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, Conductor

WELCOME AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS ........................................... Tony Labriola, Master of Ceremonies

PROCESSIONAL .................................................................................................. Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, Grand Marshal
Dr. Stephen Wagner and Dr. Dale Schuit, Excellence Award Recipients
“Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1,” by Edward Elgar ......................... Encore Concert Band

CALL TO ORDER ................................................................................................. Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, Grand Marshal

NATIONAL ANTHEM .......................................................................................... Katrina Love, 2015 Graduate

Please join in singing the National Anthem

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES............................... Brian D. Mitchell, Chair, Board of Trustees
GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY .................................................. Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, Faculty Senate President
GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION................................... State Representative Will Davis, Alumni Representative

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER........................................... Jeremy Joyce, Student Trustee
STUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESS................................................................. Dorian Joseph Harris, 2015 Graduate

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS .................................................................................. Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE .......................................... Dr. Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost
Conferring of Degree ......................................................................................... Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President
Honorary Recipient, Doctor of Humane Letters ............................................... Nikki Giovanni

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES ....................................... Dr. Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost
College of Business and Public Administration ............................................... Dr. David Green, Chair
College of Health and Human Services .......................................................... Dr. Elizabeth A. Cada, Dean
Name Readers ......................................................................................... CBPA - Nick Battaglia, CHHS - Dr. Rebecca Wojcik

CONFERRING OF DEGREES ......................................................................... Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

CLOSING REMARKS ......................................................................................... Tony Labriola, Master of Ceremonies

RECESSIONAL ................................................................................................. Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, Grand Marshal
Dr. Stephen Wagner and Dr. Dale Schuit, Excellence Award Recipients
“Crown Imperial,” by William Walton .................................................. Encore Concert Band

FANFARE SELECTION ......................................................................................... Encore Concert Band

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

PRELUDE .................................................................Encore Concert Band
Jessica Moffia, Conductor

WELCOME AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS .........................Tony Labriola, Master of Ceremonies

PROCESSIONAL ..........................................................Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, Grand Marshal
Dr. Deborah James and Dr. Dale Schuit, Excellence Award Recipients
“Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1,” by Edward Elgar ....................Encore Concert Band

CALL TO ORDER .........................................................Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, Grand Marshal

NATIONAL ANTHEM ...................................................Martha Tyler, 2015 Graduate
Please join in singing the National Anthem

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ..................Brian D. Mitchell, Chair, Board of Trustees
GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY ..............................Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, Faculty Senate President
GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION .............Michael Hopkins, Alumni Representative

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER .........................Mychael Vanarsdale, Student Senate President
STUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESS ........................................Jason Vignone, 2015 Graduate

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ..............................................Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE ..........................Dr. Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost
Conferring of Degree ..................................................Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President
Honorary Recipient, Doctor of Humane Letters ............................Elizabeth Brackett

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES .......................Dr. Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost
College of Arts and Sciences ........................................Dr. Reinhold Hill, Dean
College of Education ..................................................Dr. Shannon Dermer, Chair
Name Readers .........................................................CAS - Dr. Deborah James, COE - Dr. Colleen Sexton

CONFERRING OF DEGREES ..............................................Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

CLOSING REMARKS ....................................................Tony Labriola, Master of Ceremonies

RECESSIONAL .............................................................Dr. Rashidah J. Muhammad, Grand Marshal
Dr. Deborah James, Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Dale Schuit, Excellence Award Recipient
“Crown Imperial,” by William Walton ......................................Encore Concert Band

FANFARE SELECTION .....................................................Encore 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.
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.
Bachelor of Arts

