



2016 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016



SPRING COMMENCEMENT

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DEAR 2016 SPRING GRADUATION CANDIDATES:



Congratulations to you, our newest graduates! We welcome your families and friends who have anticipated this day — this triumph — with immense pride. And we welcome you as our newest alumni.

I'd also like to welcome our Special Recognition Alumni, graduates of the University who were unable to attend their original commencement ceremonies. Some of you were serving our country abroad, while others had personal or professional commitments that kept you from the ultimate celebration of your time at college. We are excited you'll have the opportunity to celebrate with us today, while also exemplifying the success our graduates go on to achieve.

You might have heard that this is MSU Denver's 50th anniversary year, which means that you, our students, have the unique distinction of graduating during our golden anniversary. Having served as president of this incredible institution for 11 years, I know firsthand that many of you have discovered golden opportunities during your time here: a high-quality education guided by professors who care deeply about your personal and professional success.

Since 1965, MSU Denver has evolved from a small, downtown college with only six majors into Colorado's preeminent urban university. Today, we offer 244 degree options across three colleges, including three master's degrees. We have built the Student Success Building, Hotel and Hospitality Learning Center, and our new Regency Athletic Complex was recently honored with a Downtown Denver Award from the Downtown Denver Partnership. We have been recognized nationally for everything from our services for veteran students to the number of Latinos we graduate and our leadership in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education.

And your alma mater is not done yet! In 2017, we will add master's degrees in business administration and health administration and open our Aerospace and Engineering Sciences Building, which will house the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing Sciences with a corresponding undergraduate degree. We're expanding our online offerings as well, including programs that can be pursued exclusively online, like our Master of Social Work and new certificates in health data science and wellness coaching.

We also are making a name for ourselves for developing public-private partnerships that benefit our students and the community. A recent example is our partnership with the internationally known Detroit Institute of Music Education, which allows their students to take our music courses taught by University faculty. We anticipate starting a similar program in Denver and potentially expanding to other cities.

While these are significant achievements that highlight the value of your MSU Denver degree, there is nothing that makes me prouder than what you have accomplished. Please accept my congratulations on joining the more than 85,000 Roadrunner alumni who are transforming their communities and our world!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen M. Jordan".

Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.
President, Metropolitan State University of Denver

MSU DENVER: TRANSFORMING LIVES, COMMUNITIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION

As Metropolitan State University of Denver's 50th anniversary comes to a close, the year's significant accomplishments assure that our transformative educational impact will continue into the future.

Foremost, the 2015-16 academic year saw the College of Business earn accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Only 755 business schools in 51 countries and territories – fewer than 5 percent of the world's business programs – have earned AACSB accreditation, the hallmark of excellence in business education.

Our anniversary also saw on Oct. 8, 2015, the groundbreaking of the University's Aerospace and Engineering Sciences Building, which will house the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing Sciences and an undergraduate degree that integrates STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) disciplines.

While the workforce needs of Colorado's aerospace industry will be met through this new institute, MSU Denver's Hospitality, Tourism and Events Program continues to collaborate with the growing sectors of the state's hospitality industry. A new Beer Industry Operations Program has been added and a degree in Event and Meeting Management will be offered in 2017. Meanwhile, the success of our Hotel and Hospitality Learning Center is unparalleled: The SpringHill Suites Denver Downtown, run in partnership with Sage Hospitality, provides a training ground for our students and was named the No. 1 hotel near the Pepsi Center by USA Today in its "10 Best" list.

Our 50th anniversary year also saw approval of new master's programs in business administration and health administration as well as an innovative partnership with the Detroit Institute of Music Education that will offer DIME students our Music Department's curriculum in performance, songwriting and music entrepreneurship taught by our faculty.

From its opening in 1965 as a high-quality, high-value and yet accessible college with 1,189 students to its evolution into a university with more than 20,000 students, MSU Denver has never lost sight of its promise of transformation for underrepresented and first-generation students. With a 37 percent ethnic-minority student population, MSU Denver overwhelmingly leads Colorado's four-year institutions in diversity. And the University prides itself on having a population that is 32 percent first-generation college students who, after graduation, will help transform their families and communities. We are also proud of our ranking by Military Times as one of the top 50 colleges in the U.S. for veterans in its "Best for Vets: Colleges 2015" report.

MSU Denver will continue as an agent for change and transformation for the next 50 years, creating boundless possibilities for our students, our graduates and Colorado.



MARSHALS

Faculty Marshal

Sheila Rucki, Ph.D.

