University of Illinois Springfield

52nd Annual Commencement

Saturday, May 13, 2023
Greetings

Donald J. Edwards
Chairman, University of Illinois Board of Trustees

On behalf of the University of Illinois Board of Trustees, and as a proud alumnus, I am honored to bring greetings and congratulations to the Class of 2023. I hope that these past few years and your experiences here at UIS have been some of the best, most rewarding … and most challenging … of your lives.

Although it has been quite a few years since I sat in your seat at my own graduation, I still remember the mix of excitement and anxiety I felt, not knowing exactly what the future would hold. That is understandable.

But rest assured that your experiences here, both in and out of the classroom, have provided you with the foundation to succeed and flourish. Now take that foundation and build on it. Follow your passions, find your path, and never stop learning.

As you take the next steps in your life’s journey, know that you carry a bond that forever connects you to your years on this remarkable campus. You are joining one of the world’s largest alumni networks—more than 800,000 strong from across the University of Illinois System’s three best-in-class universities. You will find us in just about every country on Earth.

I hope you will carry our flag with pride, with your successes adding to our global reputation for excellence and attracting the new generations of students who want to follow in your footsteps.

I hope you also will come back to our beautiful Springfield campus often to share your achievements, your experiences, and your insights. And, as you are out there building your career and making the world a better place, know that those of us still here at the U of I will still be working for you, ensuring that the value and prestige of your UIS degree will continue to grow.

Congratulations again, class of 2023!

Dr. Timothy L. Killeen
President, University of Illinois

To the Class of 2023, congratulations!

You now sit before a door that opens onto opportunity, and your years at the University of Illinois Springfield have prepared you well.

The memories you have made on the way to this moment, the friends and colleagues who are now a part of your lives, and the
Greetings to the Class of 2023!

I am thrilled to be celebrating this milestone moment—your commencement—with you, your loved ones and your UIS family. You are participating in an important rite of passage that universities have honored for centuries. The opportunity to see years of hard work culminate in a day of joy and celebration is as equally heart-warming as it is inspiring.

Through perseverance and resolve, YOU made today possible, and I am so proud of you! I’m also grateful to the UIS faculty and staff and to the family and friends who helped you get to this momentous day. We are all here to honor you and celebrate your achievements.

The vision of UIS is to provide a pathway to opportunity, a catalyst for change and a space of possibility where learners become ethical and passionate scholars, leaders and citizens capable of transforming their local and global communities. Wherever you go and whatever you do, I hope the lessons of leadership you have experienced at UIS will serve you well.

Please accept my heartfelt best wishes to you and to all who are celebrating with you today.

Congratulations on earning your degree!
Carly Hawkins ’05 CPAE
Capital Scholars Honors Program Graduate
Chair, University of Illinois Springfield Alumni Board

Congratulations, and welcome to the UIS Alumni Association!

Commencement is just the beginning of an exciting journey for you. It’s a time to celebrate your hard work and achievement, and a time to reflect and give thanks to all those who have supported you along the way.

It’s also a time to embrace all the opportunities before you. Doors will open which you never knew existed, and allow you to pursue your life’s dreams, passions and ambitions.

Be confident in knowing you share a common bond with a global alumni community of over 59,000 fellow UIS alumni - and with over 810,000 living graduates of the University of Illinois System.

Collectively, our universities are a powerhouse for education and discovery, and widely recognized among the most innovative universities in the world. Wherever life takes you, you’ll be among those who have earned a University of Illinois degree, who are making a difference in their neighborhoods, communities and the world.

Early on in your journey, please take these three actions to share your Prairie Star power!

• Display your diploma. You earned it – be proud and show the world you’re a graduate of UIS, and what it means to you. Education is to be celebrated.

• Help recruit a new student to UIS. The value of our degree will continue to grow with intelligent, hardworking students from diverse backgrounds coming through the doors of our alma mater.

• Finally, join UIS Unite. It’s the new online community connecting UIS alumni and students for career success and community. Expand your professional network, learn new skills, find your next great job or new hire at unite.uis.edu.

Honorary Degree Recipient

Ray Schroeder

Ray Schroeder is UIS Professor Emeritus of Communication and Senior Fellow at the University Professional Continuing Education Association. His professional career, now spanning more than half a century, continues to expand daily. Holding degrees in Speech from Augustana College and Radio and Television from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Ray began his academic career as a part-time instructor of Radio-TV in 1972. Serving as a radio news reporter for public radio station WILL at the time, he quickly expanded his academic appointment, becoming a full-time instructor in 1975. Two years later, Schroeder was hired at Sangamon State University as an Assistant Professor of Communication. He taught fulltime while building a television studio and editing facilities for the University. In 1984, Schroeder created the SSU Television Office and secured a 21-year sustaining contract for the university to provide community access cable television services in Springfield. Ray served as interim executive director of the SSU Institute for Public Affairs from 1991 to 1993.

In 1997, Schroeder took a leadership role in the emerging field of online learning, establishing the UIS Office of Technology Enhanced Learning. Beginning as a tiny unit, working out of a temporarily-vacant chemistry laboratory, OTEL launched servers, software and assembled expertise to support the delivery of online classes at UIS. Those efforts quickly grew into support for entire degree programs as he collaborated with Professor Burks Oakley II, then Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Director, University of Illinois Online. Together, they fostered the development and funding of multiple degree programs.

The strength and reputation of UIS online programs grew quickly through the 1990s and into the twenty-first century. Both Schroeder and the university received many national awards and recognitions. Most notably the university was recognized repeatedly by the Sloan-Consortium, later renamed the Online Learning Consortium. Among the most prestigious university-wide recognitions are the 2008 Sloan-C Ralph E. Gomory national award for Quality Education and the 2007 Sloan Consortium Excellence in Institution-Wide Online Teaching and Learning Programming. In 2009, UIS Provost Harry Berman joined Schroeder in conceptualizing and establishing the Center for Online Learning, Research and Service to create a unique holistic approach to integrating the internet into the three-part mission of faculty members. This UIS approach to online learning is often emulated at other leading universities.

Schroeder was individually honored nationally with the 2002 Sloan-C Most Outstanding Achievement in Asynchronous Learning Networks. Further, he received the 2002-2003 Sloan-C

...
through new media.” Also, in 2010, he received the Sloan-C Inaugural A. Frank Mayadas Leadership Award. The following year, he received the University of Illinois Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award. In the summer of 2011, Schroeder and COLRS launched the innovative eduMOOC, which was, at the time, the largest online class with 2,700 students located in 70 countries worldwide.

In 2016, the American Journal of Distance Education and the University of Wisconsin--Madison awarded Schroeder the prestigious Mildred B. and Charles A. Wedemeyer Award for Outstanding Practitioner in Distance Education, and also that year, the United States Distance Teaching and Learning Association Hall of Fame Award for “significant contributions to the field of distance learning through leadership, technology, research and teaching.” Schroeder has more than 250 national and international papers published or presented in his field, including many book chapters and keynote speeches. Today, forty percent of UIS students are enrolled in online programs.