Rachel Abbott
Yasin Abuzir
Ty Acosta
Shahenaz Ahmad
Ahmed Akel
Liliana Alamilo
Mahmoud Alawadi
Ahmad Al-Hamdan
Adan Alvarado ***
Caitlin Amescua
Latonia Ames-Sheared
Brittani Anderson
Matthew Andre
Sandra Arriaga
LaCarl Baker ***
Kaitlyn Balamut
Pamela Banks
Irma Barajas
Jeanta Barnes
Kimberly Barnes
Trisha Barnes **
LaJule Arrington
Mohammed Ashour
Melinda Avelar
Ammanuel Melaku Ayalew
Eduardo Bahena, Jr.
Fahad Baig
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 Dahl
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
Jamal Dunbar
Frank Dziadosz
Adam Ebert *
Chrstyal 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 **
Cynthia Ghanayem
Rocco Giannelli
Kevin Godinez ***
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
Chante Henry
David Henzler *
Luis Hernandez
Chanel Hill
Ralphal Hill
Brandy Hilliard
Anita Hines
Ronald Hopkins, Jr.
Alexandrea Horton
Lauren Hubbard
Rubia Ibrahim
Ashley Jackson
Shawnquala Jackson
Sean Jacobi
Janinemarie Jacoby **
Kayle James
Arkia Jenkins
Matthew Jennings
Daniel Johnson *
Deborah Johnson
Denice Johnson *
Pamela Johnson
Monique Jones **
Pamela Jones ***
Pamela Jones ***
Gina Jurewicz *
Ashley Kash
Lutfia Kassem
Kennise Keaton
James Kehoe
Latecia Kilgore-Thomas
Rhonda Kimbrough
Collice King
Sherry Kiiselus
Peggy Klutcharch
Karl Koch ***
Denise Koehne
Aukse Koliuskaite
Jennifer Konopka
Damin Kozak
Spencer Krohn
Kyra Kuk ***
Yves Lafontant
Lauren Langland
Gary Laster, Jr. **
Thomas Latham
Karolina Latocha **
Natalie Latona *
Jeffrey Lea ***
Gregory Lee
Sammanta 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 McMullum
Davetia McGrew
Courtney McGuire
Susan McMullen *
Dionne Mhoon
Susan Milke

* = 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.
Bachelor of Arts (cont.)

Carrie Miller
Margaret Miller
Soretta Miller
Kyle Minett
Joanaa Miranda
Darrel Mitchell
Denise Mitchell
Omar Mohammad ***
David Monroy-Valencia
Lizbeth Montes
Belinda Moore
Terry Moore
Timothy Moore
Mia Morales *
Takina Morris *
Jeanene Mosley
Neil Moss
Ronald Mudiappa
Dana Muersch **
Robert Mulac ***
Tamara Nafe
Roy Nelson ***
Leah Nettie
Patrick Nnadi
Illona Nykaza ***
Margaret O’Brien
Shelly Oliver
Kerri O’Neill *
Elizabeth Ortiz
Liliana Ortiz
Crystal Otten-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 *
Alesha Rabideau
Szmany Radecki *
Kaitlyn Raich *
Teena Rajan
Kamese Ray
Charles Reed
Joshua Reinhardt
Nicole Reyes **
Jeanine Rivers
Kelly Roberts **
Tanjanee Roberts
Derrick Robinson **
Olga Rodriguez
Neal Rooney ***
Ricardo Ruiz
Brianne Ryan
Jonathan Ryan
Andrew Salata **
Juan Salgado **
Christopher Sanchez
Lori Sanders
Gwyn Sanderson
Daniel Scanlan
Thomas Scannell
Samantha Schmidt ***
Jeff Schouten
Doria Scott
Navarra Scott *
Jessica Sexton **
Jessica Shaughnessy
Mecelle Shinnal
Kathy Siemeck **
Ramona Slater
Johnny Smith **
Shannon Smith
Tim Smith
Tamara Smith Olubunmi
Magdalena Smolecka ***
Joanna Sokolowski
Angela Spyropoulos ***
Jessica Stacy ***
Erin Stadler
James Starks
Colleen Steeves
Adam Stewart
Steven Stiers
Crystal Stokes ***
Samantha Stone
Sheri Strba
Daniel Studer
Ronald Sturgess, Jr.
Christina Summerlin *
Jessica Svoboda **
Michael Szabowski **
Michelle Tamayo *
Lysa Taylor
Yevgen Tefledzhuk
Kevin Theiss
Crystal Thomas
Jessica Thomas
Jazmen Domynique Thompson
Lakendrick Thompson
Tommy Thompson ***
Amanda Thrasher
Jihong Tian ***
Abby Tishka *
Regina Todd
Michele Torbik
Crystal Torres
Christine Toth
Christine Trksak
Kara Trojan **
LaJuene Tucker
Emily Valentine
Angela VanBoven
Kiril Vasiev
Nicole Vazquez ***
Julie Vercellotti *
Marko Vesin
Jason Vigne ***
Gloria Vivanco
Jonathan Viverette
Christie Voltattorni
Veronica Wade
Oumou Wague
Janette Waksanski
Vincent Wallace
Daniel Waller ***
Michelle Weishaar
David Westerhausen ***
Corey 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
Ala 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