Faculty and Staff

Assistant Marshals

Bob Amend, M.A.
Sally Baalbaki, Ph.D.
Brian Bagwell, Psy.D.
Shelby Balik, Ph.D.
Sue Barnd, Ed.D.
Darcy Vigneault Beery, M.S.
Philip E. Bernhardt, Ed.D.
Travis Boyd, C.P.A.
Angela Busila, Ph.D.
Bill Carnes, D.M.
Ingrid Carter, Ph.D.
Loretta Chávez, Ph.D.
Gregory Clifton, J.D., L.L.M.
Christopher Cooley, M.S.
Diane E Davis, Ph.D.
Lori Diefenbacher, Ed.S.
Amy Dore, D.H.A.
Amy Eckert, Ph.D., J.D.
Jan Perry Evenstad, Ph.D.
Megan E. Filbin-Wong, Ph.D.
Meg Frisbee, Ph.D.
Jennifer Gagliardi-Seeley, Ph.D.
Ally Garcia, M.A.
Anahi Russo Garrido, Ph.D.
Krista Fiedler Griffin, Ed.D.
Ramon Griffin, Ph.D.
Steve Haigh, B.A.
Jeff Helton, Ph.D.
James Hightshoe, Ph.D.
Deborah Horan, Ph.D.
David W. Jackson III, Ph.D.
Michael B. Jacobs, Ph.D.
Amy Kern, M.I.D.
Michael J. Kolb, Ph.D.
Diana Kurniawan, M.P.H., M.P.A.
Jackson Lamb, M.B.A.
Cynthia Lindquist, Ed.D.
Laura K. Love, M.F.A.
Jean Lundy, Ed.D.
Andrea R. Maestrejuan, Ph.D.
Edgar Maldonado, Ph.D.
Joshua P. Martin, Ph.D.
Alysyn Middleton, M.P.S.
Troy Morgan, M.S.
Ned Muhovich, Ph.D.
Jim Murphy, M.B.A., C.P.A.
Hyon Namgung, Ph.D.
Nhu Nguyen, Ph.D.

Christine Z. J. Noel, Ph.D., C.P.A.
Andrea Peterson, M.T.A.
Tonya L. Porter, M.S.W.
Catherine Reddy
Shelley B. Rohde, Ph.D.
Lori Saiki, Ph.D., R.N.
Carmen H. Sanjurjo, Ed.D.
Susan M. Schelble, Ph.D.
Roland Schendel, Ph.D.
Brandi Scott, M.S.
Corey R. Sell, Ph.D.
Arlene Sgoutas, Ph.D.
Rae Shevalier, Ph.D.
Ted Jinseup Shin, M.F.A.
Ellen Spitler, Ph.D.
Lauren Sullivan, M.A.
Hope Szypulski, N.D.
Kim VanHoosier-Carey, Ph.D.
Cynthia Vannucci, Ph.D.
Helene Ver Eecke, Ph.D.
Nicole Vowles, Ph.D.
Ann Williams, Ph.D.
Kip Wotkyns, M.S.J.
Kathryn Young, Ph.D.

COMMENCEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Stacey DeFore, B.A.
*Director of
Government Relations
and University Events*
Paige Olivier B.S., (2016)
*Assistant, Special Events
and Commencement Activities*
Tiffany Snell, B.S. (2016)
*Assistant, Special Events
and Commencement Activities*
Ingrid Carter, Ph.D.
Sonia Gonzales, B.A.
Cookie Hetzel, Ph.D.
Paul Hitchcock, B.A.
Jamie Hurst, J.D.
Edgar Maldonado, Ph.D.
Troy Morgan, M.S.
Christine Noel, Ph.D.
Brandi Rideout, M.A.
Roland Schendel, Ph.D.
Arlene Sgoutas, Ph.D.
Hope Szypulski, N.D.
Ann Williams, Ph.D.
Lorri Wray, B.S.
Ed Zarate

EMERITUS AWARDS

Bruce J. Degi, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus of English
George Donovan, Ph.D.
*Professor Emeritus
of Mathematics*
Elsie G. Haley, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus of English
Lynn L. Kaersvang, M.S.W.
*Professor Emeritus
of Social Work*
James T. Loats, Ph.D.
*Professor Emeritus
of Mathematics*
Sheldon Steinhauser, B.S.
*Associate Professor
Emeritus of Sociology*
Leslie A. Swetnam, Ph.D.
*Professor Emeritus of
Elementary Education
and Literacy*
Mary Ann Watson, Ph.D.
*Professor Emeritus
of Psychology*
Milton J. Wieder, Ph.D.
*Professor Emeritus
of Chemistry*

RETIREES

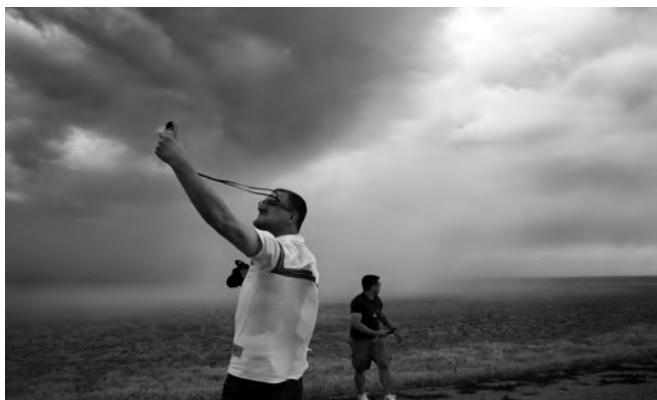
Barbara Barclay, Ph.D.
*Assistant Professor
of Social Work*
R. William Baxendale, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology
Dianna Blea-Hernandez
*Administrative Assistant 3,
Department of Computer
Information Systems*
Virginia Cruz, D.S.W.
*Associate Professor
of Social Work*
Scott DeMuro, Ph.D.
*Associate Professor
of Human Services*
George Donovan, Ph.D.
Professor of Mathematics
Jean Ethredge, M.S.
*Director, Mathematics
Peer Study Program*
Gail Garcia
*Program Generalist,
Department of
Political Science*