He continues his highly-productive career as Senior Fellow of UPCEA. In that capacity he publishes nationally and internationally, daily curated reading lists on professional, continuing and online education as well as the popular bi-weekly column, “Online: Trending Now” in Inside Higher Education. This year he continues his leadership through delivering national keynotes, workshops and conference presentations on the impact of generative AI in higher education.
2023 Commencement Ceremony

Processional
Pomp and Circumstance Nos. I and IV by Elgar
(Audience is asked to remain seated during the processional)
Beverly Bunch, Grand Marshal*
Platform Party
Faculty
Students

Musical Selections
Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key
Illinois, Illinois by Archibald Johnson/Charles Chamberlin
Performed by Matthew McKenney, Class of 2023
Valentina Nikoleta Tombesi, Class of 2023

Opening Remarks
Janet Gooch, Chancellor

Greetings From the University of Illinois Board of Trustees
Jeffrey A. Stein, Secretary of the Board of Trustees

Greetings from the Uuniversity of Illinois System
Nicholas P. Jones, Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Conferring of Honorary Degree
Doctor of Humane Letters
Raymond Schroeder

Introduction of Student Commencement Speaker
Jantzen Eddington, Dean of Students

Remarks to Fellow Graduates
LaNise Nicole Kirk, Class of 2023

Presentation of Doctoral Degree Candidates
Janet Gooch, Chancellor

Conferring of Doctoral Degrees
Nicholas P. Jones, Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs
2023 Commencement Ceremony

Presentation of Master’s Degree Candidates
Janet Gooch, Chancellor

Conferring of Master’s Degrees
Nicholas P. Jones, Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Bachelor’s Degree Candidates
Janet Gooch, Chancellor

Conferring of Bachelor’s Degrees
Nicholas P. Jones, Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Graduates
(See “Student Walk Order” section for the approximate sequence in which students will walk across the stage) **
College of Public Affairs and Education
College of Business and Management
College of Health, Science and Technology
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Closing Remarks
Janet Gooch, Chancellor

Recessional
Pomp and Circumstance Nos. I and IV by Elgar
(Students and audience are asked to remain seated during the recessional)
Beverly Bunch, Grand Marshal*
Platform Party
Faculty

* Grand Marshal is an honorary title conferred each year on a professor by vote of the UIS faculty.

** Graduates’ names are read by Tim Schweizer, Broadcaster for Sports Radio 92.3/1450 in Springfield; Apeksha Mallipeddi – Alumni/Principal Consultant, Illinois State Board of Education
# The Marshals

The faculty and students who comprise each program committee on campus select one graduating student who best exemplifies the goals and spirit of each program. Those students have been designated as program marshals and may be identified by the gold stoles they wear.

## College of Public Affairs and Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Communication</strong></td>
<td>Madison Jayne Chunes</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amy Jo Watson</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td>Vanessa Michelle Saucer</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educational Leadership</strong></td>
<td>Courtney Anne Blackwell</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elementary Education</strong></td>
<td>Jenna L. Cisco</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global Studies</strong></td>
<td>Julia T. Wasik</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
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## College of Business and Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accounting</strong></td>
<td>Timothy Leland Worlton</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brianna Bush</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Business Administration</strong></td>
<td>Rafael Rojas</td>
<td>B.B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tzu-Hsun</td>
<td>M.B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cybersecurity Management</strong></td>
<td>Angelica Joyce Loyola</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Economics</strong></td>
<td>Jack Michael Snyders</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Finance</strong></td>
<td>Vincent H. Cho</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Healthcare Informatics</strong></td>
<td>Reema Nilesh Gandhi</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human Resource Management</strong></td>
<td>Shanice Nicol Tyson</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Management Information Systems</strong></td>
<td>Nathen James Ayres</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Muizz Abolaji Awotayo</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## College of Health, Science and Technology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biochemistry</strong></td>
<td>Rory Julius Carlson</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biology</strong></td>
<td>Emma A. Garcia</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chemistry</strong></td>
<td>Meghan Irene Kelly</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Science</strong></td>
<td>Spencer Chesley Mauch</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michal Sadowski</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data Analytics</strong></td>
<td>Alyssa Ann Coppinger</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criminology and Criminal Justice</strong></td>
<td>William D. Morgan</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English</strong></td>
<td>Marcial Rodriguez</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>History</strong></td>
<td>Jorge Alejandro Mendez</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Connor George Krater</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human Development Counseling</strong></td>
<td>LaNise N. Kirk</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liberal Studies</strong></td>
<td>Anjelia Alise Dominguez</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Work</strong></td>
<td>Emerson Krasnican</td>
<td>B.S.W.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sociology/Anthropology</strong></td>
<td>Latoya Monique LaCharie Branch</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Theatre</strong></td>
<td>Nia L. Tiller</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visual Arts</strong></td>
<td>Madeleine Paige Edmondson</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Graduate Academic Honors Awards

Kehinde Bolu Adesina .......................... Outstanding Contributions to Student Media
Kelsey Nicole Allen ..................................... Highest Honors in Legal Studies
Hani Mohammad Alwohaibi ..................... Outstanding Student in Doctorate of Public Administration
Elizabeth Omolola Badmus ................................ Outstanding Academic Achievement
Teresa Jamie Bocchini .......................... Outstanding Student in Data Analytics
Morgan Bode .................................. Outstanding Achievement in History
Stanford Carnell Brown .......... Graduate Academic Honor Award - Human Resource Management
Brianna M. Bush .......................... Outstanding Student in Accounting
Ryan Carmack ................................ Outstanding Student in Finance
Vincent H. Cho ................................ Outstanding Student in Finance
William P. Cunningham ........ Graduate Academic Honor Award - Human Resource Management
Nolan Patrick Drea ................................ Outstanding Student in Public Administration
Crystal Yanet Lazcano Dudas .................. Outstanding Student in Doctorate of Public Administration
Christopher Dwayne Getchell ........ Outstanding Student in Management Information Systems
Taylor Anne Gladwin .......................... Outstanding Online Student in Environmental Science
Clinton John Griffin .......................... Graduate Academic Honor Award – M.B.A.
Michelle Rene Hanson ......................... Clinical Excellence
Quintin A. Hecht .......................... Outstanding Academic Achievement
Jessica M. Helm................................. Highest Honors in Legal Studies
Erin M. Henkel ................................ Outstanding Student in Public Affairs Reporting
Stephanie J. Holmes ......................... Outstanding Academic Achievement in Human Services
Sean Michael Hynes .......................... Graduate Academic Honor Award – M.B.A.
Abby Marie Isham ................................ Outstanding Student in Political Science
Jonathan Michael Jerkatis .................... Outstanding On-Ground Student in Environmental Science
Kristopher James Ketelsen .................. Outstanding Student in Educational Leadership
Ciara J. Koepke ................................ Outstanding Achievement in History
Nathan Edward Krasinski .................... Outstanding Student in Data Analytics
Ashley Lederman .......................... Outstanding Academic Achievement
Nicholas Garret Lykins .................. Outstanding Student in Computer Science
Kyle Thomas McCain .......................... Outstanding Student in Computer Science
Arthur Lamont Moore .................. Outstanding Student in Public Administration
Jonathan Ernest Niederhauser .......... Outstanding Academic Achievement
Hannah Marie Perruquet ........ Human Development Counseling Legacy Award
Trey M. Petty ................................ Outstanding Student in Accounting
Libby Grace Price .......................... Academic Excellence
Blaine Deann Smith .................. Outstanding Academic Achievement in Human Services
Jessica Sue Tarakanov .................... Outstanding Student in Education
Alouise Urness ................................ Outstanding Student in Political Science
Madam Cury Velpuri .......................... Outstanding Student in Management Information Systems
Student Walk Order

Students will be grouped by program (degree/major) within their respective college as indicated below.

