

# *Commencement*

SUMMER 2023 CEREMONIES





Welcome to Commencement at the University of West Georgia!

An academic commencement is unlike any other ceremony. The importance of the occasion is underscored by the use of symbols and traditions which have their origins in the medieval academies. The academic dress, the mace, many of the words we use, and even the diplomas themselves derive from a long and distinguished academic history.

We hope you will take time to look through this program. In it, you will find explanations of some of the customs and symbols you will witness today. We hope your understanding of these academic traditions will add to your enjoyment of the commencement ceremony.

We are happy to have you with us today as we celebrate the achievements of our graduates.

Welcome!

# *Commencement*

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## SUMMER 2023 CEREMONIES



University of West Georgia  
July 22, 2023  
The Coliseum  
Carrollton, Georgia



# SUMMER SEMESTER COMMENCEMENT • JULY 22, 2023 • THE COLISEUM

**10 a.m.**  
**Undergraduate Degree Candidates**  
All Colleges and Schools

**2 p.m.**  
**Graduate Degree Candidates**  
All Colleges and Schools

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Michael Hester  
*Director of UWG Debate & Coordinator of UWG's African American Male Initiative*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Vickie Brubaker  
*Soprano*

SGA WELCOME

Tyler McCoy  
*President, Student Government Association*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Dr. Brendan B. Kelly  
*President*

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Dr. Jon A. Preston  
*Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Dr. André L. Fortune  
*Vice President for Student Affairs*

Dr. Sharmistha Basu-Dutt  
*Associate Dean of the College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry*

Dr. Mike Dishman  
*Dean of the College of Education*

Dr. Christopher Johnson  
*Dean of the Richards College of Business*

Dr. Karen Owen  
*Dean of University College and Honors College*

Dr. Jennifer Schuessler  
*Dean of the Tanner Health System School of Nursing*

Dr. Matt Varga  
*Dean of the Graduate School*

Dr. Brad Yates  
*Dean of the School of Communication, Film, and Media*

10 a.m.

Anne Barnhart  
*Library Faculty*

2 p.m.

Dr. Beth Sheppard  
*Library Faculty*



# SUMMER SEMESTER COMMENCEMENT • JULY 22, 2023 • THE COLISEUM

## HOODING OF DOCTORAL CANDIDATES

Dr. Logan Arrington  
*Assistant Professor of Instructional Technology*

Dr. Stacey Britton  
*Associate Professor of Science Education*

Dr. Julia Chibbaro  
*Professor of Counselor Education*

Dr. Georgia Evans  
*Clinical Assistant Professor*

Dr. Neill Korobov  
*Professor of Psychology*

Dr. Jennifer Schuessler  
*Dean of the Tanner Health System School of Nursing*

Dr. Trina Wood  
*Lecturer of Special Education*

## INDUCTION INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Christopher Sanders  
*Chair of Alumni Association Board of Directors*

## ALMA MATER

Vickie Brubaker

## FACULTY MARSHAL

10 a.m.

Ms. Bonnie Jett  
*Senior Lecturer and First Year Writing Program Coordinator*

2 p.m.

Dr. Sooho Lee  
*Professor and Graduate Coordinator of Public Administration*

## MACE BEARER

10 a.m.

Dr. Soo Moon  
*Assistant Professor of Literacy and Special Education*

2 p.m.

Bridgette Stewart  
*Chief Wellness Officer*



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT BRENDAN B. KELLY, PH.D.

*Dear* Graduates,

On behalf of the University of West Georgia, it gives me great pleasure to commend you on this momentous occasion! This significant milestone represents a tremendous achievement of which you and your families should be extremely proud.

The accomplishment of attaining your degree is immense, but your successes and contributions will not end today. This experience will open pathways to even more powerful opportunities well into your future and to the lives of those around you. I look forward to seeing the indelible impact you will make in your communities.

As a graduate of UWG, your educational credentials and experience, as well as your personal and professional successes, will forever be interwoven into the success of this institution. As such, it is vital for you to continue advocating for and supporting your university as it continues to build the value of your degree. Your continued involvement and engagement in your university will enhance and bolster our ability to continue serving future generations of students who will follow in your footsteps.

No matter what challenges we face in the future, I know the world needs you, your ideas, and your creativity now more than ever. So go out as alumni of UWG and do amazing things!

Go West, and Go Wolves!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Kelly".

Brendan B. Kelly, Ph.D.

