Commencement Program, August 12, 2017
Half after Nine in the Morning – Ferrell Center

Prelude
*Ceremonial Piece on CWM Rhondda*
by William Mac Davis
Brass Ensemble

Processional
*Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1*
by Sir Edward Elgar
Brass Ensemble

Bearer of the Mace
Daniel E. Scott
Associate Professor of Music, (1973-2013)
Baylor University

Procession Order
Candidates for Doctoral Degrees
Candidates for Master’s Degrees
Candidates for Baccalaureate Degrees
Faculties of the University
Bearer of the Mace
President of the University
Regents of the University
Administrators and Deans of the University

Presiding
Linda A. Livingstone
President
Baylor University

The National Anthem
Directed by Gary C. Mortenson
*Dean of the School of Music and Professor of Music*
Baylor University

The Invocation
Laurie Wilson
*Director of Graduate Business Degree Programs*
Baylor University

Special Music
“Granada” by Augustin Lara
Edgar Sierra, solo
Jonathan Pinto, accompanist

Message to the Graduates
President Livingstone

Conferral of Degrees
President Livingstone
Assisted by Michael K. McLendon
*Interim Provost*
Rodney G. Bowden
*Dean of the Robbins College of Health and Human Sciences*
Dennis L. O’Neal
*Dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science*
Gary C. Mortenson
*Dean of the School of Music*
Terry S. Maness
*Dean of the Hankamer School of Business*
Linda S. Plank
*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the Louise Herrington School of Nursing*
Terrill F. Saxon
*Interim Dean of the School of Education*
Lee C. Nordt
*Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences*
Jon Singletery
*Dean of the Diana R. Garland School of Social Work*
J. Larry Lyon
*Dean of the Graduate School*
Louis Mazé, Reader

The Benediction
Burt Burleson
*Baylor University Chaplain*

“That Good Old Baylor Line”
Directed by Dean Mortenson

Recessional
“Fanfare” from *La Peri* by Paul Dukas
“Triumphal March” from *Aida* by Giuseppe Verdi,
arranged by Bill Holcombe
Degrees Conferred August 12, 2017

Robbins College of Health and Human Sciences
Presented by Rodney G. Bowden, Dean

Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences
Apparel Design and Product Development
Sophia Beth Calhoun*
Emily Elaine Dawkins*
Elizabeth Hernandez Flores
Annelise Victoria Ingram
Taylor Jane Tucker
Kierra Denise Williams

Apparel Merchandising
Ashley Kingsland Atkins
Chelsea Lauren Banford
Daniella Paige Cooper
Caroline Elizabeth Evers
Meredith Ann Henson
Hannah Christian Kudys
Thomas Lucas McBride
Kelly Mariko Mebane
Caitlyn Mackenzie Morris
Grace Mignonne Roulet
Dorre Kay Speer
Alaina Nicole Stovall

Child and Family Studies
Amanda Brooks Arnold
Alexandria Nicole Helms**
McKenna Brooke Lee*
Hannah Marie Wiley

Interior Design
Carla Patricia Da Silva Almeida

Nutrition Sciences
Othnel H. Tay

Bachelor of Arts
Communication Sciences and Disorders
Aliyah Jacqueline Castillo*
Jocelyn Stephanie Flores
Rainey Kara Spencer

Bachelor of Science in Education
Exercise Physiology
Claire Lambert Cadwallader

Health, Kinesiology, and Leisure Studies
Trayon Blanchard
Bryana Garcia
Madeline Rebecca Kayla Garrett
Justine David Grassi
Rhiann Ariana Newborn
Mason Eric Pigman
Spencer Logan Roth
Michael A. Saldana
Hunter Lee Shattuck

Health Science Studies

The School of Engineering and Computer Science
Presented by Dennis L. O’Neal, Dean

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
Michael K. Armstrong
Sneha Jaya Chikkala
Dean He

Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering
Vicente Salvador Chavez
Evan Wayne Stewart
Alexander Preston Tsatsoulas

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
Donald Clifton McKay IV
Clayton Andrew Shread

Bachelor of Science in Engineering
Savannah Faith Chorley
Kyle Harris Christensen
Tyler Abraham Jost