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND EDUCATION

Dr. Robert Smith, Dean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration (Doctorate)</td>
<td>Human Services (Master’s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Legal Studies (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (Master’s)</td>
<td>Political Science (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational Leadership (Post-Master’s, Master’s)</td>
<td>Public Administration (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education- Elementary (Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Public Affairs Reporting (Master’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education- Middle Grades (Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Public and Nonprofit Administration (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Studies (Bachelor’s)</td>
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COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Dr. Somnath Bhattacharya, Dean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounting (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Healthcare Informatics (Master’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Administration (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Human Resource Management (Master’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity Management (Master’s)</td>
<td>Management Information Systems (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economics (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance (Master’s)</td>
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COLLEGE OF HEALTH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Mark Anderson, Interim Dean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry (Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Exercise Science (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology (Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Information Systems Security (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry (Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Mathematical Sciences (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Medical Laboratory Science (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Analytics (Master’s)</td>
<td>Philosophy (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Health (Master’s)</td>
<td>Public Health (Master’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Sciences (Master’s)</td>
<td>Psychology (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Studies (Bachelor’s)</td>
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COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dr. Lan Dong, Interim Dean

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminology and Criminal Justice (Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Social Work (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<td>English (Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Sociology/Anthropology (Bachelor’s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History (Master’s, Bachelor’s)</td>
<td>Theatre (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Development Counseling (Master’s)</td>
<td>Visual Arts (Bachelor’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liberal Studies (Bachelor’s)</td>
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Honors are a means of recognizing and encouraging superior academic achievement among baccalaureate candidates. Final designation of honors is subject to change due to final semester grades.

- Summa cum laude
- Magna cum laude
- Cum laude
- Capital Scholars Honors Student

Doctor of Public Administration
Hani Mohammad Alwohaibi  Jason Chandler Garnett  Harriett Steinbach
Daniel Dillon Clausner  Jennifer Ann Haegele-Ryterski  Scott Roy Swinford
Crystal Yanet Lazcano Dudas

Certificate of Advanced Studies
Jeff Abell

Master of Arts
Kehinde Bolu Adesina  Murriah Clifton  Natalie A. Hall
Brighet Abisola Akinnuwesi  Victoria J. Clinton  Otis Hallbright
Kelsey Nicole Allen  Michael Theophilus Crosby  Steve Hanlon
David U. Alonso  Jason Andrew Cunningham  Michelle Rene Hanson
Gabriella Rose Antonacci  Tyler J. Curry  Sarah Catherine Harris
Joshua Gregory Arbogast  Camryn Cutinello  Jessica M. Helm
Samantha Arbuckle  Madison Elizabeth DeRousse  Erin M. Henkel
Stuart Thomas Atkinson  Alysa Marie Doneske  Nathan Herkert
Nicholas D. Barnhill  Clarissa Buenaflo Alarcon Dotson  Tesfamichael Tesfazion Hibtes
Lauren Ann Bee  RaeAnne Michelle Dutz  Layne Kendall Hill
Alec Nathaniel Bernal  Allyn C. Edwards  Asya Nichole Hobbs
Courtney Anne Blackwell  Emberly Crystan Faye-Skinner  Stephanie J. Holmes
Kayla Blow  Maggie Jo Fiaush  Melissa Marie Hostetter
Conner Avery Board  Brian Michael Foran  Donald Ray Howard
Morgan Bode  Jacob Gerald Friedman  Harraah Demitri Howard
Karen Sue Brown  Amanda Michelle Gardner  Abby Marie Isham
Ashley Lynn Bunselmeyer  Leonika Garrett  Tommy Lee Johnson
Brianna M. Bush  Mitchell Aaron Gillick  Chelsi Jones
Oliver Morales Cachola  Kenisha L. Gransberry  Patricia Juarez
Areli Valeria Calderon  Austin Schuyler Green  Spencer Andrew Jury
Samantha Erin Carroll  Katherine Grizzell  Kristopher James Ketelsen
Andrew Castillo  Erika Katherine Guess  Youngsil Kim
Breanna Joy Kirby                     Zehra Ozkan                          Horazina Spencer
LaNise N. Kirk                        Alexis Leann Parrish                  Ryan Lee Stark
Ashley Ann Klinzing                   Leah Pembrook                         Elizabeth Anne Steere
Emily Ann Knutson                      Hannah Marie Perruquet                Christopher Lee Stevens
Ciara J. Koepke                       Trey M. Petty                          Unity Cheyenne Stevens
Connor George Krater                  Libby Grace Price                      Jessica Sue Tarakanov
Tyler Shawn Krtek                     Gary Pyles                             Adrienne Vernelle Taylor
Jennifer Marie Larson                 Tyrese Reed                            Megan Patricia Thompson
Yadira Lazcano                        Nicole Elizabeth Lynn Richmond         Jillian A. Thornton
Stefani Wright Leavitt                Ashley Marie Rincon                    Kelly Dyan Thurston
Ashley Linae Lemmon                   Elizabeth J. Roehrs                     Logan C. Torve
Donna Marie Lomelino                   Sara-Ann Rosen                         Erik Trampush
Joshua Lowe                           Kayli Marie Rumple                      Marcel James Tworek
Scott Charles Marinier                 Peter Josef Rykowski                   Alouise Urness
Kallie Nicole Matthews                Parag Sachdeva                         Emily Walker
Alexander Daniel McInturff            Erin Margaret Sanders                   Ariel P. Warner
Hannah Lee Mitchell                   Dillon Gregory Santoni                  Amy Jo Watson
Erica Kathleen Mooney                 Vanessa Michelle Saucier                Brianna Wenger
Anastasia Nelson                      Veronica Mae Lantoria                    Ronald Scott Wennerdahl
Kara Irene Niles                      Schoonover                             Erica Shanice West
Edward Mwangi Njoroge                  Blaine Deann Smith                     Amanda Widney
William Norris Oswald                 Brandy Dawn Smith                      Sarah Wollenweber
Rachel Funke Oyelola                   Tristan Adler Sommer                   Gretchen Elizabeth Wydr

