Commencement Exercises of the Forty-Fourth Academic Year SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015 • 10 A.M. & 5 P.M.



GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

The GSU Story

Governors State University, a comprehensive public institution, was created to be a model of innovation. After 45 years as an upper-division university, in the Fall of 2014, GSU, while reaffirming its commitment to returning adult students, admitted its first freshman class, opened its first living-learning residence hall, and launched an athletic program. This transformation was based on rigorous research and an unwavering commitment to inclusive excellence.

To drive its transformation, GSU reallocated resources to provide first-year students with a strong foundation for academic achievement. Freshmen are taught by full-time, fully committed faculty members – no grad assistants. Composition classes are limited to 18, and other first-year classes do not exceed 30. Planning for the freshman experience led to full-scale educational reform, encompassing academic majors framed by cornerstone and capstone courses with writing, ethics, citizenship, and critical and innovative thinking integrated across the curriculum.

GSU's bold commitment to innovation is further exemplified by the Dual Degree Program. This partnership with 17 Chicagoland community colleges, launched with Kresge Foundation support, is fast becoming a national model for a seamless pathway from Associate degree to Bachelor's degree.

GSU's five doctoral programs emphasize research-based practice in physical therapy, occupational therapy, nursing, counseling, and leadership.

These major systemic changes were accomplished through strategic planning, comprehensive engagement, and a thoughtful business plan. The American Council on Education (ACE) recently presented GSU the 2015 ACE/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation. This national award, presented to GSU among all the small universities in the nation (under 5,000 full-time equivalent students) confirms GSU's innovation, resourcefulness, and responsiveness.

Committed to student success, GSU continues to model academic excellence, innovation, diversity, and responsible citizenship.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

Bruce Rauner, Governor

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brian D. Mitchell, Chair
Eileen Durkin, Vice Chair
Bruce N. Friefeld, Secretary
Jack R. Beaupre
Patrick Ormsby
Anibal Taboas
Lorraine Tyson
Jeremy Joyce, Student Trustee

This program is not an official university document.

The publication of the names of students does not necessarily constitute their official certification as graduates.

Governors State University is not responsible for any omissions, errors, and/or changes in this Commencement program.

Photographers are requested to refrain from taking pictures during the ceremony.

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Order of Exercises

Saturday, May 16, 2015, 10 a.m.

College of Business and Public Administration

College of Health and Human Services

Dr. Elaine P. Maimon University President Presiding

PRELUDE	Encore Concert Band Jessica Moffia, <i>Conducto</i>
WELCOME AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS	Tony Labriola, <i>Master of Ceremonies</i>
PROCESSIONAL	and Dr. Dale Schuit, Excellence Award Recipients
CALL TO ORDER	Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, <i>Grand Marshai</i>
NATIONAL ANTHEMPlease join in singing to	
GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY	Rashidah J. Muhammad, <i>Faculty Senate President</i>
INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKERSTUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESS	
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS	Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, <i>President</i>
PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE	Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, <i>President</i>
PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES College of Business and Public Administration College of Health and Human Services	Dr. David Green, <i>Chair</i> Dr. Elizabeth A. Cada, <i>Dean</i>
CONFERRING OF DEGREES	Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, <i>President</i>
CLOSING REMARKS	Tony Labriola, Master of Ceremonies
RECESSIONAL	and Dr. Dale Schuit, Excellence Award Recipients
EANIFADE SELECTION	Encore Concort Rand

Order of Exercises

Saturday, May 16, 2015, 5 p.m.

College of Arts and Sciences College of Education

Dr. Elaine P. Maimon University President Presiding

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PRELUDE
WELCOME AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS
PROCESSIONAL
CALL TO ORDER
NATIONAL ANTHEM
GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES Brian D. Mitchell, <i>Chair, Board of Trustees</i> GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, <i>Faculty Senate President</i> GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONMichael Hopkins, <i>Alumni Representative</i>
INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKERMychael Vanarsdale, Student Senate President STUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESSJason Vignone, 2015 Graduate
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS
PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE
PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES
CONFERRING OF DEGREES
CLOSING REMARKS
RECESSIONAL
"Crown Imperial," by William Walton Encore Concert Band
FANFARE SELECTIONEncore Concert Band

Sign language interpretation provided by Susan Bova. The audience is requested to rise and remain standing during the Processional and Recessional.

Honorary Degree Candidate

Elizabeth Brackett

Elizabeth Brackett is a Peabody Award winner and two-time Midwest Emmy Award-winning journalist. She has spent her career covering topics as varied and noteworthy as presidential, mayoral, and gubernatorial races, the Chicago financial exchanges, the Chicago Bulls, and local environmental and genetic research stories.

As a correspondent and substitute host for WTTW-11's flagship nightly public affairs program, "Chicago Tonight," Ms. Brackett is a trusted and respected professional charged with informing Midwest viewers with the important issues of the day.

As local correspondent for the PBS program "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" since 1984, Ms. Brackett covered national and international stories in-depth; reporting, writing, producing, and presenting the news to keep Americans abreast of the issues that affect their lives.

With politics and urban issues as her areas of expertise, Ms. Brackett has covered stories of importance to every American, including Democratic and Republican presidential campaigns, the shuttle disasters, Chicago school reform, the Public Housing Crisis, and many others.

Nationally-recognized for her journalistic excellence, Ms. Brackett won a Peabody Award for her television reporting from the 1988 presidential campaign. Among her many other accolades, Ms. Brackett is also a two-time winner of the Peter Lisagor Award for Business Journalism.

Prior to joining WTTW, Ms. Brackett was a general assignment reporter for WLS-TV, WGN-TV and Radio, and WBBM-TV. As a dedicated and contributing participant in her community, Ms. Brackett has been a coordinator for the Adolescent Alternative Placement Program of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and a community organizer for the Uptown YMCA.

Her interest in politics began early, serving as Illinois Issues Coordinator for Jimmy Carter's presidential campaign and as fundraising director and advance director for William Singer's mayoral campaign.

In the spring of 2009, Ms. Brackett became a first-time author with her book "Pay to Play: How Rod Blagojevich Turned Political Corruption into a National Sideshow." She is also a four-time world champion triathlete, winning the ITU World Championship in her age group in 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012. She came in second in the world in 2013 and 2014.

Honorary Degree Candidate

Nikki Giovanni

Nikki Giovanni, University Distinguished Professor at Virginia Tech, is one of the world's most revered poets. Her work articulates the struggles and celebrations of Black Americans. Her poetry and nonfiction essays cover topics ranging from race and social justice to wisdom and guidance for our nation's youth.

Her honors include an unprecedented seven NAACP Image Awards for her works: "Love Poems;" "Blues: For All the Changes;" "Quilting the Black-Eyed Pea;" "Acolytes;" "Hip Hop Speaks to Children;" "100 Best African American Poems;" and "Bicycles."