The School of Music
Presented by Gary C. Mortenson, Dean

Bachelor of Music
Applied Music
Michael Goodwin Crocker

Music History and Literature
Clare Emiko Ordemann

The Hankamer School of Business
Presented by Terry S. Maness, Dean

Bachelor of Business Administration
Accounting
Peter George Alex,
Entrepreneurship
Michael James Ballone
Sarah Elizabeth Borchardt
Tyler Alexander Carpenter
Jacob Wayne Fox
Josie Christian Jackson
Gregory Buchanan Parker
Kayla Renee Rodriguez

Baylor Business Fellows
Paul Preston Kiekhaefer,
Accounting, Economics*

Economics
Wenpeng Guo
Kyle Logan Marta

Entrepreneurship and Corporate Innovation
Kyle J. Boget
Sarah Ruth Keller, Marketing*
Edgar Monzon, Real Estate
Samantha Marie Paton
Spencer Heath Smith**

Finance
Richard Davis Cunningham*
Ryan Matthew Henson
Aliza Sharma
Shasha Xiang

Management
Marivious O. Allen
Luke Alan Fritz
Abigail Alyssa Key,
International Business*
Tammy Jung-Pei Leu**
Yanwen Zhang

Management Information Systems
Arturo Guerra Leal
Alexander Kris Madden

Marketing
Daniel Prem Aggarwal
Garrett Davis Albracht,
Management
Callan Rabb Herwood
McCollum Klein Klotz
Alexander N. Kulig,
Management
Annie Rebecca Morelli

* cum laude **magna cum laude ***summa cum laude
### The College of Arts and Sciences

**Bachelor of Fine Arts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Studio Art</th>
<th>AliAnn Elizabeth Rushing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Attilio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bachelor of Science in Aviation Sciences**

| Angelica Alaina Trochesset | Attilio |

**Bachelor of Science**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anthropology</th>
<th>Alexandre Chapman</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Mathematics</td>
<td>Taylor Ryan Braly, David Michael Kou, Shuai Wu, Eric Yang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>Gabrielle Senvina Barnett, Mia Haninah Garcia Bautista</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Alicia Chizoba Omolara, Agunwah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>John B. Shannon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Laboratory Science</td>
<td>Bradley Taylor Brignac, Aliza Sadia Rahman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>Johnathan David Cox, Tyler Nathan Leggett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Selling</td>
<td>Margaret Sha Newton, Katherine Maave Sullivan, Ryan Everett Vick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports, Sponsorship, and Sales</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Ann Gover, Tyler Davidson Noble</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bachelor of Arts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American Studies</th>
<th>Hannah Marie Bogue*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Don Etrick Houston, Joshua Christian Newman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Studies</td>
<td>Rebekah Rae Kaeumenring-Yi, Anthropology, Joshua Joseph West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>Payton Nicole Hanby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Ty Hunter Brown, JingYi Cheng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Noel Lucio, Andre Nicolas Ortiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Studies</td>
<td>Christopher Jason Davis, Jennifer Fuentes, Travis Nichols Gregory, Gregory Mackenzie Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film and Digital Media</td>
<td>Amy Lauren Davis, Alec Julian Garza, Sean Peter Muir, Reed Bailey Nelson, Jacob Cameron Simmons, Matthew Y. Williams, Mengxun Zhao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Erin Nicole Farris, Caleb Alexander McCandless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Peter William Ehrhard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Studies</td>
<td>Connor Lee Hulett *, Anmol Sahai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>Chelsea Kathryn Brown, Seth Garret Jones, Abigail Chapman Lynch, Maggie Elizabeth Malone, Jack Wells Parsley, Ashton Steele</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*cum laude **magna cum laude ***summa cum laude

\(^\odot\) Completed Baylor Interdisciplinary Core requirements
The Graduate Program in the Diana R. Garland School of Social Work

Presented by Jon E. Singletary, Dean

Karanequa Latrice Reed

The Graduate School

Presented by J. Larry Lyon, Dean

Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering and Bachelor of Science in Engineering
Carley Ellen Fuller**

Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering
Delin Jiang
Jordan Arthur Sakakeeny

Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering
Daniel Christopher Drake
Frederick Odhiambo Opado