Debbie Hendricks, M.Ed.
*Head Women's Volleyball
Coach, M.Ed.*
Gregori Reed, M.S.
*Director, Alternative Teacher
Licensure Program*



IN MEMORIAM

Linda White, M.D.
*Lecturer of
Health Professions*



MSU DENVER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Michelle M. Lucero, J.D.
Chair
John (Jack) Pogge, J.D.
Vice Chair
Elaine Gantz Berman, M.S.P.H.
Hon. Terrance Carroll, J.D.
Wendy Dominguez, M.B.A.
Barbara Grogan, B.A.
William (Bill) Hanzlik, B.S.
Walter Isenberg, B.S.
William Jeffrey Shoemaker, B.A.
Kenneth Bisio, M.F.A.
Faculty Trustee
Maria Garibay Campos, B.S.
Student Trustee
Judy George, B.S.
Alumni Trustee



ACADEMIC REGALIA

Academic attire is modeled after monks' clothing from the Middle Ages, when college faculty and students were members of religious orders. In England, the faculty of many colleges and universities still wears gowns, hoods and caps in the classroom.

In the early 20th century, colleges and universities throughout the world adopted guidelines for the design and colors of academic regalia. An institution may design and register special attire for its administrators and graduates, but it must conform to certain standards. Once registered, the design and color combination may not be duplicated by other institutions.

The bachelor's gown is most often black and has long sleeves that taper to a point in the back. It is always worn closed.

The gown signifying the master's degree also is usually black, but may be worn open or closed. It features oblong sleeves that hang below the wrist, tapering to a square cut with a cutaway arc.

Although usually black, the doctoral gown is sometimes seen in colors – often gold, purple, blue or red. The gown may be worn open or closed. The opening of the gown is faced with velvet, and three velvet chevrons run across its bell-shaped sleeves. The velvet facing and chevrons may be black or the color representing the graduate's field of study.

The hood varies in length and shape according to the degree it represents: the shortest and smallest signifies a bachelor's degree, and the longest and widest signifies a doctoral degree. The velvet bordering the hood represents the graduate's field of study.

The satin lining of the hood, each a specific design, represents the college or university at which the individual earned his or her degree.

The Oxford cap, or mortarboard as it is better known, completes the attire. Those holding graduate degrees usually wear black tassels on the Oxford cap, but those holding doctoral degrees may wear tassels of gold thread and may also elect to wear a four-sided or eight-sided velvet tam instead of the Oxford cap. Some universities have designated the Cambridge cap – a large, soft beret – for their administrators and those who have earned a doctoral degree at that institution.

At MSU Denver, bachelor's candidates wear colored tassels on the Oxford cap to represent the academic department from which they earned their degrees. Master's candidates wear a hood with the representative color.

In addition to his academic regalia, President Stephen M. Jordan wears the University's chain of office, a visible symbol of his authority as the institution's leader.



ACADEMIC COLORS

Master's Degree Hood Colors

Business (M.P.Acc.) – *Drab*

Social Work (M.S.W.) – *Citron*

Education (M.A.T.) – *Light blue*

Bachelor's Degree Tassel Colors

College of Business – *Drab*

College of Letters, Arts and Sciences –
White

College of Professional Studies –
Peacock blue

School of Education – *Light blue*

Academic Distinction

You will notice graduation candidates who are wearing one or more cords, stoles or medallions of various colors or designs around the neck of their gowns to represent high academic achievement.

Summa Cum Laude (with highest praise) –
Gold and blue cord

Magna Cum Laude (with great praise) –
Silver and blue cord

Cum Laude (with praise) – *Bronze and blue cord*

Honors Program – *Gray cord*

MSU Denver encourages students to enroll in and complete its Honors Program, an especially rigorous course of interdisciplinary study that complements their major and minor degree requirements.



Honor Societies

Delta Alpha Pi (Individuals with Disabilities) – *Gold cord and a gold pin*

Delta Gamma Xi (Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society) –
Navy blue and gold cords

Delta Phi Alpha (German Language, Literature and Civilization) – *Black, red and gold cords*

Golden Key (All-University International Honour Society) – *Gold cord*

Iota Iota Iota (Women's Studies) – *Lavender cord; graduating officers also wear a medallion with a gold ribbon*

Lambda Pi Eta (Communications) –
Red, white and gold cords

National Society of Collegiate Scholars –
Golden and burgundy cords tied together. One of the cords has a circular gold medallion with a center torch that has a torch within it, a book underneath it, three stars above it and a laurel wreath facing upward at its base. Surrounding the wreath, torch and stars are the words “The National Society of Collegiate Scholars.”

Phi Alpha Epsilon Lambda (Social Work) –
Blue and gold cords

Phi Alpha Theta (History) – *Red and blue cords*

Phi Sigma Iota (Modern Foreign Languages) – *Purple and white cords*

Psi Chi (Psychology) – *Double gold cords with tassels of blue and gold*

Sigma Alpha Pi (Leadership and Success) –
Black and platinum cords

Sigma Tau Delta (English) – *Red and black cords; members with special distinction in scholarship wear a black and gold medallion with the Greek letters STD hanging from a maroon neck ribbon*

Tau Upsilon Alpha (Human Services) – *Gold satin stole with royal blue Greek letters TUA, with the chapter name Iota*

PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENT



Jennifer Nava Bello

Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages (Spanish) with Elementary Education Licensure, Summa Cum Laude

Jennifer Nava Bello almost gave up.

