

Regulations of the Medical Academy of Georgia
adopted at the Meeting of the Board of Trustees at their Meeting
held in Augusta on Monday March 3^d 1829

Art II

The Faculty of the Medical Academy of Georgia when in the opinion of the Board of Trustees the number of Students will justify the same shall consist of Six Professors who shall be chosen by the Board of Trustees and who shall deliver Two courses of Lectures annually on the following Subjects viz. Anatomy - Surgery - Natural Medicine - Institutes and Practice of Medicine - Midwifery and diseases of women and Children - Chemistry and Pharmacy. These Lectures shall be delivered at such hours as the Professors may agree on amongst themselves, provided that they are such hours as may be convenient for the attendance of the Students consistent with the regulations relative to the hours of Study or confinement to the Institution, their arrangement to be subject to the revision of the Board of Trustees

Art III

If any Professor shall his courses fail to prepare and deliver his courses at such time as these regulations may provide, it shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to enquire in the Cause of his neglect and if wilful or from any avoidable cause, his Chair shall be declared vacant and another Professor elected in his stead. But until it can be ascertained that the number of Students will justify the appointment of six professors, such a number shall be appointed as the Board of Trustees may think advisable but the number be less than Four they shall not be required to deliver full courses in each year but at least one full course shall be delivered on each branch



History Timeline

their Countenance and advice on the government of the School and in the furtherance of the objects which it is designed to accomplish. In their respect the Executive Committee provided for in the act of Incorporation shall be vested with ^{their} power in all matters of government and exigency - their acts proceedings to be subject to the recon-

1828



■ **Dr. Milton Antony** leads the effort and the Georgia legislature charters the Medical Academy of Georgia on Dec. 20 authorizing it to award a bachelor of medicine degree. The Medical Academy would become the 13th U.S. medical school and the 5th public medical school to be established.

1829



■ **Dr. Lewis D. Ford** is selected as first dean. Classes begin at Augusta's City Hospital with three faculty and seven students.
 ■ The state legislature changes the name to the Medical Institute of Georgia and authorizes it to award the doctorate of medicine.

1833

- The first four students graduate
- The state legislature changes the institution's name to the Medical College of Georgia.

1835

■ The medical college occupies the Old Medical College building, its first dedicated academic home, on Telfair Street on land conveyed by the trustees of the Academy of Richmond County. It houses the teaching facilities of the college through 1912.

1861

■ Classes are suspended during the Civil War, until 1865.

1873

■ An agreement is made for affiliation with the University of Georgia, though separate governance and financing are maintained. The name is changed to the Medical Department of the University of Georgia.

1888

■ The first residency program begins at City Hospital when faculty decide to appoint the first honor student in each class as house physician at the hospital upon graduating.

1891

■ The MCG Alumni Association is organized. The first annual meeting is held the following year.



1911

■ In response to the widely-accepted (Abraham) Flexner Report, which called for strengthening medical schools' curriculums, improving clinical instruction and providing better lab facilities, the University of Georgia formally takes over property and assets of the medical school, although the school remains in Augusta.

1913

■ With the need for improved facilities, classes relocate from the Old Medical College building to the renovated Newton Building on Railroad Avenue, which had previously served as the Augusta Orphanage Asylum.



1915

■ University Hospital, built by the City of Augusta, opens as the teaching hospital for the Medical Department, replacing the Lamar and City Hospitals. The Lamar Hospital, which opened in 1895, had served African-Americans in the community. The new University Hospital maintained separate wings for whites and African-Americans.

1920



■ The first known class ring with the skull and crossbones belongs to **Dr. H.G. Weaver**, Class of 1920. The ring design remains the same today.

1921

■ The first female, **Loree Florence**, is admitted to MCG, graduating in 1926. Dr. Florence also works as a lab technician, which prevents her from taking a full schedule and graduating in four years.

