Wittenberg University Commencement Exercises

The Class of Two Thousand Nineteen

One Hundred Sixty-Ninth Commencement

Saturday, the Eleventh of May,
Two Thousand Nineteen

wittenberg
UNIVERSITY

"This is a lovely spot for the location of a literary institution. It requires some faith to believe that in after years it will be an academic grove, to which hundreds will drink at the pure fountains of knowledge, and go forth into the world to do good, to bless mankind."

– Ezra Keller, Founder and First President of Wittenberg College (1845–1848)

WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY

One Hundred Sixty-Ninth Commencement

PROCESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance, Military March No. 1 by Edward Elgar

INVOCATION

The Rev. Dr. Anders S. Tune, *The David and Carol Matevia Endowed University Pastor*

Pastor: We begin this Commencement in the name of our life-giving and gracious God, the source of all goodness and truth, known in Christian confession as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Responsive Reading . . . . . *Psalm 145*

Pastor: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; there is no end to his greatness.

People: One generation shall praise your works to another, and shall declare your power.

Pastor**:** I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty, and all your marvelous works.

People: They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will tell of your greatness.

Pastor: They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

People: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great kindness.

Pastor: The Lord is loving to everyone, and his compassion is over all his works.

People: All your works praise you, O Lord, and your faithful servants bless you.

Pastor: The Lord upholds all those who fall; he lifts up those who are bowed down.

People: The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

Pastor: You open wide your hand, and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

People: The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and loving in all his works.

Pastor: The Lord is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully.

People: My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

Lesson . . . . . *Philippians 4:8-9*

Pastor: In his letter to the Philippians, the Apostle Paul writes:

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Prayer

Welcome And Remarks

Ms. Chloe A. Bradburn, *President of the Class of 2019*
Dr. Michael L. Frandsen, *President of the University*

Remarks

The Rev. Jonathan L. Eilert '93, *Chair, Wittenberg Board of Directors*

Conferring of Honorary Degrees

Dr. P. Kay Carl '59, *Doctor of Humane Letters*
Presented by Dr. Brian D. Yontz, *Associate Professor & Chair of Education*

Address

Dr. P. Kay Carl '59

Conferring of Master's Degrees

Master of Arts in Athletic Coaching
Master of Arts in Education
Master of Science in Analytics

Presented by Dr. Mary Jo Zembar, *Interim Provost*

Conferring of Baccalaureate Degrees

Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Fine Arts
Bachelor of Music Education
Bachelor of Science

Presented by Dr. Mary Jo Zembar, *Interim Provost*

Tassel Ceremony

Dr. Michael L. Frandsen, *President of the University*

Alumni Association Welcome

Ms. Allison M. Scaia '09, *President of the Wittenberg University Alumni Association*

Singing Of The Alma Mater

Ms. Rachel E. Wallace '19
Alma Mater of the Class of 2019
Mr. Charles D. Samuel '19
Alma Lux of the Class of 2019

Alma Mater Lyrics

Wittenberg, dear Wittenberg,
Once again to thee
We, thy grateful children, pledge
Love and loyalty.
We shall always love thy groves
And thy classic halls;
Mem'ry, like the ivy twines
Round thy hallowed walls.

Wittenberg, dear Wittenberg,
Time flies fast away;
Soon our happy college days
Will be gone for aye;
But in all life's storm and stress,
Whate'er we may do,
To our Alma Mater dear
We will e'er be true.

– Robert H. Hiller, 1889

Alma Mater, the Spirit of Wittenberg, is a traditional honor that began in June 1920. It is the highest honor bestowed upon a junior female student who exemplifies the qualities of leadership, scholarship and service during her four years at the university.

Alma Lux, a new tradition, was established in 2003. It is the highest honor bestowed upon a junior male student who exemplifies the qualities of leadership, scholarship and service during his four years at the university.

BENEDICTION

The Rev. Anders S. Tune, *The David and Carol Matevia Endowed University Pastor*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace.

People: Amen.

RECESSIONAL

Please remain seated until recessional ends.

COMMENCEMENT MARSHALS

Dr. Stefne Broz,
Associate Professor of Communication

Dr. Kristin Cline,
Professor of Chemistry

Dr. Raymond Dudek,
Associate Professor & Chair of Chemistry

Dr. Scot Hinson,
Associate Professor of English

Dr. Alyssa Hoofnagle,
Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Dr. Rick Incorvati,
Professor of English

Dr. Daniel Marous,
Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Ms. Lindsay Meermans,
Assistant Professor of Business

Dr. Amy McGuffey,
Assistant Professor of Education

Dr. Michelle McWhorter,
Associate Professor of Biology

Dr. Richard Phillips,
Associate Professor of Biology

Dr. Catherine Waggoner,
Professor & Chair of Communication

Dr. Katie Warber, Grand Marshal
Associate Professor of Communication

Dr. Brian Yontz,
Associate Professor & Chair of Education

TORCH, BANNERS AND FLAG BEARERS

The Wittenberg Torch is carried by Ms. Chloe A. Bradburn, *President of the Class of 2019.*

The United States flag is carried by Mr. Leul M. Bulcha, *President of the Class of 2020.*

The Wittenberg banner is carried by Mr. Cameron J. Dobrotka, *Vice President of the Class of 2020.*

Distinguished Guest

P. Kay Carl, a 1959 graduate of Wittenberg and an innovative educational leader, will receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters and share a few words with the graduates on May 11 during a graduation ceremony steeped in tradition in beautiful Commencement Hollow.

After earning her B.S. in education and religion, Carl spent most of her 35-year career in education working as a counselor, principal, and eventually assistant superintendent for the Clark County School District (CCSD) in Nevada during a period of phenomenal growth for the school district. As assistant superintendent for the elementary education division, she presided over 159 elementary schools and their principals and oversaw the opening of 68 new elementary schools.

First arriving in Las Vegas in 1970, Carl was a counselor for Sunset High School, the first night high school in the United States. She was later named director of the school, making history as the first female high school principal in the CCSD.

Carl was instrumental in the formation of the Clark County Counselor's Association and the Clark County Association of School Administrators. She also co-authored *Education in the Neon Shadow: The First 50 Years of the Clark County School District* (Stephens Press, 2009).

In recognition of Carl's influence as an educator, the Kay Carl Elementary School in Las Vegas was dedicated in her honor in 2002. She also received the Wittenberg Alumni Citation in 2001 for her exceptional accomplishments in education and was inducted into the CCSD Excellence in Education Hall of Fame in 1990.

Although Carl retired in 2000, she has remained active in the field of education by participating in activities at her namesake school, serving for four years as program manager of the literacy initiative Clark County Reads, volunteering with the United Way Education Committee, and serving as co-chair of the CCSD Archive Committee. She also worked as an adjunct instructor in the department of education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV).

After earning a master's degree in guidance and counseling from Case Western Reserve University, Carl was an assistant dean of women at Wittenberg from 1963-1965 before working as a high school counselor in New Jersey. She earned a doctorate in education administration from UNLV in 1984.