She had come to a crossroads, one of those moments that define a life. She'd already been through years of "abuse, tears and failure," and now her husband had abandoned her with two young children. She had no roof over her head and couldn't see a way forward.

"I was in a dark place," Nava Bello recalls, "but I saw an opportunity to become something better, not only for myself,

but for my children. Metropolitan State University of Denver offered me a chance to start over, and going to school changed who I am."

Nava Bello blossomed at MSU Denver. She majored in modern languages with an emphasis in Spanish and took a minor in elementary education with licensure. She attacked her classwork like someone who understands the value of a second chance, resulting in a perfect 4.0 GPA.

But her stellar grades only tell part of the story. "My GPA is more than just a number," she says. "It represents my drive, passion and commitment to becoming the best I can be. Each 'A' represents hours of hard work. Yet with every hour, I knew I was becoming a better student, a better learner and, most importantly, a better member of my community."

After graduation, Nava Bello plans to make an impact on her community as a fifth or sixth grade teacher.

Associate Professor of Spanish Maria Rey-Lopez, Ph.D. is excited by what her pupil will bring to the classroom.

"... I know she will become a role model for future generations," Rey-Lopez wrote in her recommendation letter. "She will not only be an example of professionalism, but also an example of an exceptional human being. She will awake in her students a passion for learning and studying, a passion for life, which has been and will be her personal and unique gift for all of us."

After Nava Bello finishes her student-teaching assignment at Little Elementary in Arvada, she hopes to work at a school where most students speak Spanish, believing her language skills will allow her to connect on a deeper level with those students and their families.

Her long-term goal is to earn master's and doctoral degrees and teach at the college level where she feels she can have an even greater impact by educating the next generation of teachers. But for now, she is excited about the prospect of continuing in an elementary school classroom.

Nava Bello's message is one she thinks can be very valuable to students.

"I come from a background that gave me every excuse to give up, but I didn't. Life can be challenging, but despite everything you go through, you can rise above it."

MORNING CEREMONY PROGRAM

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SCIENCES

Processional

Pomp and Circumstance, Op. 39, No. 1 Sir Edward Elgar
(Please stand for the procession)

Boulder Brass
Michael Hengst, D.M.A., Assistant Professor of Music, Conductor

Star-Spangled Banner Francis Scott Key

Chad J. Rendon-Thofson, Tenor, Graduating Music Performance Major
Boulder Brass
Michael Hengst, D.M.A, Assistant Professor of Music, Conductor

Amazing Grace John Newton

Francisca Leilani Mayo, Cello, Graduating Music Performance Major

Call to Order Sheila Rucki, Ph.D.
President, Faculty Senate

Presidential Greetings Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.
(Special 50th Anniversary Alumni Recognition)
President

Introduction of the President's Award Recipient Joan L. Foster, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Remarks from the Spring Class of 2016 Jennifer Nava Bello
President's Award Recipient, Graduating Modern Languages Major

Presentation of Candidates Vicki Golich, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Conferring of Master's Degrees Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.

Presentation of Diplomas
School of Education Elizabeth R. Hinde, Ed.D.
Dean
College of Letters, Arts and Sciences Joan L. Foster, Ph.D.

Conferring of Bachelor's Degrees Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.

Presentation of Diplomas
School of Education Elizabeth R. Hinde, Ed.D.
College of Letters, Arts and Sciences Joan L. Foster, Ph.D.

Introduction of Candidates Marilyn A. Hetzel, Ph.D.
Chair and Professor, Department of Theatre
Scott Lubinski, M.F.A.
Associate Professor, Department of Theatre
Gene Roberts, M.M.
Assistant Professor, Department of Music
Bradley Thompson, D.M.A.
Assistant Professor, Department of Music

Tassel Ceremony Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.

Closing Ceremony Sheila Rucki, Ph.D.

Recessional

*Interpreters for People who are Hearing Impaired:
Michelle Gardner and Leora Rosenbaum*

GRADUATION CANDIDATES

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SCIENCES

Master's Candidates

School of Education

Master of Arts in Teaching

- * Nathaniel Larelle Bailey
- * Michealle Lee Brown
- * Jessica J. Bush
- * Emily Joan Cousins
- * Jennifer L. DeLorenzo
- * Farah Marie Anne Ferdows
- * Kimberly Jane Geer
- * Jeanne Ann Gregory
- * Tracy Maria Grove
- * Andrea Rose Harbaugh
- * Rebecca Nola Hirsch
- * Vera Anastasia Jackson
- * Jeremiah J. Johnson
- * Rachael Elizabeth Johnson
- * Nicole Logan
- * Cathleen A. Loughry
- * April Dawn Luna
- * Rebecca M. Maiolo
- * Tara Susan Matos
- * Lindsey Kae McCormick
- * Gabrielle Jovana Montoya
- * Tessa Kristine Murphy
- * Andrew Perez
- * Molly Elizabeth Perkins
- * Cierra L. Qui
- * Elaine Rose Reisman
- * Kaitlyn E. Rosenberg Main
- * Anne Lundahl Swanson
- * Kelli Ann Walter
- * Alyson M. Wells
- * Christopher L. Wenholz
- * Colter Dean Wiggins
- * Bridget G. Zito

