

2020 Fall Commencement Penn State Beaver

Saturday, December 19, 2020

Message from Jenifer S. Cushman, Ph.D.
Penn State Beaver Chancellor

Congratulations, graduates! On behalf of Penn State Beaver, it is my pleasure to extend to you our best wishes. Be proud of yourself and your degree because we are proud of each of you. We know you will enjoy the fruits of your hard work, dedication, and resilience. You are now a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University.

Each of you must follow your own path. Yet, during your time at Penn State Beaver, your paths converged, and you journeyed together in a shared experience. Your memories and friendships will remain long after you leave our campus.

These last semesters have challenged you in ways that were certainly unanticipated. But you adapted and prevailed. You did not allow adversity to prevent you from reaching your goals. You will find the ability to adapt to change and overcome adversity to be valuable in all of your future endeavors.

Thank you for choosing Penn State Beaver. We truly appreciate everything each of you has contributed to our campus over the years. It has been a privilege to have you here, to educate you, to serve you, and to prepare you for your future.

We wish you all the best of luck and success in all you do. Again, congratulations, and our very best wishes.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE University College

Candidates will be presented by Jodi Gill, B.S., J.D., Ed.S., M.C.J.
Lecturer in Administration of Justice

Christopher Carnot

Darrion Gilmore

Nicholas Loniero

BUSINESS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE University College

Candidates will be presented by Talha Harcar, B.S., M.S., M.B.A., Ph.D.,
Professor of Marketing

Zachary Barth

Cody Campbell

Shane Cepull

Luis Cheng

Robin Smith

Nigel Truong

COMMUNICATIONS BACHELOR OF ARTS University College

Candidates will be presented by John Chapin, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Professor of Communications

Spencer Myers

Matthew Palahunik

Antonia Rotuna

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING BACHELOR OF SCIENCE University College

Candidate will be presented by James Hendrickson, B.S., M.S., P.E.,
Assistant Teaching Professor of Engineering

Aidan Weis

INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
University College

Candidates will be presented by Stephen Kanicki, B.A., B.S., M.S.,
Lecturer in Information Sciences and Technology

Jazmine Brown

Patrick Byers*

Logan Gibbons

Jackson Glenn

John Kazmierczyk

Jordan Seacord

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MICHAEL LINCHECK

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Assistant Treasurer, Eat'n Park Hospitality Group

KELLY SHERBONDY

Acting Sensors Division Chief, SEDD

United States Government – US Army Research Lab

THOMAS TRZCINSKI

Owner/President, Kitchen & Bath Concepts

LEW VILLOTTI

President, Beaver County Corporation for Economic Development

DAVID WALKER

Lockheed Martin Fellow, Lockheed Martin

LINDSAY WHITMORE

Project Controls – Field Lead Planner, Bechtel

FULL-TIME FACULTY

Haifa Abulaiha, B.S., M.S., *Lecturer in Engineering*
Karen Barr, B.S., M.B.A., *Assistant Teaching Professor of Business*
Kevin Bennett, B.A., M.S., Ph.D., *Teaching Professor of Psychology*
Robin Bower, B.A., M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Spanish*
Yi-An Burleson, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Psychology*
Amy Camodeca, B.A., M.S., Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Psychology*
John Chapin, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., *Professor of Communications*
Zhongyuan Che, *Associate Professor of Mathematics*
Baizhou Chen, B.S., M.B.A., Ph.D., *Assistant Teaching Professor of Accounting*
Angela Fishman, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., *Associate Teaching Professor of Mathematics*
Jodi Gill, B.S., J.D., Ed.S., M.C.J., *Lecturer in Administration of Justice*
Talha Harcar, B.S., M.S., M.B.A., Ph.D., *Professor of Marketing*
Michael Hay, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Chemistry*
James Hendrickson, B.S., M.S., P.E., *Assistant Teaching Professor of Engineering*
Stephen Kanicki, B.A., B.S., M.S., *Lecturer in Information Sciences and Technology*
Ashu Kumar, B.S., M.B.A., *Lecturer in Information Sciences and Technology*
Michelle Kurtyka, B.S., M.Ed., *Assistant Teaching Professor of Kinesiology*
Tiffany MacQuarrie, B.S., M.A., M.S., *Assistant Teaching Professor of English*
Cassandra Miller-Butterworth, B.S., Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Biology*
Rajen Mookerjee, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., *Professor of Economics*
Sarah Nilson, B.S., B.A., Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Biology*
Kristen Olson, B.A., A.L.M., M.A., Ph.D., *Associate Professor of English*
Stephanie Petroski, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., *Assistant Teaching Professor of Biology*
Mari Pierce, B.A., MCJ., Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Administration of Justice*
Autumn Sabo, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Biology*
Daniel Smith, B.A., M.S., *Assistant Teaching Professor of Business*
Juliette Storr, B.A., M.S., Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Communications*
Leo Takahashi, B.A., M.A., *Assistant Professor of Physics*
Claudia Tanaskovic, M.S., *Assistant Teaching Professor of Chemistry*
Keith Willson, B.S., M.S., M.S., Ph.D., *Assistant Teaching Professor of Physics*
Irene Wolf, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., *Associate Teaching Professor of Philosophy*
Chuntao C. Wu, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D., *Professor of Mathematics*