Olga Rodriguez
Neal Rooney ***
Ricardo Ruiz
Brianne Ryan
Jonathan Ryan
Andrew Salata **
Juan Salgado **
Christopher Sanchez
Lori Sanders
Gwyn Sanderson
Daniel Scanlan
Thomas Scannell
Samantha Schmidt ***
Jeff Schouten
Doria Scott
Navarra Scott *
Jessica Sexton **
Jessica Shaughnessy
Mecelle Shinnal
Kathy Siemeck **
Ramona Slater
Johnny Smith **
Shannon Smith
Tim Smith
Tamara Smith Olubunmi
Magdalena Smolecka ***
Joanna Sokolowski
Angela Spyropoulos ***
Jessica Stacy ***
Erin Stadler
James Starks
Colleen Steeves
Adam Stewart
Steven Stiers
Crystal Stokes ***
Samantha Stone
Sheri Strba
Daniel Studer
Ronald Sturgess, Jr.
Christina Summerlin *
Jessica Svoboda **
Michael Szabowski **
Michelle Tamayo *
Lysa Taylor
Yevgen Tefledzhuk
Kevin Theiss
Crystal Thomas
Jessica Thomas
Jazmen Domynique Thompson
Lakendrick Thompson
Tommy Thompson ***
Amanda Thrasher
Jihong Tian ***
Abby Tishka *
Regina Todd
Michele Torbik
Crystal Torres
Christine Toth
Christine Trksak
Kara Trojan **
LaJuene Tucker
Emily Valentine
Angela VanBoven
Kiril Vasiev
Nicole Vazquez ***
Julie Vercellotti *
Marko Vesin
Jason Vigne ***
Gloria Vivanco
Jonathan Viverette
Christie Voltattorni
Veronica Wade
Oumou Wague
Janette Waksanski
Vincent Wallace
Daniel Waller ***
Michelle Weishaar
David Westerhausen ***
Corey 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
Ala Zayed

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

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

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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.
Carin Becker
Robert Bonds, III
Rosalyn Brazelton
Daniel Brown
(54,629),(350,778)

Master of Fine Arts

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

Master of Science

Asamah Abdallah
Ramu Anthari
Chaitanya Arava
Ramesh Avula
Sudharshan Bandaru
Marlon Berry
Preethi Reddy Boyapally
Nicholas Brown
Mekeda Carr
Heather Conte
Genice Cox
Venkata Rao Daggubati
Krishna Chaitanya
Devabhaktini
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

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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 Castagner  
Ronald Casteel, III  
Caesar Castro  
Jordan Cummings *  
Kiel Cundari  
Daria Danialian  
Lisa Davis  
Andrew Deitch *  
Ryan DeVries  
Jeffrey Doyle  
Timothy Dreth *  
Jessica Dudas  
Bradley Dunbar  
Justin Dzialowy **  
Brittany Edgar  
Esther Edoimiya  
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 McClain  
Brittany Nelson  
Juan Nelson  
Johnathan Norris  
Brenna O’Laughlin  
Deryl Oliver  
Samantha Otis  
Angela Pavlacka  
Paris Payton  
Ramsey Perry *  
James Pinto  
Jesenia Placeres  
Ankit Ranjan  
Sarah Redmond  
Caitlin Renik  
Lucina Reyes  
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  
Naiwaka Wren  
Demetrious Wyatt  
Kyara Zamora *  
David Zientek *

**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  
Drhuv 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

* = 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 Business and Public Administration