*President*

**University of West Georgia**



# DEGREE CANDIDATES

## *College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry*

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS**

#### **Art**

Tiyanna Bashay Echols

#### **English**

★ Caleigh Ilisa Bryn Alsip  
Savonne DeMarcus Dennis

▲‡ Danielle Marie Gorman  
McKenzie Brynn Harris

#### **History**

Ethan Christian Brant  
Aaron Brent Christopher  
Kayondrea Jakiya Evans  
Cole Robinson Johnson  
Bobby Darrell Ricker Jr.  
Joshua Grayson Sorensen

#### **Philosophy**

Hunter Elijah Brawner  
Shannon William Dodson

#### **Theatre**

Katherine D. Lueken

### **BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS**

#### **Art**

Donald Marcus Loney Jr.  
★ Jewel Harmani Mason  
Ikem Chizaram Onyinanya  
★ Juliana Tais Rodriguez  
Allisa Page Wiley

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

#### **Anthropology**

Barbara S. Forrister

#### **Biology**

Dia-Monae M. Barnett  
Ashlee Loreen Brown  
★ Elodie Calixte  
Joshua Alvin Caraway  
Jaiya Monae Asante Carey  
Alicia Kawanna Carter  
Samantha Frances Chardavoine  
Mia Nicol Culpepper  
Jessica Lynn Davenport  
▲ Tayte S. Fuqua  
TeAmber She'Kel Gilbert  
Ashlyn Danielle Grooms  
Alexus Shaniece Jordan  
Shelby Seay McGarva

Carlie Mychal Monsour  
Malati Rizal  
Emma R. Roberts  
Aaron Murphy Robinson  
Jessica Rae Sconyers  
Jamelia Walsh  
Austin James Wolford

★ Alexander Michael Yates

#### **Chemistry**

Remilekun Bank-Olemoh  
★ Jiyun Han  
Philip Luke Marquez

#### **Computer Science**

★ Alex Christopher Decesare

#### **Mathematics**

Daniel David Griner II

#### **Physics**

Francesc Garcia Chillida  
Alberto Garcia Munoz

#### **Psychology**

Hannah Lynn Adams  
Jordan Gabriel Baldwin  
Rodonna Elaine Brown  
Latika Barnes Clarke  
Casten Jesse Donaldson  
Skylar Ne`Chele Dunson  
Paola Denise Fernandez  
Pamela Brooke Floyd  
Madison Christine Fortney  
Francea Britaney Gabbidon  
Tyclyn Lanae Gilbert

★ Brandy Nicole Green

▲ Dylan Thomas Hopper  
Tye Alexander Jeffcoat  
Keshawn T. Johnson  
Anna Katherine Srey Keck  
India A. Leslie  
Audrey S. Lewis  
Steven Grant Malecek  
Marshea Janice Mason  
Jamia Murphy  
Kerrington Tyler Parker  
Madelynn Rose Rockwell  
★ Molly Elizabeth Stretch  
Tamaría L. Stroud Alfred  
Carsyn Aleah Wilkey

#### **Social and Behavioral Health**

Kayla Randyia Barrett

Alexandria Dezerhea Chappell  
Milton GeWalt Johnson  
Jasmine Delicia Lee  
Marty Rosanna Mapp  
Alexis Parkmond

#### **Sociology**

★ Samantha Ann Boughner  
Madison Lee Brabenec  
Ashley Greely Brown  
Claudia Elizabeth Cheramy  
Courtney Beth Denninger  
Adonise M. Perry  
★ Mayra Roman Pineda  
Justice Strickland  
▲ Monica Gabriela Turner-Becerra

### **MASTER OF ARTS**

#### **History**

Jimmie Hugh Brown  
Titilope Rosemary Falola  
Breanna Faith Gehweiler

#### **Sociology**

Mitchell Edwin Grimes

### **MASTER OF MUSIC**

Adam Nicholas Daniel  
Valyncia Lee Hurd  
Steven Chase Pauley  
Mary Tackett Ritchea  
Jennifer Plumley Sims  
Cynthia Colyar Videtto

### **MASTER OF SCIENCE**

#### **Applied Computer Science**

Maged Adel Assad  
Sudheer Reddy Chintalapudi  
Chadwick David Flanigan II  
Alyssa M. Harris  
Vijay Kondapaneni  
Amber Nichole Nicholas  
John Cantrell Owens  
Jennifer Brooke Parks  
Kavya Pasangulapati  
Leemarosi Tamilarasan  
Chiaosy Tan

#### **Biology**

Andrew P. Pitt

★ *cum laude*

▲ *summa cum laude*

‡ *also Foreign Languages & Literatures*





**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN  
PSYCHOLOGY**

**Consciousness and Society**

Brittany Rockelle Brashear  
*Nonbinary and Genderqueer Millennials'  
Use of Symbolic Resources and Gender  
Discourse*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Neill Korobov

*College of Education*

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

**Health and Community Wellness**

Kyle Thomas Bailey  
Skylar Justis Boles  
★ Mary Michael Carter  
Michelle Charles  
Alexis Nicole Conner  
★ Breuntae Filmore  
Chastity C. Grimes  
Lauren Elizabeth Harper  
Lynsey Jean-Louis  
Wallace Judah Johnson  
Xyre J. Wilson

**Sport Management**

Jared I. Atchison  
Martrell Jermaine Beall  
Desmond Jevon Blacksher  
Broderrick Rashad Brooks  
Jacob Garrett Chadwick  
Devin Lamont Coleman  
Raven Collins-Thomas  
Grace Mya Hall  
Austin Xander Kingsbury

