12-15-2018

UA45/6 Commencement Program

WKU Registrar
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-FOURTH COMMENCEMENT

COLLEGE RECOGNITION CEREMONIES

December 2018

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HISTORY OF WKU

On March 21, 1906 the Kentucky General Assembly approved legislation to establish two teacher training institutions, or “normal schools,” in the state. A locating commission chose Bowling Green to be the site of one, and the Western Kentucky State Normal School was created.

The new state-supported school took over the building and student body of the privately owned Southern Normal School. The owner of the Southern Normal School, Henry Hardin Cherry, had been actively involved in the campaign to establish teacher training schools and became the first president. Classes began on January 22, 1907.

On February 4, 1911 the school moved to its present site on “the Hill,” approximately 135 feet above downtown Bowling Green and formerly the site of The Pleasant J. Potter College. Over the next decade, the curriculum focused on teacher training and certification. Students received practical experience at the Training School, and a model one-room Rural School was opened on campus in 1914. In 1922 the state renamed the institution Western Kentucky State Normal School and Teachers College and authorized it to grant four-year degrees. The first such degrees were awarded in 1924.

The campus expanded in 1927, when it merged with Ogden College, a private young men’s school located on the east side of the Hill. The name was shortened to Western Kentucky State Teachers College in 1930, and the following year the master of arts degree was first offered. President Cherry died in 1937 and was succeeded by Dr. Paul Garrett. As the College’s mission broadened, its name was shortened to Western Kentucky State Teachers College in 1930, and the following year the master of arts degree was first offered. President Cherry died in 1937 and was succeeded by Dr. Paul Garrett.

More than a century of growth has made WKU a respected center of learning where qualified students may receive general and specialized higher education at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Our undergraduate curriculum offers seven baccalaureate degrees through 101 majors, in addition to eight associate degree programs and 37 certificate programs. Today, the university proudly serves the educational needs of 19,461 students from all 50 states and 66 countries.
ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

HISTORY OF ACADEMIC ATTIRE

A time-honored tradition of great dignity, the wearing of academic attire is a survival of the ecclesiastical garb of the late Middle Ages. The academic gown, necessary for a scholar's warmth in unheated stone colleges, and the hood to protect his shaven head, were first adopted in the thirteenth century at the University of Cambridge.

Academic costume came to America in 1754 with the founding of King's College, now Columbia University. Styles became quite varied, as they were in Europe, but in 1895 a group of American college and university representatives met to establish a uniform system of academic apparel for this country. This led to the establishment in 1902 of an "Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume." The American Council on Education formed a committee in 1912 to review the 1895 code, and it was again reviewed and revised in 1939.

GOWN, CAP AND HOOD

All candidates for degrees and those who hold degrees, including university officials, faculty and visiting dignitaries, are attired in traditional cap and gown. Recipients of the associate degree and the bachelor's degree wear black gowns and caps, and recipients of master's, specialist and doctoral degrees wear black gowns and caps with hoods of various colors.

Bachelors' gowns have pointed sleeves; masters' gowns have long closed sleeves with slits at the elbow for the arms; the doctors' gowns have wide, round open sleeves. Doctoral gowns are faced with panels of velvet which by its color denotes the academic discipline in which the wearer's degree was earned, and it is lined in two colors of silk which represent the college or university from which the degree was earned. Hence, the Western Kentucky University hood contains one white chevron on a field of bright red and is edged with the appropriate discipline color.

The following is a partial list of colors adopted by the American Council on Education that represent the various academic disciplines:

- Agriculture: Maize
- Arts, Letters and Humanities: White
- Commerce, Accounting and Business: Drab
- Communications: Gold
- Criminology: Golden Yellow
- Economics: Copper
- Education: Light Blue
- Engineering: Orange
- Fine Arts: Brown
- Journalism: Crimson
- Library Science: Lemon
- Music: Pink
- Nursing: Apricot
- Philosophy: Dark Blue
- Physical Education: Sage Green
- Public Administration: Peacock Blue
- Public Health: Salmon Pink
- Science: Golden Yellow
- Social Work: Citron
- Sociology: White
- Theology: Scarlet

THE MACE

Originally used as a weapon during the Middle Ages, a mace was carried to protect a ruler. Eventually this scepter-like instrument became an emblem of authority and became popular for ceremonial purposes. Maces are now carried at the beginning of academic processions at many universities throughout the world, representing each institution's authority to confer degrees.