Ms. Giovanni was awarded the Langston Hughes Medal, given annually to recognize an influential and engaging African American writer, and has been nominated for a Grammy Award for her "Nikki Giovanni Poetry Collection." Additionally, she was named as one of Oprah Winfrey's 25 "Living Legends."

Her literary endeavors have earned Ms. Giovanni the American Book Award, the Caldecott Honor Book Award, the Carl Sandburg Literary Award, and the Moonbeam Children's Book Award. She has also been a finalist for the National Book Award and has authored three New York Times and Los Angeles Times Best Sellers. All of her more than 20 books are still in print.

Ms. Giovanni is a leading figure in American culture and a major voice in helping people understand the contributions of African Americans to this nation. She has been named Woman of the Year by Mademoiselle, Ladies' Home Journal, and Ebony magazines. She was the first recipient of The Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award. Earlier this year, Ms. Giovanni was named one of the Library of Virginia's "Virginia Women in History" for her contributions to poetry, education, and society.

Ms. Giovanni has had keys to more than two dozen American cities bestowed upon her, including New York, Miami, Los Angeles, and New Orleans. Ms. Giovanni graduated with honors from Fisk University and attended the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia University. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest honor society for the liberal arts and sciences in the U.S.

Student Speakers

Dorian Joseph Harris

Dorian Harris is a New Orleans native whose passion for education and helping people was formed at an early age and continues to this day. Dorian's dream of a higher education has led to earning his graduate degree in Communication Disorders from Governors State University.

Dorian began his collegiate career at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana, where he studied Communication Science. In 2005, Dorian's education and career was placed on hold after he was displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Despite the challenges stemming from this event, Dorian persevered. He earned a bachelor's degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology from Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge in 2010.

Since joining the graduate studies program at GSU in 2010, Dorian has supported the South Suburban Family Shelter in Homewood, dedicating many hours to educating male domestic violence offenders on ways to live nonviolently. Dorian has also been able to apply his philanthropy work to his speech pathology studies through his research into the correlation of domestic violence and selective mutism, particularly in children.

Dorian currently serves as the Assistant Residence Hall Director for University Housing where he has the opportunity to work, mentor, and influence the lives of students who live in Prairie Place. He takes clinical rotations at three different sites: Jefferson Elementary in Joliet, Elim Christian Center in Palos Heights, and Miller Rehab Center in Kankakee. Dorian is joined in celebration with many members of his family who are in attendance.

Jason Vignone

Jason Vignone has wanted to make a difference in the lives of those around him since his youth in Calumet City. Working in higher education for the last 12 years, primarily with students from lower income urban areas, Jason has been making a difference. Not having his bachelor's degree, however, was something Jason felt he needed to accomplish; both as a career objective and as an example to the students he mentors.

Jason began his collegiate studies in the 1990s at South Suburban College, and then Eastern Illinois University, but a job offer postponed the completion of his degree. Jason took a position at Career Education Corp., eventually rising to the position of Registrar at Sanford Brown College in Tinley Park. It was there that Jason found that in order to achieve his career goals, he needed to return to college for a bachelor's degree.

Jason turned to Governors State, where he enrolled in the Interdisciplinary Studies Bachelor of Arts Program centering his studies on History, Cultural Anthropology and Global Politics. To further his understanding of other people and cultures, Jason and his family spent six months in Serbia where Jason tutored English in the Department of Philology (Language Studies) at the University of Belgrade.

Now, with a bachelor's degree in hand, Jason can advance his career and fulfill his goal of making a difference in people's lives through academic advising or student services. He is also considering an advanced degree. Today, as Jason reaches this milestone, his wife and children are here to celebrate with him.

College of Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Arts

Rachel Abbott Yasin Abuzir Tv Acosta Shahenaz Ahmad Ahmed Akel Liliana Alamillo Mahmoud Alawadi Ahmad Al-Hamdan Adan Alvarado *** Caitlin Amescua Latonia Ames-Sheared Brittani Anderson Matthew Andre Sandra Arriaga LaJule Arrington Mohammed Ashour Melinda Avelar Ammanuel Melaku Avalew Eduardo Bahena, Jr. Fahad Baig LaCarl Baker *** Kaitlyn Balamut Pamela Banks Irma Baraias Jeanta Barnes Kimberly Barnes Trisha Barnes ** Melissa Baron *** Anthony Barracca Joseph Bartnik * Bridgette Battle Nadege Beauduy Jamila Becton Nate Benard Elizabeth Bennett *** Marina Berryhill Kenneth Binion Kourtney Blackmon Timothy Blair Brian Bock *** Shivaun Bolden * Tanisha Bond Sarissa Boudreau Ewenece Boyd Tashia Boyd James Bragg Steven Brandenburger * Amy Brickner Holly Britton * Vanessa Brooks ** Danielle Brown Mathew Brown *** Roushella Brown Sheana Bryant Dabney Buchanan Janet Bullaro ***

Stephania Burks Yvette Burnside Nancy Button *** Veronica Bynum Latonya Carey Kyle Carlson * Hillary Carroll *** Ericka Carter Lonnie Cavitt Mark Chatlosh Antonio Claiborne Stacy Clam Valerie Collins Larhonda Cooper **Austin Copley** Justine Cormier Gerard Creamer Amy Cwiklinski Deanna Dahla Robert Dahlberg ** Brian Daly Anessa Davenport Catherine Davis Denise Davis James Davis Nathaniel Davis **§ Latanya Dennis Patrick Dillard Nicole Dizon Samuel Dobbs Suzanne Doggett ** Latonya Donaldson-Wilson * Alicia Doumas Zakarri Dowd **Beverly Dudley** Jamel Dunbar Frank Dziadosz Adam Ebert * Chrystal Edwards Darrell Edwards Keshia Ellis Jesus Espinoza * Philip Espinoza Charles Evans * Ryan Farquharson Scott Finlay Heather Fitzmaurice Patrice Fitzpatrick Denise Flores **Christopher Foster** Kenesha Franklin Latiana Franklin *** Sheila Gabriel Nicholas Galgano

Annamarie Gavin **

Cinthia Ghanayem

Kevin Godinez ***

Rocco Giannelli

Johelen Golden Justin Gomez Waldemar Gorczyca Donna Gordon Alyssa Grata Kenisha Green Gwendolyn Griffith Karolyn Grissom ** John Gudac Edward Hadnott Ahmed Hajhassan Tracy Hall *** **Duchess Hardy** Barbara Harley Christopher Harper * Cole Harper Brenda Harris Cordarro Harris Kendra Harris LaTina Harris Mark Harris, Jr. Rena Harriston Sharon Hart Renee Hawthorne Kevin Heath Chelsey Heft Natalie Helberg *** Megan Helgeson Marshira Henderson Zachary Hendrick Chanette Henry David Henzler * Luis Hernandez Chanel Hill Ralpheal Hill Brandy Hilliard Anita Hines Ronald Hopkins, Jr. Alexandrea Horton Lauren Hubbard Ruba Ibrahim Ashley Jackson Shawnquala Jackson Sean Jacobi Janinemarie Jacoby ** Kayle James Arkia Jenkins Matthew Jennings Daniel Johnson Deborah Johnson Denice Johnson 3 Pamela Johnson Veronica Johnson Monique Jones **