Born in Ashland, Ohio, Carl graduated in 1955 from Ashland High School, which named her a Distinguished Alumna in 2007.

Candidates for Degrees

This program contains the names of candidates for Commencement. Degree certification is subject to the completion of all degree requirements and is validated by the Office of the Registrar. All academic honors noted below are based on cumulative grade-point averages calculated at the end of the 2018 fall semester, which do not take spring semester grades into account. Honors awarded at Commencement will be determined by each student's final cumulative grade-point average, calculated at the end of the 2019 spring semester. The degrees are awarded within the fields of major concentration. The second major concentration, if any, is shown under the candidate's name.

Degrees are awarded upon successful completion of all degree requirements. Participation at Commencement or listing of student's name in the program does not guarantee degree conferral.

Master Of Arts In Athletic Coaching

Ms. Sarah Jurewicz
Assistant Professor of Practice
Health, Fitness and Sport

Jason Colliver
Beavercreek, OH

Laura Harting
Farmersville, OH

Kevin P. Kustura
Huntington Beach, CA

Nathan Tyra Matthews
Gahanna, OH

Alexander Jordan Meyer
Springfield, OH

Olivia Morgan Shagam
Oak Park, IL

Master of Arts In Education

Dr. Roberta Linder
Associate Professor

Melinda Howard
South Vienna, OH

Margaret Maloney Sarensen
Springfield, OH

Sarah Elizabeth Ward
Powell, OH

Master of Science In Analytics

Mr. Kevin Steidel
Assistant Professor of Practice
Business Program Director

Kayode Ajayi-Majebi
Moraine, OH

Kweisi Seth Darko Amparbeng
Delaware, OH

Maria Danielle Glassmeyer-Pabon
Dayton, OH

Daniel Hadidon
Galloway, OH

Jaba Alemayehu Merdassa
Blacklick, OH

Pedro Munoz
Bellbrook, OH

Taylor Kendall Oliver
Fountain Valley, CA

Bethany Painter
Frazeysburg, OH

Geoffrey Reed
Dublin, OH

Andrea Verity
Dayton, OH

Art

Mr. Crispin Prebys
Associate Professor

Bachelor of Arts

Alex Steven Brenner
Cum Laude
Cincinnati, OH

Daniel Paul Butera
Richfield, OH

Kaitlyn Morgan
Miamisburg, OH

Emily A. Pohlmeyer
Centerville, OH

Rickita Zawandi Wilson
Columbus, OH

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Sarah Jean Baker
Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Christina Hope Howard
Sylvania, OH

Biochemistry/ Molecular Biology

Dr. Margaret A. Goodman
Professor
Director, Biochemistry / Molecular Biology

Bachelor of Arts

Kyle Lee Dieringer
Cum Laude
Versailles, OH

Katherine M Winner
(Spanish)
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Magna Cum Laude
Cincinnati, OH

Bachelor of Science

Marshall David Eippert
Cum Laude
Milford, OH

Emily Catherine Jenney
(Dance)
Huber Heights, OH

Justin Charles Unternaher
Newark, OH

Isabella Marie Wagner
Hilliard, OH

Biology

Dr. Jim Welch
Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Makiah K. Babbs
Pickerington, OH

Jennifer Marie Downing
Springfield, OH

Gabrielle Marie Evans
(Dance)
Croton, OH

James Harris
Knoxville, TN

Ellen Elizabeth Lee
Wilmington, OH

Jaclyn Danielle Neidhardt
Springfield, OH

Andrew Pool
Eaton, OH

Ellen Elizabeth Rosicky
Lagrange Park, IL

Zachary C. Statler
Mount Vernon, OH

Taylor Elizabeth Vaughn-Stanton
Springfield, OH

Tyra Denise Whitlow
Dayton, OH

Robert G. Wiedeke
Springfield, OH

Rachael Elise Yalaz
Springfield, OH

Bachelor of Science

Lillian A. Amurgis
Columbus, OH

Bryce Coleman Bailey
Blacklick, OH

Melissa Catherine Bernhardt
Hamilton, OH

Hayley R. Blanford
Sidney, OH

Shannon M. Brueck
(History)
Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
Loveland, OH

Lauren Buelow
Cum Laude
Hilliard, OH

Abigail Huston Crum
Cum Laude
Columbus, OH

Kyelie Marie Cudnohoske
Springfield, OH

Megan Elizabeth Davis
Cum Laude
Pickerington, OH

D'Anthony L Dorsey
Winter Haven, FL

Matthew Levi Evans
Delaware, OH

Audrey S. Feiler
(Communication)
Cum Laude
New Richmond, OH

Donald Carmelo Hefelfinger
Summa Cum Laude
Mason, OH

Kelly Kathleen Heitkemper
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
Maineville, OH

Rebecca Lynn Kirk
Garrettsville, OH

Melissa Ann Lee
Lewis Center, OH

Dalton C. Livers
Fairborn, OH

Madison Sinclair Manger
Summa Cum Laude
Loveland, OH

Tabitha A. Martin
Springfield, OH

Sydney Nicole Mayle
Grove City, OH

Lacey A. McGuire
Cum Laude
Corinth, KY

Alexandra Lyn Mowery
Toledo, OH

Christian Ross Randazzo
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
Dover, OH

Charles Douglas Samuel, III
Magna Cum Laude Departmental Honors
Lihue, HI

Evan R. Schreiber
Summa Cum Laude
Waterville, OH

Olivia Isabella Stevens
Danville, IN

Savannah Mae Sullivan
Magna Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
South Charleston, OH

Taylor Alyse Wallrauch
Fairfield, OH

Business

Ms. Lindsey Meermans
Assistant Professor

Accounting

Bachelor of Arts

Tiwuan Cortez Atchley
(*Management)*
Columbus, OH

Maxwell Jay Baker
(Finance)
Brownsburg, IN

Troy Edward Boucher
(Finance)
Cum Laude
Delaware, OH

Liam B. Duncan
Eugene, OR

Sydney R. Granito
(Finance)
Mentor, OH

Carter Thomas Harris
Grove City, OH

Logan R. Kirby
(Finance)
Cum Laude
Bloomington, IN

Benjamin Timothy McCarty
Dublin, OH

Donna Jene Radcliff
(Management)
West Jefferson, OH

Madeleine Elise Van Overbeek
(Finance)
(Sport Management)
Highland Park, IL

Entrepreneurship

Dr. Lawrence D. Gwinn
Professor of Economics
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Michael Robert Carluccio
Bedford, NH

William Bradly Austin Caylor
Salem, OH

Rachel Kelsey Jouriles
Parma, OH

Samuel Luke Minard
Dayton, OH

Scott Miles Morrison, Jr.
Labelle, FL

Alison Elizabeth Pauley
Cum Laude
Olmsted Falls, OH

Seth Divon Thomas
Maple Heights, OH

Finance

Bachelor of Arts

Emma Sullivan Box
Springfield, OH

Gerald Edmond Coyle
Grosse Pointe, MI

Sean R. Dowling
Louisville, KY

Christopher Edward Eigner
(Sport Management)
Cum Laude
Fort Wayne, IN

Andrew D. Elliott
Columbus, OH

Kai George Hannum
Cum Laude
Bay Village, OH

Leah Grace Hilley
Cum Laude
Mason, OH

Thomas Kai Leisher
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Beavercreek, OH