❖ Jerry Dewayne Mays II  
Deontae Antron Overstreet  
Tyreecuz L. Pattman  
★ Michael Rolando Paz  
Elijah Alan Sibley  
Jaeven O' Neal West  
Joshua Caleb Wilds

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
EDUCATION**

**Elementary Education**

Victoria Leigh Anne Parker  
Sydney Danielle Simpson

**Special Education**

Courtlin Tamon Blount

**Speech-Language Pathology**

★ Comfort Fokuo-Ameyaw  
Tiffany Novalee Sierra

**MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING**

Nicole A. Buckner  
Latisha D. Burns  
Kelsey Sue Caylor  
Jonathan Daniell  
Allison Denney Dedman  
Jason Kern  
Nicolle Laster  
Krista Lovelady  
Bridget Eileen Piatt  
Shannon Pipkin  
Rebecca Raines  
Michelle Santana  
Chase Dakota Thompson  
April Daniel Wade  
Joseph W. Wamutitu  
Shamara Charnell Williams

**MASTER OF EDUCATION**

**Elementary Education**

Amy Adcock  
Stephen Jacob Baxley  
Kelsea Jane Breedlove  
Laura Briggs  
Rebekah Buchanan  
Caroline Elizabeth Burdett  
Danielle Curry  
Calli Jewel Davis  
Madison Haley Flowers  
Wrenea Francis-Hayden  
Meaghan Alyssa Hoffman  
Julie Daws Holmes  
Taylor Marie Hughey  
Chasity Annette Hughley

Ashley Isbell  
David King  
Elizabeth Helen Klapka-Langley  
Allan Michael Lee  
Danielle Megan McAllister  
Jessica Sarah Milovich  
Candice Renee' Monts  
Bessie Nicole Powers  
Mallory Lauryn Rice  
Brenna Grace Robinson  
Imani Cheryl Rogers  
Donna Lee Roycroft  
Taylor Rutland  
Desmond Jamal Smith  
Alex Spencer  
Vanessa Jasmine Stewart  
Breonne Marie Thomas  
Chelsea Denise Veal  
Bethany Amber Vega  
Kriste Ann Wiggs  
Charity Wilson  
Kamie Leeann Wilson  
Karley Ryan Wright

**Instructional Technology, Media, and  
Design**

Leah Campbell  
Jason DeLong  
Darby Turman Dunn  
Casey Elizabeth Emmanuel  
Aimée Jeanminette Harris  
Andrea Marie Height  
Steve Edward Hickman III  
Tyler Curtis Hinesley  
Cody Michael Hunnicutt  
Bonnie S. Johnson  
Jennifer Lynn Killian  
Alexis Laughhunn  
Zale N. Lewallen  
Amber Marie Merschat  
Cynthia Dunaway Ray

★ *cum laude*

❖ *magna cum laude*





Alyssa Courtney Snelson  
Stephanie Lynn Thomas  
Carol A. Tyner  
Rachel Lee Yingling

#### **Physical Education**

Erica Banzhof  
Elesha Janelle Foster  
Melissa Gaddis  
Erica Yvonne Johnson  
Jacob R. Jones  
Caitlin Jean Schmidt

#### **Professional Counseling**

Rhiannon Nicole Brown  
Daria Ulana DiResta

#### **Reading Instruction**

Stacey Moffett Gailey  
Lindsey Monique Griffin  
Samantha Merrell  
Candace Pence  
Paige Partlow Williams

#### **Special Education**

Johnnie Aaron Blankinship Jr.  
Teresita Rena Cherry-Taylor  
Tiffani Janae Evans  
Stephanie J. Heath  
Aleena Ines Jackson  
Jennifer Johnson  
Sydney Kay Jones  
Katie Akin Myers  
Aaliyah Derianna Schmidt  
Amanda Sills  
Destiny Tashawndra Sterling

#### **MASTER OF SCIENCE**

##### **Sport Management**

Darian Carlton Bernard  
Travious DeVante Couch  
Colin Andrew Dekker  
Bryant Breshawn Derricotte  
Antoine Hudspeth  
A'Ronnie TeAirra Mathenia  
Micheal Bernard Robinson Jr.

