

TOURO COLLEGE

*Touro College
School of Health Sciences*

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For Immediate Release

TOURO COLLEGE SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES CELEBRATES COMMENCEMENT AT TILLES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**Alan Kadish, M.D., President and CEO of the Touro College and University System,
Delivers Commencement Address to Over 300 Graduates, Families and Friends**

New York, N.Y. – September 26, 2011 - Touro College students at the School of Health Sciences received bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at a commencement ceremony on Tuesday, September 13th at the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, C.W. Post Campus, in Brookville, New York.

The commencement address was delivered by Touro President and CEO Alan Kadish, M.D. Dr. Louis H. Primavera, dean of the School of Health Sciences, and Dr. Anthony J. Polemeni, vice president of the Division of Graduate Studies, presided over the conferral of degrees upon 346 students.

In his address praising the graduates, Dr. Kadish said their accomplishments at the School of Health Sciences will lead to “moments that will impact the lives of your patients, and stories of hope and healing.” At the same time, he urged them to remember that patients require more than just the requisite medical treatment.

“I advise all of you to strive to uphold the ideals of patient-centered care, and to deliver your expertise with compassion,” Dr. Kadish said. “Compassionate care — defined as care delivered by an emotionally supportive provider who talks and listens to his or her patients — may mean the difference between life and death.”

In his remarks to the graduates, Dean Primavera announced the creation of the Vera Jean Clark-Brown Distinguished Service Award for significant contributions to the profession of occupational therapy. Dr. Clark-Brown, formerly chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy, became ill during her tenure and passed away earlier this year.

“We remember her in a very special way,” said Dr. Primavera. “We have created a special award to be given [to a professional] every year in her honor.”

Degrees were conferred upon graduates in the following disciplines: nursing; occupational therapy; occupational therapy assistant; doctor of physical therapy; post-professional doctor of physical therapy; physician assistant; and speech-language

pathology. Baccalaureate degrees were also conferred on graduates of the Undergraduate Studies Department.

The Touro College School of Health Sciences started as the Division of Health Sciences in 1972 with its flagship physician assistant program. As more professional programs were established, they were consolidated into the School of Health Sciences in 1986. The School has shown steady growth, innovation, and excellence over the years, and has established a number of campuses in the New York area, offering a variety of associate, baccalaureate, master and doctoral-level programs in the health professions: AAS in Nursing, BS/MS in Occupational Therapy, AAS in Occupational Therapy Assistant, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Orthopedic Physical Therapy Residency, BS/MS in Physician Assistant Studies, and MS in Speech-Language Pathology. Additionally, through its Undergraduate Studies department, the School has baccalaureate degree programs with majors in Biology and Psychology. The School's programs serve more than 650 students at campuses in Bay Shore, Long Island, New York City, and Brooklyn.

About the Touro College and University System

Touro is a system of Jewish-sponsored non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. Touro College was chartered in 1970 primarily to enrich the Jewish heritage, and to serve the larger American community. Approximately 19,000 students are currently enrolled in its various schools and divisions. Touro College has branch campuses, locations and instructional sites in the New York area, as well as branch campuses and programs in Berlin, Jerusalem, Moscow, Paris, and Florida. Touro University California and its Nevada branch campus, as well as Touro College Los Angeles and Touro University Worldwide, are separately accredited institutions within the Touro College and University System. For further information on Touro College, please go to: <http://www.touro.edu/media/>.



From left to right: Touro College School of Health Sciences Associate Dean Nadja Graff, Ph.D.; SHS Dean Louis H. Primavera, Ph.D.; Touro College President and CEO Alan Kadish, M.D.; and Vice President of the Graduate Division of Touro College Anthony J. Polemeni, Ph.D.

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