Master of Music Performance
Edgar Ricardo Sierra

Master of Accountancy and Bachelor of Business Administration
Accounting
Jacob Michael Phillips

Master of Business Administration
Arthur Behague

Executive Masters of Business Administration
Kumar Challa

Online Business Administration
Christopher Ryan Angell
Henry Arocha III
Carla Michelle Ball
Arkeba C. Batie
Juan Jose Cervantes, Jr.
Kelley Delesandri
Jennifer Jakchade
Nicholas Alton Johnson
Jamie Yvonne Jones
George David Kubove

Stephanie Madrid
Darren Scott McVey
Hector Alejandro Medina
David M. Mikula
Brian Keith Nieto
Lawrence B. O’Brien
Dena Annette Reinoso
Diego Rivas
Steven William Sogger
Traden Alexandria Vailon
Dustin Edward Weaver

Master of Science in Economics
Dillon Tyler Camp
Kelsey Lynn Gamel
Chengzhi Zhao

Master of Science in Information Systems
Shuyan Yan

Master of Science in Education
Curriculum and Instruction
Erica Nicole Amos
Jorge Alberto Carmona Reyes
Drew Anthony Gehman
Rachel Marie Moore
Kaitlin Elizabeth Welsh

Educational Psychology
Emilee Mutnick Ashenfelter
Anna Kaitlyn Bundrick
Mandee Leigh Busbee
Andi Taylor Fuentes
Jalissa Lynette Green
Rebekah Jordan Holiman
Megan Laureen Hughes
Kaylynn Anne Newton
Kelli Suzanne Sims
Amanda Stieb
Stephanie Christine Wright
Sports Management
Austin Chase Stone

Master of Health Administration and Master of Business Administration
Health Care Administration
John Ray Broussard
Jin Caro
Maxwell Glenn Carroll III
Todd Russell Eaves
Spencer Lamay Farrow II
Jordan Tyler Garrett
Eric Jason Gonzales
Jessica Eve Hamilton
Jessie Hart
Daniel Dongjin Heffner
Preston Joseph Hieb
Peter Nicholas Houhoulis
Steven Douglas Hurtle
Peter V. Huynh
Rico A. Jones
William Thomas Kilgore
William Joseph Mennis
Michael Scott Patricola
Jennifer Rose Powers
Brian James Quinn
Scott Rankin
Louisa Michelle Slayden
Timothy Marc Snavely
Jennifer Stowe
Stephanie Marie Stressman
Abraham W. Suhr
Timothy Lawrence Switaj
Joshua Dean Walters
Tiara Nicole Walz
Lori Louise Whitney
Desbah Rose Yazzie

Master of Health Administration
Health Care Administration
James Alexander Torino Alvia
Yuri A. Campbell
Megan Massimino Chavez
Robert Bruce Davis, Jr.
Thomas Ellwood

Elizabeth Elan Hamilton
Philip Scott Kamberline
Nathan Andrew Kiser
Jonathan David Levenson
Jill Allyn Rogers
LaMont Dewayne Simmons
Robert Alfonso Stubbs
Jason Ronald Wood Weir

Master of Public Health
Yejin Kang∞

Master of Science Biology
Tamura Ellen Dunbar

Biomedical Studies
Samantha Lee Hodges
Mitchell James Kroll

Chemistry
Corbin Michael Croom
Heather Noel McFarland

Communication Sciences and Disorders
Regan Marlynn Allen
Ashley Lauren Bland
Sarah Beth Bryan
Katherine Lee Curran
Julia Elaine Johnson
Morgan Brooke Jones
Vanessa Leanne Jones
Kayla Denise Kirts
Leah Lovato
Erin Theresa Marshall
Allyson Mackenzie Stallings
Annie L. Valliant
Heather Nicole Vansau
Courtney Brooke Young

Computer Science
Feng Yang

Geology
Kristin Karen Arndt
Alyssa Calida Johnson
Gina Ginevra Pope
Matthew Parry Strasser

* cum laude ** magna cum laude *** summa cum laude
∞ Degree requirements completed December 17, 2016
Nutrition Sciences
Patricia Joy Lyles
Jocelyn Nieft