##### **SPECIALIST IN EDUCATION**

##### **Educational Leadership**

Amanda Taylor Elrod  
Kelly Colson Lupton  
Shakela Q. Peak  
Marshea Lillia Warner

##### **Elementary Education**

Tasia Camile Ayers  
Janella Claudette Bullard  
Catherine Cathey

Elesha Creamer Donaldson  
Sarah Goodwin  
Daniel Vinson Hodge  
Milan Raquel Juliano  
Mary Katelyn Gaskins Kent  
Courtney Reagan Kerlin  
Jennifer Leigh King  
Kerby Layfield  
Andrea Newton  
Stacey Asher O'Connor  
Kathleen Easton O'Toole  
Carla Page  
Erin Anne Schmidt  
Sheana Scott  
Karen B. Shoenig  
Delisa Tate

#### **Instructional Technology, Media, and Design**

Sarah Smith Ackerman  
William Wesley Anderson  
Kirste Kendrick Brooks  
Amy Elizabeth Brown  
Jordan Thomas Brown  
Alicia Clark  
Kenyatta Clarke  
Anna Collins  
Larry Cox Jr.  
Courtney Crawford  
Ashley Michelle Davis  
Rebecque de Fontes  
Anil Kumar Devarasetty  
Kristy Lee Faucett  
Kara Ann Foster  
Katherine Caroline Gaffney  
Shane Galamore  
Kevin Bradley Green  
Kailah Morgan Guffey  
Jacob Christian Guillory  
Jacob Phillip Gunter  
Robert Allen Holley-Turner  
Morgan Hutchinson  
Laeticia Agnes Ilunga  
Christian Hunter Ingram  
Christopher Michael James  
Ashly Beach Keadle  
Jennifer Kelly  
Nancy Michelle Kendrick  
Shaie Jacqueline-Billie Kerr  
Theresa Louise Levy  
Patrick Brian Loughran  
Haylee Briann Lucas  
Leslie Ann McMillan  
Meghan Elizabeth Melo  
Cody Richard Miller  
Yamini Mital

Lori E. Moon  
Bianca Noble  
Kristen Kelley Olivarri  
Lindsey Thompson Patterson  
Sasha-Ann Latoya Pinnock  
Heather Prochaska  
Loran Amy Richardson  
Kurt Rinehimer  
Nedra Robinson  
Chantelle Allyse Rogers  
Anna Louise Royal  
Shauntae Christine Shoelen  
Austin Jake Smith  
Lisa Taylor  
Tiffani Taylor  
Ayana Folami Thomas  
Ashley Elizabeth Triggs  
Jeremy Everett Trimmer  
Jessica Lauren Walker  
Kylie Michelle Way  
Latisha Monique White  
Melissa Lynn White  
Donna Whitfield  
Debora Worthy

#### **Professional Counseling**

Torie Callaway Benjamin  
Stephanie Michelle Canion  
Stacey Robertson Cooke  
Victoria Ashley Esnault-Brewer  
Joy Narvil Goble  
Shante Hendrick  
Logan Alacia Herring  
Andrea Hopson  
Hannah Rebecca Interholzinger  
Shavon Jackson  
Maria Antoinette Josey  
Alyssa Martin  
April L. Nelson  
Ruth Elizabeth Scott  
Erica Taylor Wiggins  
Keidra LeChelle Williams

#### **Secondary Education**

Kristopher Edward Akers  
Seth Bishop  
Jamie Lynne De Paz Hilton  
Jan M. Hansen  
Robert William Hutchins  
Jennifer Elizabeth Johnson  
Margo Jean Kemmerer  
Jason M. Kinsey  
James Brandon Kunz  
Christina Ellyn Long  
Christopher Minich  
John Poucher  
Jennifer C. Schmidt



Lindsay Erin Theaker  
Emily Patrick Walker

**Special Education**

Amanda Janelle Anderson  
Bailey Jo Bailey  
Marla Suzanne Beasley  
Janeil Bell McKenzie  
Sadie Claire Binkley  
Mary Ellis Burgess  
Fatima D. Cahir  
Susan Leigh Carter  
DeAnna Renee Clark  
Travis Richard Clement  
Abby Norman Cross  
Brooke Ann Diamond  
Taylor Diamond  
Tara Suzanne Friedman  
Natasha Quinta Green  
Sarah Thomas Gunter  
Amanda Stillwell Hart  
Amy Heil  
Ashley Houser  
Christa Hulburt  
Kristie Cox Ingram  
Nakasha Kimble  
Rae Nell King  
Lisa Grice Kirkland  
Anne Marie Koehler  
Janet Susan Felice Ledet  
Rachel Love  
Parks D. Millard  
Amy Moor  
Kimberly Ann Page  
Rachel Elyse Person  
Jessica Leigh Phillips  
Penelope Plant Phillips

Michele Realpe  
Angela M. Rodgers  
Lisa Diane Rosario  
Ernest Brian Schmidt  
Maya Audrey Simmons  
Dana Celeste Tillman  
Tori Brandi Tucker  
Joseph Underwood

**DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN HIGHER  
EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION**

Hailey Doss Hester  
*Leisure Constraints: A Quantitative  
Analysis of Campus Recreation Outdoor  
Adventure and Intramural Sports by Race  
and Gender*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dena Kniess

Girves Antwan Holloway II  
*The Implications of Familial Involvement  
on College Graduation Centered Around  
Students of Color*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Stacey Britton

Maria Socias Jaochico  
*A Phenomenological Study of the Circle  
Experience: Restorative Justice in a  
Graduate Academic Environment*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Trina Wood

