Alumni Profile – Chris Richardson, DO

GREENVILLE, N.C. (Dec. 1, 2015) — “ECU and their wonderful faculty helped me achieve my goal of being a doctor by providing opportunities for learning and leadership in and out of the classroom,” said Dr. Chris Richardson, a 2009 alumni of East Carolina University.

Richardson received three degrees from the ECU Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in biology, with honors; his Bachelor of Science degree in multidisciplinary studies in the area of neuroscience, with honors; and his Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology, with honors. In addition, Richardson received a minor in chemistry. He then went on to complete medical school at The Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Blacksburg, Va.

“My favorite memory at ECU would be the first time I stepped onto the field at Dowdy-Ficklen stadium as a freshman with the Marching Pirates,” said Richardson. “The ECU Marching Pirates, where I had the opportunity to be captain of the drumline, taught me many valuable lessons including the value of diligence, responsibility and humility.”

Now a resident physician at the University of South Florida Health in Tampa, Fla., Richardson is training for duel specialties in internal medicine and pediatrics. He works in outpatient and inpatient care centers that treat a diverse population of adults and children with complex diseases.

Richardson credits ECU for helping prepare him for his current career.

“In the classroom, I couldn’t have asked for a better, well-rounded and challenging education, presented by professors who genuinely cared about the future of their students,” said Richardson.

While Richardson stays busy with the daily responsibilities of being a practicing physician, he said he still manages to enjoy life outside of work. He spends most of his free time with his girlfriend, traveling the world, or planning ways to do more traveling, hanging out with friends, listening to live music and, of course, watching Pirate football. He said his future goals include starting a family and performing more volunteer service with disaster relief efforts domestically and abroad.

When discussing accomplishing a person’s goals, Richardson imparted these final words.

“Most people who have been successful in their lives will tell a story about how they overcame a struggle to accomplish their goals. What I have learned is the only thing/person that can truly get in the way of accomplishing your goals, is you,” he said. “If you want something, go after it fiercely and with passion. If you do this for the right reasons, you will be successful.”

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