Physics
Blake Birmingham
Lesley Catherine Vestal

Sports Pedagogy
Grant Louis Bargender
Paul Langenfeld

Statistics
Chris Michael Elrod

Master of Arts
Communication
Kristiana Lilly Baez
Julia Marie Medhurst
Jacob Kyle Robinson

Educational Psychology
Amy Nicole Feind
Courtney Alyssa Moore
Christy Prawira

English
Seth Adam Mueller
Sarah Anne Tharp

History
David Evans Roach

Journalism
Jon-Sawyer Colton Smith

Philosophy
Alex Michael Hoffman

Physics
Bo Zhang

Sociology
Cory Taylor Sugg

Doctor of Physical Therapy
Emily Elizabeth Barth
Michael Uralim Bolduc
Andrew Eugene Carlson
Laura Elaine Eberle
Cameron Michael Harms
Allison Marlene Hart
Ryan Joseph Hollins
Amanda Jean Humphrey
Christine Margaret Kasprisin
Meredith Lynn Lacomski
Trent Hall Larsen
Francis Michael Licursi
Lyndsee Wheaton Loehr
James Harris Maxfield III
Alexander McLelland
Robert Bryant McNeal

Doctor of Nursing Practice
Madeline Kay Merriam
Aleksey Milke
Amber Nichelle Oates
Tiffany Amy Paris Ferrer
Amanda Katharine Pritt
Tyler Lincoln Randall
Anne Elizabeth Sidwell
Amelia Michelle Weaver

Doctor of Nurse-Midwifery
Shannon Marie Reed

Nurse Practitioner
Katherine Marie Churchwell
Jamie Katheryn Cornejo
Adrienne Ruth Duvall
Kelly Dawn Hunt
Ann Martha Rahe
Katharine Lorraine Vogelaar

The Graduate School
Presented by J. Larry Lyon, Dean

Doctor of Science in Occupational Therapy
Robert Arthur Oliver
B.S., University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, 2011;
M.O.T., University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, 2011;
Residency, Occupational Therapy
Brooke Army Medical Center
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Cortney Marie Schoonover
B.S., University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, 2012;
M.S., University of Wisconsin - LaCrosse, 2014;
Residency, Occupational Therapy
Brooke Army Medical Center
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Timothy Anh Tuan Tu
B.S., University of California at Los Angeles, 2004;
M.Ed., Concordia University, 2010;
M.S., California State University at Dominguez Hills, 2014;
Residency, Occupational Therapy
Brooke Army Medical Center
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Stephen Lee Turner
B.A., The University of Texas at Arlington, 2010;
M.O.T., The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, 2012;
Residency, Occupational Therapy
Brooke Army Medical Center
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy
Robert John Halle
B.S., Belmont University, 2005;
D.P.T., Baylor University, 2008;
Residency, Physical Therapy
Keller Army Community Hospital
West Point, New York

Gary Lynn Helton
B.S., Mississippi University for Women, 2008;
D.P.T., Baylor University, 2011;
Residency, Physical Therapy
Keller Army Community Hospital
West Point, New York

Mark A. Riebel
B.S., Denison University, 2003;
D.P.T., Baylor University, 2012;
Residency, Physical Therapy
Keller Army Community Hospital
West Point, New York

Brian Edward Stoltenberg
B.S.Ed.H.S., University of Nebraska - Lincoln, 2006;
D.P.T., Baylor University, 2009;
Residency, Physical Therapy
Keller Army Community Hospital
West Point, New York

Eliza B. Szymanek
B.A., McDaniel College, 2004;
D.P.T., Baylor University, 2010;
Residency, Physical Therapy
Keller Army Community Hospital
West Point, New York

Daniel Joseph Watson
B.S., Florida State University, 2004;
D.P.T., University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, 2007;
Residency, Physical Therapy
Keller Army Community Hospital
West Point, New York
Doctor of Psychology

Lauren Catherine Hertzberg
B.A., Loyola Marymount University, 2000;
M.A., Pepperdine University, 2006;
M.Ed., The University of Texas at Austin, 2011;
M.S.C.P., Baylor University, 2014;
Mentor: Dr. Sara L. Dolan

William Marion Hunter III
B.S., Davidson College, 2010;
M.S.C.P., Baylor University, 2014;
Dissertation, Clinical Psychology: Mental Health and the Relationship with God: An Attachment and Internal Working Model Perspective
Mentor: Dr. Wade C. Rowatt