James Alex McCarty
Lebanon, OH

Frank Charles Redman
Plaistow, NH

Paul Charles Salay
Glenview, IL

Gregory T. Smith
Springfield, OH

Karen Augusta Wildemann
(Biology)
Summa Cum Laude
Columbus, IN

Management

Bachelor of Arts

Asia Brown
(Communication)
Columbus, OH

Terrance A. Crowe, Jr.
Springfield, OH

Brandon Zamar Daniels
Cincinnati, OH

Miranda Caroline Fosnaugh
Columbus, OH

Sarah Irvina Frisch
Crescent Springs, KY

Isaac Dylan Hartley
Bellevue, OH

Matthew McCarren
Sabina, OH

Martin Ignacio Mora
Quito, Ecuador

Charles C. Null
Batavia, OH

Kalen Ra'Mar O'Daniel
Columbus, OH

Tyler Pearson
New Albany, OH

Benjamin Oviatt Princic
Chagrin Falls, OH

Emma Marie Rollett
Pittsboro, IN

Rebekah Marie Sattler
Waverly, OH

David Paul Schlanz
Cincinnati, OH

Carter Lars Derick Schmidt
(Sport Management)
Magna Cum Laude
Hilliard, OH

Tayvone R. Morton
Dayton, OH

Marketing

Bachelor of Arts

Jacob C. Adkins
Milford Center, OH

Brandon L. Allen
Richwood, OH

Alexis K. Banaszak
Springfield, OH

Ward Carson Bright
Canal Winchester, OH

Emma Carrie Byrd
(Communication)
Cincinnati, OH

Holly A. Carter
Hermitage, TN

Abigail Marie Connell
Cum Laude
Hilliard, OH

Noah Paul Dehnke
Canton, OH

Kyle A. Farnbauch
(Psychology)
Hilliard, OH

Thomas P. Gerhard
Dayton, OH

Keith D. Gordon
Cleveland, OH

Loie Aref Greenwood
(Psychology)
Blacklick, OH

Hannah P. Hobby
Cum Laude
Fort Wayne, IN

Dorian Ajani Hunter
Springfield, OH

Andrew J. Jenkins
(Communication)
Twinsburg, OH

Colton Garrett Johnson
Cum Laude
Germantown, OH

Isaiah J. LaJoie
Northfield, OH

Colin T. Laszlo
(Sport Management)
Waipahu, HI

Alivia Amber Livesay
Tryon, NC

Justin August Luby
(Communication)
Akron Fairlawn, OH

J. Quinn McKeown
Concord, MA

Casey John Miller
(Sport Management)
Cape Coral, FL

Alexander Sansone Quillin
New Albany, OH

Elijah Timothy Runk
Lima, OH

Joel Patrick Sotos
(Financial Economics)
Dublin, OH

Emily Jane Wadds
(Communications)
Cincinnati, OH

Chemistry

Dr. Raymond Dudek
Associate Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Bradley David Malott
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Middletown, OH

Bachelor of Science

Taylor M. Brown
Springfield, OH

Breanna Elizabeth Donnelly
Pickerington, OH

Jack Cochran Snider
Beavercreek, OH

Communication

Dr. Catherine E. Waggoner
Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Devon Paige Atchison
(Marketing)
Magna Cum Laude
Pataskala, OH

Joseph Paul Belair
Akron, OH

Isaiah Jordan Brock
Noblesville, IN

Alexa H. Collins
Hudson, OH

Matthew Joseph Entsminger
Cum Laude
Bellefontaine, OH

Lauren Christine Hiller
Summa Cum Laude
Naperville, IL

Mitchell Lewis Mahon
Medina, OH

Jacob Dale Mitchell
Springfield, OH

Kathryn Rose Nydegger
(Entrepreneurship)
Hilliard, OH

Caroline Anne Wallace Olson
Canfield, OH

Alyssa K. Purvis
Leesburg, VA

Claudia Rae Scully
(Music)
Mason, OH

Andrew Michael Tate
Reynoldsburg, OH

Kendra Renea Trumbo
Springfield, OH

Computer Science

Dr. Douglas Andrews
Professor of Statistics

Bachelor of Arts

Rubyann Elizabeth Hazell
Columbus, OH

Matthew Meier
North Muskegon, MI

Neal Patrick Miller
Summa Cum Laude
South Vienna, OH

Alec Murphy Steele
Fort Wayne, IN

Deshawn James Sarley
Cincinnati, OH

Information Systems

Bachelor of Arts

Gregory R. Vanerstrom
Wexford, PA

East Asian Studies

Dr. Lauren Crane
Associate Professor of Psychology

Bachelor of Arts

Hannah Carroll
Summa Cum Laude
Galveston, TX

Kierstin Gaynell Conaway
(International Studies)
(Self-Designed Major)
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors in East Asian Studies
Departmental Honors in Self-Design
University Honors
Logan, OH

Hannah Elizabeth Hallam
London, OH

Hannah Catherine Reynolds
(Management)
Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Holland, MI

Jasmine Rodriguez Sanchez
Cincinnati, OH

Economics

Dr. Lawrence D. Gwinn
Associate Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Charles Alexander North
(Finance)
(Political Science)
Germantown, OH

Muhammad Fateh Akbar Tiwana
(Finance)
Lahore, Pakistan

Financial Economics

Bachelor of Arts

Adam Nicholas Acquista
Columbus, OH

Richard Winans Brewer
Cincinnati, OH

Colin J. Cahill
Plymouth, MN

Mathew Edward Demers
Enon, OH

Education

Dr. Amy McGuffey
Assistant Professor
Director of Graduate Studies in Education

Bachelor of Arts

Marley O. Bell
Springfield, OH

James N. Cannell
Dublin, OH

Anne E. Carroll
San Antonio, TX

Anne K Dowell
Summa Cum Laude
Hudson, OH

Chelsea Fischbach
Summa Cum Laude
Kettering, OH

Megan J. Flaherty
Magna Cum Laude
Dublin, OH

Audry Jane Fritts
Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Gabrielle N. Frizzell
Summa Cum Laude
Galion, OH

Madeleine Nicole Gaier
Springfield, OH

Kayla Renee Hall
St. Paris, OH

Bailey R. Justice
Springfield, OH

Allison Nicole Learman
(Spanish)
Summa Cum Laude
Ann Arbor, MI

Brooke Elizabeth Markin
Magna Cum Laude
West Liberty, OH

Carli A Milano
Beavercreek, OH

Rebecca Mitchell
Ottawa Hills, OH

Amber Dawn Mosbacker
Bethel, OH

Bethany Newell
Summa Cum Laude
(Finance)
Finchville, KY

Kellie Ireland O'Connor
Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Hannah Augustine Patterson
Enon, OH