Western Kentucky University's Mace contains several elements that are symbolic of WKU's history. Hand-carved from Kentucky cherry, the top portion of the Mace is a representation of the lantern on the dome of Cherry Hall and is a tribute to our founder, Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry. The University Seal contains the University's motto, and carved bands around the shaft include significant dates in the evolution of the institution. Gems embedded in the lower portion of the Mace represent the colors of the academic disciplines offered by the University. The round ball at the base is symbolic of WKU's alumni around the globe.

The Mace, carried by the University's most senior faculty member, was dedicated to the University on May 7, 1998 during the Inaugural Week activities for President Gary A. Ransdell. It was designed by John Warren Oakes and was crafted by Terry Leeper and Frank Pittman.

THE UNIVERSITY SEAL

The University Seal features our treasured motto "The Spirit Makes the Master" and our ideal defined by Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry as "Life, More Life." First adopted by Dr. Cherry in 1911, the Seal has evolved as the institution grew to university status. WKU's President Emeritus, Dr. Kelly Thompson, gave leadership to designing the present version of the Seal, which was approved by President Paul Garrett and first used in 1948. It was altered in 1966 to include the appropriate wording when university status was attained.

THE PRESIDENT'S MEDALLION

Medallions, as worn in higher education, represent the evolution of a practice arising in the Middle Ages and the very early beginnings of universities in the Western World. The Medallion identifies the wearer as the designated leader of the university. Representing both the authority and the responsibility of the person who wears it, the Medallion is worn by the president of the university at formal academic occasions. The face of the sterling silver medallion is a replica of the seal of the university.

GONFALONS

Another symbol used in commencement ceremonies is the academic banner, or gonfalon. A gonfalon is a flag or banner that hangs from a crosspiece or frame and originated in the medieval states of Italy as an ensign of state or office.

Gonfalons are used in the commencement ceremony to designate the university's various colleges and academic units. The university seal is prominently displayed on each gonfalon.
RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Undergraduate students who maintain outstanding scholastic achievement are recognized at commencement according to the following designations and are indicated in this commencement program with the respective symbols. Determination of the honor status was based upon the academic record in existence at the beginning of the 2018 fall semester. The final determination of those who actually receive this recognition is made at the conclusion of the term in which degree requirements are met.

Degree candidates who are potential honor recipients wear red and white honor cords during the commencement ceremony. Further recognition of those who actually receive this recognition is made on the diploma and transcript at the conclusion of the term in which all degree requirements are met.

With Distinction - The honor given to students who have completed their associate degrees with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.40 - 3.59 and a minimum of 27 semester hours earned in residence (**).

With High Distinction - The honor given to students who have completed their associate degrees with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.50 - 3.69 and a minimum of 27 semester hours earned in residence (***).

Cum Laude - The honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate studies with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.40 - 3.59 and a minimum of 27 semester hours earned in residence (**).

Magni Cum Laude - The honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate studies with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.60 - 3.79 and a minimum of 45 semester hours earned in residence (****).

Summa Cum Laude - The honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate studies with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.80 - 4.00 and a minimum of 45 semester hours earned in residence (*****).

Mahurin Honors College Graduates - The Mahurin Honors College requires students to complete a unique set of enhanced coursework while maintaining at least a 3.2 grade point average. Students completing a minimum of 33 hours and a Capstone Experience/Thesis Project are designated “Mahurin Honors College Graduates.” Those completing 33 hours without a Capstone Experience/Thesis Project are designated “Honors Program Graduates,” and those completing 18 hours in their discipline are designated “Honor Students.” Students at all three designations are authorized to wear a gold medallion during the ceremony and are designated by the (●) symbol in the commencement program.