Rachel Margaret Kantor
B.A., Columbia University, 2009;
M.S.C.P., Baylor University, 2014;
Dissertation, Clinical Psychology: Sleep Quality as a Moderator between Self-Control and the Intention-Behavior Gap of Diet and Physical Activity
Mentor: Dr. Christine C. Limbers

Yimin Amelia Yu
B.A., Pomona College, 2009;
M.S.C.P., Baylor University, 2014;
Dissertation, Clinical Psychology: The Relationship Between Subjective Cognitive Complaints and Objective Cognitive Measures in the Epilepsy Clinic: An Exploratory Study of the Neuro-QoL Subjective Cognition Measures
Mentor: Dr. Gary R. Elkins

Doctor of Education

Ashley Dyanne Canuteson
B.S.Ed., Baylor University, 1999;
M.Ed., Tarleton State University, 2005;
Dissertation, Educational Curriculum and Instruction: Integrated, Project-Based Learning and Knowledge Retention: A Mixed Methods Study Comparing High School Students in Two Geometry Courses
Mentor: Dr. Sandra B. Cooper

Doctor of Philosophy

Cheng-Han Chung
B.S., Chung Shan Medical Dental University, 2004;
M.S., National Yang-Ming University, 2007;
Dissertation, Biomedical Studies: The Chromatin Accessibility Signature of Aging in Human Blood Leukocytes: Stems from CD8+ T Cells
Mentor: Dr. Jacques Banchereau

Elias Michel Oziolor
B.A., DePauw University, 2012;
Dissertation, Biomedical Studies: Evolution to Pollution in Gulf killifish (Fundulus grandis) from Galveston Bay, Texas, USA
Mentor: Dr. Cole Matson

James Dong Jun Chang
B.S., California Institute of Technology, 2003;
M.S., University of California at San Diego, 2011;
Dissertation, Chemistry: On the Gram-positive Bacterial Cell Wall
Mentor: Dr. Sung Joon Kim

Parashu Ram Nyaupane
B.S., Tribhuvan University, 2003;
M.S., Tribhuvan University, 2005;
Dissertation, Chemistry: Cavity Ring Down and Thermal Lines Techniques Applied to Vibrational Spectroscopy of Gases and Liquids
Mentor: Dr. Carlos E. Manzanares

Elena Marie Venegas
B.A., Baylor University, 2008;
M.S.Ed., Baylor University, 2009;
Dissertation, Curriculum and Teaching: Literature Circles and the Reader Self-Efficacy of Reluctant and/or Struggling Readers
Mentor: Dr. Gretchen E. Schwarz

Kevin Eugene Wells
B.A., University of North Texas, 1993;
Dissertation, Educational Psychology: Detecting Sigmoidal Trajectories in Structured Latent Curve Models: A Fit Measure Performance and Parameter Recovery Simulation Study
Mentor: Dr. Grant B. Morgan

Wenlei Bai
B.S., Southwest University for Nationalities, 2009;
M.S., West Texas A & M University, 2012;
Mentor: Dr. Kwang Y. Lee

Willis Scott Troy
B.S.E.C.E., Baylor University, 2007;
M.S.E.C.E., Baylor University, 2009;
Dissertation, Electrical and Computer Engineering: Classification of Human Movements Using Micro Doppler Features in Foliage Environments
Mentors: Dr. Michael W. Thompson and Dr. Yang Li

Guiying Wu
B.S., Yanbian University of Science and Technology, 2008;
M.S., Baylor University, 2013;
Mentor: Dr. Kwang Y. Lee

Daniel Stephen Nicholas Benyousky
B.S., Grace College, 2004;
M.A., Wheaton College, 2007;
M.A., University of Durham, 2011;
Dissertation, English: “Still persuade us to rejoice”: Witness, Place, and Gratitude in W. H. Auden and Derek Walcott’s Poetry
Mentor: Dr. Richard Rankin Russell
Jeremy Leatham  
B.A., Brigham Young University, 2007;  
M.A., Brigham Young University, 2009;  
Dissertation, English: *Stranged Marriages: Unconventional Matrimony in Western American Fiction*  
Mentor: Dr. Joe B. Fulton

Sarah B. Rude  
B.A., Concordia College, 2009;  
M.A., North Dakota State University, 2011;  
Dissertation, English: "*I Se and Undirstonde*: Vision, Reason, and Tragedy in Late Middle English Literature"  
Mentor: Dr. D. Thomas Hanks, Jr.