McKenzie Cary Peterman  
*A Narrative Study on the Career Progression  
Enablers and Barriers of Women of Color  
Serving in Mid-Level Staff Administrative  
Roles at Historically White Public  
Institutions*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dena Kniess

**DOCTOR OF EDUCATION**

**School Improvement**

James Derrick Burchette  
*Developing Leaders of Change: Processes  
and Perceptions Found in a Leadership  
Development Program*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Georgia Evans

Christopher Duncan Davies  
*College Readiness Self-Efficacy, Dual  
Enrollment and Advanced Placement*  
Faculty Advisor: Diana Mindrila

Kayla Duncan  
*Examining Students' Approaches to Transfer  
in Mathematics*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Logan Arrington

Sean McLaughlin  
*High School Classroom Engagement and the  
Use of 360-Degree Immersive Video*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Logan Arrington

**DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN COUNSELING**

**Professional Counseling and  
Supervision**

Ivan Wendell Barclay  
*BLISS Behavioral Health Wraparound  
Services: An Evaluation of a Program's  
Objectives Using a Multilinear Regression  
Model*  
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Julia Chibbaro

*Richards College of Business*

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION**

**Accounting**

Olayiwonuola Olakayode Ajayi  
Elizabeth Maria Arias  
Stephen Woodbury Cade  
† Katherine Teal Clark  
Jalen Eric Andrew Ferguson

Hong Chuyen Hoang  
★ Camryn Jonathan Jeffries  
Aaliyah Celeste Johnson  
Latahjana Triniece Johnson  
Macie Olivia Lambert  
Harriet Wambui Maina  
Monica Alejandra Montoya Garcia  
Jayden Kiira Moore  
Victoria Mary Preston

Mary Spencer  
Travis Jakob Suttles  
Daniel Anthony Walters

**Data Intelligence and Business  
Analytics**

★ Marcel Alexander Young

**Economics**

William Lambert III

★ cum laude

† also Management



★ Bethuel Christoce Lemma  
Colby Alexander Shell

**Finance**

Terrance Dontell Byrd Jr.  
Grayson Dian Elizabeth Campbell  
Jon Maxwell Douglas  
Zackary Greg Gaines  
William Lawrence Garmon III  
★ MacKenzie Eleanor Gresham  
Samuel Antonio Ortiz  
▲ Yvonne Prince  
❖ Tristan R. Sharpton

**Management**

Tiffany R. Adams  
Jade Adjoa Addo  
Jasmine Nicole Bartell  
Matthew Tyler Blevins  
Chibinyerem Karachi Chukwuezi  
Michael Jarrett Dean  
Cauy Edwin Foster  
Brittany Nicole Jackson  
Jaira Leigh Jones  
Joshua Allen Koonce  
★ Sarah Kathryn Leroux  
Aidan K. Lovelady  
♠ Destiny Lynn Lytle  
Sandra McCormick  
Christian A. McGuiness  
Joshua Ray McKown  
Jasmine Dominique Miller  
★ Jordan Roy  
★ Deja Janae Russell  
Tatiana Mashay Walker  
Tara Lexington Williams

**Management Information Systems**

Jacob R. Baldizon  
Michael Blake Clefisch  
Isaac Joseph  
Taevione Javario Delawrence Lanier  
★ David Tya Miller

Nana Kwabena Owusu  
Tyler Dixon Richardson

**Marketing**

Brandon Arbegast  
Lauren Marie Baker  
❖ Sydney Alexa Blackmon  
Ariel Nicole Brown  
Cristiann A. Bullock-Hutchinson  
Victoria Kyion Chivers  
Hunter Christopher Clark  
Mackenzie Grace Davis  
Khairi Amir Denmon  
Durrett Casey Duffey  
Annslie Rain Galliher  
Laura Alicia Guillermo  
Justice Armon Hawkins  
Thomas Hagan Holmes  
Taariq Jameel Mitchell  
Lindsay Katherine Montay  
Emily C. Moorhead  
Colby Hamilton Sales  
Jemelia Juanique Shotwell  
† Alexandria Victoria Singleton  
† Austin Taylor Southerland  
Rendell J. Soverall  
★ Lindsey Christina Wessels  
Kathryn Vanicia Williams  
Neah Williams  
Mary E. Yarbrough

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

**Economics**

Christina Carson  
Aimee Christian Spurley  
Jessica Danielle Strickland

.....  
**MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Quanasya Marie Adams  
Avery Farrill Anderson

