Commencement Programs

4-23-2021

Utah State University Commencement, 2021 – Blanding Campus

Utah State University

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ACADEMIC HERALDRY

The history of academic heraldry reaches back into the early days of the university. A statute of 1321 required that all “Doctors, Licentiates and Bachelors” of the University of Columbia wear gowns. When American colleges and universities decided to adopt some suitable system of academic apparel, it seemed best to agree on one that all might follow. From a conference of various institutions’ board representatives held at Columbia University in 1895 came a code of academic dress for higher learning institutions in the United States, which most adopted.

GOWNS

The academic gown for the bachelor’s degree has pointed sleeves and is designed to be worn closed. Master’s degree gowns have an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist. The sleeve base hangs down in the traditional manner. The rear part of its oblong shape is square cut, and the front part has an arc cut away. It is designed this way so it can be worn open or closed. The gown for the doctoral degree has bell-shaped sleeves and may be worn open or closed.

COLORS

For all academic purposes, including trimmings of doctoral gowns, edging of hoods and tassels of caps, the colors associated with the different academic disciplines are as follows:

- Agriculture, Maize
- Arts, Brown
- Business, Drab
- Education and Human Services, Light Blue
- Engineering, Orange
- Humanities and Social Sciences, White
- Natural Resources, Russet
- Science, Gold-Yellow
- School of Graduate Studies, Black
- Associate Degrees, Black
- Integrated Studies, Black

HOODS

Academic hoods are worn by recipients of advanced degrees. Master’s degree hoods are three-and-one-half feet in length and lined with the official color(s) of the college or university conferring the degree, which at Utah State University are navy blue and white, displayed in the heraldic chevron. The doctoral hood consists of a larger and longer assemblage of institutional color draped over the recipient’s shoulders, falling well down the back. The binding or edging of the hoods is of velvet or velveteen, three inches wide for the Master’s degree and five inches wide for the doctoral degree.

CAPS

Academic caps come in two forms: the traditional mortarboard (from Oxford) or square cap, and a soft cap that resembles an oversized beret (from Cambridge). The mortarboard used by Utah State University is worn with a tassel.

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The commencement procession is composed of three divisions: (1) color guard, University President, Regents and the Board of Trustees, administrative officers and special guests; (2) the faculty; and (3) candidates for degrees.
PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME
Kristian Olsen
Associate Vice President, USU Blanding

“NATIONAL ANTHEM”
USU Chamber Singers
Directed by Dr. Cory Evans
Francis Scott Key, arranged by Kurt Bestor
Soloists: Katherine Van Shaar, Rachel Grob and Danielle Casos

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Color Guard

STUDENT ASSOCIATION GREETING
& STUDENT SPEAKER
Hunter Warren

ADDRESS TO GRADUATES
Heather Young
Director of Students, Retired

CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Noelle E. Cockett
President

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS
Jim Dandy
Program Coordinator

GREETING TO GRADUATES
Laurel Cannon Alder
USU Alumni President

RECESSIONAL
HUNTER WARREN
Student Speaker

Greetings, or Yá’át’ééh, as Hunter Warren might say. Hunter is Tábąąhá (Water’s Edge Clan), born for Bit’ahnii (Within His Cover Clan). His maternal grandparents are Táchii’nii (Red Running into the Water People Clan) and his paternal grandparents are Kinłichii’nii (Red House People Clan). Hunter is from the small community of Red Mesa, Utah on the Northern part of the Navajo Nation. He served as the 2020-2021 Executive Vice President for the USU Blanding Student Association. Hunter earned a bachelor of science in Social Work with a minor in Native American Studies and Sociology from USU Blanding. He has a love for USU Blanding and hopes to further his education with his Aggie family.

HEATHER YOUNG
Director of Students, Retired

Heather Hurst Young was born and raised in San Juan County, Utah. She is the youngest of six children born to William Riley and Carol Bayles Hurst. She graduated from San Juan High and attended Brigham Young University, then SUU (SUSC) before moving back to Blanding to start a family. She attended CEU San Juan, graduating with her associate of science degree in the second graduating class and later moved back to Provo to complete her bachelor’s degree. Her first teaching job was in Tabiona, Utah, where she taught English and PE, and then she taught at American Fork Jr. High and Timpview High in Provo, Utah. Finally, when the opportunity to move back to San Juan came around, she was eager to move back home. Teaching at her alma mater was a great experience, and then the opportunity to try a different educational avenue came up with CEU San Juan Campus (later USU Blanding). Distance education became her passion and she was able to complete a Master’s degree and then an EdS from Utah State University. Working with students from diverse backgrounds and seeing their strength and determination to succeed has been one of the greatest experiences of her working career. She is married to Glade Young and they are the parents of nine with their 29th grandbaby due in June. She retired from USU Blanding in July of 2020 after 27 years of service.
2021 CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Names listed in this program do not constitute graduation.