The Scholar of the College is the baccalaureate degree student in each undergraduate college with the highest cumulative overall grade point average and a minimum of 60 semester hours earned in residence.

The Ogden Foundation Scholar Award is presented to one graduating baccalaureate degree senior who has demonstrated exceptional academic achievement and outstanding university and civic engagement. The student with the highest grade point average in each college who completed 18 hours in residence is invited to apply for the award. The recipient will receive a plaque and a monetary award and is designated by (+).

GORDON FORD COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Order of Exercises
December 15, 2018
8:00 a.m. | E.A. Diddle Arena
Cathy Carey, Dean, Presiding
Grand March
Graduates, Faculty and Platform Party
Welcome and Special Recognitions
Cathy Carey, Dean
“The Star Spangled Banner” and “My Old Kentucky Home”
Madelyne Garnett, Senior in Management
Recognition of Honor Graduates
Terry Ballman, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees
Terry Ballman, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs
Conferal Degrees
President Timothy Caboni and Mr. Gillard B. Johnson III
U.S. Army Oath of Commission
Dr. Michael S. Mayer, President
Recognition of Honors
Ray Blankenship
Recognition of Volunteers and Staff
Patricia Todd
“Denotes interim

Candidates for Degrees

The list of candidates for graduation was prepared before final grades were reported, and inclusion herein does not constitute evidence of graduation. The listing of a name in this program should not be construed as an indication that the person will in fact receive a degree from Western Kentucky University at this commencement. Conversely, the absence of a student’s name from this list does not necessarily mean that the person will not be awarded a degree. The students whose names appear on the following pages made formal application for graduation by the date specified in the Academic Calendar.

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BACHELOR OF ARTS

Music
- Simply the Best
- The Star Spangled Banner
- "My Old Kentucky Home"
- "College Heights"
- "The Spangled Banner"

Dance
- "Can Can"
- "Carmen"
- "The Star Spangled Banner"

Leadership
Dean
Lawrence Snyder
Associate Deans
Andrew McMichael
Merrill Price
Department Heads & School Directors
Art
Kristina Arnold
Communication
Helen Sterk
Diversity and Community Studies
Jane Olmsted
English
Rob Hale
Faculty and Staff
Guidance & Support
Darlene Applegate
History
History
Tracy Reed
School of Journalism & Broadcasting
Robert Dielert
Modern Languages
Laura McGee
Music
Scott Harris
Philosophy & Religion
Jeff Samuel
Political Science
Scott Lasley
Sociology
Doug Smith
Theatre & Dance
David Young

Western Kentucky University
OGDEN COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Order of Exercises
December 15, 2018
1:00 p.m. | E.A. Diddle Arena

Cheryl Stevens, Dean, Presiding

Grand March

Welcome Cheryl Stevens, Dean

Recognition of Faculty Cheryl Stevens, Dean

Student Remarks Deanna Close, Biology, Bowling Green, KY

Recognition of Honor Graduates Terry Ballman, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees Psychological Sciences

Platform Party, Faculty and Graduates Jared A. Prince Suzanne

Presentation of Ceremonial Diplomas Gregory McCord, Graduate Student James D. Jenkins Kayla M.

Recognition of Honor Graduates Cheryl Stevens, Dean

1:00 p.m.