Pamela Jones *** Gina Jurewicz * Ashley Kash Lutfia Kassem Kennise Keaton James Kehoe Latecia Kilgore-Thomas Rhonda Kimbrough Collice King Sherry Kisielius Peggy Klutcharch Karl Koch *** Denise Koehne Aukse Koliuskaite Jennifer Konopka Damian Kozak Spencer Krohn Kyra Kuk *** Yves Lafontant Lauren Langland Gary Laster, Jr. ** Thomas Latham Karolina Latocha ** Natalie Latona * Jeffrey Lea *** Gregory Lee Sammantha Leski Chaquita Lewis Chantel Liggett Katie Lindsey-McCoy Frank Lisula Rachel Lockett Ashley Lopez David Love Brittany Luna Steven Lund ** Ariel Mack Timothy Manning ** Jerry Martin, Jr. *** Danielle Martinez Estephania Martinez * Stephanie Matos Sherrise Maxwell Bianca McArthur Louise McClure Marc McClure Jennifer McCorkle Sharon McCullum Davetia McGrew Courtney McGuire Susan McMullen * Dionne Mhoon Susan Milke

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College of Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Arts (cont.) Olga Rodriguez

Carrie Miller Margaret Miller Soretta Miller Kvle Minett Joaana Miranda Darrel Mitchell Denise Mitchell Omar Mohammad *** David Monroy-Valencia Lizbeth Montes Belinda Moore Terry Moore Timothy Moore Mia Morales * Takina Morris * Jeanene Moslev Neil Moss Ronald Mudiappa Dana Muersch * Robert Mulac *** Tamara Nafe Roy Nelson *** Leah Nettle Patrick Nnadi IIIona Nykaza *** Margaret O'Brien Shelly Oliver Kerri O'Neill * Elizabeth Ortiz Liliana Ortiz Crystal Outten-Valentine Seja Parikh Markeeta Parker *** Lora Paulson *** Daniel Perez Raven Phillips Tarcianikki Pillows **Brandy Pitts** Robert Platos *** Karen Plunkett Oscar Porter **Shenay Porter** Cody Potocki Ramona Pozek * Aleshia Rabideau Szymon Radecki * Kaitlyn Raich * Teena Rajan Kamese Ray Charles Reed Joshua Reinhardt Nicole Reves ** Jeanine Rivers Kelly Roberts ** Tanjaneek Roberts

Derrick Robinson **

Neal Rooney *** Ricardo Ruiz Brianne Rvan Jonathan Ryan Andrew Salata ** Juan Salgado ** Christopher Sanchez Lorie Sanders Gwvn Sanderson Daniel Scanlan Thomas Scannell Samantha Schmidt *** Jeff Schouten Doria Scott Navarra Scott * Jessica Sexton ** Jessica Shaughnessy Mechele Shinall Kathy Siemeck ** Ramona Slater Johnny Smith ** Shannan Smith Tim Smith Tamara Smith Olubunmi Magdalena Smolecka *** Joanna Sokolowski Angela Spyropoulos *** Jessica Stacy *** Erin Stadtler James Starks Colleen Steeves Adam Stewart Steven Stiers Crystal Stokes *** Samantha Stone Sheri Strba Daniel Studer Ronald Sturgess, Jr. Christina Summerlin * Jessica Svoboda ** Michael Szwabowski ** Michelle Tamayo * Lysa Taylor Yevgen Tefledzhuk **Kevin Theiss** Crystal Thomas Jessica Thomas Jazmen Domynique Thompson Lakendrick Thompson Tommy Thompson *** Amanda Thrasher Jihong Tian *** Abbey Tishka * Regina Todd Michele Torbik

Crystal Torres

Christine Toth

Christine Trksak Kara Trojan ** LaJuene Tucker **Emily Valentine** Angela VanBoven Kiril Vassev Nicole Vazquez *** Julie Vercellotti * Marko Vesin Jason Vignone *** Gloria Vivanco Jonathan Viverette Christie Voltattorni Veronica Wade Oumou Wague Janette Waksmanski Vincent Wallace Daniel Waller *** Michelle Weishaar David Westerhausen *** Corev White Brittany Whitehead * Lukasz Wierzbicki Nicole Wilk Richard Wilk ** Chanelle Williams Derek Williams Sterling Williams Deborah Wilson Walter Witzke Sonja Woods Stacey Woods Tabitha Wordlaw Gabrielle Wright William Wright * Lasis Yusuf Alaa Zayed

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Jeanetta Brown *** Marcelina Jara Verana Stark ***

Bachelor of Science

Mario Alcala
Salvador Alcantar
Reena Alexander
Jose Arroyo ***
Lauren Baldacci *
Courtney Barrios **
Lauren Bernard
Anthony Betancourt

Michael Bezener * Briana Bienkowski * Erin Biggane Enrique Camacho, Jr. Fabian Cambron *** Noah Catalano ** Amanda Cobb Ryan Cobden Rubye Coleman Daniel Dandurand Brianna Donnell Olayinka Erogbogbo Caitlin Fitzpatrick Tyrone Gipson Dulce Gonzalez * Gregory Groth Jenna Gruben * **Bailey Guzaitis** Eric Herrera * Cathy Hillegonds Lorelli Hoeksema Cory Hughes Dana Hussein ** Maria Ibraham Christopher Keltner Tomas Koslab *** Sierra Lewis Yuri Lopez Jermaine McClendon Hinal Mehta ** Omar Obaidat Samuel Obazee, Jr. Chintan Patel ** Manishkumar Patel *** Mayank Patel ** Ravi Patel John Perisic Justin Purvis *** Jennifer Raich * Regina Richard Scott Rosenberg ** Huber Saucedo Eduardo Serna Raphael Shaw Edward Sherman David Shinn Melissa Smialek Brian Smith Michael Sullivan, Jr. **Heather Sutton** Jeremy Terry Veroljub Velickovic Nicole Vrabec Kelly Wehrley **