Amanda Leigh Raber
Mechanicsburg, OH

Sierra Nicole Sandy
Summa Cum Laude
Dover, OH

Rachel Madison Simon
Summa Cum Laude
Hilliard, OH

Laryssa Jean VanHoose
(Music)
Saint Paris, OH

Hayley Ruth Woodbridge
Cum Laude
Chillicothe, OH

Educational Studies

Dr. Amy McGuffey
Assistant Professor
Director of Graduate Studies in Education

Bachelor of Arts

Katherine Abigail Baumgartner
Fishers, IN

Nadia Teresa Clark
St. Louis, MO

Kelsy L. Deer
Springfield, OH

English

Dr. Lori Askeland
Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Harley M. Bakken
Springfield, OH

Logan Scott Bliss
Miamisburg, OH

Nathan Tyra Matthews
Columbus, OH

Lexus Le'ane Cole
(Communications)
Louisville, KY

Ashley S. Eckenrode
Wellsville, OH

Courtney M. Eden
Chardon, OH

Cantly Andrew Elliott
Springfield, OH

Kimberly G. Estenson
(East Asian Studies)
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors in English
Departmental Honors in East Asian Studies
University Honors
Jefferson City, TN

Kristen Anne Feigel
(Theatre and Dance)
Cum Laude
Aurora, IL

Alexis R. M. Gallion
(Theatre and Dance)
Powell, OH

Collin Douglas Goins
Nashville, TN

Johnathon Michael Carsten Ockel Jacobsen
Aurora, CO

Atolani Victoria Ladipo
Monroe, OH

Samantha D. Martens
Magna Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Kieran John Mouritsen
(History)
Waxhaw, NC

Charisse Ponder
Trotwood, OH

Olivia J Racanelli
(Management)
Hilliard, OH

Jennifer Elizabeth Ryan
Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
New Kensington, PA

Sierra Kathleen Sanchez
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Franklin, IN

Emma Jan Stogsdill
(Environmental Science)
Cum Laude
Departmental Honors in Environmental Science
University Honors
Shalimar, FL

Jessica N. Stormoen
(History)
Cum Laude
Departmental Honors in History
University Honors
Wyoming, MI

Garrett William Stout
London, OH

Bayleigh Catherine Thompson
Cum Laude
Dayton, OH

John Rutledge Uible
Jupiter, FL

Olivia Raye Wilcox
(Psychology)
Brockport, NY

Environmental Science

Dr. Richard Phillips
Associate Professor of Biology

Bachelor of Arts

Jessica Hill Dickson
(Russian/Central Eurasian Studies)
Johnstown, OH

Katerina Eleanora Maria Fulton
Indianapolis, IN

Bachelor of Science

Samuel Richard Bott
Des Moines, IA

Gretchen Helene Burkey
Wooster, OH

Haley Christine Jackson
Hilliard, OH

Skyler Elise Klingshirn
Summa Cum Laude
Lorain, OH

Courtney Ann Lopez
Springfield, OH

Robert Lee Russell
New Carlisle, OH

Colin Mitchell Stewart
Worthington, OH

Geology

Dr. Mary Jo Zembar
Interim Provost
Professor of Psychology

Bachelor of Arts

Logan Samuel Boyd
Howard, OH

Justis Leo Seitz
New Carlisle, OH

Bachelor of Science

Cole Stephen Benning
Springfield, OH

Noah Robert Hobson
Farmington Hills, MI

Christian Smith
Springfield, OH

Hannah Grace Weaver
Summa Cum Laude
Port Clinton, OH

Health, Fitness & Sport

Dr. Hung-Sheng Hsu
Assistant Professor

Exercise Science

Bachelor of Arts

Bradford Hall Arledge
Beavercreek, OH

Mary Magdaline Bessman
New Albany, OH

Derek Austin Leroy Cain
Bexley, OH

Jalen Rudolph Camper
Beavercreek, OH

Lisa Noelle Campolongo
Loveland, OH

Michael A. Craft
Pickerington, OH

Abigail A. Curnutte
Urbana, OH

Stephanie Marie Durbin
Cum Laude
Medina, OH

Ross Elliott
Springfield, OH

Kalie Sue Entler
Summa Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Michael Allen Ford
Millersport, OH

Jeffrey James Helt
New Carlisle, OH

Kevin Michael Helt
New Carlisle, OH

Andrew Kenneth Jones-Walker
Shaker Heights, OH

Alexandra Lee Kiess
Edon, OH

Karen J. Kombe
Westerville, OH

Elyssa P. LaBine
Powell, OH

Matison Nancy Leand
Swansea, MA

Joshua Michael McErlean
Gahanna, OH

Laney Michaela Medvescek
Fortville, IN

Emily Rose Orabella
Loveland, OH

Curtis Michael Quimby
Plain City, OH

Charles Edwin Pinder Rodeheffer
Cum Laude
Delaware, OH

Martis Andrejs Roze
Fishers, IN

Ross Cameron Russell
Akron, OH

Kennedey M Schmidt
Centerville, OH

Emily Elizabeth Thomas
Centerville, OH

Elizabeth Carol Tolliver
Eaton, OH

Taylor Wester
Summa Cum Laude
Columbus, OH

Sport Management

Dr. Steven Dawson
Professor of Health, Fitness & Sport
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Charles Jacob Atkinson
Mount Vernon, OH

Joshua A. Baker
Eaton, OH

Matthew Richard Baker
Tucson, AZ

Rachel Michelle Black
Avon, IN

Malik Clayton
Columbus, OH

Blaine Emma Donnelly
(Management)
Hanover, MD

Ryan Wade Gallimore
Cum Laude
Loveland, OH

Austin John Lewis
New Carlisle, OH

Timothy Martin McNulty
Indianapolis, IN

Ryan Michael Roark
Twinsburg, OH

Morgan Frances Siefert
Xenia, OH

Cortez James Suggs
Cincinnati, OH

Cooper Jack Taylor
Superior, CO

Robert Jeffrey Tiffner
Springfield, OH

Jacob A. Vierra
Danville, CA

Samantha May Watson
Magna Cum Laude
Newcomertown, OH

Alberto Zaragoza
New Carlisle, OH

History

Dr. Scott Rosenberg
Professor
Director, African and Diaspora Studies, Director

Bachelor of Arts

Grace Mackenzie Baker
Magna Cum Laude
Hamilton, OH

Mitchell Paul Balser
Dayton, OH

Irene McPherson Bilal-Engle
Springfield, OH

Nicholas William Carr
Mason, OH

Jacob Andrew Eifert
Cincinnati, OH

Abigail Caroline Fraker
Westerville, OH

Lauren Hoke
South Charleston, OH

Grace Ann Huffman
Cum Laude
Xenia, OH

Danielle Jane Hurley
Magna Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Defiance, OH

