

Class of 2009

PRESIDING	Charlotte A. Tate Dean
PROCESSIONAL	Music by the Asbury Brass Quintet
“AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL”	Brandy L. Holtz BS, Kinesiology and Nutrition, December 2009
(words listed on page 44)	
WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS	Charlotte A. Tate
DISTINGUISHED COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER	L. Tammy Duckworth Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
PRESENTATION OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS	Charlotte A. Tate
PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES (see list on page 10)	
BIOMEDICAL AND HEALTH INFORMATION SCIENCES	June Wencel Drake Interim Head
Degrees in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomedical Visualization • Health Informatics • Health Information Management
DISABILITY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	Tamar Heller Head
KINESIOLOGY AND NUTRITION	Charles Walter Interim Head
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	Yolanda Suarez-Balcazar Head
PHYSICAL THERAPY	Christina Hui-Chan Head
CONFERRAL OF GRADUATE, PROFESSIONAL, AND UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES . . .	Charlotte A. Tate

DISTINGUISHED COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER—TAMMY DUCKWORTH



Illinois National Guard Maj. L. Tammy Duckworth is recognized nationwide as an eloquent and passionate advocate for veterans. In April 2009, Congress approved President Barack Obama’s nomination of Duckworth to be assistant secretary of public and intergovernmental affairs for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Among her duties, she will oversee programs for homeless veterans, consumer affairs, and special rehabilitative events. As director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs (2006–2009), Duckworth made Illinois a model in providing state benefits to veterans. She launched a first-of-its-kind program that mandates traumatic-brain-injury screening of all Illinois National Guard members returning from combat, and she introduced a 24-hour, toll-free counseling hotline for members who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder. Duckworth is a decorated veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, during which she lost both her legs and partial use of one arm when a rocket-propelled grenade struck the helicopter she was copiloting. Duckworth earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Hawaii and a master’s degree in international affairs from George Washington University. Born in Thailand, she is the daughter of a U.S. marine who fought in Vietnam and is married to Iraq war veteran and National Guard officer Maj. Bryan Bowsbey.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Presented by **Charlotte A. Tate**
Dean’s Award **To Be Announced**
Excalibur Awards **Presented by**
Elise Kasper
 President, AHS
 Student Council
Silver Circle Award **Karen Patena**
 Clinical Assistant
 Professor, HIM
Outstanding Alumnus Award **Presented to**
Cynthia Hughes
Harris
 Provost and Vice
 Chancellor for
 Academic Affairs,
 Florida A&M
 University
Dean’s Special
Recognition Award **To Be Announced**

RESPONSE FROM THE CLASS OF 2009 **Shamim Patel**
 AHS Class of 2009

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE PLEDGE . . . **Elizabeth J. Protas**
 Dean, School of
 Health Professions,
 University of Texas
 Medical Branch

CLOSING REMARKS **Charlotte A. Tate**

RECESSIONAL

*Music by the
 Asbury Brass Quintet
 Reception to Follow
 Forum, Main Hall C*

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER—ELIZABETH J. PROTAS



Elizabeth J. Protas, PhD, joins us from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, where she serves as dean of the School of Health Professions, the Ruby Decker Endowed Professor, and a senior fellow of the Sealy Center on Aging. She is renowned for her research and clinical interests—funded by the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs, and others—which focus on exercise and aging among individuals with chronic disabilities. Protas is an exemplary leader, even in the face of unpredictability. In September 2008, when Hurricane Ike destroyed over 1 million square feet of building space on her campus, she immediately found classroom space in nearby unaffected institutions and arranged new rotations for students who had been doing clinical training at the devastated UTMB medical center. Students expected to graduate in December were able to do so, and the education of all students was minimally disrupted because of Protas’s personal diligence.