CERTIFICATE

LAW & SOCIETY
AREA STUDIES
Sherry C. Begay
John David Powell
Caitrin Casey Stagg

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION & MANAGEMENT
Dominic Lopez

CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT
Kason Levi Hall++
Athina Mae Silas+

HEAVY EQUIPMENT & TRUCKING
Johnnie Begaye Jr.
Loran St. Clair++

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Vanessa Mae Atcitty
Jessica Cher Cody
Kermlita Ann Woody+

PRACTICAL NURSING
Valerina Adakai++
Lincoln Seth Holliday++
Stephanie Ivins
Autumn Pauline-Warren Keith

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN
Paisley Lynn Lyman++
CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY

COMMERCIAL DRIVER’S LICENSE
David Otto Carpenter
Trenton Stone Duke
Michael Jorma Hayes
Kaden Hunter Helquist
Valdis R. Joe
James Junior Yellowman

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS
Johnnie Begaye Jr.
Lyle Robert Black
Tyrone Davis Jr.
Donovan Delmar
Atasha Shaylene Grey
Mitchell Lee Medico

POLICE OFFICER’S TRAINING
Daniel Scott Robbins

The quality of performance in academic work enables those indicated to be graduates with distinction:

++High Honors ................................................................................................................. grade point average of 3.75 to 4.00
+Honors ............................................................................................................................. grade point average of 3.50 to 3.74
ASSOCIATE DEGREES

PROVOST’S OFFICE

Francis D. Galey, Executive Vice President and Provost

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE – GENERAL TECHNOLOGY

Dominic Lopez
Mitchell Lee Medico

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE – MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Jonathan P. Brewer

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE – NURSING

Tondra Benn
Brittany Black
Sage M. Black
Marci Dawn Bothwell++
Hunter Michael Bowring++
Latanya Charley
Stenson Daniel Freestone++
Bridget Marie Horrocks++
Gabriella E. Nielson++
Kristi Redd++
Brittney Albertina Tohtsonie
Shannon Marlena Whitehair

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE – SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

Shannah Williams

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE – CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Sterling Black
Sierra Lane Hunt
Kolemen Allen Spillman
Caitrin Casey Stagg
Latonya Etta Thompson

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE – GENERAL STUDIES

Morgan Leigh Beard
Euphemia Begay
Hannah Ashley Begay
Quandinna Cheyanne Begay
Tiarra Ashleigh Begay+
Nizhonii Deezh Begaye
Sage Benally
Marilisa Rachelle Boone
Latanya Charley
Jaynee Marie Chee
Michaelina Chiquito
Tiara Jo Cordasco
Jared Joeh Crank
Kauldrinn Saiyah Crank
Malynne Afton Davis
Brittany Chanelle Dayzie-Nez
Jefawn Lynn Eskeets
Madison Sandra Freestone+
Garett Lee Gaines
Celeteste Elizabeth Hillhouse
Jeanna Nizhoni Holiday
Natalie Dawn Hunter
Shanaya Kananiokapuamaele John
Zoe Summer John++
Vanessa Rebecca Keith
Alyson Christine Lawson
Paisley Lynn Lyman

Kara Smith Black
Megan Deann Newhouse
The quality of performance in academic work enables those indicated to be graduates with distinction:

++High Honors ................................................................................................................. grade point average of 3.75 to 4.00
+Honors ............................................................................................................................. grade point average of 3.50 to 3.74

Taylor Rayn Martinez
Joseph M. Nielson
Bryce Robert Peterson
Connor Queen
Cassandra Misty Sam
Jaxon Tyler Smith
Taniyah Shaye Staley
Jasmine Stanley+
Travis Kee Stanley
Olivia A. Sturt
Hughston Dan Sullivan
Michelle Sullivan
Ashley Lynn Tallman
Janeice Samantha Tate
Danielle Tso
Cassandra Jean Tsosie
Roshelle Rose Wagner
Dawn R. Wartz
Shannon Marlena Whitehair
Stacey Shae Whitehair
Sherylissa F. Williams
Lynnea T. Willie
Domonique Summer Yazzie+
Kyle Keith Yazzie
Sydney Megan Yazzie
BACHELOR’S DEGREES

CAINE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
Rachel Nardo, Dean

MUSIC
Camille Lee Walker*

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & APPLIED SCIENCES
Kenneth L. White, Dean

AGRIBUSINESS
Jordan Dayish
Lejon Wayde Gines

GENERAL STUDIES
Steven Ashton Jones

TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS
Benny Fatt Jr.
Jeffrey Walker

JON M. HUNTSMAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Douglas D. Anderson, Dean

FINANCE
Michael Andrew White

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
James Ellsworth Porter*

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Alexander C. King
Carter Randall Holliday**
The quality of performance in academic work enables those indicated to be graduates with distinction:

***Summa Cum Laude .................................................. grade point average of 3.95 to 4.00
**Magna Cum Laude.................................................. grade point average of 3.80 to 3.94
*Cum Laude.............................................................. grade point average of 3.50 to 3.79
S. J. & JESSIE E. QUINNEY COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Chris Luecke, Dean

RECREATION RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Miranda Ashton Peterson

PROVOST’S OFFICE
Francis D. Galey, Executive Vice President and Provost

INTEGRATED STUDIES
Autumn D. Benally
Joni Dickson
Megan Sandra Mower-Harris

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Richard Cutler
Interim Vice Provost of Graduate Studies

MASTER’S DEGREES

EMMA ECCLES JONES COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES
Donna Icedo Romero
Master of Education in Instructional Technology & Learning Sciences

JON M. HUNTSMAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Shannon Raye Tooke
Master of Business Administration

EDUCATION SPECIALIST
Jared C. Woolstenhulme
Curriculum & Instruction
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