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Amanda Zygadlo

College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Arts

Noura Abdallah

Lujain Abufarha Maha Abufarha Erica Adams Alexander Amponsah Lyne'ya Anderson Antonio Artis Thomas Ashe Charles Barwegen, Jr. Caryn Becker Robert Bonds, III Rosalyn Brazelton Daniel Brown Michael Brown Paris Brown Andrielle Cap Karla Castellanos Latara Chanev David Colander Sharon Colbert Nicholas Coleman Thomas Cronin Jeffrey Cucio Michael Cuela Susan D'Alberti Meghan Danaher Judy Ferneau Ann Geraci John Gildroy Kelly Glynn Willie Gordon Gloria Grav Nikki Guterz Sajid Haidari Angela Hayward Erica Hennings Jorge Hernandez Scherrye Horton Kaneda Irvin Candace Jennings-Coe Nikesha Jernigan-Childress Kristoffer Jett William Joyce Earl King Jasmine King Angela Knox Tammy Kordik William Leen David Luecht Michael Lusk Ryan Mahoney Christopher Mannino Alison McCarthy-Weglewski Anthony McCray Angela McDowell-Richards

Anne McEldowney Paulette McKinnis Thomas McNeela Dale Mitchell Allen Moore Anthony Mortley Rosemary Nowicki Mable O'Neil-Weatherby Rasmieh Odeh Jeff Ornstein Naomi Palacios Marie Penny Cassandra Pharrow Amanda Phillips Ouidie Pollard Nicholas Principato Robert Pyznarski Kasmer Quinn Maria Ramirez Jerry Resudek Sanovia Reynolds-Parks Iris Rodgers Jose Rodriguez Danny Romeo Laura Schreiber Bonnie Schroeder Suzette Shepherd Daniel Shine Jory Simmons Deliliah Stidwell Nia Sydnor Brian Taylor Ericka Tolbert Kristin Travis Maria Vallas Russell Viloria Daniel Vittorio Cindy Walters Antron Washington Gerald Weber **Donald Weimar** Raiah Welcome-Neelv Lorese Wesley Steffinie Winfrey

Master of Fine Arts

Timothy Arroyo Adriene Farmer Judith Hanacek Diana Muhammad Kristine O'Reilly

Master of Science

Asamah Abdallah Ramu Anthati Chaitanva Arava Ramesh Avula Sudharshan Bandaru Marlon Berry Preethi Reddy Boyapally Nicholas Brown Mekeda Carr **Heather Conte** Genice Cox Venkata Rao Daggubati Krishna Chaitanya Devabhakthini Andrew DiCosmo Lauren Drish Connie Farrar Krishna Chand Reddy Gaddam Sofia Galarza Muthyalamma Gangula Bharathi Gannamani Meghan Gehrke Kevin Huizenga Charles Impastato Vinod Kanchi Abhilash Reddy Karam Kurt Karner, Jr. Douglas Kman Santosh Aditya Kokku

Karthik Konda Mary Koster Kevin Kovach Manoj Kukkala Arun Teja Ledala Jhansi Bharathi Madavarapu Bhanuprakash Madupati Rakesh Margam Natawut Monaikul Quiana Moore Chandra Kiran Movva Rachana Mysore Krishna Murthy Karthik Nakarakanti Mounika Pakir Vidya Sagar Pakir Mahesh Kumar Pallati Dilip Kumar Pampana Manikanta Perumalla Devin Peterman Deborah Radford Padmavathy Ravikumar Lauren Ryba Rebecca Schreurs Sergio Senese Sravani Sriramoju Michael Steadman Venkat Nischey Suresh Kumar Shravan Sydugari Brittany Taylor Ranjith Reddy Thipparthi Sivakrishna Thumati Saradhi Bhargava Reddy Tiyyagura Robert Underhile Tejaswini Vodapally Yu-Chuan Wang

Radhakrishna Yalamanchili

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College of Business and Public Administration

Bachelor of Arts

Jasmine Abellera Ana Abonce Samuel Adebayo Veronica Aranda Luis Arroyo Candice Ballenger Eugene Best Katherine Biggs Shannon Billings Kristin Blair Crystal Blakey Jordan Blazek Ryan Buchan Adam Bulkley Krystal Burns Renee Campbell **Dustin Carnes** Tore Castagnier Ronald Casteel, III Caesar Castro Jordan Cummings * Kiel Cundari Daria Daniyalian Lisa Davis Andrew Deitch * Ryan DeVries Jeffrey Doyle Timothy Drenth * Jessica Dudas **Bradley Dunbar** Justin Dzialowy ** Brittany Edgar Esther Edoimiova Ayman Elnajami Ross Engraffia Dillon Forestell Ryan Franczak Kaylor Fullerton Artur Grosfeld Sandra Gustafson Daniel Haduch Crystal Harris John Heintzman Diane Humes ** Julius Johnson Jeremy Joyce Sean Keane Mohammad Khaddash Frank Kilduff Marcin Kuruc LaVerne Lathus Melba Leon Katrina Love Jeremy Lower ** Jordan Malizia

Kyle Marciano Armando Marrufo Shawn McClairn Brittany Nelson Juan Nelson Johnathan Norris Brenna O'Laughlin Deryl Oliver Samantha Otis Angela Pavlacka Paris Payton Ramsey Perry * James Pinto Jesenia Placeres Ankit Ranian Sarah Redmond Caitlin Renik Lucina Reves Anthony Riley Sebastian Rog Aredell Roundtree, II Michele Ruhl Damon Salla Michael Schoettle Rashauna Scott Ahmed Shalabi Ryan Shields Estelita Sides Laronda Simpson Deanna Stepp George Stubenrauch Matt Swiderski Joshua Themer Kenya Thomas Cynthia Vazquez Devonna Walker * Fallon Wells Justin Williams *** Tiffany Willis-Johnson Michelle Wojcik Yun Nam Wong Naineka Wren **Demetrius Wyatt** Kyara Zamora * David Ziontek *

Bachelor of Science

Joshua Adebayo Michele Alcott *** Lauren Bagby Jill Benson Lashauna Brown ** Matthew Burns Marcus Butler-Davis Jonathon Cejudo ** Alexandria Charrier Juana De Loera ** James Depasque Christopher Frankenfield Andrew Fry Kristen Hanicits Anna Hansen Cassandra Hornick Andrew Hummel Andre Ivy Sarah Jones Elizabeth Lemarr Beatriz Lopez Jerry Lorann Hilda Magana Thomas Marcum * Jennifer Martin Ofelia Martinez Jeneane Moinuddin Rose Naegele Nevein Parada Rihan **Dhruv Patel** Jessica Peters Robert Pflugradt Kinga Pilch Yolanda Pitts * Kimberly Podgorny Yvonne Quezada Nicholas Robles Gerald Rogers * Lucas Rudolph Jonathan Sexton Neveen Shahen Marketa Skalova ** Tehishna Tucker ** Elzbieta Tylka Rebecca Valdez Brian Wallat Zachary Wittenkeller Amber Wojtecki Theresa Worley Eric Zukowski

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College of Business and Public Administration