College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Master of Social Work

- Kylee Lynn Adolfson
- Connie Louise Albright
- Maurice T. Anderson
- Danielle Ansted
- Estefania Munoz Barrios
- Travis Michael Berry
- David Solomon Blank
- Tara Fisher Boersma
- Teri Lynn Bokn
- Sarah Anne Booth
- Nohemi Elizabeth Burciaga
- Laura Burkhardt
- Charles Robert Buteyn

- Jessica Marie Calderon
- Ryan Benjamin Catz
- Mayra Alejandra Ceja
- Karen Renee Cotta
- Emily Lynn Cutting
- Jessica Marie Davie
- Kimberly M. Davis
- Jaclyn Isabella DeLong
- Jessica Anne Dyrud
- Don F. Emmerich Jr.
- Roxane Dawn Falsetto
- Mari Elizabeth Foster
- McKenzie Leigh Gunderson
- Bridget Blanning Hand
- Paula Mary Harvey
- Maria Charlotte Hayes
- Jillian Elizabeth Heckman
- Leah Loren Heil
- Kaise Justine Holen
- Isable M. Hughes
- Samantha I. Hughes
- James Warren Jackson
- Katelyn Jones
- Katherine Sloane Kerkmans
- Ainslie Karl Kopperud
- Blake Arthur Lohman
- Margaret Elizabeth Lowery
- Casey Lucarelli
- Caitlin Moran Lull
- Cailun Shayne McCullough
- Molly Kathleen McDonald
- Keelan Lee McFall
- Angela Gayle Miller
- Robin Lynn Munro
- Adam Michael Nowicki
- Kyle James O'Neill
- Ryan Allan Plourde
- Abigail Guajardo Quane
- Mara Kathleen Race
- Janet M. Reichart
- Anne Louise Reinking
- Katherine Evelyn Reitan
- Mairi Alane Risner
- Madison Waite Ronzio
- Erica Paige Rutherford
- Erica Lynn Rzasa
- Marque Anne Schulte
- Kelsey Elaine Schwartz
- Tina Jean Schwingler
- Brandi A. Silva
- Rachel Elizabeth Smith
- Kirsten Michelle Spielmann
- Andrea Fischer Steinberg
- Dayshun Stevens
- Travis Scott Stickney
- Christina Suarez
- April Hana Sugimoto
- Marquis Tate

- Lindsay Paige Taylor
- Ian Michael Tolar
- Cynthia K. Transmeier
- Bryson James Trujillo
- Jamie Helene Villemonte
- Emily J. White
- Jalisa LaTrice Williams
- Jordan Alexandra Wolff
- Rachel Yoon Hee Yager
- Christina Gonzalez Yanez
- Trevor John Zarnowski

Baccalaureate Candidates

School of Education

Special Education, Early Childhood, and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education

- * Chelsea Ann Dowdell
- * Kayla Rae Druse
- * Maegan Elizabeth Hainey
- * Catherine E. LaFlamme
- * Timothy Scott McCormack
- * Nicole Allyse Prokaski
- * Ziva Razumovski
- * Dominique Saindon
- * Kelly Brianna Sheridan
- * Kyle D. Summers

College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Africana Studies

- Samrawit Alemayehu
- Jamil A. Shabazz
- * Ashley Denae Shorten

Art

- Britney Lee Abbott
- Joshua Williams Adams
- April F. Anderson
- Susan Elizabeth Austgen
- Edward Ayala Jr.
- Namuun Baatarjav
- Nathan Eugene Balfour
- Sara Michelle Bredengerd
- Marc Addison Brown
- Steven Leroy Calvert
- Steven H. Mackenzie Campbell
- Francisco Manuel Castro
- Heather Kristine Bieber Chabot
- Cedric Alessandro Chambers
- Bridgit M. Coffman
- Allison Copeland

Lila Loomis Creighton
Kevin William Cruwys
Brandee Peach Dance
Alanna Marie Danielson
Paul Hans Davis
Nicholas David Delgado
Elizabeth Eckerdt
Alyssa LeAnn Edmunds
Kaylie Sook Enders
Lora L. Groff
Samantha Leigh Haviland
Hannah Nicole Herbold
Mark Lawrence Hickox
Melissa Renee Hoff
Amber Marie Huether
Christina M. John
Lucy Elizabeth Karuzas
Caryn Elizabeth Keffer
Lisa Marie Keith
Xavian Mitchell Lahey
Bryon Garrett Lawrenz
Angel Lopez
Adria C. Marino
Bethany Ann Masterson
Cynthia Ann Garcia McBride
Brittany LeeAnn McDonald
Caitlin Rose McGraw
David Michael Nall
Kevin William Norris
Katie Ann Oakley
Kristin Leigh Olson
Kyle Alexander O'Neill
Ashley Victoria Ortiz
Christina Jane Parsons
Westley G. Post
Kayla M. Purcell
Alysa Renee Quintana
Evonna Victoria Ramirez
Ronald Neil Reeves
Kevin Daniel Roysden
Macarena Salazar
Brandon Nathaniel Sexton
Brianna Thorsen
Jack M. Tolmachoff
Brittney Kay VerBerkmoes
Ashley Rene Votaw
Brianna Raylynn Walker
Nancy E. Yu