Order of Exercises Associate Deans

Cheryl Stevens, Dean

Conferral of Degrees

President Timothy Caboni and Dr. Phillip W. Bale

Dean Cheryl Stevens

Cheryl Stevens, Dean

William B. Crotty

David R. Aspinall

Sultan A. Alrajhi

Robert Brandon* *

Nico le

Canna S. Udoh

M. Cott r ell

Thomas E. Pettus

Aref Ranjbar* 

Ashley M. Simon

Shino M. Sleeper**

Victoria A. Taylor***

Hayley D. VanMeter**

Chemistry

Lydia M. Buzzard***

Caleb J. Seidell*

Ben E. Willis

Civil Engineering

Atlayyaan M. Albasunah

Salmi K. Alotaibi

Saqf A. Alqahtani

Muath R. Alyasr

Stephene C. Parker

Computer Information Technology

Robert Brandon**

Adam D. Catello

Derek A. Duke* 

Kevin D. Evans

Jacoby T. Harmon

Wayne B. Keeler, Jr

Shelby Layne

William A. Lyons*

Justin A. Meekirk

Daniele Rininger

Benjamin W. Russell

Quentin K. Staples

Michael Stilley

Roger L. Sullivan

Computer Science

Firas A. Alsaieim

Mercedes Baugh* 

Dustin Groce

Luke W. Keen

Burim Mirena

Jared D. Powell

Michael P. Riggle*

Sarah A. Alhindi

Dylan R. Siler

Leighonna N. Beckton

Meldin Berbic

Thomas R. Bratcher

Kysul M. Caldwell

Deanna M. Close*

Alexis P. Crews

Martha Ann L. Estes

Chelsea L. Ferguson*

Savannah L. Henson

Kayla M. Hazel***

Olivia C. Hill

Lindsey M. Hous***

Junshao Huang**

Ashley E. Johnson***

Nikola John

Troy H. Laffoon*

Hayley E. Moseley

Selena M. Padilla

Anirban Bar

Ashley M. Simon

Shino M. Sleeper**

Victoria A. Taylor***

Hayley D. VanMeter**

Chemistry

Lydia M. Buzzard***

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Daniele Rininger

Benjamin W. Russell

Quentin K. Staples

Michael Stilley

Roger L. Sullivan

Computer Science

Firas A. Alsaieim

Mercedes Baugh* 

Dustin Groce

Luke W. Keen

Burim Mirena

Jared D. Powell

Michael P. Riggle*

Thomas Z. Spencer

Chandler V. Staggs

Zachary A. Stovall

Sarah E. Webb

Jordan B. Wood

Chen Hei Yuen

It is customary for the audience to stand for the processional and remain seated for the recessional.
## Two Thousand Eighteen Fall College Recognition Ceremonies

### Construction Management
- Amar Alghamdi
- Khaled A. Alhumaidi
- Musab A. Aloabi
- Sareed H. Alsabed
- Brian C. Anderson
- Carlos L. Chavez, Jr.
- Destin K. Dalton
- Grant A. Goad
- Nicholas A. Martin
- Tyler R. Phelps
- Jared M. Richardson
- Nick W. Smith

### Mechanical Engineering
- Eain M. Adar
- Abdullah F. Alharan
- Abdulaatif Alnasafi
- Nicole E. Andersson
- Aaron S. Bard
- Kyle R. DeBerry
- Hayden Q. DeLozier
- Luke M. Goodaker
- Brian T. Grant
- David A. Keltner
- Dylan W. Lacefield
- Duncan R. McKenzie
- Robert C. McMillan
- Steven M. Owens
- Ivy K. Parson
- Caleb D. Smith
- Catelyn E. Stanley
- Nicholas G. Taylor
- Lauren N. Wagner
- Russell L. Wilson
- Casey V. Yates
- Hailee Zinic

### Psychological Science
- Kimberly D. Bishop
- Hannah E. Brackin
- Emily D. Cammack
- Jenna C. Corbin
- Raina Kewlara
- Elodie Laetitia Emilein
- Njake Mamy
- Chelsea N. Scott
- Austin B. Willoughby

### Technology Management
- Manneer E. Aaladun
- Tony S. Mercier
- Joseph L. Neville
- Larry L. Weckherlin, Jr.

### Electrical Engineering
- Rayan A. Alswad
- Osama D. Alghamdi
- Aaron J. Alvey
- Jesse M. Gibboney
- Aaron S. Ray

### Geography and Environmental Studies
- Aren N. Apley
- Kayla N. Pruitt

### Geology
- Jamin E. Lopez

### Industrial – Vocational, Career, Technical – Education
- Kenneth C. Owens

### Manufacturing Engineering Technology
- Nasser M. Alshihab
- Chase T. Ashby
- Ramon D. Bonano
- Andrew S. Jackson
- Blake T. Knott
- Riley O. Shier
- Joshua D. Smith