Madison Turner Biggers  
Malik Joseph Buck  
Justin Lee Bundrage  
Alyssa Days  
Valencia Renee' Deary  
Thad Michael Dooley  
Logan Michael Fink  
Caitlin Garner  
Eshonte Tamia Griffin  
Kathleen Josette Gustama  
Danterrius Tramaine Hall  
Emily Joy Hummer Harper  
Verseo' ter Iyorkar Abellegah  
Austin Stephen Jaynes  
Angele Cinzia Kamga Nguemo Kamdom  
Deja Rena Lindsey  
Hannah Faith Moody  
Tiera Shanice Moore  
Kabwe Clovis Mulenga  
Erica Lynn Murphy  
Jordan Norbraten  
Peace Ginika Okeke  
Tammy D. Parson  
Michael Charles Prados II  
Madeline L. Todd  
Kyle Werner  
Terence Le'Nard Whitlock Jr.  
Kaiya Wilkes  
Ernest Ruble Wright III  
Michael Robert Zabetakis

**MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL**

**ACCOUNTING**

Keisha Nicole Brown  
Danterrius Tramaine Hall  
Sayvon Tyece Jarrett  
Daylee Marie McGraw  
Renate Robinson  
Madeline L. Todd

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*School of Communication, Film, and Media*

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

**Mass Communications**

Paul Jacob Appleman  
Oscar Lee Byrd II  
Maddison Houghton  
Hallie Howard

Kendra Sallie Lewis  
Maia Newhouse  
Lauren Elizabeth Ridley  
Brandon D. Shipp  
Keilah Marie White

★ cum laude  
laude

❖ magna cum laude

▲ summa cum

♠ also Marketing

† also Management



*Tanner Health System School of Nursing*

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

- Branden Patrick Delany
- ❖ Alison Rogers Dishman

**DOCTOR OF EDUCATION**

**Nursing Education**

- Sarah Louise Caffrey
- Implicit Biases and Influencing Factors of Prelicensure Nursing Faculty Regarding English-as-Additional-Language Prelicensure Nursing Students*
- Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jennifer Schuessler

*University College*

**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**Global Studies**

- ★ Ethan Christopher Brown

**BACHELOR OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES**

- Anne Bascom
- Mickaela Carlene Boothe
- Sasha Nicol Catalan Echeverria
- Elyssa L. Clarke
- Makala Denise Ellington
- Rylen Lucas Hersey
- Sarah Elizabeth McFall
- Marquise Evelyn Parham

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

**Criminology**

- Demarcus Sanchez Allen
- Sharon Sue Anderson
- Haley Noelle Buttry
- Katie Lauren Carwile
- Anna Leigh Chesnut
- Cameron Maurice Cobb
- Malaisha Adiyah Goompa

- Tyler Michael Gosdin
- Quiesha Michelle Hales
- Alexis Loren Harrison
- Alexandria Marie Hicks
- Erik Shannon Jeffries
- ★ Tiffany Kriel
- Chrystal Taylor Lewis
- Patsheko Kimbangi Lutumba
- ★ Amber D. Malone
- Owen Daniel Marchbanks
- Preston G. Marlowe
- Carlos Martinez-Perez
- Aleesa Shakira Mason
- Sarah Elizabeth McFall
- ❖ Van Meadows
- ★ Gracie Morgan Norfleet
- ★ Sean Alexander Penney
- James Darnell Rainer Jr.
- Deonte Tyrik Rogers
- Jay M. Smith
- Isaiah Maurice Spann
- ★ Sheniah Yuantria LaTijah Swint
- Carlton Mackenzie Williams

**Organizational Leadership**

- ★ Maria Elaine Blencowe

- ★ Chay David Butler
- ▲ Zoe Giese
- ★ Matthew Kormann
- Misty Latham
- ▲ Trevor Ray Long
- Dan Prescott Parham
- Michaela Ann Petzel
- ▲ Roberta Prince
- ★ Chrisian Thompson

**Political Science**

- ★ Logan T. Angle
- James Chase Arrendale
- Carsyn NaCole Gober
- DeAnthony DeShawn Morris Holness
- Danasia Lee Long

**MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

- Kennedy Paige Dickerson
- Elizabeth Ellen Douglas
- Ricardo I. Hernandez
- Laura Brooke Lambert
- Brianna Wells



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## *Honors College Graduates*

The Honors College curriculum is the most academically rigorous curriculum offered at this university. To graduate with Honors College distinction, students must: (1) complete all of the requirements for their degrees in their majors; (2) earn credit for 25% or more of their course work in Honors College courses, including at least two seminars at the junior or senior level; (3) complete a research project; and (4) maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.2 in Honors College courses and in all other academic work. Completion of this distinctive curriculum is a mark of scholarly excellence and is recognized on all official University of West Georgia transcripts and diplomas.