Biology

Winta Makele Abraham
Maxwell Roy Adams-Berger
Miranda Trevorre Alcorn
Melissa E. Amador
Lauren Ashley Arellano
Jessica Lee Backhus
Mi J. Baek
Laura Athelle Baldridge
Nolan Lucas Beauvais
Emily Anne Berger
Jennifer M. Breit
Trent Allen Brown
Eden Christine Burch

Krista Marie Burney
Sara Bustos
Selyce E. Bynes
Heidi Rae Clark
Kristen Claussen
Andrew Jamison Cloyd
Clarence Levi Coleman
Kaitlyn Nicole Cook
Chandler Rochelle Coon
Jordan ND Cooper
Kimberly Crenella
Mary Ellen Culkin
Laura Anne Cymansky
Baniaha Randolph Dailey
Christopher R. D'Arcy
Arielle Dening
Robin Marie DeVries
Amanda M. Dress
Thomas Zeno Duff
David Louis DuMoulin
Claudia Marie Fanning
Chelsie Marie Fear
Kasi Mae Garcia
Viviana Garcia
Taylor Salvatore Giarritano
Jose Alejandro Parra Gonzalez
Tiffany Fern Greer
Hayley Ann Griffen
Deisy Valeria Grijalva
Enrique Grimaldo Gomez
Lindsay Hagel
Stesha Lee Hall
Maretta Eve Hamman
Whitney Elizabeth Hawkins
Elizabeth Ashley Hedrick
Gerica Anne Helton
Ted Menne Heron
Brandi Nicole Holland
Suan Hong
Rose Adriana Hosp
Niko Joseph Hubbart
Christopher James Johnson
Nitacia Evelyn Joseph
Alexander Robert Kelley
Alexzander Kelly
Warren T. Keyser
Daniel Elias Kissinger
Brendan J. Kosovich
Catherine M. Laird
Branden Sudar Lane
Ashley Langley
Vivian Le
Maria Raquel Lerma
Joyce Lyn Levis
Heeyae Jennifer Lim
Lianne Malia Lorenzo
Terrin Lacy Manes
Nicole M. Mariniello
Ricky Lee Martinez
Alexandria Nichole Martini
Samuel Joseph Matthews
Kirsten Esther Mayer
Rayshon McClain
Madison Elizabeth McDonnell
Sarah Ann McEnany
Kristin Alexandra Michalski
Maureen Catreanna Morton
Sarah Elizabeth Mugharbil
Rylan James Neilsen
Kyle J. Nolan
Kathleen A. O'Malley
Zahra Ouasmine
Emily Paolo
Rhianon Passmore
Joshua Abram Pedrick
Nguyet Minh Phung
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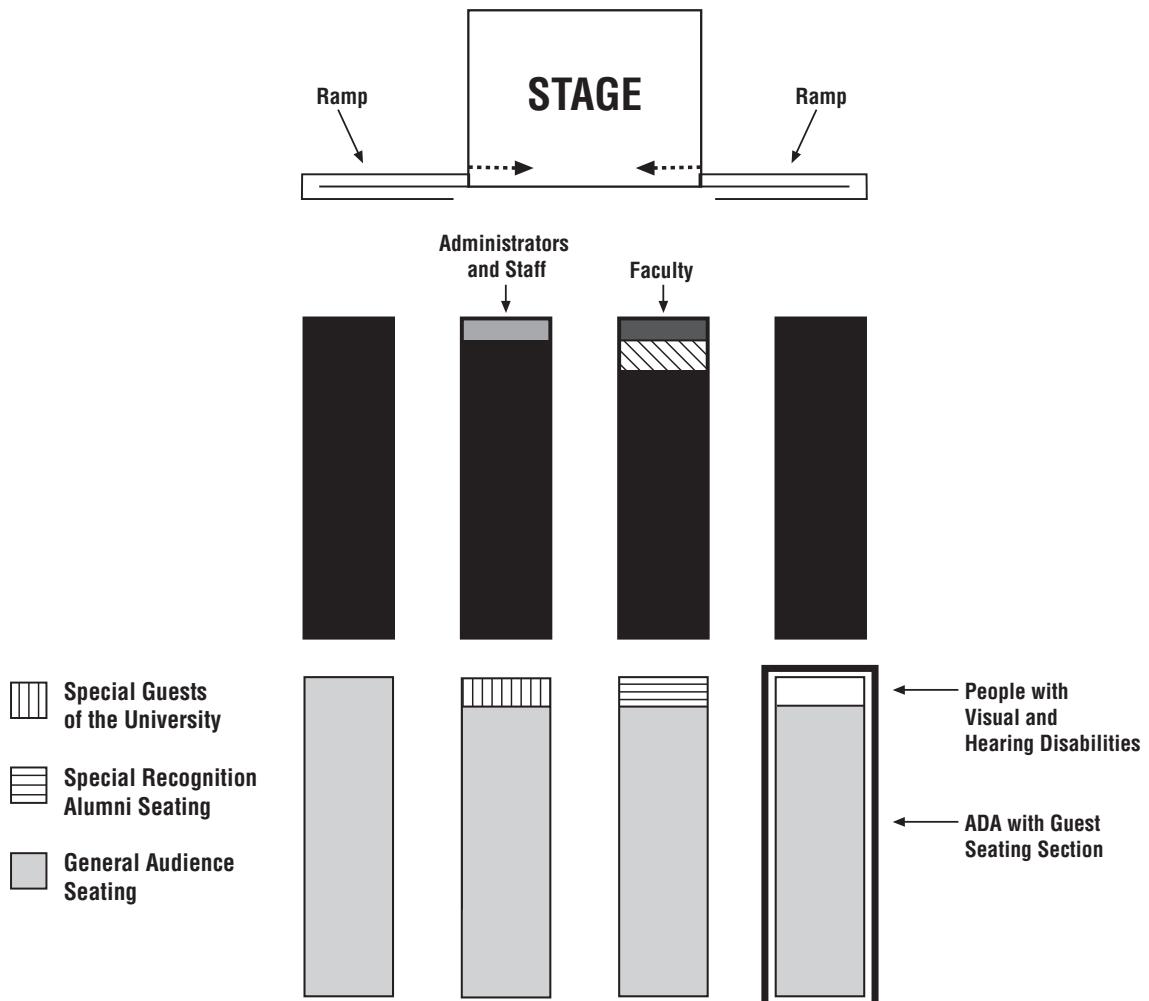
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Yesenia Meza Caldera
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Elizabeth A. Sanchez
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Jessica Louise Stackpool