Lindsey Ann Lightner
West Jefferson, OH

Matthew Eric Poretsky
Bay Village, OH

Michelle T. Radogna
(Theatre and Dance)
Tower Lakes, IL

Gilbert Arthur Rutledge
Cincinnati, OH

International Studies

Dr. Lila M. Zaharkov
Associate Professor of Languages
Director

Bachelor of Arts

Keylahn Michal Hodo
Indianapolis, IN

Angela Marie Cordes Galbraith
Freedom, PA

Breanna M. Winters
Summa Cum Laude
North Benton, OH

Minami Yamori
Ohmihachiman City Shiga, Japan

Languages

Dr. Ruth Hoff
Associate Professor
Department Chair

French

Bachelor of Arts

Keri Beth Pribula
(International Studies)
Magna Cum Laude
Centerville, OH

German

Bachelor of Arts

Sophie Kathryn Erieau
Galena, OH

Clayton E. Marsh
(Russian/Central Eurasian Studies)
Magna Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Piqua, OH

Thomas M. Zabonik
(International Studies)
(Educational Studies)
Westerville, OH

Spanish

Bachelor of Arts

Michaela M. Gilgenbach
(International Studies)
Elyria, OH

Mathematics

Dr. Douglas Andrews
Professor of Statistics

Bachelor of Arts

Alexander Paul Hallauer
(Computer Science)
Magna Cum Laude
Tipp City, OH

Travis Daniel Hoyt
(Computer Science)
Springfield, OH

Jordan Kyle Koehler
Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Noble Allen Moore
Delaware, OH

Matilda Patterson
Chicago, IL

Bachelor of Science

Jacqueline Nicole Auman
(Physics)
Maineville, OH

Kathleen Marie Starr Serio
Dublin, OH

Blake Sobieralski
Indianapolis, IN

Music

Dr. Christopher Durrenberger
Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Anna Elizabeth Fox
Summa Cum Laude
Medina, OH

Maklayne Renee Vitovich
Pittsburgh, PA

Bachelor of Music Education

Laura Marie Bucher
Magna Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Amesbury, MA

Kieran D Hunter
Kent, WA

Nursing

Dr. Elizabeth Sorensen
Professor
Director

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Lauren A. Holaday
North Lewisburg, OH

Madeline Elizabeth Stock
Cum Laude
Maineville, OH

Kelsey Lynn Taylor
Cum Laude
Pickerington, OH

Erin Elizabeth Verkley
Urbana, OH

Caitlin McKenzie Willfong
Cum Laude
South Charleston, OH

Philosophy

Dr. Julius Bailey
Associate Professor
Philosophy

Bachelor of Arts

Corina Rosanna Cleveland
(Psychology)
Hilliard, OH

Physics

Dr. Jeremiah Williams
Associate Professor
Acting Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Ty Mitchell Beatty
Pickerington, OH

Gabrielle Nicole Draginoff
Cincinnati, OH

Kristin E. Irlam
(Dance)
Ashland, IL

Jersson Pachar
Elk Grove Village, IL

Political Science

Dr. James Allan
Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

John Ford Clay
Oxford, OH

Emily Gram Darnell
Summa Cum Laude
Shelbyville, KY

Jacob Alexander Dietz
Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Bernard Charles Fox,V
Cincinnati, OH

J. Andrew Goodpaster
Carlisle, OH

Shane M. Harris
Summa Cum Laude
Liberty Twp, OH

Andrew E. Ingwersen
Bexley, OH

Thomas Gibson Julcher
Evanston, IL

Tomas Salvador Luzuriaga
Bethesda, MD

Kyla Alexandra McGee
(International Studies)
(German)
Magna Cum Laude
Beavercreek, OH

Stephen Douglas Ogden
Whitehall, MI

Madison Jean Pangburn
(Philosophy)
Mishawaka, IN

Emma Grace Shehy
Wooster, OH

Tyler Harvey Swanson
Holland, MI

Rachel Emily Wallace
(Communication)
Magna Cum Laude
Cincinnati, OH

Psychology

Dr. Michael D. Anes
Associate Professor

Bachelor of Arts

Elsa Lucille Bertsch
Huron, OH

Hunter D. Busken
Cincinnati, OH

Rachel Danahy
(Economics)
Cincinnati, OH

Mary Alyce Furlong
Louisville, KY

David Hunter Hall
Ostrander, OH

Shanna Dawn Haynes
Springfield, OH

Spencer Ronald Laughman
Hinsdale, IL

Zacchaeus Jeremiah Martin
Summa Cum Laude
Dayton, OH

Cassie Marie McLean
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
Springfield, OH

Erica Rose Nickerson
Lorain, OH

Katelyn R. Nye
Dresden, OH

Rachel R. Oliver
(Political Science)
Orient, OH

Ashley L. O'Neill
Homer Glen, IL

Micaela Carlene Pohlabel
Magna Cum Laude
Shelby, OH

Rachel Elizabeth Porrello
Summa Cum Laude
Lewis Center, OH

Samantha Anne Stephens
(Sociology)
Dayton, OH

Meagan Tanner
Magna Cum Laude
Departmental Honors
University Honors
New Carlisle, OH

Rebecca Lynn Towns
Magna Cum Laude
Holland, OH

Emily Mansfield Walzak
North Hampton, NH

Bachelor of Science

Elizabeth Marie McCarthy
Cum Laude
Monroe, OH

Emily LeeAnn Sarver
Plain City, OH

Religion

Dr. Paul T. Nelson
Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Megan Marie Mong
Salina, KS

Grace J. Mullen
Smithtown, NY

Russian & Central Eurasian Program

Dr. Lila Zaharkov
Associate Professor of Languages
Director

Bachelor of Arts

Madison Noelle Krstich
(International Studies)
(History)
Summa Cum Laude
Departmental Honors in History
University Honors
Johnstown, OH

Sierra Cheyenne Elizabeth Lane
Springfield, OH

Deanna Torstenson
Springfield,VA
Kaitlin R Weisenburger
Hilliard, OH

School of Graduate & Professional Studies

Barbara Randazzo
Executive Director, Graduate and Professional Studies

Organizational Leadership

Bachelor of Arts

Bryan Keith Huffman
Summa Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Self-Designed

Dr. Mary Jo Zembar
Interim Provost
Professor of Psychology

Bachelor of Arts

Jacob J. Davis
(East Asian Studies)
Chattanooga, TN

Kassandra Michele Heironimus
(East Asian Studies)
Springfield, OH

Sutton Matthew Jacobs
Summa Cum Laude
Flushing, MI

Nora L. Jacobson
Grasonville, MD

Andrea G. McDuffie
Cleveland, OH

Aikili Mosley
Springfield, OH

Paige L. Narciso
Worthington, OH

Heather N. Rucker
(East Asian Studies)
Magna Cum Laude
Departmental Honors in East Asian Studies
University Honors
Chicago, IL

Alex Wanamaker
Fairborn, OH

Sociology

Dr. Brooke Wagner
Associate Professor

Bachelor of Arts

Chloe Augusta Bradburn
(International Studies)
Columbus, OH

Hannah Lynn Brown
Perrysburg, OH

Gloria Lajoy Craig
Indianapolis, IN

Natalie Marie Evans
Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Megan Harber
Rochester, MN