### Mathematical Economics
- Eldem Berksan
- Zong Feng
- Anna R. Williams

### Psychological Science
- Kimberly D. Bishop
- Hannah E. Brackin
- Emily D. Cammack
- Jenna C. Corbin
- Raina Kewlara
- Elodie Laetitia Emilein
- Njake Mamy
- Chelsea N. Scott
- Austin B. Willoughby

### Technology Management
- Manneer E. Aaladun
- Tony S. Mercier
- Joseph L. Neville
- Larry L. Weckherlin, Jr.

### Electrical Engineering
- Rayan A. Alswad
- Osama D. Alghamdi
- Aaron J. Alvey
- Jesse M. Gibboney
- Aaron S. Ray

### Geography and Environmental Studies
- Aren N. Apley
- Kayla N. Pruitt

### Geology
- Jamin E. Lopez

### Industrial – Vocational, Career, Technical – Education
- Kenneth C. Owens

### Manufacturing Engineering Technology
- Nasser M. Alshihab
- Chase T. Ashby
- Ramon D. Bonano
- Andrew S. Jackson
- Blake T. Knott
- Riley O. Shier
- Joshua D. Smith

### Mathematical Economics
- Eldem Berksan
- Zong Feng
- Anna R. Williams

### Leadership
- Dean
  - Corinne Murphy
- Department Heads & School Directors
  - Counseling and Student Affairs
    - Jill Sauerheber
  - Educational Administration, Leadership, and Research
    - Marguerita DeSander
  - Military Science and Leadership
    - Thomas MacMillin
  - Professional Studies
    - Jeff Butterfield
  - Psychology
    - Pitt Derryberry
    - Steve Wintinger
  - School of Teacher Education
    - Blair Thompson

### College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

#### Order of Exercises
- December 15, 2018
- 3:30 p.m. | E.A. Diddle Arena

- **Grand March**
  - Graduates, Faculty and Platform Party

- **Presentation of Colors**
  - WKU Army ROTC Color Guard

- **"The Star Spangled Banner" and "My Old Kentucky Home"**

- **Welcome**
  - Corinne M. Murphy, Dean

- **Recognition of the Faculty**
  - Corinne M. Murphy, Dean

- **Recognition of Honor Graduates & Presentation of Candidates for Degrees**
  - Terry Ballman, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

- **Conferral of Degrees**
  - President Timothy Caboni and Dr. Phillip W. Bale

- **U.S. Army Oath of Commissioning**
  - LTC Thomas MacMillin, Professor of Military Science

- **Presentation of Ceremonial Diplomas**
  - Corinne M. Murphy, Dean

- **Greetings from the WKU Alumni Association**
  - AJ Tucker, WKU Alumni Association President

- **Closing Remarks**
  - Corinne M. Murphy, Dean

- "College Heights"
  - Gregory McCord, Graduate Student

#### Recessional
- Platform Party, Faculty and Graduates

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*It is customary for the audience to stand for the processional and remain seated for the recessional.*
Western Kentucky University

Leadership
Dean
Dennis George*
Associate Deans
Vijay Golla
Daniah Kelley
CHHS Chief Diversity Officer
Kimberly Green
Department Heads & School Directors
Allied Health
Terry Dean
Applied Human Sciences
Travis Wilson
Communication Sciences and Disorders
Joan Neills-Trunyas
Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport
Ron Ramsing
Nursing
Mary Bennett
Physical Therapy
Beth Norris*
Public Health
William Mkanta
Social Work
Patricia Desrosiers

*Denotes interim

It is customary for the audience to stand for the procession and remain seated for the recessional.
WKU GLASGOW GRADUAND