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Master of Arts in Teaching
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Diverse Education

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Master of Social Work	Modern Languages
Africana Studies	Music
Art	Philosophy
Biology	Physics
Chemistry	Political Science
Chicana and Chicano Studies	Psychology
Communication Arts and Sciences	Social Work
Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	Sociology, Anthropology and Behavioral Sciences
English	Theatre
History	Women's Studies
Individualized Degree Program	
Mathematical and Computer Sciences	

PROVOST'S AWARD RECIPIENT



Jennifer A. Sands
Bachelor of Science in Health Care Management
with a Minor in Accounting, Summa Cum Laude

How does one succeed in college while raising seven children, working full time and struggling with deafness in both ears?

For Jennifer Ann-Marie Sands, a first-generation college student, it came down to determination.

"When I set a goal, I don't let anything sidetrack me," she says. "I'm a very determined person. I'll admit there were some tears, and not much sleep, but I wasn't going to let anything stop me."

And nothing did. In fact, Sands finished her degree early. She completed the program in two years and nine months, twice requesting special approval to take more than the maximum of 18 credits per semester. And she still managed to keep a 3.95 GPA and graduate Summa Cum Laude.

Beyond her academic achievements, Sands is active in several student groups, serving in leadership roles as president of the Health Care Executives Club and vice president of graduate relations for the Golden Key International Honour Society.

She also works full time at a physical therapy clinic, where she spends half of her week as an intern and the other half as a regular employee. And she still finds time to volunteer in the community as well with the March of Dimes, several Parent Teacher Organizations and others.

How does Sands balance all of this?

Her secret weapon is a great support system. She credits her family, in particular, for helping her achieve her goals.

"This is not just my accomplishment," she says. "It's my family's accomplishment. I couldn't have done it without a very supportive husband, amazing parents and my kids helping along the way."

Sands takes on her next big challenge this fall, when she begins graduate school. She'll study accounting with an emphasis in fraud detection. After her master's degree, she plans to test for the Certified Fraud Examiner certification in hopes of one day becoming a health-care fraud investigator, perhaps with the FBI.

Sands targeted this field from the beginning of her studies at MSU Denver in 2013. She felt that it would give her the opportunity to use five years of accounting skills from a past job and apply them in the growing field of health care. She hopes that tackling health-care fraud issues will make a significant impact on people's lives.

For now, despite some urgency to get her career started, Sands is trying to enjoy the major milestone that is graduation. She brought a large contingent of people to the ceremony to celebrate, and confesses that the achievement will be a little sweeter enjoyed among family and friends – the people who understand what she has overcome to get here and who supported her on the road to success.

AFTERNOON CEREMONY PROGRAM

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Processional

Pomp and Circumstance, Op. 39, No. 1 Sir Edward Elgar
(Please stand for the procession)

Boulder Brass
Michael Hengst, D.M.A., Assistant Professor of Music, Conductor

Star-Spangled Banner Francis Scott Key

Gina Bauzá, Soprano, Graduating Music Performance Major

Boulder Brass

Michael Hengst, D.M.A., Assistant Professor of Music, Conductor

Amazing Grace John Newton

Stuart Fahie, Flute, Graduating Music Performance Major

Call to Order Sheila Rucki, Ph.D.
President, Faculty Senate

Presidential Greetings Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.
(Special 50th Anniversary Alumni Recognition)
President

Introduction of the Provost's Award Recipient Sandra Haynes, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Professional Studies

Remarks from the Spring Class of 2016 Jennifer A. Sands
Provost's Award Recipient, Graduating Health Care Management Major

Presentation of Candidates Vicki Golich, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Conferring of Master's Degrees Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.