Master of Business Administration

Oriyomi Abraham Kathleen Andersen Gina Atavi **Edward Bosire** Laura Burke Isaac Carpenter, III Priscilla Carroll Collette Chung Gabriela Franco Halaynne Gilliam-Johnson Shane Goggins Tosca Griffith Jacoba Henderson Juan Lara David Messinger Stacey Oyobio Brock Rolonda Ross **Andrew Stevens** Brenda Wallace Thomas Wauchop Ree Winfrey

Master of Public Administration

Courtney Barden Charles Barwegen, Jr. Corinda Blackful Holly Brown Clemetine Calhoun Rochelle Davis Crystal Garibay Adrienne Gray Tammy Gray Nneka Howell Carlos Jones Priscilla McCants Blevian Moore William Moore Anthony Mortley Keturah Moss Tyaise Newman Levetta Parker Ryan Parker Sheretta Patterson Ouidie Pollard Lauren Senter Kara Srsha Michelle Stovall Brian Taylor Jayme Taylor Tamika Underwood Carmella Williams

Master of Science

Staci Biesterfeld Laura Burke Maya Chandler Andrew Chura Diane Gorka Michael Horvath Oladele Iyodo Danielle Kane Samantha Larsen Orin Mohan Wenjie Nie Juliet Obotte Krunal Patel Brandon Payne Nicole Peralta Jessica Rubiano Francis Sarfo Dariusz Sot Aaron Souza John Vos Jason Walkowiak Maria Whitted Jessica Witvoet Hui Xia

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College of Education

Bachelor of Arts

Carolyn Adams Ilaia Alexander Hannah Almquist Caroline Anderson Beth-Ann Arvia *** Critisha Ashley Rose Atkins Maria Bacigalupo Ann Ballout *** Kathy Baran Lindsay Barkhoff ** Elizabeth Ber ** Amanda Beuke Mark Bey Kelly Beyer ** Olivia Boehm ** Noelle Bogdan Jennifer Borgman Mathew Brannigan Ewa Bryjak ** Michelle Brylewski Robyn Caravello *** Christopher Carlborg * Jacqueline Carter Maria Catanzaro Luis Chuquimia Lynette Churchill Chynnah Clasberry Rolanda Collins Christianna Conte Sonnie Cousins Charla Cox Elizabeth Creek Michael Crocilla *** Debra Davis Samantha Denny Cecilia Diaz John Dmitrasz* Sabrina Dudzinski Danielle Duerinck Dana Duncan Thonequea Easley Kristen Efantis *** Ana Espejo Alyssa Espinoza Anne Evans Sabrina Fisher* Christina Fitch Brendan Fleming Katarzyna Gajdur Tyler Gallant ***

Mary Galullo Tyler Gauna Emily Gibson *** Adra Grant Cornell Graves Ashleigh Green Michelle Green Monique Griffin Kelly Harris Crisstian Hernandez *** Karen Hernandez Peggie Jackson ** Stephanie Jackson Robin Januschik Jessica Jaroszewski Joshua Johnson Valerie Johnson Alicia Jones ** Vivian Jordan Nader Joudeh Konrad Karbarz Sadio Keita-Skeets Rebecca Kempton Tara King Maggie LaBelle *** Charity Lane-Brown ** Monique Larsen Rebecca Larson Brooke Latimer*** Christina Lavazza Weng Leong * Brittany Lockridge Ricca Louissaint 3 Raeann Lowry ** Joseph Mackin Bianca Magana *** Samantha Marquardt Dorothedre Massey Kenneth McAllister * Tiffany McCubbin Kayla McCudden Joy Melka *** Camelia Minasian Jazmin Montgomery Jessica Mrazek Ruba Naji *7

Sherry Nash-Braun

Samantha Nichols

Patricia Nicholson

Elizabeth Nolan

Andrea Norris Richard Novitske Jaime Nystrom ** Linda Omari ** Jennifer Opalecky *** Sara Organ § Esperanza Ortegel *** Alicia Pennington Brittany Petreikis * Matthew Pfau Priscilla Printz Basubi Quiller Anna Radecka Sharnita Redley Pamela Riebel ** Lauren Rodig Christina Ronzone Michael Roon ** Jennie Ryan Nancy Salata ** Beatriz Salcedo Sarah Seebold Ginger Senisais Cezanne Shannon ** Stefany Sigler ***§ Lorrie Simington Eva Smith Lottie Smith Erik Spiess Hayley Stamper *** Lauren Stauffenberg * Jennifer Sylvester Wayne Tankersley, Jr. Mary Tantillo * Jamie Thauer Jessica Thomas Kelly Thomas *** Taleigha Thompson Daniel Tijerina Megan Toth Salema Turks Martha Tyler *** Jennifer Vogan *** Kelly Voris Christina Walsh Desmond Warren § Angela Watt Rachel Webb

Jeanne Weber **
Larry Webster
Michaelene Weidman **
Ruby West **
Tracy Whalen
Toya Wilbon
Denika Williams
John Willmot
Jim Wills
Erin Witt **
Cheryl Workman
Lashonda Worthy §
Kandis Wright

College of Education

Master of Arts

Tiffany Archer Kandace Arnold Sylvester Baker Vicki Bunn Sally Burke Mary Caloccia Colleen Carev Jaime Castillo Jamie Chmura Camille Clark Colleen Clohessy Erin Coughlin Kaitlin Curran Constance Curry Amanda Czerwinski Lucas Darragh Katelyn Delaney Debra Devlin David Dombrowski Mary Doornbos Alexandra Federico Ryan Finley Kerry Fitzgerald Lise Fitzsimmons Erica Flynn Kelly Folliard Paulette Foster Kelly Freeze Michelle Gage Julie Garand Andrea Garay Melinda Glynn Gerri Gordon La Kesia Graham Lynnette Grant Sandra Graziano Molly Gudewicz Betsy Hanley Lindsay Heerema Renee Henneman Lorrae Hicks Megan Hijuelos Jamane Hinton Taneisha Hopson Gina Howes Fatimah Ismail Stefanie Jakusz Joan Johns Maloney Tracee Johnson Krista Kijanowski Danielle King Lindsey Lahr

Colleen Lally

Edward Lesniak Erin Logue Louyevna Love Warnell Ludington Loren Mason Kavla McGill Colleen McGrath Lori McGregor Shanta McKay Eligia Milan Melanie Mory Lisa Mrugala

Monique Newburn-Lane Tia Nichols Colin Nolan Alicia Norton Josh Overcast Ron Panner Melissa Press Lauren Pritchett Richard Randolph Pablo Reyes Stephanie Sanford Robin Shannon Cristina Sivak Megan Soppet Nancy Stec Krystal Sullivan Tammy Tunac Stephanie Valdez Terri Vega Ashley Vela Julie Velasco Shannon Vera **Brittany Washington**

Cassandra Wegner

Elizabeth Whiteford

Lindsey West

Kelley Williams

Yenitza Zamora

Catherine Zieba

Michelle Williams

Master of Arts in Teaching

Tara Busha Treyce Criner Carmella Davis Paul Galassi Maripat Janchenko Shauna Kirk Sean McFinnis Megan O'Shea Corey Perry, Sr. Tanya Smith

Doctor of Education

Molli Bachenberg Bonnie Covelli Camille Graham-Humes Mary McClure Deanne Mesquita Cherise Stone Domonicque Tatum Catherine Tymkow Deborah Watson

 $^{^*}$ = Cum Laude 3.80-3.89 ** = Magna Cum Laude 3.90-3.97 *** = Summa Cum Laude 3.98-4.00 § = University Honors Program Academic honors awarded to undergraduate students only. For Commencement, cumulative GPA calculated through Fall 2014.