**Master of Business Administration**

MacKenzie Lorene Adams                  Paul Robert Cave                        Benjamin M. Hill
Diego Alcaraz Andrade                   Ajay Kumar Cherukuvada                  Elias Patrick Hopkins
Ebony Melan Allen                      Niccolo Ciceri                         Tzu-Hsun Hsu
Anna Louise Allen-Jones                Russell Colley                          Sean Michael Hynes
Fionna Amoah                           Linda P. Daley                          Steve Ingersoll
Brendan Stone Anderson                 KaSandra DeGraffenreid                 Chandra Shaker Jogulaburao
Lalo Bajo                               Rebecca Ann DeTrempe                    Yasmine Johnson
Julia Beard                            Darla Dunn                             Geoff Kidinda Kalala
Eric Edwin Black                        Carolyn Jane Franke                     Jason T. King
Matthew Blaney                         Bridgett L. Gillom                     Duncan Edward Kirby
Isharra Bojang                         Clinton John Griffin                    Allison Nicole Kling
Aleksandra Cardona                     Quinn G. Gudaitis                      Ryan J. Kolaz
Sean Carlson                            Nikia Hall                             Tamika S. Lee
Cristine Nicole Neff
Albert Nimako
Hannah K. Onoh
Connor James Pauly
Abiola Oluwaseun Perry
Jeremy Piepenbrink
Morgan James Ratcliffe
Quentin Alexander Reese
Claudia Lorena Rodriguez Novela
Pamela Anne Ruskey
Lakeisha Nakia Sanders
Haris Sator
Anna Elizabeth Schoenherr
Samuel Scott
Herman Alfonse Senor
Lea Marie Smith
Browel Sylvain Some
Rahul Kumar Soni
Maria E. Sorto
Dana Marie Spiesz
Michelle Joy Stutzman
Edward Tetteh
Lindsay Jean Thomas
Minh Truc Quynh Tran
Juan Enrique Trevino
Nguyen Cao Nguyen Vu
Calla Marie Wickenhauser
Deborah Delia Williams
Adhi Winata
Yun Yan

Master of Public Administration

Alimyon M. Allen
Nia Simone Amos
Emily Elizabeth Ashby
Christopher James Axtman-Barker
Valerie Rachel Belusko
David Bess
Amber Nicole Brown
Megan Ashley Dailey Buck
Taylor Alyssa Marie Butler
Andrew Richard Cunningham
Christopher Sherman Daniels
Connor Patrick Davis
Laquarius Davis
Nolan Patrick Drea
Jaelyn Cierra Fluker
Christine Marie Flynn
Matthew Arthur Frank
Matthew Gordon Freeman
Colleen Elizabeth Goett
Stephen Gray
David Andrew Haney
Celeste Marie Holmes
Jvon Chase Howard
Majidi Jallow
Aaron Christopher Kinskey
Ensia Kujabie
Robin Lingatong
Rosamaria Lopez
Jarred Dean McCormick
Jefferson Everett McMillan-Wilhoit
Brenna Marie Molinare
Arthur Lamont Moore
Abigail Suzanne Morton
Christina Pierce-Tomlin
Deuce Rachal
Daniel Joseph Randolph
Rebecca Ray Ryan
Jennifer Satut
DeJoie Simmons
Mary Katherine Smith
Colin Anthony Staske
Garrad Paul Straube
Tatiana Janece Thomas
Unwana Umoh
Emily Dianne Volk

Master of Public Health

Semimo Adebayo Adeleke
Esther Adeola Adewusi
Adebolanle Ayinde
Elizabeth Omolola Badmus
Tara Noel Brooks
Quintin A. Hecht
Majidi Jallow
Julie Ann Raras Laigue
Ashley Lederman
Chisom Lilian Maduakonam
Crystal Lea Mattingly
Ashley Nicole McClinton
Jonathan Ernest Niederhauser

Mohammed K. Abuzir
Dennis Nganyi Achuchi
Anthony Michael Adams
Noore Akter Ahmed
Damilola Ruth Akinola
Srinivas Harini Akula
Priyanshi Alle
Hani A. Al-Shafei
Nikitha A. Aluwala
Hatim Alzoubi
John Stanley Amey
Munachim Hailim Anyamene
Sai Prajitha Arora
Varshini Arunachalam
Sudha Aryasomayajula
Muizz Abolaji Awotayo
Ayobami Oluwadamilola Ayeni
Ajithprasad Babu
Ledya Beshara Bakloug
Balasubramanian Balaraman
Heather Elaine Balke
Sherry Baluch
Martha Ryann Bank
Akash Bansal
Sunethri Bathini
Abenezer Jemberu Bekele
Balana Bell
Varun Kumar Bhakta
Randhir Kishor Bhosale
Teresa Jamie Bocchini
Lynnette P. Boyd
Stanford Carnell Brown

Tori Achieng Odhiambo
Ibukunoluwa Jesusegun Odimayo
Oluwadamilola Mary Olukoya
Babatunde Kazeem Owolabi

Vasanthi Bushetty
Francesca Marie Butler
Jiemin Cai
Ryan Carmack
Goutham Chebrolu
Vincent H. Cho
Kayla Marie Clauson
Alyssa Ann Coppinger
Pieragnon Zoumana Coulibaly
Jacob Michael Croach
William P. Cunningham
Kevin Jerald Cuppett
Sydney Curry
Venkata Subba Reddy Dagumati
Venkatesh Darsi
Bem Moses David
Jennifer Lynn Davis
Joshua Martin Degenhardt
Naga Nishitha Devineni
Peyton Wayne Dillingham
Nancy Dudzik
Gayathri Duppatri
Niharika D. Duvvuri
Claire Elaine Eaton
Charles Ellis
Chibuisi Ndimele Envia
Jhonathan Eduardo Espinoza
Amani Fashola
Sameeha Fatima
Kayla Nicole Ferron
Sri Sai Nikhil Galla
Reema Nilesh Gandhi

Nancy Rayas
James Charles Slater
Anita Temi Ugboanmi

Allen H. Gang
John Alexander Garbini
Swathi Gehlot
Christopher Dwayne Getchell
Taylor Anne Gladwin
Harikrishna Goalla
Teana Griffith
Revathi Gunasekaran
Benjamin Gutierrez
Leif Arthur Hague
Tyler Jacob Helm
Danyel E. Henderson
Carissa Nicole Hicks
Randi Joelle Hirschel
Dashaun Chantel Hits
Megan Hoese

