



College of Veterinary Medicine UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Department of Physiology and
Pharmacology

of the

College of Veterinary Medicine

recognizes graduates with a

Bachelor of Science in Biomedical
Physiology

Fall 2025 Convocation

Thursday, December 11th at 1:00pm
Ramsey Concert Hall in the Performing Arts Center
| Athens, Georgia

**ONE WORLD.
ONE HEALTH.**

TEACHING. RESEARCH. SERVICE.

This is the place where theory intersects with action. Where science is connected to service. UGA College of Veterinary Medicine – the intersection of research and impact.

The Biomedical Physiology major was introduced in 2022 to meet student demand for a program to further their understanding of how living organisms function. The curriculum fosters a strong knowledge base in physiology and related sciences as well as critical thinking skills and workplace competencies. Student enthusiasm has led to rapid expansion in enrollment which has been met with an increase in faculty and course offerings.

Program

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME

Dr. Gaylen Edwards, Department Head, Physiology and Pharmacology

Gaylen L. Edwards, DVM, PhD is in his 35th year at the University of Georgia. He is currently the University of Georgia Athletic Association Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Head of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Georgia. He also serves as the interim Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Edwards received his DVM and PhD from Washington State University and conducted postdoctoral studies in the Cardiovascular Center at the University of Iowa. His research has focused on signaling from viscera and control of behavior, particularly ingestive behaviors.

Dr. Edwards has served on the multiple committees and panels for national and international organizations including the American Physiological Society, FASEB, and AAALAC where he advocates for science policy and basic science research.

Dr. Maria M. Viveiros, Director of the Integrative Biomedical Physiology Master's Program

Dr. Maria M. Viveiros, PhD, is an Associate Professor and the Assistant Department Head, Physiology and Pharmacology. She also serves as Director of the Integrative Biomedical Physiology Professional Master's program.

Dr. Viveiros completed her BSc, MSc, and PhD degrees in Canada, followed by postdoctoral fellowships at both Cornell University and the Jackson Laboratory Genetics Institute. She continued her research at the University of Pennsylvania before joining the faculty at the University of Georgia. Research in her laboratory focuses on cellular and developmental biology and is supported by the national institutes of Health. Outside the lab she enjoys teaching both graduate and professional DVM students at the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Viveiros is both a Teaching Academy and CTL Lilly Teaching Fellow at the University of Georgia. She is the recipient of the Outstanding Teaching Award (2025) and David Tyler Award for Advances in Teaching at the College of Veterinary Medicine (2024) at the University of Georgia.

CLASS SPEAKER

Koda Copeland, Student Speaker

Program Cont.

REMARKS

Dr. Lisa Nolan, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Lisa K. Nolan is the Georgia Athletics Association Distinguished Professor and Dean of the University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine. Prior to joining UGA, she served as professor and Dr. Stephen G. Juelsgaard Dean (2011-2017), associate dean of research and graduate studies (2009-2011), associate dean of academic and student affairs (2007-2009), and chair of the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine (2003-2008) at Iowa State University's College of Veterinary Medicine. She was also Professor and Founding Director of the Great Plains Institute of Food Safety at North Dakota State University (1999-2003).

Dr. Nolan has received several honors over the course of her career, including being named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Academy of Microbiology, an honorary diplomate of the American Veterinary Epidemiology Society, a Distinguished Educator Award from the Blue Key National Honor Society, and the Academic Alumnus of 2016 from the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Nolan is a proud triple dog earning her DVM, MS and PhD from UGA.

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

Dr. Paul Eubig, Director of Biomedical Physiology Program

CLOSING COMMENTS

Dr. Karen Wells, Senior Lecturer in Physiology

Undergraduate Degree Recipients

Faara Budhwani
Young Bui
Matthew Campbell
Seyanna Castro
Vaishnavi Chennareddy
Collin Clark
Koda Copeland
Lauren Cunningham
Rubie Frey
William Garland
Arden Gaskill
Gabrielle Griffin
Morgan Hill
Elleena Khan
Riza Khan
Leah Lusk
Madison McLean
Georgia Mercer
Madeline Ming
Moeh Mishima
Kisha Patel
Mouli Patel
Priya Ray
Sriprada Rayavarapu
Snegha Saravanan
Morgan Schoen
Ari Shulimson
Anna Sward
Aissatou Sy Savane
Sabrina Tran
Carson Upshaw
Alan Vu
Julia Witbeck

Graduate Degree Recipients

Sabrina Dumanowsky

Brandon Hellgren

Jenna Jamieson

Madison Kerpics

Jackson Merriam

Madeleine Schoen

Congratulations from the Faculty and Staff
of the Department of Physiology and
Pharmacology!



Your support of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology will provide for a student's educational experience that will help them forge a path to success and create memories of UGA friends and professors that will last a lifetime.

Research experiences for our students

Provides undergraduate scholarships

Provides a personalized convocation celebration for our fast-growing Biomedical Physiology major which is a way to applaud our students' achievements with their family and friends.

Attendees who wish to support the program may do so at the links below:

[UGA CVM Undergraduate Program Scholarship Fund](#)

[UGA CVM Undergraduate Support Fund](#)

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO

Stay in touch with the UGA
Alumni Association and
Hairy Dawg!



Visit alumni.uga.edu/myinfo
or scan the QR code below



INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF VET DAWGS. BECOME A UGA CVM MENTOR.

The UGA Mentor program personalizes the mentoring experience, helping you connect with students, no matter where you are and on your schedule!

WHAT'S THE COMMITMENT?

You are able to connect with students in-person or virtually. It is totally up to you and your mentee to decide! The good news is we also have two ways to engage, depending on your availability and interest:

- **Option 1:** 16-week mentorship: 1-2 hours/month
- **Option 2:** Quick Chats: 15-30 minute, one time conversations

HOW TO GET STARTED!

Create your profile at mentor.uga.edu! You can include any specialties/areas of concentration so mentees are better able to search and connect.

If you only prefer to mentor current CVM students, you can include that in the “Specific Topics That I Would Like to Discuss” area by clicking “other” and inserting “prefer to mentor current CVM students only.”

All mentors have the option to decide if a student would be a good fit to mentor and can accept or decline the student’s request.

LEARN MORE & SIGN UP AT
MENTOR.UGA.EDU

Questions? Email ugament@uga.edu