BANNER CARRIERS

Thayne Munce Kinesiology and Nutrition
 Carol Braunschweig Kinesiology and Nutrition

MARSHALS

Biomedical and Health Information Sciences

Scott Barrows Biomedical Visualization
 MS Candidates
 Lawrence Pawola Health Informatics
 MS Candidates and Postmaster’s
 and Postbachelor’s Certificate
 Candidates
 Karen Patena Health Information Management
 BS Candidates

Disability and Human Development

Glenn Fujjura MS Candidates

Kinesiology and Nutrition

Daniel Corcos PhD and MS Candidates
 Mary Lou Bareither Kinesiology BS Candidates
 Jamie Sutton Shifley Nutrition BS Candidates

Occupational Therapy

Gary Kielhofner OTD Candidates
 Brent Braveman MS Candidates

Physical Therapy

Alexander Aruin MS Candidates
 Demetra John DPT Candidates

Disability Studies

Carol Gill PhD Candidates

PLEDGE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

(Used with permission and appreciation of the University of Texas Medical Branch.)

“I pledge and commit myself to the ethical, responsible, and diligent practice of my profession. I will respect and uphold the laws that govern my profession and adhere to its ethical principles.

“I pledge faithfully to honor the inherent dignity of all, to treat those who depend on my help with respect, consideration, and appreciation for our diversities.”

“I pledge always to protect the rights and confidentiality of those who seek my help, and to act only for their benefit.”

“I pledge continually to strive to learn, to further my professional competence, and to share my knowledge with those who seek it.”

“I pledge always to serve to the best of my ability, to conduct myself with dignity, and to place service to humankind before personal or material gain.”

“With honor and pride, I commit myself to my profession.”

UNIVERSITY STUDENT AWARDS

FMC Award of Excellence

Emilia Baczek	Nutrition
Lena Truong	Kinesiology

Provost Research Award

Eduame Garcia	Disability Studies
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Martin Luther King, Jr., Scholarship

Adrianna Ruiz	Kinesiology
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2009 Jefferson Award for Student Leadership

Peggy Balboa	Nutrition
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2009 Chancellor's Student Service Award

Biomedical Visualization	Sarah Hegmann Shay Kilby
Health Information Management	Inez Candelario Staci Chan Dedrain Drew Fatma Elrayes Clarice Jefferson Summaiya Khalid Inessa Moss Gelila Muluager Shamim Patel Gideon Ramirez Jazmith Ramirez Michael Rivera Elizabeth Sindut Ashley Williams
Kinesiology	Greg Adamiec Angelica Alonso Emmanuel Bansa Julie Cain Staci Chan Samantha Gagni Elise Kasper Nantida Kolodziej Kevin Lee Robert Malnik Jeffrey Moy Stephanie Pounder Elizabeth Raspolich Tadas Stonkus Christian Villegas
Nutrition	Peggy Balboa Dorothy Collins Kristina Stodola Yingying Wang

UNIVERSITY FACULTY TEACHING AWARDS

Mary Louise Bareither	UIC Flame Award for Teaching Excellence
Gail Fisher	Committee on the Effectiveness of Teaching and Learning: Teaching Recognition Program Award

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

UIAA 2009 Student Leadership Award

Biomedical Visualization	Sarah Hegmann
Health Information Management	Shamim Patel Ashley Williams
Kinesiology	Julie Cain Samantha Gagni Elise Kasper Jessica Pinter
Occupational Therapy	Juleen Rodakowski

UIAA 2009 Activities Honorary Society Award

Julie Cain	Kinesiology
Samantha Gagni	Kinesiology
Elise Kasper	Kinesiology
Jessica Pinter	Kinesiology

AHS GRADUATING FELLOWS—URBAN ALLIED HEALTH ACADEMY

Sonia Esparza	Nutrition
Keng-I Lin	Nutrition
Raquel Lopez	Nutrition
Marilena Marchetti	Occupational Therapy
Rogelio Martinez	Nutrition
Noreen McNulty	Occupational Therapy
Eunyoung Park	Nutrition
Cecilia Noelle Vaughn Guy	Occupational Therapy
Candice Wanish	Occupational Therapy
Yingying Wang	Nutrition