Jason Anthony Iposada
Megan Marie Jacobsen
Jonathan Michael Jerkatis
Shan Jiang
Shrasti Bharatbhai Jivani
Teka S. Johnson
Tatiana Joseph
Sreekar Kamineni
Pradeep Reddy Karra
Sowmya Kasarapu
Guru Naga Venkata Durga
Harini Kasthala
Jane Kmalameizer
Renuka Khiste
Jane Geeun Kim
Benjamin Jared Kirchhoff
Kevin James Ohrlund
Damola Olalekan Olajide
Siva Krishna Onteru
Paul Owokhan Osazuwa
Omotolani Deborah Oyelade
Monet Malloy Padilla
Meghana Palacharla
Srinath Kumar Panjala
Herman Walter Paris
Dipa Patel
Matthew James Patterson
Samuel Woldeberhan Paulos
Sindhu Permude Srinivasa
Christopher Ray Peterson
Deepi Pokhrel
Avinash Reddy Policepatel
Jaya Anjani Hanisha Ponipireddi
Oleksandra Ponomarova
Praneel Kiran Potluri
Sireesha Pudi
Neelima Puligundla
Anil Kumar Reddy Pyireddy
Mounika Ramineni
Sujith Kumar Rangoji Srinivas
Usama Inaam Rasheed
Stanislav Revin
Ratinagiri Rhamachandran
Dominick Ridgill
Joel P. Rogers
Varshini Rokkam
Saqib Saadi
Michal Sadowski
Yaya Saidykan
Alfonso Sainz Sandoval
Gowrthantripuravenkata Naga Sai
Pavan Sakhamuri
Daler Sayfiddinov
Rehan Ayaz Sayyed
Drew Anthony Schmalz
Mohammed Raiyyan Shaik
Salar Shammas Esfahani
Pruthvi Ramesh Shetty
Neha Shreshtha
Jason Ajay Singh
Eric Kevin Small
Alfredo Jose Soto
Nathanael J. Strauch
John Supnet
Curtis Henry Suttman
Prabhas Raj Gupta Tadesetti
Nikhil Reddy Talusan
Nikitha Thirukovellur
Jason Robert Thomason
Mark C. Thompson
Vishnu Vardhan Timmapatruni
Shanice Nicol Tyson
Vijay Paul Vadde
Steven Robert Van Landuyt
Abishek Vanam
Sai Siva Sankar Veerisetti
Madam Curly Velpuri
Alyssa Vignos
Elliot Villalpando
Khoa Vu
Alexander David Walter
Richard Alan Ware
Frances Whalen
Alise Williams
Ashley Nicole Williams
Zegaye Woldegorgis
Yuwei Wu
Urvi Janaka Yagnik
Vidya Yanamanthala
Wenze Zhu
Bachelor of Arts

Cale M. Adams
Tabitha Tania Adams
Nichole Rose Aiwaz
Oluwarobi Akinroluyo
Elijah Alexas
Michael Joseph Arndt
Baleigh Baca
Stacey Ann Bacon
Richard Miguel Bailey
Brandon Robert Baker
Jayden Taylor Baker
Kamara L. Barksdale-Smith
John C. Bartolozzi
Shenita Basdeo
Kalab Christopher Beaman
Blake William Begner
Graham Bender
Eli Mitchell Benner
Jacob R. Bergstedt
Natalie M. Bernardy
Rachel Annette Bernstein
Richard Beverungen
James Owen Biggers
Cedric R. Birgans
Alexandria Bishop
Coby L. Blaylock
Brayden Paul Bledsoe
Joshua Gabriel Bluhm
Grace Eliyah Bobb
Zachary S. Boblitt
Andrew Ryan Kyle Bowman
Meridith Ann Marie Bradley
Latoya Moni’que LaCharie Branch
Trenton Brinkmeier
Lillian Jane Briscoe
Amanda Marie Brown
Cheyenne Sue Brown

Martin Luong Bui
Carl Randall Burts
Sierra Rose Buske
Caitlin Victoria Butcher
Christopher Thomas Callahan
Katherine Diane Canada
Jennifer Marie Cardamone
Shannon Marie Carle
Colton James Carmean
Antonio LeMarr Carraway
Landon Matthew Lee Carroll
Ivette Castanon
Ainsley Maria Chandler
Olivia R. Charles
Kyli Chase
Tabatha W. Chasteen
Jenny Chen
Brooke Elizabeth Chestnut
Andy Wing Chong Sam
Madison Jayne Chunes
Jenna L. Cisco
Grace Clark
Michele J. Clarke
Brian Lee Cohen
Kenatta Coleman
Sable Erin Collier
Donald Joseph Conway
Ashton Jane Cook
Latosha Cook
Antwon D. Cooley-Hughes
Therese M. Cooper-Wiser
Maria Regina Serrano Corpuz
Hannah J. Cox
Kerissa A. Cox
Lindsey M. Coy
Connor Royal Curtis Cullivan
Courtney M. Cummins
Camille Rose Daley
Catherine Ann Darrow
Mallory Nicole Daugherty
Rylie Renee Davis
Sarah Lynn Davis
Israel Guadalupe De La Rosa
Anthony Deconcilis
Camille K. Dela Vega
Angela Marie Denney
Kyle M. Dennison
Detavis V. Derrickson
Aislinn L. Diaz
Kayana Sue Diederich
Anjelia Alise Dominguez
Krissy L. Donaldson
Karson Lynne Drake
Jeremy Durbin
Isabella Jane Durham
Fala Kaye Earl
Madeleine Paige Edmondson
Paul Scott Egebrecht
James Robert Loyet
Ehlschlaeger
Joseph Erik Ryan Einsle
Megan Noelle Emmert
Tanya Renee Escudero
Ella Terese Ferguson
Daniel Robert Ferrel
Peyton Thomas Fine
Vanessa Flary
Analiz Adriana Flores
Rodriguez
Kayla J. Flowers
Shelene Lynn Ford
William D. Formea
Diana Laura Francisco Jimenez
Ashten M. Freese
Bachelor of Business Administration