Presentation of Diplomas
College of Business Ann Murphy, Ph.D.
Dean

Conferring of Bachelor's Degrees Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D.

Presentation of Diplomas
College of Business Ann Murphy, Ph.D.
College of Professional Studies Sandra Haynes, Ph.D.

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▲ Kolby Weber
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Nutrition

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◆ Maria Arredondo
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★ Maggie N. Brown
Seth Burton Carnahan
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Nicole Lynnette Curnow
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◆ Allison Shea Fedders
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◆ Donna Marie Fell
Allison Christina Fields
Natalie Teresa Gallegos
Vince John Gilliland
Veronica Grengs
Kimberly A. Grieve
Timi Irene Grulke

GRADUATION CANDIDATES

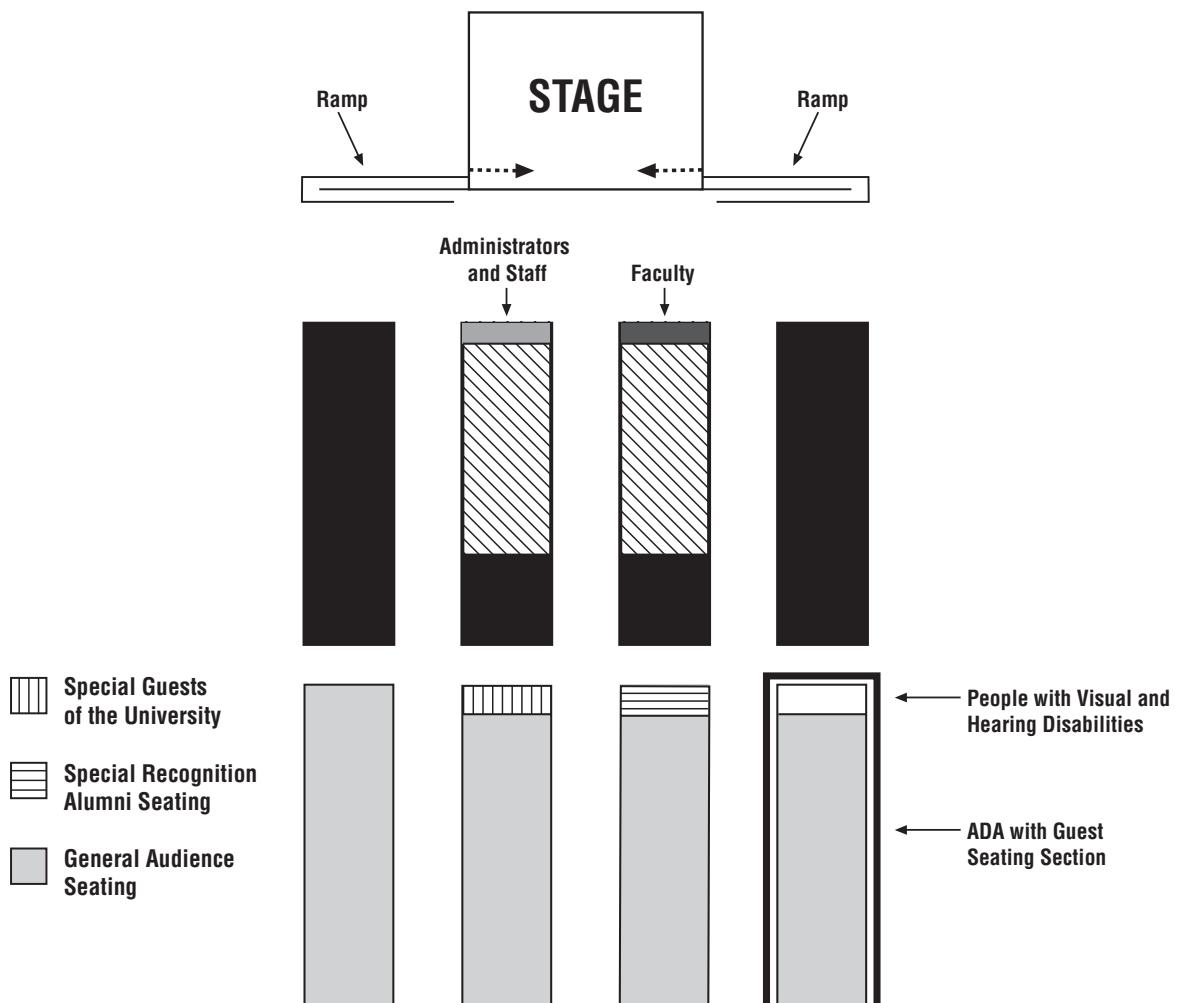
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◆ Jessica Ellen Keller
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◆ Carolyn Ann Wahl
Kristin H. Zimmerman



AFTERNOON CEREMONY SEATING DIAGRAM

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

- Master of Professional Accountancy
- Accounting
- Computer Information Systems
- Economics
- Finance
- Management
- Marketing



COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

- Aviation and Aerospace Science
- Criminal Justice and Criminology
- Engineering Technology
- Health Professions
- Hospitality, Tourism and Events
- Human Performance and Sport
- Human Services
- Industrial Design
- Journalism and Technical Communication
- Nursing
- Nutrition