Alyssa Rae Hardin
(Spanish)
Fairborn, OH

Donna L. Hill
Cum Laude
Fairborn, OH

Danielle Nicole Lade
Troy, OH

Emma Alexandra Lyons
(Political Science)
Magna Cum Laude
Barrington, RI

Andrew Robert Marchman
Clyde, OH

Samantha Nicole Mitchell
Solon, OH

Emily Brooke Taylor
Mechanicsburg, OH

Theatre and Dance

Ms. Shih-Ming Li Chang
Associate Professor
Department Chair

Bachelor of Arts

Theodore Scott Graeter
Cincinnati, OH

Kamilla E. Jensen
Hamburg, PA

Daniel Lionell Lofton
Bessemer, AL

Logan Micheal McCord
Chillicothe, OH

Christopher Fred Rivière
Orange, NJ

Olivia Helen Zink
Cum Laude
Springfield, OH

Honorary Organizations

Class of 2019

Presidential Scholar

Kierstin G. Conaway
Anne K. Dowell
Anna E. Fox
Donald C. Hefelfinger
Kelly K. Heitkemper
Lauren C. Hiller
Allison N. Learman
Nathan T. Matthews
Cassie M. McLean
Christian R. Randazzo
Sierra K. Sanchez
Sierra N. Sandy
Karen A. Wildemann

University Honors

Laura M. Bucher
Kierstin G. Conaway
Kimberly G. Estenson
Danielle J. Hurley
Madison N. Krstich
Thomas Kai Leisher
Bradley D. Malott
Clayton E. Marsh
Cassie M. McLean
Hannah C. Reynolds
Heather N. Rucker
Jennifer, E. Ryan
Sierra K. Sanchez
Emma J. Stogsdill
Jessica N. Stormoen
Meagan C. Tanner
Katherine M. Winner

Phi Beta Kappa

Emily G. Darnell
Kelly K. Heitkemper
Allison N. Learman
Samantha D. Martens
Kyla A. McGee
Cassie M. McLean
Christian R. Randazzo
Charles D. Samuel
Sierra K. Sanchez

Alpha Alpha Alpha

Chloe A. Bradburn
Lauren A. Holaday
Brooke E. Markin
Rachel R. Oliver

Alpha Kappa Delta

Chloe A. Bradburn
Emma A. Lyons
Alpha Kappa Delta
Keri B. Pribula
Jessica N. Stormoen
Meagan C. Tanner
Robert G. Wiedeke

Alpha Lambda Delta

Lillian A. Amurgis
Devon P. Atchison
Jacqueline N. Auman
Taylor M. Brown
Laura M. Bucher
Anne E. Carroll
Alexa H. Collins
Kierstin G. Conaway
Abigail H. Crum
Emily G. Darnell
Anne K. Dowell
Gabrielle N. Draginoff
Stephanie M. Durbin
Kimberly G. Estenson
Kristen A. Feigel
Audrey S. Feiler
Megan J. Flaherty
Anna E. Fox
Gabrielle N. Frizzell
Angela M. Galbraith
Kassandra M. Heironimus
Kelly K. Heitkemper
Lauren C. Hiller
Grace A. Huffman
Danielle J. Hurley
Madison N. Krstich
Atolani V. Ladipo
Allison N. Learman
Emma A. Lyons
Madison S. Manger
Samantha D. Martens
Elizabeth M. McCarthy
Kyla A. McGee
Lacey A. McGuire
Cassie M. McLean
Kaitlin N. McMurtrie
Rebecca A. Mitchell
Amber D. Mosbacker
Alison E. Pauley
Micaela C. Pohlabel
Rachel E. Porrello
Keri B. Pribula
Olivia J. Racanelli
Heather N. Rucker
Jennifer E. Ryan
Sierra K. Sanchez
Sierra N. Sandy
Emily L. Sarver
Rebekah M. Sattler
Claudia R. Scully
Emma G. Shehy
Morgan F. Siefert
Jessica N. Stormoen
Meagan C. Tanner
Rebecca L. Towns
Madeleine E. Van Overbeek
Maklayne R. Vitovich
Isabella M. Wagner
Rachel E. Wallace
Samantha M. Watson
Hannah G. Weaver
Olivia R. Wilcox

Karen A. Wildemann
Hayley R. Woodbridge
Olivia H. Zink

Alpha Phi Omega

Gabrielle M. Evans
Kathleen M. Serio
Justin C. Unternaher

Alpha Sigma Lambda

Irene M. Bilal-Engle
Chelsea B. Fischbach
Bryan K. Huffman

Beta Beta Beta

Lillian A. Amurgis
Abigail H. Crum
Donald C. Hefelfinger
Madison S. Manger
Christian R. Randazzo
Charles D. Samuel
Savannah M. Sullivan
Taylor A. Wallrauch

Beta Mu Beta

Keri B. Pribula

Chi Alpha Sigma

Devon P. Atchison
Melissa C. Bernhardt
Troy E. Boucher
Taylor M. Brown
Shannon M. Brueck
Lauren Buelow
James N. Cannell
Abigail H. Crum
Emily G. Darnell
Megan E. Davis
Kyle L. Dieringer
Liam B. Duncan
Christopher E. Eigner
Marshall D. Eippert
Matthew J. Entsminger
Megan J. Flaherty
Michael A. Ford
Donald C. Hefelfinger
Leah G. Hilley
Logan R. Kirby
Madison S. Manger
Kyla A. McGee
Charles A. North
Rachel E. Porrello
Christian R. Randazzo
Charles E. Rodeheffer
Ross C. Russell
Charles D. Samuel
Evan R. Schreiber
Morgan F. Siefert
Madeline E. Stock
Tyler H. Swanson
Hannah G. Weaver
Karen A. Wildemann
Katherine M. Winner

Gamma Sigma Alpha

Stephanie M. Durbin
Clayton E. Marsh
Laney M. Medvescek

Ivy Ring

Devon P. Atchison
Abigail H. Crum
Emily G. Darnell
Kimberly G. Estenson
Lauren C. Hiller
Madison N. Krstich
Allison N. Learman
Madison S. Manger
Samantha D. Martens
Micaela C. Pohlabel
Sierra N. Sandy
Rachel M. Simon
Rebecca L. Towns
Karen A. Wildemann
Katherine M. Winner

Kappa Delta Pi

Kristen A. Feigel
Chelsea B. Fischbach
Gabrielle N. Frizzell
Kayla R. Hall
Brooke E. Markin
Rebecca A. Mitchell
Amber D. Mosbacker
Bethany S. Newell
Kellie I. O'Connor
Sierra N. Sandy
Rachel M. Simon
Hayley R. Woodbridge

Lambda Pi Eta

Audrey S. Feiler
Kai G. Hannum
Lauren C. Hiller
Samantha D. Martens
Christopher F. Riviere
Rachel E. Wallace