### Master of Business Administration

- Oriyomi Abraham
- Kathleen Andersen
- Gina Atayi
- 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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Bachelor of Arts
Carolyn Adams
Ilaia Alexander
Hannah Almquist
Caroline Anderson
Beth-An Arvia ***
Crittisha 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 Chiquimia
Lynette Churchill
Chynnah Clasberry
Rolanda Collins
Christianne Conte
Sonnie Cousins
Charla Cox
Elizabeth Creek
Michael Crocilla ***
Debra Davis
Samantha Denny
Cecilia Diaz
John Dimitrasz*
Sabrina Dudzinski
Danielle Duerinck
Dana Duncan
Thonequa 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
Cornel Graves
Ashleigh Green
Michelle Green
Monique Griffin
Kelly Harris
Cristian 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 *
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 Najji **
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 Senais
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

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College of Education

Master of Arts

Tiffany Archer
Kandace Arnold
Sylvester Baker
Vicki Bunn
Sally Burke
Mary Caloccia
Colleen Carey
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
Jamanee 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
Kayla 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
Lindsey West
Elizabeth Whiteford
Kelley Williams
Michelle Williams
Yenitza Zamora
Catherine Zieba

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

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<th>Bachelor of Health Science</th>
<th>Bachelor of Science in Nursing</th>
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<td>Kelly McMahon</td>
<td>Alise Farano *</td>
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<td>Brittney George</td>
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<td>Camlinh Nguyen</td>
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<td>Aja Grizzard-Jackson</td>
<td>Anthony Nwizu</td>
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<td>Warda Najjar</td>
<td>Anna Guzy</td>
<td>Marta Obrochta **</td>
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<td>Jamie Phillips</td>
<td>Megan Handler</td>
<td>Maira Ochoa</td>
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<td>Melad Qodsí</td>
<td>Manar Jaber</td>
<td>Carrie Perry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Reeves</td>
<td>Dedrick Jones</td>
<td>Brent Reesas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerardo Rivera</td>
<td>Jacqueline Jordan</td>
<td>Kiran Reniguntala</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Rogers</td>
<td>Dustin Klimczak</td>
<td>Ann Marie Russell *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacquelynn Rogers</td>
<td>Latasha Koku</td>
<td>Stephanie Russell **</td>
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<tr>
<td>Razan Salama</td>
<td>Angelica Kowalczyk</td>
<td>Peggy Siksnus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randie Salerno</td>
<td>Carol Larkin-Lindsey</td>
<td>Salie Sulejmani</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ieshia Shields</td>
<td>Yesenia Lemus</td>
<td>Diane Truitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charnelle Smith</td>
<td>Jalil Lopez</td>
<td>Ann Waldron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risa Stegall</td>
<td>Naim Maali **</td>
<td>Kimberly Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ayah Suleiman</td>
<td>Julian Mabry</td>
<td>Korrin Wieferich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haneen Suleiman</td>
<td>Samantha Mackowiak</td>
<td>Ann Wisch ***</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Tee</td>
<td>Alyssa Maher **</td>
<td>Rashonna Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aneta Tokarski</td>
<td>Agnieszka Maka ***</td>
<td>Evelyn Young-Huff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monique Tollier</td>
<td>Avalon Marciniak</td>
<td>Brigita Zamostin *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Devin Velarde                   | Samantha Martens          | * = Cum Laude 3.80-3.89 ** = Magna Cum Laude 3.90-3.97
| Felicia Warren                  | Amanda Matthews           | *** = Summa Cum Laude 3.98-4.00 § = University Honors Program
| Audrey Wojcik **                | Alma Mayo                 | Academic honors awarded to undergraduate students only.

For Commencement, cumulative GPA calculated through Fall 2014.
College of Health and Human Services

Bachelor of Social Work

Cassie Allison *
Delsie Ascencio
Erika Bailey
Rachel Batts *
Alyss Beck
Adrianna Cadena
Stephen Carter
Valerie Catanzaro ***
Britney Chavers
Darryl Cooke
Taylor Corke *
Tom Dirschl **
Brian Drummond
Essence Fox
Brian Halloran *
Thelma Henderson
Sheila 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 Reedy ***
Aviance Richard
Thiesha Ricketts
Erika Rodela **
May Salman ***§
Reyna S conquer
Marlene Soto ***
Brianna Stelmaszek **§
Sounja Thompson *
Nancy Vasquez *
Dion Walker
Caren Wasielewski
Erin Whelton
Tessa Whyles
Mirabel Wiryen