Yariliz I. Aguado
Peyton Christopher Allen
Vicky Yesenia Ambrocio
Abby Nicole Ashby
Brittany Lynn Austin
Ashley Nicole Bayless
Aric Edward Beals
Cooper DeMichael Beck
Chandra Laine Bolte
Edgar Borun
Stephanie Diane Bowhay
Asher D. Bradd
Ethan Edward Brockhouse
Christina Deann Butcher
Alberto Chavez
Adrian Evann Coetzee
Anne M. Correll
Liset Cortes-Benitez
Mikayla Erin Cox
Ian Daniel Delleman
Nicholas Diehl
Samuel Djadi Esekenyo
Rachel Doerner
Robert Michael Eastman
Taylor Alyssa-Marie Ellis
Aaron Chester Evans
Amanda Marie Finnell
Kathy Jean Flesner
Terrell Jame Florence
Kyley Summer Fornoff
Cameron Michael Gartshore
Alexander Jerome Golembiewski
Ryne Michael Griffin
Christopher E. Grim
Sebastian Haro
Brianna Nicole Harwell
Emily Elizabeth Grace Higginson
Jacinta Denise Jackson
Tenia Jackson
Cecelia Pauline Jiardina
Matthew James Johnson
Jeffrey David Kirberg
Cayden Robert Kirkham
Bradley Dean Larsen
Mary Claire Larson
Fei Lin
Katherine Nicole Malcolm
Daniel Frank Martino
Jarrett Austin Marvel
Michael McClain
Stephanie A. McCullough
Isiah Robert McCune
Allison McFarlane
Bridgett Ann McIntire
Joseph Edward Mraz
Bradney Lee Mullens
Ethan Nars
Omega Y. Negassi
Kaylee Ann Nichols
Samuel Lee Nuding
James O’Banner
Flavio Ochoa Falconi
Tamara Rachelle Parker
Tyler John Yakimisky
Lucas David Patrick
Anthony James Peacock
Danielle Amanda Perez
Rick Perez
Zion Pettigrew
Patrick Norman Pierceall
Bryson Poe
Taylor Marie Pope
Stephanie Nichole Porter
Lauren E. Post
Ghada Qattum
Robert Casey Rardin
Naseem Tayseer Rehan
Aaron J. Reuben
Martha C. Rivera
Chansy D. Rogers
Rafael Lunz Rojas
Philip Lars Lennart Rydell
Taylor Faye Sagle
Chad E. Saner
Tyler Jacob Schroeder
Mallory Mae Scribner
Jeann Showman
Amritpa L. Singh
Mamadou Sow
Nikola Agnieszka Sowa
Nicholas Norbert Spartz
Olivia Stephens
Lucy Osaemwonta Tankoua
Malinda Marie Tannahill
Andrei Christopher Tarter
Chafon S. Tate
Bachelor of Science

John Michael Aberle◆◆
Hannan Mir Mohammed Alikhan
Jonah Alligood
Zachary Joseph Alwicker◆◆◆
Daniel Y. Amponsah◆◆◆
Joshua Thomas Anderson◆◆
Eman Assad◆◆
Nathen James Ayres◆◆◆
Richard Allen Bair◆◆
Nicholas Allen Baumeyer◆◆◆
Ethan M. Beck◆◆
Vikas Harish Bhakta◆◆◆
Rylee Marian Billington◆◆◆◆
Chad Owen Block◆◆
Amanda M. Bluthardt◆◆
Daniel Thomas Bradner◆◆◆
Isabella Diana Brady◆◆
Kolton Levi Breeze◆◆◆◆
Lindsay Nicole Broaddus◆◆
Samantha Rose Brown◆◆◆
Matthew Ryan Buchanan◆
Caleb Seth Budde◆
Jacob Burg◆◆
Joshua Charles Burton◆
Justine Linnea Bushur◆◆◆
Rory Julius Carlson◆◆◆◆
Carmen R. Carter◆
Sierra Hope Cenek◆◆◆
Brooklyn Chaney◆
Rushi Gopal Chauhan◆
Ying Yu Chen◆
Kyle Michael Chestnut◆◆
Ciara E. Chew◆◆
Kevin John Ulasovich◆◆◆
Christian Marie Vazzi◆◆
Meghan McGrath Vlcek◆◆◆◆
Marissa Marie Vukmir◆◆
James Jason Waldroup◆◆
Jalen Arkell Walsh◆
Madalyn Jean Wichmann◆
Karen Ann Woods-Meurer◆

Steven Chmielewski◆◆◆
Edward Thomas Paul Ciccone◆◆◆◆
Kerry Clarke◆
Trey Matthew Coleman◆◆
Seth Adam Courcelle◆◆
Colten Reese Daniels◆◆
Kevin DeHuff◆◆◆◆
Juli Grace Diakabana◆◆
Raziel Diaz Gomez◆
John Dosselman◆◆◆
Johnny Thomas Dziekanski◆
Kyin Jordan Edwards◆
Lindsey Engle◆◆
Zachary Michael Evers◆
Esha S. Farooqui◆
Laney M. Fitzpatrick◆
Christian Murrine Foy◆
Edward Garcia◆◆
Emma A. Garcia◆◆◆◆
Michael Stephen Gasser◆◆◆
Rolando Gaytan◆◆◆
Thomas K. George◆◆◆
Andrew Duane Gibbons◆◆◆
Kevin Cadahing Go◆◆◆
Jack Richard Grantham◆
Mykola A. Gutsaliuk◆
Amanda Rene Heatherton◆
Courtney Megan Heimberger◆
Steven T. Hill◆◆◆
Carlos Alexander Hopkins◆
Bret James Horak◆
Alan M. Huebschen◆
Deora Ashley Inniss◆◆◆

Samuel Matthew Ioerger◆
Mala Dominique Jackson◆
Richard Sherrill Jackson◆
Felix B. Jacob◆◆
Gustavo A. Jacobo◆
Daejuan Jacobs◆
Sania Jahan◆
Fady H. Karim◆◆
Matthew T. Karnes◆◆
Meghan Irene Kelly◆◆◆
Saifullah Khan◆◆
Katelyn Klos◆
Gorkem Kockaya◆◆◆◆
Jeremy Kunz◆
Godwin Kyei-Prempeh◆
David Lacroix◆◆
Ally Maria Lasseter◆◆◆
Joshua D. Leskanich◆
Clint Marshall Lewis◆◆
Austin D. Listerud◆◆◆
Dominic Francis LoGrasso◆
John H. Lucken◆
Michael G. Lukow◆
David Brendan MacKenzie◆
Joshua Caleb Mansfield◆
Maksymilian Marciniak◆◆◆
Joey Marinello◆
Javier Martinez◆◆◆◆
Daniel Massie◆◆
Jillian Alexandra Mathis◆
Spencer Chesley Mauch◆◆◆◆
Jacey Ann McCabe◆
Angela M. McComas◆
Bachelor of Social Work

Sarah Brooke Affeltranger
Kaytan Danyel Brown
Chloe L. Burt
Darcy Darland
Kala Leanne Sheley DeMuro
Maia Sevinj Eddington
Madison Paige Gilbert
Connie Margaret Johnson

Daniel Perez Chagoya
Alec Brian Perro
Abbegail Marie Phillips
John Tyler Phillips
Eric Anthony Piccard
Matisen Marie Pickford
Keaton Plummer
Phuong Nghi Quach
Craig Allen Reade
Jessica Cheyenne Renfro
Brian Scott Riordan
Amani T. Roach
Marlena Ann Roate
Cody William Roberts
Gregory William Roeckner
Nicholas Brandon Rokita
Christopher Michael Ross
Alan Saul Saines Arriaga
Naim Bilal Salahuddin
Otis Thomas Sanders
Benjamin Min-Sub Scheufele
Erik Clifton Schlenker
McKenna Nichole Schmitt
Freddy Orlando Sermeno
Abigail Mae Shields
Asung Shin
Ryan Thomas Shook
Kelsi Anne Simmert
Katherine Elizabeth Simon