Mortar Board

Abigail H. Crum
Logan R. Kirby
Madison N. Krstich
Clayton E. Marsh
Samantha D. Martens
Cassie M. McLean
Kieran J. Mouritsen
Alison E. Pauley
Rachel E. Porrello
Christian R. Randazzo
Heather N. Rucker
Jennifer E. Ryan
Sierra N. Sandy
Morgan F. Siefert
Rachel M. Simon
Madeleine E. Van Overbeek
Taylor A. Wallrauch
Samantha M. Watson

Omicron Delta Epsilon

Thomas K. Leisher
Laura M. Bucher
Abigail H. Crum
Emily G. Darnell
Madison S. Manger
Samantha D. Martens
Kyla A. McGee
Cassie M. McLean
Micaela C. Pohlabel
Rachel E. Porrello
Sierra N. Sandy

Omicron Delta Kappa

Keri B. Pribula
Abigail H. Crum
Micaela C. Pohlabel
Emily G. Darnell
Cassie M. McLean
Rachel E. Porrello
Madison S. Manger
Sierra N. Sandy
Laura M. Bucher
Samantha D. Martens
Kyla A. McGee

Phi Alpha Theta

Irene M. Bilal-Engle
Danielle J. Hurley

Phi Eta Sigma

Marshall D. Eippert
Matthew L. Evans
Alexander P. Hallauer
Shane M. Harris
Johnathon M. Jacobsen
Spencer R. Laughman
Bradley D. Malott
Clayton E. Marsh
Benjamin T. McCarty
Charles A. North
Christian R. Randazzo
Elijah T. Runk
Gilbert A. Rutledge
Charles D. Samuel
Evan R. Schreiber
Jack C. Snider
Joel P. Sotos
Justin C. Unternaher

Pi Mu Epsilon

Alexander P. Hallauer
Kai G. Hannum
Travis D. Hoyt
Neal P. Miller
Amber D. Mosbacker
Hannah G. Weaver

Pi Sigma Alpha

Emily G. Darnell
Jacob A. Dietz
Kyla A. McGee
Charles A. North
Rachel R. Oliver
Madison J. Pangburn
Tyler H. Swanson

Pick-n-Pen

Devon P. Atchison
Abigail H. Crum
Stephanie M. Durbin
Christopher E. Eigner
Kimberly G. Estenson
Leah G. Hilley
Hannah P. Hobby
Madison N. Krstich
Allison N. Learman
Clayton E. Marsh
Samantha D. Martens
Benjamin T. McCarty
Kyla A. McGee
Cassie M. McLean
Micaela C. Pohlabel
Keri B. Pribula
Christian R. Randazzo
Heather N. Rucker
Jennifer E. Ryan
Sierra N. Sandy
Rachel M. Simon
Jessica N. Stormoen
Rebecca L. Towns
Rachel E. Wallace
Samantha M. Watson
Hannah G. Weaver
Olivia R. Wilcox
Karen A. Wildemann
Katherine M. Winner
Hayley R. Woodbridge

Psi Chi

Zacchaeus J. Martin
Cassie M. McLean
Rachel E. Porrello
Meagan C. Tanner
Rebecca L. Towns

Sigma Delta Pi

Chloe A. Bradburn
Allison N. Learman
Christian R. Randazzo

Sigma Tau Delta

Alexis R. Gallion
Samantha D. Martens
Jennifer E. Ryan
Jessica N. Stormoen
Olivia R. Wilcox

Tau Pi Phi

Alexis K. Banaszak
Abigail M. Connell
Rachel M. Danahy
Sean R. Dowling
Maria D. Glassmeyer-Pabon
Andrew J. Jenkins
Kathryn R. Nydegger
Hannah C. Reynolds
Madeleine E. Van Overbeek

The Wittenberg Luther Cap

The red cap worn by Martin Luther while teaching at Germany's Wittenberg University during the Reformation is still being worn by designated persons at what is now the only Wittenberg University in the world – the one in Springfield, Ohio.

The original Wittenberg University, founded in 1502 in a little town in Saxony, provided the sixteenth-century setting for Martin Luther, the man whose reforming activities ultimately led to Protestantism. Wittenberg, writes the German magazine Der Spiegel, was where Luther lived without a break for 35 years prior to his death: "Here he wrote most of his books, here he delivered most of his sermons, here he burned the bull of Pope Leo X that threatened excommunication, here he raised his family."

Luther's Wittenberg University, for many years one of the strongest universities in the world, thrived until 1817, when Saxony became part of Prussia, and the old university was absorbed by the University of Halle. Fewer than 30 years later, a dedicated group of German Lutherans created another Wittenberg on the frontier of a new nation. In 1842 the English Lutheran Synod of Ohio unanimously resolved: "We, now in Synod assembled, do ordain and establish a Literary-Theological Institution." In 1845, the new Wittenberg in Springfield, Ohio, received a charter from the State of Ohio empowering it to "do such acts as may be necessary to [promote] theological and scientific knowledge . . . ."

In September 1959, in honor of the original Wittenberg and the man whose ideas transformed the world, President Clarence C. Stoughton revived the wearing of the red cap worn by Martin Luther. During the sixteenth century, red caps were worn by teachers as a badge of office and as protection from the cold drafts blowing through the halls. Today, complete with ear tabs and made of red velvet, the cap is worn by the President of the University and is given as a presidential award to those receiving honorary degrees and the Medal of Honor from Wittenberg. In a memorable Commencement ceremony, June 15, 1975, the late President Emeritus Clarence Stoughton, in his last public appearance, removed his cap and presented it to President William A. Kinnison, who, in turn, gave it to his successor at Dr. Baird Tipson's inauguration on November 4, 1995.

The cap may also be worn by Wittenberg officials of vice presidential level and above, department chairs, tenured faculty, and delegates appointed by the president to represent him at academic functions such as inaugurations and dedications. Also eligible to wear the cap are Wittenberg alumni who have earned a baccalaureate degree from Wittenberg University and are either of vice presidential rank or above, department chairs, or tenured faculty at a two-, three-, or four-year fully accredited institution of higher education.

Symbols of Learning

The academic procession as seen today is a pageant made colorful by the dress and ceremony inherited from the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries.

The principal features of academic dress are three: the gown, the cap and the hood. To preserve the dignity and the meaning of these features, American universities agreed on a definite system in 1895 and set up a code of academic dress for the colleges and universities of the United States. In 1932 the American Council on Education presented a revised code, which largely governs the style of academic dress used in our country today.

The Gown. The flowing gown comes from the twelfth century. Some think it was worn in olden times as protection against the cold of unheated buildings. It has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers any dress of rank or social standing underneath. Black gowns are acceptable for all institutions, but some universities have adopted optional colors for gowns; for example, Yale, Yale blue; Harvard, crimson; Columbia, light blue; Princeton, black with orange trim. The gown has pointed sleeves for the bachelor's degree; long, closed sleeves for the master's degree with

a slit for the arm; and round, open sleeves for the doctor's degree. For the bachelor's or master's degree the gown has no trimmings. For the doctor's degree it is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves in the color distinctive of the faculty or discipline to which the degree pertains. Some of the colors most frequently seen and the fields they represent are: blue – philosophy; purple – law; green – medicine; yellow – science; light blue – education; red – theology; white – literature and humane letters. The official colors of the college may appear in the gown and its decorations.