Order of Exercises
Thursday, December 13 | 5:30 p.m.
WKU Glasgow Community Room

Welcome Beth Laves
Associate Vice President, Division of Extended Learning & Outreach

Greetings from the Faculty of WKU Glasgow
Melanie Asriel
Instructor of Psychological Sciences

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Beth Laves
Associate Vice President, Division of Extended Learning & Outreach

Keynote Speaker Thomas Bratcher
Graduating Senior, Biology Major

Presentation of Awards Beth Laves
Associate Vice President, Division of Extended Learning & Outreach

Recognition of Graduands
Glasgow Campus Faculty & Staff

Welcome to WKU Alumni
Bryan Baysinger, WKU Alumni Association Past President

Closing Remarks Beth Laves
Associate Vice President, Division of Extended Learning & Outreach

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER
Francis Scott Key, 1814
Oh Say! can you see, by the dawn’s early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro’ the perilous fight,
O’er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro’ the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that Star-spangled Banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME
Stephen C. Foster, 1853
The sun shines bright in the old Kentucky home,
’Tis summer the people are gay;
The corn-top’s ripe and the meadow’s in the bloom
While the birds make music all the day.
The young folks roll on the little cabin floor
All merry, and happy and bright.
By’n hard times come a knocking at the door
Then my old Kentucky home, good night!
Weep no more my lady! O weep no more today!
We will sing one song for my old Kentucky home
For the old Kentucky home, far away.

COLLEGE HEIGHTS
Mary F. Bradley, 1930
Verse One
College Heights on hilltop fair with beauty all thine own,
Lovely jewel far more rare than graces any throne.
College Heights, We hail Thee.
We shall never fail Thee.
Falter never, live forever
Hail! Hail! Hail!

Verse Two
College Heights with living soul and purpose strong and true,
Service ever is thy goal, thy Spirit ever new.
College Heights, We hail Thee.
We shall never fail Thee.
Falter never, live forever
Hail! Hail! Hail!

Verse Three
College Heights thy noble life shall e’er our pattern be,
Teaching us through joy and strife to love humanity.
College Heights, We hail Thee.
We shall never fail Thee.
Falter never, live forever
Hail! Hail! Hail!
Congratulations on becoming a Hilltopper forever!

Be more than a fan. Be a member of the WKU Alumni Association.

All WKU alumni share the deep bond of the WKU experience. The WKU Alumni Association encourages you to continue to develop strong ties with one another and the University through an engaging mix of programs and activities.

Membership Makes It Happen!

The vitality of the Alumni Association depends on support from alumni like you. Membership is the driving force that allows the Alumni Association to provide the resources, programs and activities that keep the WKU family engaged with the University.

Alumni Association programs include:

- Homecoming
- Topper Tailgates
- Regional Chapter Activities
- Hall of Distinguished Alumni
- Young Alumni Events
- Society of African American Alumni
- Career Connections
- Hilltopper @ Work
- Alumni College
- WKU Reunions
- And more!

In appreciation, members of the Alumni Association receive membership rewards and benefits including:

- Special recognition at WKU functions
- Member giveaways at Alumni Association events
- Discounts to select Alumni Association events
- Member-only e-newsletter, “TOPScoop”
- Invitations to WKU Alumni Association special events and programs
- Discounts at The WKU Store, online and in-store
- Member Savings Program - Discounts at locations Nationwide
- Alumni Association membership decal
- New WKU Alumni Connection mobile app
- WKU Spirit Magazine printed editions
- Discounted annual membership fees at the Raymond B. Preston Health and Activities Center
- WKU Libraries borrowing privileges
- Pride in providing support that makes all the programs and services of the Alumni Association possible
- Plus much more!

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Alumni Association National Board of Directors
- Alumni Ambassador Program
- Alumni Interest Groups
- Alumni Chapters
- Young Alumni Council

Learn more about the WKU Alumni Association and join now. It’s an easy way to stay connected to WKU.

alumni.wku.edu/join