College of Health and Human Services

Bachelor of Health Administration

Amal Abdellatif Donva Abderrhaman Jordin Adkins Ana Barrios Ismail Bava Lauren Bell Linda Caldwell Dianna Carmon Douaa Chehade ** Josette Clark Constance Cohn Gregory Dole ** Meghan Duffy Uzma Fatima ** Nicole Fifer Carla Fox Cristy Gallegos *** Jessica Green Gloria Griffin-Love Rosemary Hanlon Sara Hensel Tatiana Hughes Abosede Idowu Bonnie Jones Alisha Kirkwood Kelly Marek Amy McMahon Kelly McMahon Yvette McWhorter Samantha Moore Nancy Moussa Patricia Murphy Warda Najjar Jamie Phillips Melad Qodsi Henry Reeves Gerardo Rivera Danielle Rogers Jacquelynn Rogers Razan Salama Randie Salerno **Ieshia Shields** Charnelle Smith Risa Stegall Ayah Sulieman Haneen Sulieman Jennifer Teer Aneta Tokarski Monique Tolliver Devin Velarde Felicia Warren Audrey Wojcik **

Bachelor of Health Science

Lee Anna Bailey Jessica Baron Lorraine Bayer Deborah Bernabei *** Amber Bigus * Marjorie Borg *** Bernice Bousanet-Berry Nicole Bragiel Laura Brink Melanie Burdelik Tiffenv Carter Veronica Casares Lauren Cook Monica Coronado Katie Cunningham Barbara Czarnik * Morgan Davis Sheryl De Boer * Krista De Brabander ** Angelica De Guzman Melissa Debartolo ** Alexandra Diaz Wendy Diaz Daniel Drumm Daniel Dufner Amber Dybala Atsia Fair Alise Farano * Brittney George David Gilbert Elizabeth Graeber * Aja Grizzard-Jackson Anna Guzy Megan Handler Manar Jaber Dedrick Jones Jacqueline Jordan Dustin Klimczak Latasha Koku Angelica Kowalczyk Carol Larkin-Lindsey Yesenia Lemus Jalily Lopez Naim Maali ** Julian Mabry Samantha Mackowiak Alyssa Maher ** Agnieszka Maka *** Avalon Marciniak * Samantha Martens Amanda Matthews

Alma Mayo

Mary Ita McCarthy Cynthia McCormack * Ashley McCoy Heather McKenna Brandy Medendorp Jane Melinauskas ** Katherine Menard Greg Meyer Ashley Moultrie Caitlin Murray Nicole Parker ** **Taylor Parks** Lindsey Phillips Kristin Pisano Kevin Pluta Julie Pope Suzanna Ramirez *** Britney Richardson * Anna Rogowski Allison Salman * Marielle Sebela-Burnett Cynthia Simon-Pruitt * Oluwafunto Sode Meliha Suliic Elizabeth Ter Haar Kyle Tinny Angela Upchurch * Luz Vazquez-Perez Mariz Villasenor Reginald Wallace April West Sylvia White

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Lenora Aikens Christine Barnoski Angela Beal Merrillyn Chandler Denise Cocco Patricia Connelly *** lyekeoretin Djirackor Jessica Dotson Modupe Evinle Marissa Fernando Shawndra Ferrell Sherrie Florence Cassandra Fogarty Alysia Galtney 7 Danielle Gant Darrell Hartmann Shashanna Heard Fadi Hezayin *** Agnieszka Jaskiewicz *** Heike Johnson Fatou Kebe ** Naveed Khan Kellianne Kim * Ryan Kim *** Stephanie Kim *** Tammy Lewis Karli Lizana Kimberly Macauley Chanel Martelly Leticia Mendez Camlinh Nguyen Anthony Nwizu Marta Obrochta ** Maira Ochoa Carrie Perry **Brent Reevas** Kiran Reniguntala Ann Marie Russell Stephanie Russell ** Peggy Siksnus Salie Suleimani * Diane Truitt Ann Waldron Kimberly Washington Korrin Wieferich Ann Wisch ** Rashonna Woods Evelyn Young-Huff Brigita Zamostin *

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*** = Summa Cum Laude 3.98-4.00 § = University Honors Program

College of Health and Human Services

Bachelor of Social Work

Cassiti Allison * Delsie Ascencio Erika Bailey Rachel Batts * Avris Beck Adrianna Cadena Stephen Carter Valerie Catanzaro *** **Britney Chavers** Darryl Cooke Taylor Corke * Tom Dirschl ** Brian Drummond Essence Fox Briana Halloran * Thelma Henderson Shekia Howard Addison Jackson, Jr. Bridgett Jackson Kharyn Johnson Suavette Johnson Samantha Knobbe ** Caroline Konopka Mary Beth Lunter ***§ Sheila Mackie Brittany Malone Lee Merritt, Jr. Dwayne Morrow Tarrice Oliver Lola Osisanya Venus Penager Teresa Reedv *** Aviance Richard Thiesha Ricketts Erika Rodela ** May Salman ***§ Reyna Sconyers Marlene Soto *** Brianna Stelmaszek **§ Sounja Thompson 3 Nancy Vasquez * Dion Walker Caren Wasielewski Erin Whelton Tessa Whyles Mirabel Wiryen

Master of Health Administration

Irwin Aguilar
Farah Ahmed
Ato Anderson
Kanisha Craig
Alexandra Gakopoulou
Donald Plummer
Janel Riddick
Kritika Sharma

Master of Health Science

Tanya Anderson

Jorge Andres Mary Archie Pamela Bell Giorgiana Bellisario Emily Borrelli Nicole Brooks Debra Bulicek Bracy Johnny Burns Deandre Butler Sabina Childs Yvonne Chism Michael Congoran Michael Contreras Jillian Cowling Carla Davis Ashley Deckelman Elizabeth Downs Alandra Drake Susie Edwards Kimberly Ellis Holly Farley Jessica Ferrell Paige Fombelle Vivian Ford-Barney Carmen Free Vera Green Erica Grothen Cynthia Gutierrez Kathleen Hahn Dorian Harris Jasmine Harris Dwight Hill Angela Hofgesang Daryl Holmes, Sr. Felicia Houston Sharon Hurdle Aia Johnson Prentice Johnson Farah Khan Steven Kitowski