Nathaniel L. Slaton
Hayden Michael Sloan
Tabitha Lynn Speakes
Mitchell A. Spurlock
Hamdalat Ademide Talabi
Damir Temir
Ethan Arthur Thomas
Pradeep Thomas
Dylan James Thompson
Cole Thoron
David Tocila
Reagan Todd
Valentina Nikoleta Tombetsi
Clarisa Torres
Nicolas Trader
Regan Margaret Trueblood
Cooper Isiah Tullis
Austin Jesse Vieth
Jazmine Vindyar
Douglas Hampton Vrchota
Bradley Allyn Walters
Austin F. Warrem
Ellie Christine Washko
Ian Phelan Corsiga Wheatley
Alexandrya Jael Winters
Kyle Wolf
Peter E. Wright
Mohammad Basheer Youssuf

Sarah Brooke Affeltranger
Kaytan Danyel Brown
Chloe L. Burt
Darcy Darland
Kala Leanne Sheley DeMuro
Maia Sevinj Eddington
Madison Paige Gilbert
Connie Margaret Johnson

Daniel Perez Chagoya
Alec Brian Perro
Abbegail Marie Phillips
John Tyler Phillips
Eric Anthony Piccard
Matisen Marie Pickford
Keaton Plummer
Phuong Nghi Quach
Craig Allen Reade
Jessica Cheyenne Renfro
Brian Scott Riordan
Amani T. Roach
Marlena Ann Roate
Cody William Roberts
Gregory William Roeckner
Nicholas Brandon Rokita
Christopher Michael Ross
Alan Saul Saines Arriaga
Naim Bilal Salahuddin
Otis Thomas Sanders
Benjamin Min-Sub Scheufele
Erik Clifton Schlenker
McKenna Nichole Schmitt
Freddy Orlando Sermeno
Abigail Mae Shields
Asung Shin
Ryan Thomas Shook
Kelsi Anne Simmert
Katherine Elizabeth Simon

Nathaniel L. Slaton
Hayden Michael Sloan
Tabitha Lynn Speakes
Mitchell A. Spurlock
Hamdalat Ademide Talabi
Damir Temir
Ethan Arthur Thomas
Pradeep Thomas
Dylan James Thompson
Cole Thoron
David Tocila
Reagan Todd
Valentina Nikoleta Tombetsi
Clarisa Torres
Nicolas Trader
Regan Margaret Trueblood
Cooper Isiah Tullis
Austin Jesse Vieth
Jazmine Vindyar
Douglas Hampton Vrchota
Bradley Allyn Walters
Austin F. Warrem
Ellie Christine Washko
Ian Phelan Corsiga Wheatley
Alexandrya Jael Winters
Kyle Wolf
Peter E. Wright
Mohammad Basheer Youssuf
Faculty Emeritus

The status of Faculty Emeritus is an honor awarded at retirement from the University to those faculty who have served the University well. The bestowal of Professor Emeritus status is a recognition of the value the University places on the experience, knowledge, and ability of its retiring faculty. This status is awarded in accordance with the University of Illinois statutes and University of Illinois Springfield policy. The following individuals have been selected to receive Faculty Emeritus status this year.

Denise Bockmier-Sommers

Professor Denise Bockmier-Sommers received her Doctor in Education in Community Counseling from University of Missouri St. Louis in 2008. She came to UIS in 2007 and was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor in 2014.

An early adopter of online teaching, Bockmier-Sommers recognized the importance of students acquiring administrative skills in the Human Services program to prepare them to work in the nonprofit or public agency arenas. Her vision for HMS included new certificates that responded to industry growth, offering students a curriculum that prepares them for the incredibly important work addressing challenges associated with service delivery to the aging population.

In addition to her commitment to students, Bockmier-Sommers found numerous opportunities to serve UIS through involvement with Campus Senate and chairing the Academic Integrity Council. In 2019, Bockmier-Sommers was appointed chair of the Human Services program, facilitating the reorganization of the Human Services degree and its transition to the new School of Public Management and Policy in the College of Public Affairs and Education. She saw the reorganization as another opportunity to respond to student interests and skill-building by aligning the program with other public service initiatives and programs.

Dr. Bockmier-Sommers embodied the HMS vision statement, fostering a space in the classroom that emphasized empathy, kindness and genuine regard for student well-being.

Ethan Lewis

Professor Ethan Lewis received his PhD from Boston College. He came to SSU/UIS in 1993 and was promoted to full professor in 2007. He taught upper division literature and adapted to many changes during his career with good cheer and a willingness to explore new courses, curricula and ways of doing things, including teaching online.

Lewis specialized in Shakespeare, early seventh-century drama, and early twentieth-century modernist poetry. He received the Pearson Award for distinguished teaching in 2007. Lewis continues to provide support and mentorship to students at UIS and those who have graduated and are engaged in careers as writers and teachers.

Lewis was selected as University Scholar in 1999. His multiple publications include Conundrums for the Long Week-End: England, Lord Peter Wimsey, and Dorothy Sayers, co-authored with emeritus faculty Dr. Robert McGregor, which won a National Edgar Award. Professor Lewis has also published several books of poetry.

Lewis has been a vital member of the department who believes strongly in mentoring first-generation college students. He was one of the founders of the annual Verbal Arts Festival, which brought students and faculty together with creative writers in the community. He was also an early advisor on the UIS literary journal, The Alchemist Review (recently renamed Violet Margin). Finally, he has been a supportive colleague, always ready to welcome new faculty, instructors and adjuncts. Dr. Lewis continues to seek out ways to mentor first-generation and non-traditional students.
The academic costume worn at American university exercises has its origin in medieval times. The general garment worn by all, at the time, was a gown or robe, a cape with attached hood (cowl) worn over the gown for warmth, and a cap. Color and other adornments added to the garments indicated social status or wealth. The attire worn by students and teachers was strongly influenced by the cathedrals near the center of study. As schools grew in size and diversity of subjects, teacher guilds began designating their field of study by color, and the color of the garments took on an additional designation. By the 14th century, a cap, pileus quadratus (four-cornered cap), became the standard head dress. Through time, these vestments changed in style but the three items, the cap, gown, and hood, remain in academic costumes.

THE CAP: The pileus quadratus went through its own changes. Originally introduced in Paris, the four corners were long and hung down over the head. Later, the corners were pointed upright and then were stiffened outward by a board (the mortar board). The mortar board, or Oxford style, is the traditional cap worn in American universities.

The cap is black in American universities and is constructed of cloth, with velvet reserved for the doctorate. Various items have been attached to the cap, but the tassel is now standard. The color of the tassel is black for any degree, with gold metallic thread restricted to doctors and governing officials. Occasionally, the color of the tassel will indicate honors.

