



**Southern Illinois University  
School of Medicine**

**May 9, 1996**

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**Commencement exercises for the 22nd graduating class of Southern Illinois University School of Medicine will be held Saturday, May 18. Sixty-six physicians will graduate during the 2 p.m. ceremonies, which will be held in the Sangamon Auditorium at the University of Illinois in Springfield.**

**Theodore R. LeBlang, J.D., professor and chair of medical humanities at SIU, will deliver the convocation address. Dr. Craig Neitzel of Champaign, chair of the class, will deliver remarks on behalf of the students.**

**LeBlang came to the School in 1975 as senior legal counsel. He has served as legal counsel, as a faculty member and as director of the program of law and medicine in the Department of Medical Humanities. In 1992, he was appointed chair of that department. He also is director of the M.D./J.D. dual degree program at SIU and a professor in the SIU School of Law.**

**Four of this year's graduates have completed the six-year-long combined M.D./J.D. dual degree program. They will receive their medical degrees from SIU School of Medicine and their law degrees from SIU School of Law.**

**LeBlang is a fellow of the American College of Legal Medicine. He is co-author of Law and Medical Practice in Illinois and he is the editor of the Journal of Legal Medicine. He earned a bachelor's degree at Pennsylvania State University (1970) and a law degree at the University of Illinois College of Law (1974).**

**Dr. Erik Constance, dean of students, will present the class for degrees. John C. Guyon, Ph.D., chancellor of SIU, will confer the degrees. Dr. Carl J. Getto, dean and provost of the School of Medicine, will award the diplomas.**

**Each year, the graduates select two of their instructors for the honor of reading the Hippocratic Oath and hooding the graduates during the ceremony. The class of 1996 has chosen Dr. J. Kevin Dorsey, clinical associate professor of medicine from Carbondale, to read the oath; and Dr. Randy Kienstra, associate professor and chair of pediatrics, to hood the graduates.**

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## **SIU School of Medicine Commencement - add one**

**Two other faculty members will be recognized for honors. Dr. Mokenga Malafa, assistant professor of surgery, received the Golden Apple Award for outstanding teaching. David Wade, Ph.D., associate professor of physiology, was chosen teacher of the year for his contributions during the class' first year in Carbondale.**

**Dr. Susan Nagele, a 1981 graduate of the School from Urbana, will be recognized by SIU's Alumni Society Board of Governors as the recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The award is presented to a graduate of the School in recognition of outstanding contributions to medicine and distinguished service to mankind. She has been caring for the needy in Tanzania and Sudan in central Africa as a member of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society for the past ten years.**

**The new physicians will begin their advance training in specialty fields in July. A record 43 (65 percent) of the graduates will enter primary care specialties. SIU and its affiliated hospitals attracted 20 (30 percent) of the graduates for residency training programs; 10 picked other Illinois programs and 20 others will stay in the Midwest for their postgraduate training.**