

# PNWU WELCOMES CLASS OF 2019

News Release from **Pacific NW Univ. of Health Sciences**

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Contact: Ryan Rodruck

Tel: 509.249.7861

Email: [rrodruck@pnwu.edu](mailto:rrodruck@pnwu.edu)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences welcomes Class of 2019

YAKIMA, WA - Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences' (PNWU) College of Osteopathic Medicine welcomed 140 new student doctors in a special ceremony held Saturday. The students comprise the college's eighth class since the university's founding in 2005.

The White Coat Ceremony is a traditional celebration held by medical schools throughout the country. During the ceremony, students receive their white lab coats signifying their role as student medical professionals.

"This is a very special and ceremonial day for students and their families," said Dr. Thomas A. Scandalis, Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine. "The White Coat Ceremony begins an important step in a student's medical career and is an important recognition of the hard work it took to arrive at this point in their education," Dr. Scandalis continued.

More than 4,200 candidates applied for admission to the College of Osteopathic Medicine for the 2015 application cycle.

"Of all the schools I applied to, PNWU felt the most like home. I'm excited to be here and begin my medical education" said Student Doctor Teresa Straub, an incoming first year medical student from Ridgefield, Washington.

During their first year, student learning focuses on the scientific foundations of medicine, clinical skills, community-based medicine and application of osteopathic principals. The ceremony begins four years of intense medical education in the university's osteopathic medical program.

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About PNWU: In 2004, physicians and community leaders raised the awareness and resources to build a health sciences university where the next generation of health care professionals would train. Located in Yakima, Washington, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences welcomed its first class of 70 medical school students into the College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2008 and graduated them in 2012. Today the University houses 300 medical students who are training under the careful instruction of highly-qualified faculty. In addition to the Yakima

campus, PNWU has established 18 core rotation sites in communities around the Pacific Northwest. Hospitals and clinics around the region have welcomed PNWU students, training them in the clinical settings where they will eventually practice.

**Contact Info:**

Ryan Rodruck

[rrodruck@pnwu.edu](mailto:rrodruck@pnwu.edu)

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