Sandra Knezevic **Brittney Lampinen** Rebecca Lonkar Sean Marino Hope Merritt Lesley Milam Marlee Milbrandt Sherwin Miles Comfort Neal Laurien Orta Brittany Rae Shadia Ramadan Tonona Robinson William Ryan Karla Scott Ashley Shah Eileen Sheridan Karen Simcsak Hallema Smith Sharon Smith-Allen Ewelina Smosna Angela Sulek Kerby Waddell Kenneth Walker Mary Warchol **Shirley Washington**

Master of Occupational Therapy

Joseph Beck Laura Beck Michele Blidy Loren Buckley Melanie Cabeen Nicole Copalello Catherine Kay Estrada Carla Foreman Tiffani Grant Erin Haenig Christine Malmer Bria Mays Mathew Medley Holly Moloney Bernadette Okrasinski Brandon Onuselogu Kelly Picken Meghan Quinn Logan Savage Lindsey Shinnick Sara Smit Abby Sprague Amanda Suenkens Alicia Tuuk

Master of Science in Nursing

Idayat Adekunle

Babatunde Adeosun Elewechi Aka Dorothy Akaeze Sherri Albert Bosede Apata Valerie Aurel Swapna Babu Stephanie Bandstra Mohamed Bennji Kelly Borg Stephanie Bradley Enrique Carbajal Carmesha Carrington Sharon Clarke-Nicholson Sharese Donaldson Katherine Dover-Payne Marguerite Dworsky Jenise Farano Kaitlyn Frank Alex George Shiney George Shina Gordon Vanessa Guerra Cynthia Hammond Trisha Hartline Malay Him Lanesia Hoskins Samantha Hyche Roshni Jaimon Dara Karlov Denise Kelly Je'nale King-Thurston Selena Kirkwood Wona Lenior Crystal Locke Jackie Marchbank Jemia Martin Laura Meehan Heidi Meekma Katherine Murray Benedeth Nwumeh Victor Okamgba Benedicta Olagbegi Oluseun Osinowo Christian Ovibe Krystle Parker Giles Elaina Parlapanis Carol Peal Starr Peoples Ljiljana Radovanovic

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College of Health and Human Services

Master of Science in Nursing (cont.)

LaToya Robinson LaTovia Roman Candace Ross Najwa Saleh Sara Shahzad Tammie Silas Marcia Smith Azam Tavvebi Tanya Wagner Marquita Walker Andrea Warren Akeela Welch Angela Willis Ashley Winters Sandra Wood Caryn Woods Elizabeth Zeller

Master of Social Work

Nikia Adams Kaitlin Aldworth Michael Alexander, Sr. Melanie Bagnola Kristin Bailey Terry Banies Kevin Barnett Sarah Barnett Lauren Bassford Carolyn Beil Laura Bernotaite Lisa Boatright Denise Burgos Kelli Cole Margaret Conway Samantha Diaz Theresia Fonge Judith Frecchio-Allen Amy Garcia Michael Geraci

Ronald Givens

Glenda Gomez-Krygsheld Melissa Harris

Caitlin Hearns Laura Henderson Tamika Hill Carol Holmes Jessica Hudson Tiara Hudson Yuvonia Hunt Edria Johnson Kim Johnson

Angela Johnson-Armstrong

Darlene Jones Delia Jones Candace Jordan Lisa Jurgenson Thomas Ligon Lovvion Little Julia Luke Julius Miles Patricia Miller Jaimie Moler Khara Moore Kathleen Muloski Sheena Newsome Latesha Newson Jennifer Obrecht Estefania Palafox Laqueta Parson **Deetrice Peoples** Tanva Pringle

Latasha Reggans Akiah Robinson Angelica Rodriguez Gerardo Ruiz Kevin Schaefer Melissa Smerz Cheryl Steward Kelly Sullivan Lisa Szeszol **Brittany Terrell** Mackenzie Tooper Tracy Walsh LaTosha Washington Shanee Wilson Tara Xenos Caitlin Zarlengo

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Miriam Anthony Patrice Eberhardt Robyn Harwell Larry Meneghini Gwendolyn Rice Yvette Rose Ganiat Sarumi

Doctor of Occupational Therapy

Araia Babayeju Deborah Randle Monika Szymanski Dionne Woods

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Alex Bennett Eric Bihl Kristin Chenev Riddhi Chinoy Jordan Clevy Kelly Cooke Hailev Corwin Mitchell Cronk Michael Gassett Matthew Herring Bethany Hyde Przemyslaw Ilczyk Justin Jones Gina Kelly Katrina Koltz Kathryn Limberopoulos Rachael Matthews Paul Nauiokas Adam Nicholson Maura Rvan Traci Rzeszutko Gina Tassione Wanida Thirakul Eliza Weber Sarah Wicklin

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Commencement Marshals

Grand Marshal

Rashidah J. Muhammad – President, Faculty Senate

Marshal Coordination Team

John Cook – Interim Division Chair, Education
David Golland – Assistant Professor
Lisa Helm – Administrative Coordinator
Joan Johns Maloney – Special Assistant to the Executive Vice President

College of Arts and Sciences

Daniel Cortese – Associate Professor
Tim Gsell – Full Professor
Michael Hart – University Lecturer
Elizabeth Johnson – Associate Professor
Larry Levinson – Full Professor
Kerri K. Morris – Associate Professor

College of Business and Public Administration

Carlos Ferran – Associate Professor
Gökçe Sargut – Assistant Professor
John Simon – Associate Professor
Rob Sinclair – Assistant Professor
Jeff Slovak – Deputy Vice President for Administration and Finance
Michael Williams – Assistant Professor

College of Education

Sasha Cervantes – Assistant Professor Cyrus M. Ellis – Associate Professor Tywanda Jiles – Associate Professor Megan McCaffrey – Assistant Professor Vickie Person – Assistant Professor Ellen Silver-Horrel – University Lecturer Byron Waller – Associate Professor

College of Health and Human Services

Joseph Day – Assistant Professor Lorri Glass – Associate Professor Nicole Koonce – Assistant Professor Zo Ramamonjiarivelo – Assistant Professor Caren Rossow – University Lecturer Joyce Sligar – Senior University Lecturer Robin Washington – Associate Professor

Governors State University (GSU) Honors Cords, Medallions, and Stoles for Commencement

Some graduates wear medals signifying their completion of the honors program. Other graduates wear long cords or stoles around their necks; these symbolize the academic honors they have achieved.