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Fahmida Amin, B.S., M.S., *Instructor in Geosciences*
Laurie Barnes, B.F.A., M.F.A., *Instructor in Art*
Melissa Bender, B.A., M.S., *Instructor in Kinesiology*
Cathy Benscoter, B.A., M.S., *Instructor in Communications*
Zachary Bowen, B.A., M.A., *Instructor in History*
Kerry Cramer, B.S., M.Ed., *Instructor in Nutrition*
Walter Elder, B.S., M.A., *Instructor in Mathematics*
David Failor, B.S., M.B.A., *Instructor in Information Sciences and Technology*
Amy Fazio, B.A., M.A., *Instructor in Civic and Community Engagement*
Sarah Ford-Richards, B.A., B.S., M.A., *Instructor in History*
Janet Harding, B.S., M.Ed., Ph.D., *Instructor in Mathematics*
Lauren Harter, B.A., B.S., M.A.Ed., *Instructor in Information Sciences and Technology*
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Jack Hilfinger, B.S., M.S., *Instructor in Kinesiology*
April Johnston-Smith, B.A., M.F.A., *Instructor in Communications*
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Kim McClymonds, B.A., M.A., *Instructor in Religious Studies*
Kevin McDade, B.S., M.S., Ph.D., *Instructor in Biology*
Sarah McMahan, B.A., M.F.A., *Instructor in Art*
Maxine Neiberg, B.A., M.A., Ed.D., *Instructor in Anthropology*
Kristin Oberg, B.A., M.A., *Instructor in English*
Hilary O'Toole, B.A., M.S., *Instructor in Communications*
Athena Pangikas-Miller, B.A., M.A., *Instructor in English*
John Pena, B.F.A., M.F.A., *Instructor in Art*
Daniel Pinchot, B.A., M.Ed., *Instructor in Communications*
Todd Price, B.A., M.S., M.B.A., Ph.D., *Instructor in Information Sciences and Technology*
Debra Roach, B.S., M.B.A., Ph.D., *Instructor in Business*
Crista Sabo, B.A., M.A.Ed., *Instructor in Mathematics*
Brenda Schultz, B.S., M.A., *Instructor in Psychology*
Donald Sedlacek, B.S., M.S., *Instructor in Criminal Justice*
Audra Stanton, B.S., M.D., *Instructor in Biology*
Douglas Starr, B.M., M.M., D.M.A., *Instructor in Music*
Matthew Thomas, B.A., M.A., *Instructor in English*
Tracy Toooh, B.A., M.Ed., *Instructor in Communications*
James Vanaman, B.A., M.A., *Instructor in Spanish*
Rand Warsaw, B.A., M.S., M.B.A., *Instructor in Mathematics*
Frank Zaffino, B.A., M.I.A., *Instructor in Information Sciences and Technology*

ADMINISTRATION

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Director of Business and Finance

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Director of Continuing Education

PROGRAM NOTES

ACADEMIC PROCESSION: The **Medallion**, which symbolizes the authority delegated by the Board of Trustees, is worn by the Chancellor. It commemorates the establishment of the Beaver Campus in 1965. The front of the Medallion is struck with the seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the name of The Pennsylvania State University. The reverse of the Medallion is inscribed with the campus name and establishment date.

The **Mace**, symbolizing the authority of the President of the University, is carried by the Campus Marshall at the head of the procession. The Campus Marshall is followed by his or her assistants, who are members of the faculty appointed by the Chancellor to conduct the commencement proceedings; candidates for degrees; faculty; and dignitaries.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE: The baccalaureate degrees granted by the University emphasize a liberal, professional, or scientific education and are conferred upon satisfactory completion of eight semesters of study.

GENERAL: During the program, the candidates for baccalaureate degrees stand at the request of the Faculty Congress Representative and are presented to the Chancellor, who makes a general statement concerning the awarding of degrees. As the candidates' names are called, they proceed to the platform where the Chancellor confers the degree.

***CANDIDATES FOR DISTINCTION:** This group is made up of those students who have completed the required number of credits at the University and who are in the top 12 percent of their graduating class in their college. The 12 percent is divided into 2 percent "SUMMA CUM LAUDE," 4 percent "MAGNA CUM LAUDE," 6 percent "CUM LAUDE." Preliminary distinction (based on the cumulative grade point average as of the semester **prior** to degree conferral) is acknowledged at the commencement ceremony. Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of minimum criteria, distinction may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements. This list was produced October 7, 2020 as an unofficial list of graduating students earning honors.