Master of Health Administration

Irwin Aguilar
Farah Ahmed
Atu Anderson
Kaniisha Craig
Alexandra Gakopoulou
Donald Plummer
Janel Riddick
Kritika Sharma

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
Evelina Smosna
Angela Sulek
Kerby Waddell
Kenneth Walker
Mary Warchol
Shirley Washington

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 Holgesang
Daryl Holmes, Sr.
Felicia Houston
Sharon Hurdle
Aja Johnson
Prentice Johnson
Farah Khan
Steven Kitowski

Master of Science in Nursing

Idayat Adekunle
Babatunde Adeosun
Elewechi Aka
Dorothy Akaeze
Sherri Albert
Bosedie Apatra
Valerie Aurel
Swapna Babu
Stephanie Bandstra
Mohamed Bennji
Kelly Borg
Stephanie Bradley
Enrique Carbajal
Carmesha Carrington
Sharon Clarke-Nicholson
Sharase 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’naile King-Thurston
Selena Kirkwood
Wona Lenior
Crystal Locke
Jackie Marchbank
Jemla Martin
Laura Meehan
Heidi Meekma
Katherine Murray
Benedeth Nwumeh
Victor Okamgba
Benedicta Olagbegi
Oluseun Osinowo
Christian Oyibe
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
LaToyia Roman
Candace Ross
Najwa Saleh
Sara Shahzad
Tammie Silas
Marcia Smith
Azam Tayyebi
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 Barines
Kevin Barnett
Sarah Barnett
Lauren Bassford
Carolyn Beil
Laura Bernotalte
Lisa Boatright
Denise Burgos
Kelli Cole
Margaret Conway
Samantha Diaz
Theresa Fonge
Judith Freccchio-Allen
Amy Garcia
Michael Geraci
Ronald Givens
Glenda Gomez-Krygsheld
Melissa Harris
Caitlin Hearn
Laura Henderson
Tarika 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 Newsone
Jennifer Obrecht
Estefania Palafox
LaQueta Parson
Deetrice Peoples
Tanya 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 Zarleno

Doctor of Nursing Practice

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

Doctor of Occupational Therapy

Araia Babayequ
Deborah Randle
Monika Szymanski
Dionne Woods

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Alex Bennett
Eric Bihl
Kristin Cheney
Riddhi Chinoy
Jordan Clevy
Kelly Cooke
Hailey Corwin
Mitchell Cronk
Michael Gassett
Matthew Herring
Bethany Hyde
Przemyslaw Ilczyk
Justin Jones
Gina Kelly
Katrina Koltz
Kathryn Limberopoulos
Rachael Matthews
Paul Naujokas
Adam Nicholson
Adam Ryan
Traci Rzeszutko
Gina Tassione
Wanida Thrakul
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GSU Honors Program</td>
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**GSU University Honors** – for undergraduates only

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<tr>
<th>Honors</th>
<th>Cord or Stole</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cum Laude</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magna Cum Laude</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summa Cum Laude</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Cord or Stole</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Eta Society (Allied Health)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Iota Sigma</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Sigma Lambda (Adult Learners)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Burgundy and Antique Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chi Sigma Iota (Counselors)</td>
<td>Stole</td>
<td>Blue and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Mu Delta (Business)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Purple and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambda Alpha Epsilon (Criminal Justice)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Reflex Blue and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambda Pi Eta (Communications)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Crimson and Cream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi Alpha (Social Work)</td>
<td>Stole</td>
<td>Blue and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi Theta Epsilon (Occupational Therapy)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Navy and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psi Chi (Psychology)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALUTE Veterans</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Red, White, and Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma Theta Tau (Nursing)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Purple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tau Sigma (Transfer)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Burgundy and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Senate (Student Governance)</td>
<td>Stole</td>
<td>Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upsilon Phi Delta (Computing)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Red</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GSU-DDP (Dual Degree Program)</th>
<th>Cord or Stole</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Colleges of Chicago</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Light Blue and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of DuPage</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Green and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harper College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joliet Junior College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Purple and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kankakee Community College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Red and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moraine Valley Community College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Dark Green and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morton College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Light Blue and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie State College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Green and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Suburban College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triton College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Maroon and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waubonsee Community College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Maroon and Black and White</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:

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