THE GOWN: The cut of the gown designates the degree. The gown color in American universities – except Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Princeton, and a few others – is black. The bachelor’s degree gown is relatively simple, falling in straight lines and distinguished by long pointed sleeves. The master’s gown is also relatively straight, but the arm opening is at the elbow, allowing the rest of the sleeve to hang down. Until 1960, the arm emerged through a slit at the elbow, a sleeve was added which closes at the wrist. The original sleeve still hangs down to about the knee. The doctor’s gown is rather elaborate, marked by bell sleeves with three velvet bars and velvet panels around the neck and down the front. The cut is also fuller than other gowns. The sleeve bars and trim may be black or of subject color.

THE HOOD: Of the three components of academic costume, the hood conveys the most information. The level of the degree is indicated by the length of the hood and the width of the trim. The bachelor’s hood is three feet long with two-inch velvet trim, the master’s is three and one-half feet long with three-inch trim, and the doctor’s is four feet long with five-inch trim. At UIS, bachelor’s degree candidates do not wear hoods.

The color of the trim indicates the subject area of the degree: white signifies Arts; peacock blue signifies Public Administration, tan for Business Administration, salmon pink for Public Health, light blue for Education, pink for Music, scarlet for Theology, lemon for Library Science, and so on. There are 35 such designations.

The final information conveyed by the hood is the institution that awarded the degree to the wearer. The color designation for UIS is a royal blue field with a white chevron. Each school has its own color designator. For example, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is a navy blue field with two orange chevrons. Although there is an attempt not to overlap color designators, a number of schools may have the same colors. For example, 39 universities in addition to UIS have royal blue field with white chevron.

The colored cords worn by participants identify students as scholars of distinction who have demonstrated a commitment to learning at a high level of achievement. It is believed by some historians that the wearing of honors cords is older and more traditional than the stoles that are also used by Greek honor societies since the cord recalls the teaching and contemplative orders of the Middle Ages when members of these honor societies wore knotted cords to remind them of their duties. The students who wear these honors cords in our commencement ceremonies today symbolize the University of Illinois Springfield’s historical success in attracting capable students who are exemplary scholars committed to a life of learning.
Ceremony Information

Accessible Seating is available on the Main and Mezzanine levels. Please see a Bank of Springfield Center staff member for assistance.

ATM 24-hour banking services are located throughout the downtown area.

Cellphones and electronic devices should be silenced upon entering as a courtesy to other guests and the graduating students.

Concessions will be open for your convenience. Please note concessions will close approximately 10 minutes prior to the beginning of the ceremony and will reopen after the ceremony begins.

Elevators to all levels are located in the main lobby.

Lost and Found items will be turned into the Bank of Springfield Center’s Administrative Office and may be collected after the event. Call 217-788-8800 for further information.

In accordance with the Illinois Clean Air Act, smoking is not allowed anywhere in the Bank of Springfield Center.

Overflow Seating is available on the lower level.

Persons wishing to record or take photos must remain seated.

Restrooms are located on the Main and Mezzanine levels in each corner, and accessible restrooms are also located on those levels.

The ceremony will be streamed at uis.edu/uislive.

A photograph of each graduate will be taken as the graduate meets the Chancellor. The photographer will also be available after the ceremony in the lower level of the Bank of Springfield Center.

Acknowledgments

Usher Services – The Sangamon Auditorium Volunteer Association has provided its services to assist on behalf of the University of Illinois Springfield.

Volunteers – A special thank you to all of the students, faculty, staff, and alumni who have volunteered their time to help make today’s ceremony special for graduates and their guests.
Development of the Campus

The University of Illinois Springfield is located on 746 acres on the southeast side of the capital city, near Lake Springfield. The campus comprises:

**The Legacy Campus**, built in the early 1970s, is home to the university’s first buildings. Originally intended as “temporary,” these buildings have been renovated for many purposes over the years. Among their current occupants are Health Services, International Student Services, NPR Illinois radio, Illinois Issues magazine, a child care center, art studios and music rehearsal rooms, Human Resources, and the Exercise Science, Athletic Training, and Nursing academic programs.

**Norris L Brookens Library** was completed in 1975. A major learning/resource center designed to support the university’s academic programs, the library also houses Brookens Auditorium; the College of Education and Human Services; the Center for Online Learning, Research and Service; and the Center for Academic Success.

**Public Affairs Center** opened in 1980. The building houses the College of Public Affairs and Administration, the university’s administrative offices, the Center for State Policy and Leadership, the Studio Theatre – home to UIS Theatre productions – and the UIS Performing Arts Center, which hosts more than 100 music, theater, and dance performances annually and is home to the Illinois Symphony Orchestra and Springfield Ballet Company.

**Health and Sciences Building**, opened in 1992, houses UIS biological and physical sciences and the computer science program in high tech labs. The building is also home to the UIS Visual Arts Gallery.

**Lincoln Residence Hall**, completed in 2001, is a state-of-the-art residential facility for freshmen and sophomores.

**University Hall**, opened in 2004, is home to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, College of Business and Management, and the offices within Enrollment Management, including Admission, Financial Assistance, Orientation, and Office of the Registrar.

**The Recreation and Athletic Center**, opened in 2007, houses a sports arena, fitness facilities, and an indoor running track. The arena is home to the UIS Prairie Stars men’s and women’s basketball teams and the volleyball team.

**Founders Residence Hall**, opened in 2008, is UIS’ second residence hall for freshmen and sophomores. The 200-bed facility also features classrooms and the offices of several student services. The hall has a green roof in order to conserve energy.

The **UIS quad**, located in the center of campus, features a colonnade, fountain, and the newest addition, a life-size sculpture of Abraham Lincoln, titled “The Young Lawyer.”

The **UIS Student Union** opened in January of 2018 on the south end of the quad. The two-story, 50,000- square-foot facility is a hub for student life and fosters a greater sense of community on the growing campus. It includes dining services, a coffee shop, a ballroom, a Student Leadership Center, volunteer offices and workspaces for student organizations.
About the University of Illinois Springfield

The University of Illinois Springfield was established in 1970 as Sangamon State University and became the third university in the University of Illinois System in 1995. For its first thirty years, the university was an “upper division” university, enrolling only juniors, seniors and graduate students. It quickly became renowned for its focus on serving the needs of adults who wanted to finish their undergraduate degrees or earn a master’s degree.

UIS enrolled its first class of Capital Scholars Honors freshmen in 2001 and then expanded the freshman class significantly in the fall of 2006. With today’s graduating class, UIS now has over 44,000 alumni worldwide. UIS enrolls about 4,200 students and has 101 degree programs.

UIS is a place where leadership is lived every day by faculty and students. They have an abundance of opportunities to collaborate in a very supportive community environment. The result is a graduating class comprising today’s and tomorrow’s leaders.

Congratulations to all of our graduates.

Professional photography was provided today by GradImages. Questions regarding photographs should be addressed directly to GradImages (gradimages.com). Photographs of today’s ceremony will also be available on the UIS Commencement website (uis.edu/commencement).

Today’s ceremony is also available on DVD. If you would like to purchase a ceremony DVD, contact the Office of Electronic Media at 217-206-6799.

If you would like additional information about the University of Illinois Springfield, please visit uis.edu.
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