1923

■ **Dr. Virgil P. Sydenstricker**, chair of the MCG Department of Medicine, publishes a report of the first documented case of sickle cell disease, with full autopsy findings.

1926

■ MCG charts a chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, making it the first chapter in Georgia.

1931

■ A gift from **Bowdre Phinzy**, former owner and publisher of the *Augusta Herald* and the *Athens Banner-Herald*, and his wife **Meta Charbonnier Phinzy**, in memory of her father, **Leon Henri Charbonnier**, establishes the first endowment in MCG's history. The chair is fully funded in 1961 and its first recipients are cardiothoracic surgeon and 1943 MCG graduate **Dr. Robert G. Ellison** and biochemistry professor and eventual founding dean of The Graduate School, **Dr. Sam Singal**.

1933

■ Due to the Great Depression, the Board of Regents closes the UGA Medical Department. However, due to outcry from alumni and citizens across the state, and the support of **Gov. Eugene Talmadge**, the regents reinstate the Medical Department, renaming it the University of Georgia School of Medicine.

1937

■ Basic science classrooms and labs find a home with the construction of the Dugas Building, named in honor of former Dean, **Dr. Louis Alexander Dugas**.

1939

■ **Dr. Sydenstricker** is nominated for a Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his research on the use of nicotinic acid in pellagra therapy.

1942

- To aid the WWII effort, the medical school begins a three-year accelerated program.

1945

- **Dr. William Hamilton**, chair of the combined MCG Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, invents the Hamilton Manometer, which measures blood flow and pressure in the cardiovascular system, paving the way for cardiac catheterization.



1948

- **Dr. Raymond P. Ahlquist**, a pharmacologist and later MCG associate dean for basic sciences, publishes research that lays the groundwork for beta blocking drugs. He later becomes MCG's first recipient of the Albert Lasker Award for Clinical Medical Research.

1950

- The Board of Regents makes the medical school an independent unit of the University System of Georgia, restoring the name Medical College of Georgia and changing the executive title from dean to president. **Dr. G. Lombard Kelly**, a 1924 MCG alumnus and dean, serves as first president.

1951

- The legislature authorizes the establishment of a state teaching hospital and names it for the late **Gov. Eugene Talmadge**.

1954

- Five physicians contribute private funds to help form the MCG Foundation.

1956

- **Eugene Talmadge** Memorial Hospital opens as MCG's teaching hospital, making it an academic medical center.
- The first open-heart bypass surgery in Georgia is performed at MCG by **Dr. Ellison**.



1957

- **Drs. Hervey Cleckley** and **Corbett Thigpen**, psychiatrists and faculty in the MCG Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology, present the first case study documenting a patient displaying more than two personalities, resulting in the book and movie *The Three Faces of Eve*.



1963

- The first freestanding library opens, later named for prominent MCG physician, scientist and faculty member, **Dr. Robert B. Greenblatt**.
- The PhD in biomedical sciences program begins.

1967

- MCG integrates, admitting its first African-American students, **Drs. Frank M. Rumph** and **John T. Harper**, who graduate in 1971.

1970

■ The Student Educational Enrichment Program, a summer pipeline program for students interested in health sciences, is founded.

1977

■ The first Hooding Ceremony is held.

1988

■ Due to the building's historical significance and architectural distinction, the Old Medical College is listed on the National Register of Historic Places with the National Park Service.

1992

■ **Drs. Robert Adams**, neurologist, and **Virgil C. McKie**, pediatric hematologist/oncologist, identify painless transcranial Doppler as the first noninvasive method for identifying children with sickle cell disease who also are at risk for stroke. Later studies show that regular blood transfusions can significantly reduce stroke risk and help change sickle cell treatment for children.

1996

■ The first White Coat Ceremony is held.

1997

■ The MCG Foundation receives a gift of more than \$17 million from the estate of Augusta radio newsman and entrepreneur **George Weiss**. At the time, it was the largest single donation ever made to the college.