ACADEMIC PROGRAM/PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION STUDENT AWARDS

Biomedical Visualization

Achievement Award	Megan Thomas
Alice and Brian Katz Scholarship	Candace Woodson
Thomas Smith Jones Award	Michael Moran Kristin Luther
Lillian Torrance Award	Megan Thomas Sharon Kilby Janet Chou
Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society	Kristin Luther Evelyn Maizels Candace Woodson Megan Thomas
Alan Cole Scholarship	Evelyn Maizels
Vesalius Trust Grant	Meena Malohotra

Health Information Management

Achievement Award	Shamim Patel
Care Communications 2009 RHIA Certification Exam Scholarship	Yvette Apura
Illinois Health Information Management Association Edna K. Huffman Award	Ashley Williams
Rita M. Finnegan Academic Achievement Award	Yvette Apura Kimberly Smuk
AHIMA Foundation of Research and Education Merit Scholarship	Yvette Apura Shamim Patel
Greater Chicago Chapter, HIM Systems Society	Shamim Patel

Disability and Human Development

Achievement Award	Kate B. Bacon
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Disability Studies

Achievement Award	Edueme Garcia
Ann and Edward Page-El, MD, Scholarship Award	Vladimir Cuk
Inter-American Foundation's Grassroots Development Fellowship	Elizabeth McClain Lockwood

Kinesiology and Nutrition

Achievement Award	Amanda Huizinga (KINE) Nicole Viverito (KINE) Srisakthisolach Ramanathan (Nutrition)
Helen Barton Summer Research Scholarship	Julie Cain Samantha Gagni Michael Grossman Stephen Ratchford

Occupational Therapy

Achievement Award	Juleen Rodakowski (MS/C) Monica Ciukaj (OTD)
Lillian Torrance Award	Stacy Hirter Elizabeth May TuQuynh Nguyen Abigail Tamm-Seitz Ariel Teitelbaum Sarah Weaver
Ruth Hadra Scholarship Award	TuQuynh Nguyen Catrina Chapman
Third District Award	Catrina Chapman
Lois Anderberg Koji Award	Sarah Weaver

Physical Therapy

Achievement Award	Kathryn Hendron
2008 Lillian Torrance Scholarship Award	Kathryn Hendron Christopher Thompson

AHS STUDENT COUNCIL

2008–2009 Officers	Academic Unit
Elise Kasper, President	Kinesiology
Sylvia Mungongo, Vice President	Kinesiology
Rebecca Garcia, Secretary	Kinesiology
Carrie Griffin, Treasurer	Kinesiology

COLLEGE ALUMNI BOARD

2008–2009 Officers	
Art Slowinski, Chair	MS, Movement Sciences, 1994
Julie Schwertfeger, Vice Chair	BS, Physical Therapy, 1994
Joanne Bradna, Member	MAMS, Medical Laboratory Sciences, 1981
Anne F. Kiraly, Member	OTD, Occupational Therapy, 2008

COLLEGE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Charlotte "Toby" Tate	Dean
June Wencel-Drake	Executive Associate Dean, Research and Academic Affairs
Kathleen Krzak	Associate Dean, Administration
Larry Pawola	Associate Dean, Academic Practice
Renee Pleshar	Associate Dean, Student Affairs
Annette Valenta	Associate Dean, Health Informatics and Technology
Stephanie Jefferson	Assistant Dean, Recruitment, and Director, Urban Health Program

COLLEGE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Tamar Heller	Head, Disability and Human Development
Christina Hui-Chan	Head, Physical Therapy
Yolanda Suarez-Balcazar	Head, Occupational Therapy
Charles Walter	Interim Head, Kinesiology and Nutrition
June Wencel-Drake	Interim Head, Biomedical and Health Information Sciences

COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT COORDINATOR

Elaine Nicholas	Office of the Dean, Student Affairs
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