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A First at Cedarville University: Physician Assistant (PA) Program White Coat Ceremony

CEDARVILLE, OHIO -- Cedarville University's newly launched physician assistant (PA) program will hold its first White Coat Ceremony to welcome its inaugural cohort into the program on Friday, May 19, at 3 p.m. in the DeVries Theatre, located in the Stevens Student Center.

The event will feature two speakers, Wally Boeve, PA educator and Cedarville's PA advisory council member, and Dr. Dee Morris, professor of allied health and the visionary for Cedarville's PA program.

This initiation is to honor the students as they enter their graduate-level education. Students will use their short white coats throughout their didactic year as they conduct physical exams and labs.

After 12 months of didactic learning, a pinning ceremony will be held in May 2024 to distinguish the second-year PA students as they transition to their clinical year.

"This is something they've looked forward to for many years so there's an emotion of joy and accomplishment but there should also be a level of responsibility and weight that goes along with it as well," said Jason Grahame, program director and associate professor of PA studies.

Cedarville's PA program received accreditation provisional status by the ARC-PA (the professional accreditor for PA programs in the U.S.) and welcomed its first cohort of students on May 8, 2023.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 5,082 [undergraduate](#), [graduate](#), and [dual-enrollment](#) high school students in more than 175 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is one of the largest private universities in Ohio, recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, high graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings, and the #4 national ranking by the Wall Street Journal for student engagement. For more information about the University, visit cedarville.edu.

Written by Abby Totten

Photo Caption:

1 – Physician Assistant Labs at Cedarville University

2 – Jason Grahame, program director