The Cap. When Roman law freed the slave, the privilege of wearing a cap was won. And so the academic cap is a sign of the freedom of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as square to symbolize the book, although some authorities claim that the mortarboard is a symbol of the Masons, a privileged guild. The color of the tassel on the cap denotes the discipline.

The Hood. Heraldically the hood is an inverted shield with one or more chevrons of a secondary color on the ground of the primary color of the college. The color of the facing of the hood denotes the discipline represented by the degree; the color of the lining of the hood designates the college by which the degree was granted.

The Cord. The colored cord worn by today's graduates represents membership in their academic discipline's honor society.

The Wittenberg Torch

During today's ceremony, the Class of 2019 will carry on the tradition of celebrating the university's motto, "Having Light We Pass It On To Others." In keeping with the image depicted on the university's official seal as shown on the Commencement program cover, Commencement marks a symbolic passing of the torch from the Class of 2019 to the Class of 2020. The event serves to symbolize the passing of light from one generation to the next, which has defined the Wittenberg experience for 170 years and united alumni across all classes.

Designed and handcrafted by Kenny Lake, retired carpenter foreman from Wittenberg's Physical Plant, at the request of the Class of 2006, the Torch used in today's ceremony is made entirely of walnut with 28 coats of tung oil applied. The flame itself consists of an intricate arrangement of brass, bronze and copper petals, which Ed Charney, professor of art, helped to create.

The Wittenberg Municipal Coat of Arms

The municipal coat of arms of Wittenberg, City of Luther, reflects the city's historical origins and significance. The fortress rising above the blue water symbolizes the medieval walled city on the banks of the river Elbe. (The city's fortifications were removed in 1873.) The silver fish refers to the abundant fishing that was once part of the region's riches. The two shields displayed against the background of the city walls form the crest of the Elector of Saxony, whose court resided at Wittenberg. The yellow and green crest to the right, divided by a garland of heraldic lozenges, symbolic of crowns, represents the ducal house. The crest to the left with the crossed sword represents the office of Imperial Grand Marshal of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, an office held by the Duke of Saxony in his capacity as Elector. (An Elector was one of the princes of the Holy Roman Empire granted the privilege of participating in the election of the Emperor.)

The city's coat of arms is carried in today's procession to symbolize the establishment of formal ties between the city and Wittenberg University in 1993 and as a symbol of the heritage that the city and university share.

A Brief History of Commencement Exercises at Wittenberg

The event of Commencement is an old academic ritual but one that has undergone continuous change at Wittenberg.

Although two students completed the requirements for graduation in 1850, one headed for the California gold fields, and the other, J. F. Mitchell, elected to graduate in 1851. Mitchell's grades enabled him to be the valedictorian of his new class.

Wittenberg's first Commencement in 1851 was held not in May but in September. On Wednesday, September 10, President Samuel Sprecher delivered the baccalaureate sermon in First Lutheran Church. His subject was "The Duties of Educated Men and the Manner in Which They Should Be Performed." On Thursday the literary societies met together in the city hall to hear the first of their annual speakers, The Rev. Edwin H. Nevin, D.D., who spoke on "Faith in God – the Foundation of Individual and National Greatness." On Friday the Commencement exercises were held in the city hall, and each of the eight members of the class delivered an oration and received the A. B. degree. Music was provided by the Independent Sax-Horn Band of Dayton, Ohio, an aggregation that featured the newly invented and, to older listeners, strange-sounding sax-horn.

Respect was paid to students of high academic achievement by enlisting them to deliver the various orations of the Commencement. One could tell the achievements of the top scholars of the class by the assignment given each student in the exercises: the valedictorian, salutatorian, Latin orator, Greek orator, English orator, German orator, etc.

As years passed and the graduating classes grew larger, the student orations grew shorter. Eventually only a select few students spoke. Finally no student spoke at all, and an annual visiting speaker became a formal part of the Commencement exercises. The change was a pleasing one to students. The student literary societies had begun the practice of jointly sponsoring an outside speaker several years earlier in order to bring outside personalities of the students' own choosing to the campus event. The advent of a Commencement speaker thus meant the institutionalizing of the students' desire for a speaker outside the school's normal circle and at the same time freed students from the chore of preparing Commencement addresses. With these changes, however, students became increasingly passive observers at an event in which they once performed the major tasks.

The faculty, graduating class and student body used to meet in the First Lutheran Church, from which they were led by a band from High Street, up Main, then to Market (now Fountain), and then to the old market house, where public Commencement exercises took place. In 1869 this procession was abandoned. Exercises were held in the city hall and later in Black's Opera House and in 1879 were moved to the college grounds. The Class of 1896 sought to add dignity and fame to itself by inaugurating the custom of appearing in caps and gowns. In 1904, at the first Commencement under Dr. Charles G. Heckert, the procession was revived, and faculty, graduates, and other participants processed to the campus hillside for Commencement.

Commencement exercises were held in the Springfield city hall from 1851 to 1868; in Black's Opera House from 1869 to 1878; and in the campus grove, south of Myers Hall and east of Recitation Hall, from 1879 to 1926. Only since 1927 have Commencements been held in Commencement Hollow. In bad weather the event is staged in the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Center.

Today the event is in many ways a collection of private family celebrations. It is yet a collective event of the academic community but one in an era when academic communities are more diverse and fragmented than in an earlier day. The validity of the exercises as a demonstration of student competence, moreover, has long since been superseded by less public measurements and

criteria, and the dimensions of institutional accountability are decidedly different and more complex.

The format and significance with which Commencement will be presented in the years ahead remain to be seen, yet one central factor remains constant. Under the charter of the institution, only the Board of Directors may grant the student the degree which he or she has earned. This is accomplished by issuing a certificate that "authenticates and perpetuates" the student's achievements. The faculty recommends, the Board of Directors confirms, and the President publicly awards the degree, representing the institution's common action. That is the fundamental meaning of Commencement. As an event that focuses attention upon the primary mission of the institution, it will survive in the ritual of academia so long as it emphasizes that essential meaning.

Senior Circle

We thank the members of the Class of 2019 who supported Wittenberg with a gift in honor of their graduation. The Class of 2019 designated their gift to install water bottle refill station across campus, this supports their desire to create a sustainable future for their beloved Wittenberg community. **It's not too late to give to be part of your class gift. Visit www.wittenberg.edu/seniorcircle.**

The Class of 2019

Officers

Ms. Chloe A. Bradburn, President
Ms. Karen A. Wildemann, Vice President
Ms. Kyla A. McGee. Secretary
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Mission Statement

Wittenberg University provides a liberal arts education dedicated to intellectual inquiry and wholeness of person within a diverse residential community. Reflecting its Lutheran heritage, Wittenberg challenges students to become responsible global citizens, to discover their callings, and to lead personal, professional, and civic lives of creativity, service, compassion, and integrity.

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