Tayte S. Fuqua  
*Bachelor of Science in Biology*

Danielle Marie Gorman  
*Bachelor of Arts in English and  
Foreign Languages and Literatures*

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## *International Graduates*

Anil Kumar Devarasetty  
*India*  
*College of Education*

Jiyun Han  
*South Korea*  
*College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry*

Peace Ginika Okeke  
*Nigeria*  
*Richards College of Business*

Titilope Rosemary Falola  
*Nigeria*  
*College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry*

Verse'o' ter Iyorkar Abellegh  
*Nigeria*  
*Richards College of Business*

Kavya Pasangulapati  
*India*  
*College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry*

Francesc Garcia Chillida  
*Spain*  
*College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry*

Kabwe Clovis Mulenga  
*Zambia*  
*Richards College of Business*

Leemarosi Tamlarasan  
*India*  
*College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry*

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## *Honorary Degrees*

University System of Georgia senior institutions are allowed to recommend to the Board of Regents honorary degree recipients for each academic year. UWG's basic criteria for an honorary degree recipient are notable achievements in an academic field, the arts and letters, the professions, or public service. Nominations are solicited from the college community and are reviewed by the Honorary Degree Committee, which makes nominations to the president. The president then submits a candidate's name to the University System staff for final consideration by the Board of Regents. The chancellor then makes a recommendation to the Board of Regents.

UWG began awarding the Doctor of Humane Letters in 1996, and recipients of this honor include:

Roy Richards Jr., 1996  
Dr. Julian Stanley, 1997  
Howard "Bo" Callaway, 1998  
Millard Dean Fuller, 1999  
Dr. Nikki Giovanni, 2000  
Dr. Richard Neal Zare, 2001  
Alice H. Richards, 2002

Dan T. Cathy, 2004  
Richard H. Glanton, 2005  
Dr. Andrew C. von Eschenbach, 2006  
Dr. J. Willis Hurst, 2009  
Robert J. Stone, 2012  
A. Paul Cadenhead, 2012  
Phillip E. Kauffman, 2013

Stephan Lyall Penley, 2014  
Melissa P. "Missy" Dugan, 2016  
Steve R. Adams, 2017  
Nellie Duke, 2018  
Laura Richards, 2018  
Zachry "Zac" Brown, 2023



## WELCOME FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Congratulations on your graduation from the University of West Georgia, and welcome to the Alumni Association! You have joined a distinguished group of people who have graduated from or attended UWG. We represent a group with a variety of socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds, vocations, ages, and opinions, but one thing we resoundingly share is our dedication to the University of West Georgia.

Every graduate of the University of West Georgia is a member of the UWG Alumni Association. We strive to keep you connected to your alma mater long after you graduate and support you along your journey through life and your career. You belong at UWG as a student and as a graduate. We invite you to engage with the Alumni Association through **joining an alumni network** in your area, **attending events** on campus or virtually, **following us** on social media, and **keeping in touch** with us. Remain an active member of the UWG community as you **participate in UWG traditions** like Homecoming and A Day, UWG's annual day of giving.

You'll also have opportunities to invest in UWG as you **volunteer your time** to speak to a class, **mentor a student**, and **make career connections**. You can show your UWG pride as you celebrate UWG with your networks and on social media or cheer on the Wolves at an athletic event. Your opportunities to continue your connection to UWG are almost endless.

We will reach out to you soon. **You can also learn more at [westga.edu/alumni](http://westga.edu/alumni)** and keep up-to-date with the latest alumni and university news. We look forward to your involvement with your Alumni Association and to seeing you again soon!

Mr. Christopher Sanders '03  
*Chair of Alumni Association  
Board of Directors*



**FOREVER  
WEST™**







## LEADERSHIP

### UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

#### BOARD OF REGENTS

Dr. Sonny Perdue, *Chancellor*  
Harold Reynolds, *Chair*  
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Doug Aldridge  
Tom Bradbury  
Richard "Tim" Evans  
W. Allen Gudenrath  
Bárbara Rivera Holmes  
Samuel D. Holmes  
C. Thomas Hopkins Jr., M.D.  
James M. Hull  
Cade Joiner  
Patrick C. Jones  
C. Everett Kennedy III  
Sarah-Elizabeth Langford  
Lowery Houston May  
Jose R. Perez  
Neil L. Pruitt Jr.  
T. Dallas Smith  
James K. Syfan III

### UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA LEADERSHIP

Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, *President*  
Dr. Jon A. Preston, *Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs*  
Dr. Meredith N. Brunen, *Vice President for University Advancement and CEO of University Foundations*  
Dr. André L. Fortune, *Vice President for Student Affairs*  
Scott McElroy, *Vice President for Business and Financial Services and Chief Business Officer*  
Kimberly Scranage, *Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Management*

### UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA DEANS

Dr. Mike Dishman, *Dean of the College of Education*  
Dr. Pauline Gagnon, *Dean of the College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry*  
Dr. Christopher Johnson, *Dean of the Richards College of Business*  
Dr. Karen Owen, *Dean of University College and Honors College*  
Dr. Jenny Schuessler, *Dean of the Tanner Health System School of Nursing*  
Andrea Stanfield, *Dean of Libraries*  
Dr. Matt Varga, *Dean of the Graduate School*  
Dr. Brad Yates, *Dean of the School of Communication, Film, and Media*

### UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA FOUNDATION INC., EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*2023–2024 Trustees*  
Gary Kinard '91, *Chair*  
Josh Chapman, *Vice Chair*  
David R. Edwards, *Treasurer/Investment Committee Chair*  
Honey Shackelford '76, *Secretary*  
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Dr. Jason Thogmartin '06 '07, *Audit Committee Chair*  
Tonya Byrd, *Board Development Committee Chair*  
Christa Pitts '97, *Resource Development Committee Chair*  
Scott Kauffman '97, *Real Estate Committee Chair*  
Dr. Meredith Brunen, *CEO/Vice President for University Advancement*  
Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, *UWG President*

### ALUMNI BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Christopher Sanders '03, *Chair*  
Ashley Bush '11, *Vice Chair*  
Justin Monsewicz '13, *Secretary and Treasurer*  
Ashlyn Arp '15, *Task Force Liaison*  
Brad Mock '12 '15, *Past Chair*





# TRADITIONS OF COMMENCEMENT

## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The academic regalia worn by today's participants dates back to the Middle Ages. The clergy were the literate class, so early academic costumes were clerical. The monk's habit and cowl worn over the head were predecessors of the modern black gowns. Hoods and capes were also necessary during European winters because the buildings where scholars lived and studied were cold.

Over time, gown styles became standardized for the three types of degrees. Those holding the bachelor's degree wear a gown distinguished by long, pointed sleeves. Master's and specialist degree candidates wear the traditional black gown with full-length square sleeves. The doctor's gown is faced with a broad strip of velvet and has three horizontal velvet bars on each sleeve.

The greatest symbolism is shown by the hood. The bachelor's hood is three feet long with a three-inch band of velvet. The master's and specialist hood is three-and-one-half feet long, faced with a three-inch band of velvet. The doctor's hood is four feet long, faced with a five-inch band of velvet. The color of the velvet band on the hood indicates the field of study in which the degree was earned or granted, and the hood is lined with the color of the university granting the degree.

## THE MACE

During the Middle Ages, the mace was a weapon used in battle, but as newer and more powerful military arms developed, it was adopted by academia as a symbol of the power of ideas, truth, and wisdom. In modern times, the mace is carried to symbolize the unity and aspirations of the collegial community.

The mace is constructed of cherry wood, black walnut, hand-turned walnut, and walnut burl. The institution's seal adorns the head of the mace and complements the presidential medallion.



## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

The University of West Georgia has been a beacon for learning since 1906. Originally founded as an agricultural and mechanical school, the institution became a two-year college and charter member of the University System of Georgia in 1933. In 1957, it expanded to a four-year institution and received university status in 1996. Today, UWG is a leading residential, doctoral comprehensive university that offers a broad undergraduate and graduate curriculum based on a liberal arts foundation.

At UWG, students are positioned to launch their careers upon graduation – if not before. In 2021, UWG began implementing its strategic plan for 2021-26, titled “Becoming UWG.” With members of the university community dedicating themselves to the curation of a first-choice university, the plan establishes a path for the institution’s long-term growth and excellence.

With an enrollment of 11,914 during the fall 2022 semester, UWG currently offers 106 programs of study, including two two-year degree, 46 at the bachelor’s degree level, 24 at the master’s level, six at the specialist level, five at the doctoral level, and 13 post-baccalaureate, six undergraduate, and four post-master’s certificates. The university prides itself on a diverse student body, as students come from most counties in Georgia, as well as from 31 other states and 62 other countries.

UWG has many ways for students to become involved on campus. The university hosts more than 170 registered organizations in addition to many intramural and recreational sports. As the UWG Wolves, the university is a member of NCAA Division II, competing in the Gulf South Conference. The university fields eight women’s and five men’s intercollegiate athletics teams, as well as co-ed and all-female cheerleading squads. Service-learning is also a basic tenet of the institution, as it has been recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for its institutional commitment to community engagement through teaching, research, and public service.

Over the past five years, the campus has improved and expanded facilities that enhance opportunities for students to thrive and succeed, such as renovation to the Biology Building and new construction for the Student Health Center and Roy Richards Sr. Hall, home of the Richards College of Business. The university is currently renovating the Humanities Building, home to programs in art, English, film, history, language, performing arts, and philosophy. UWG Newnan has also expanded its location at the historic Newnan Hospital, and more course options are becoming available at UWG Douglasville.

**Visit [westga.edu](http://westga.edu) for further information on the university or call 678-839-4000 to schedule a tour.**



# *Alma Mater*

Felton Dunn

Bruce Borton



In the west-ern pines of Georgia stand-ing strong and true,



Our wise Al-ma Ma-ter beck-ons to the Red and Blue,



Though you be in learn-ing found-ed youth-ful yet you be,



While thus guid-ed by tra-di-tion yet you still breathe free,



Dear West Geor-gia Dear West Geor-gia stand-ing strong and



true, Our wise Al-maMa-ter beck-ons to the Red\_ and the Blue.

Officially Adopted Spring 1984





UNIVERSITY OF  
WEST GEORGIA