1998

■ **Drs. David Munn**, a pediatric hematologist/oncologist and 1984 MCG graduate, and **Andrew Mellor**, an immunologist, identify the enzyme IDO's role in preventing a mother's immune system from rejecting a fetus. Their subsequent findings show tumors use IDO to protect themselves and suppressing IDO as a novel cancer therapy.



2000

- The MD/PhD Program, a joint effort with the University System of Georgia, is founded.

2004

- A groundbreaking study, led by MCG allergist and immunologist **Dr. Dennis Ownby**, overturns long-held beliefs and shows that children raised in homes with dogs and cats actually have less risk of developing allergies and asthma.

2005

- The first regional campus, for third- and fourth-year students, in MCG's statewide educational network opens. The Southwest Campus based in Albany is headquartered at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital.



2006

- MCG increases first-year enrollment from 180 to 190, the first increase since 1974.

2007

- MCG announces plans for the Southeast Campus, a regional clinical campus to be based in Savannah/Brunswick. The first students begin living and learning there in 2011.
- The State of Georgia appropriates funds to study expanding medical education. When the FY 2008 state budget is passed, it includes \$2.8 million to expand student capacity at the Medical College of Georgia.

2008

- The Board of Regents accept a January report from consulting firm Tripp Umbach on how best to expand medical education.
- The Board authorizes the purchase of the adjacent Gilbert Manor public housing property, enabling campus expansion. The Augusta Commission provides \$10 million to purchase the property, laying the groundwork for a future academic home for MCG.

2009

- The Board of Regents approves the Medical Partnership, a second four-year campus of MCG in Athens in partnership with the University of Georgia. The first 40 students enroll in 2010, increasing MCG's first-year class size to 230 students.
- MCG announces plans for the Northwest Campus, a regional clinical campus to be based in Rome. The first students begin living and learning there in 2013.



2010

- The Board of Regents approves changing the university's name to Georgia Health Sciences University, retaining the name Medical College of Georgia for the medical school. These changes are effective in February 2011.

2012

- **Dr. J. Harold Harrison**, a renowned vascular surgeon and a 1948 MCG graduate, and his wife, **Sue W. Harrison**, give \$10 million to support construction of a new academic home.

2013

- The Board of Regents approves the consolidation of Augusta State University and Georgia Health Sciences University, creating Georgia Regents University. The name Medical College of Georgia is again retained for the medical school. In 2015, the university's name is changed to Augusta University.
- MCG receives a \$66 million gift, from **Dr. Harrison's** estate, to establish 10 new endowed chairs for faculty and the first full-tuition scholarships for students.
- The MD/MBA program begins.
- The BS to MD program is founded.

2014

- The **J. Harold Harrison, M.D.** Education Commons, the academic home of MCG, opens in August. Students begin attending classes there in January 2015.

2015

- The MD/MPH program begins.

2018

- Plans are announced to grow MCG's class size to 260 students by the Fall of 2024, marking the first class size increase since 2010, and to 300 by 2028.

2019

- MCG announces a redesign of its four-year core MD curriculum to three years to enable students – beginning with those in the Class of 2024 – to better tailor their fourth-year learning experience. The redesign provides a more efficient pathway into primary care for a percentage of students. The MCG 3+ Primary Care Pathway allows students who commit to primary care practice in rural or underserved Georgia to graduate in three years and immediately enter a residency program in Georgia in either emergency medicine, general surgery, family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics or psychiatry. Dependent on funding, those students would receive a scholarship in exchange for service. The majority of students will spend the fourth year of medical school honing clinical and research skills or completing a dual degree.

2020

- The AU/UGA Medical Partnership grows from 40 to 50 students per class, with plans to grow to 60 in 2021. The medical school, already with one of the largest class sizes in the country, also announces plans to grow the class size at the main campus in Augusta, from 190 to 200 students per class beginning in 2021, eventually growing to 240 by 2028, and bringing MCG's total class size to 300.





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