located in Suwanee, Georgia, the <u>Interprofessional Approach to Complex</u> <u>Case Management</u> conference will explore complex case management from the interdisciplinary team's

perspective. This program will emphasize the importance of communication in delivering patient centered care. A panel discussion will incorporate interprofessional collaboration strategies in assessment and treatment as it relates to complex cases involving pain.



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