GSU Honors Program – for undergraduates who completed the Honors Program. By completing this rigorous program, these graduates develop greater depth within their academic major by completing advanced work within their program, attending interdisciplinary seminars, and producing a final honors project.

Program	Recognition	Color
GSU Honors Program	Medallion	Gold

GSU University Honors – for undergraduates only

Honors	Cord or Stole	Color
Cum Laude	Cord	White
Magna Cum Laude	Cord	Silver
Summa Cum Laude	Cord	Gold

GSU Honors Societies – for students who are members of these Honors Societies

Society	.Cord or Stole	Color
Alpha Eta Society (Allied Health)	Cord	Green
Alpha Iota Sigma	Cord	Blue and White
Alpha Sigma Lambda (Adult Learners)	Cord	Burgundy and Antique Gold
Chi Sigma Iota (Counselors)	Stole	Blue and White
Delta Mu Delta (Business)		
Lambda Alpha Epsilon (Criminal Justice)		
Lambda Pi Eta (Communications)		
Phi Alpha (Social Work)		
Phi Theta Epsilon (Occupational Therapy	r) Cord	Navy and Gold
Psi Chi (Psychology)	Cord	Blue and Gray
SALUTE Veterans	Cord	Red, White, and Blue
Sigma Theta Tau (Nursing)		
Tau Sigma (Transfer)	Cord	Burgundy and Gold
Student Senate (Student Governance)		
Upsilon Phi Delta (Computing)	Cord	Blue and Red

Dual-Degree Program (DDP) cords – for GSU graduates who entered GSU through the DDP

GSU-DDP (Dual Degree Program)	Cord or Stole Color
City Colleges of Chicago	Cord Light Blue and Black and White
College of DuPage	Cord Green and Black and White
Harper College	Cord Blue and Black and White
Joliet Junior College	CordPurple and Black and White
Kankakee Community College	Cord Red and Black and White
Moraine Valley Community College	Cord Dark Green and Black and White
	Cord Light Blue and Black and White
	Cord Green and Black and White
South Suburban College	Cord Blue and Black and White
	Cord Maroon and Black and White
Waubonsee Community College	Cord Maroon and Black and White

Academic Regalia

During the commencement ceremony, students and faculty wear academic costumes indicating the wearers' degrees, colleges/universities, and fields of study.

The Cap

The black mortarboard type is the most common cap worn. Degree candidates wear cap tassels that are black and white, the university colors. Colors worn by the faculty vary according to their fields of study.

The Gown

Gowns are of three kinds. The bachelor's gown is relatively simple, with lines falling straight from a fairly elaborate yoke. Its distinguishing characteristic is the long pointed sleeve. Braided silken cords are worn by students who have achieved special scholastic recognition: gold signifies high honors; white signifies honors. The master's gown has sleeves, with a back end extending down below the knee in a crescent shape. The doctoral gown is an elaborate costume, with velvet panels down the front and around the neck, with three velvet bars on the bell-shaped sleeves.

The Hood

The official colors of the college or university from which a degree is conferred are represented in the lining of the hood. For each field of study, there is a corresponding trim color. The trim colors for doctoral and master's hoods are as follows:

Degree Programs	Color
Accounting	
Addictions Studies	Salmon Pink
Analytical Chemistry	Golden Yellow
Art	Brown
Business Administration	Drab
Communication Disorders	
Communication and Training	White
Computer Science	Golden Yellow
Counseling	
Counselor Education and Supervision	_
Criminal Justice	_
Early Childhood Education	
Education	_
Educational Administration	_
English	White
Environmental Biology	
Independent Film and Digital Imaging	Brown
Interdisciplinary Leadership	
Health Administration	
Management Information Systems	Golden Yellow
Mathematics	Bright Gold
Multicategorical Special Education	Light Blue
Nursing	Apricot
Occupational Therapy	Slate Blue
Physical Therapy	Teal
Political and Justice Studies	
Psychology	Light Blue
Public Administration	
Social Work	Citric

Dual Degree Program Graduates

Dual Degree Program graduates received distinctive cords for their academic regalia that intertwine GSU's colors—black and white—with the colors of the student's community college. Braiding these colors together symbolizes the partnership and shared goal of the community college and GSU; working together to help these students achieve academic success.

Governor State University's nationally recognized Dual Degree Program is a partnership with 17 area community colleges that establishes a seamless pathway for students to complete their associate degrees at a Chicagoland partner community college and continue their education at GSU to attain their bachelor's degrees.

The 2015 Class Gift

The value of educational opportunity is celebrated by each graduating class with a legacy gift to Governors State University. The amount of each gift reflects the year of the student's commencement. This year's gift is \$20.15, although many graduates choose to donate more. The total Class of 2015 gift supports the GSU Promise exemplifying the graduates' commitment to educational opportunity. Additional contributions to the class gift also provide graduates with the opportunity to express gratitude in the form of a dedicated donation to those who encouraged their achievement.

The GSU Promise is a million dollar scholarship endowment that the university has built to enable high-achieving, qualified community college transfer students enrolled in the Dual Degree Program to obtain bachelor's degrees without burdensome debt.

GSU Alumni Association

The Alumni Association connects graduates with each other, as well as to volunteer opportunities, community outreach activities, educational workshops and seminars, and cultural, recreational, and professional events.

GSU graduates serve as ambassadors of the university. They advocate for GSU in their personal networks, and encourage high school, community college, veterans, and other students to attend GSU. They also return to campus, share their success stories, mentor current students, and donate to promote educational opportunity.

The Alumni Association and the generations of GSU alumni are proud to welcome the Class of 2015 to its ranks.



The Mace

The governor's mace, carried by the marshal who leads the academic procession, is a symbol of the authority of the university as a degree-granting institution. The legal authority of the university is grounded in the intellectual authority of the distinguished faculty who follow in the procession.

In antiquity, the mace was a weapon used to establish the "authority" of the physically strong. Its transformation into a symbol of intellectual authority is both a tribute to and a reminder of the civilizing force of a university's teaching, research and community service functions.

Engraved on the four side-panels of the governor's mace are the seal of the State of Illinois; a cardinal, the state bird; the seal of the former Illinois Board of Governors Universities; and an inscription which reads "The governor's mace, a symbol of tradition and authority of Governors State University, dedicated to the search for excellence in the pursuit of truth, knowledge and the love of learning. Presented by Peter Levin, friend of the university, June 2, 1979."

Atop the mace is a silver rendition of the university logo. The three sides of the "triangle" symbolize the university's teaching, research and community service functions. The three lines visually suggest the shape of a rocket; reminding us both that the university was founded within days of Neil Armstrong setting foot on the moon and that the university is a hope-filled, pioneering community, committed to a better future for all men and women. The circle symbolizes the fact that the university is, indeed, a community. Finally, the fact that the tips of the triangle reach beyond the circle indicates the university's outreach into the region, state and nation, and its commitment to teaching, research and community service.

