

Northeastern
University



CLASS OF 2024

**UNDERGRADUATE AND
GRADUATE CELEBRATION**

Bouvé College of Health
Sciences
May 4, 9:00 a.m.

PROGRAM

Welcome

Jennifer Kirwin

Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Clinical Professor

Dean's Address

Carmen Sceppa

Dean

Student Address

Aziza Sattarova

Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Gail Mensah

Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy Studies

Keynote Address

Christopher A. Viehbacher

President and Chief Executive Officer, Biogen

Alumni Speaker

Daryll Elliot, '90

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Closing Remarks

Carmen Sceppa

Dean

Ceremony Speakers

Carmen Sceppa

Dean

Carmen Castañeda Sceppa, MD, PhD, FGSA, is the Dean of Bouvé College of Health Sciences and Professor of Health Sciences at Northeastern University.

Dr. Sceppa received her medical degree from Francisco Marroquin University in Guatemala City, Guatemala, where she was born and raised. She received her PhD in Nutrition from The Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Sceppa is a clinician, researcher, educator, mentor, and leader. Her work centers around advancing and prolonging health for all. Her research seeks to understand the role of lifestyle interventions on advancing overall health and quality of life. She examines health and wellness in settings that promote physical activity among underserved and vulnerable populations, specifically, older adults and the elderly, particularly Hispanics and African Americans. Dr. Sceppa's research has provided evidence-based information to transform the way we think about healthy lifestyle from personal choice to preventive medicine.

Continued funding for Dr. Sceppa's translational program of research includes funding from the Brookdale Foundation, the International Life Sciences Institute, the National Institutes of Health (NIA, NINR, NIDDK, NHLBI), the National Space and Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI), as well as corporations and foundations such as Novartis, Departments of Public Health, and Boston Children's Hospital.

Dr. Sceppa serves as senior faculty mentor for the Network of Minority Research Investigators (NMRI) at the National Institutes of Health. She is an active and long-time member and contributor of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) and is a GSA Fellow. In 2021, Dr. Sceppa became the Treasurer (2022-2025) and member of the GSA Board. She also serves as Faculty Mentor for the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Career Development & Mentoring Technical Assistance Workshop. She is an active member of the American Society for Nutrition.

Ceremony Speakers

Christopher A. Viehbacher

President & Chief Executive Officer, Biogen

Christopher A. Viehbacher joined Biogen as President and Chief Executive Officer and a member of the Board of Directors in November 2022.

Viehbacher has extensive international experience in both large pharmaceutical companies and entrepreneurial biotech companies and has a passion for advancing science for the benefit of patients and public health.

After 20 years with GlaxoSmithKline, he served as global CEO of Sanofi for six years. Under Viehbacher's leadership, Sanofi strengthened and diversified its R&D pipeline and delivered significant value to shareholders.

More recently, Viehbacher and Ernesto Bertarelli co-founded Gurnet Point Capital, a Cambridge-based healthcare investment fund, which has led to the creation and continuing development of many innovative companies. He has also chaired or been a member of the board of a number of entrepreneurial companies in biotechnology. Viehbacher has always been a strong advocate for innovation and public health. He has received a number of awards including the Légion d'Honneur from France. He is Trustee of Northeastern University, a member of the Board of Fellows of the Stanford Medical School and a member of the MIT President's CEO Advisory Board.

He graduated from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, and he speaks French, German and English.

STUDENT SPEAKERS

Aziza Sattarova

Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Aziza Sattarova is an undergraduate pharmaceutical science major from Uzbekistan. During her time at university, she has been actively involved in research, starting from her sophomore year at Dr. Agar's Lab. Here, she concentrated on the therapeutic potential of thiosulfanate crosslinkers for ALS patients. Aziza also completed a co-op at Dyne Therapeutics, where she contributed to assay development and drug delivery studies aimed at treating muscle dystrophy disorders. In January of 2024, Aziza's contributions to the field were recognized when she coauthored a paper published in PCOL Biology Journal.

Gail Mensah

Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy Studies

Gail Mensah was born and raised in Sayreville, New Jersey and is currently pursuing her Doctor of Pharmacy. During her time at Northeastern University, Gail has been heavily involved in the Bouvé Fellows Program, a peer mentorship program for first-year Bouvé students. Her extensive co-op experience includes positions as Pharmacy Technician at Walgreens Pharmacy, Pharmacy Intern at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, and Medical Scientific Affairs Intern at Ironwood Pharmaceuticals. Gail has held many pharmacy leadership positions including Secretary of the Industry Pharmacists Organization, Mentorship Chair of the Bouvé Underrepresented in Healthcare Student Leadership Council, and Mentorship/Community Service Chair of Phi Lambda Sigma. She remains driven by her passion for pharmaceutical care and her commitment to making a positive impact in the field.

Undergraduate Program

Graduate Program

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Commencement Programs for the Class of 2024.



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