David Smith  
B.A., Truman State University, 2003;  
M.A., Truman State University, 2006;  
Dissertation, English: *Blake's Aesthetic Messianism: Multimodal Art as the Rhetoric of Transformation*  
Mentor: Dr. Joshua King

Lauren Andrea Kristofco  
B.S., Allegheny College, 2011;  
Dissertation, Environmental Sciences: *Age Matters: Developmental Stage of Zebrafish (Danio rerio) Influences Bioconcentration, and Survival and Behavioral Photomotor Response Thresholds*  
Mentor: Dr. Bryan W. Brooks

Todd Lawrence Longbottom  
B.S., University of Dayton, 2010;  
M.S., University of Cincinnati, 2012;  
Dissertation, Geology: *Sedimentary Organic Matter Diagenesis: Oxidative Transformations and Dynamics upon Pyrolysis*  
Mentor: Dr. William C. Hockaday

Nicholas Troy Pruitt  
B.A., Wayland Baptist University, 2007;  
M.A., Baylor University, 2009;  
Dissertation, History: *Open Hearts, Closed Doors: Native Protestants, Pluralism, and the "Foreigner" in America, 1924-1965*  
Mentor: Dr. Barry G. Hankins

Laurie G. Giddens  
B.S., Louisiana State University in Shreveport, 2001;  
M.S.I.S., Baylor University, 2002;  
Dissertation, Information Systems: *Shopping for a Cause: Exploring the Role of Information Systems in Ethical Consumption*  
Mentor: Dr. Dorothy E. Leidner

Nebojsa Arsenije Milic  
B.Ec., University of Novi Sad, 2010;  
B.I.S., University of Novi Sad, 2010;  
M.S., Westfaliche Wilhelms University, 2013;  
Mentor: Dr. Dorothy E. Leidner

Jie Yan  
B.E., Shanghai University, 2002;  
M.E., Shanghai University, 2005;  
M.S.I.S., Baylor University, 2013;  
Dissertation, Information Systems: *Three Essays on Firm-Hosted Online User Communities*  
Mentor: Dr. Dorothy E. Leidner

Thomas Andre  
B.S.Ed., Georgia Southwestern State University, 2012;  
M.S., University of North Alabama, 2013;  
Dissertation, Kinesiology, Exercise Nutrition, and Health Promotion: *Effect of a Restrictive Breathing Mask on Resistance Exercise Performance in Resistance-Trained Males*  
Mentor: Dr. Darryn Willoughby

Joshua Jimmy Gann  
B.S., University of North Alabama, 2012;  
M.S., University of North Alabama, 2013;  
Dissertation, Kinesiology, Exercise Nutrition, and Health Promotion: *The Effects of Hypohydration on Muscular Performance and Markers of Catabolism in Females*  
Mentor: Dr. Darryn Willoughby

Sarah Louise Stair  
B.A., Bucknell University, 2010;  
M.S.I.S., Saint Joseph's University, 2012;  
Dissertation, Psychology: *Religious Fundamentalism and Attitudes toward Immigrants and Syrian Refugees*  
Mentor: Dr. Wade C. Rowatt

Laurie G. Giddens  
B.S., Louisiana State University in Shreveport, 2001;  
M.S.I.S., Baylor University, 2002;  
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Mentor: Dr. Dorothy E. Leidner

Jie Yan  
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M.E., Shanghai University, 2005;  
M.S.I.S., Baylor University, 2013;  
Dissertation, Information Systems: *Three Essays on Firm-Hosted Online User Communities*  
Mentor: Dr. Dorothy E. Leidner

Scott Coggins Ryan  
B.A., Gardner-Webb University, 2003;  
M.Div., Duke University, 2008;  
Th.M., Duke University, 2009;  
Dissertation, Religion: *Cosmic Conflict and the Divine Warrior in Paul's Letter to the Romans*  
Mentor: Dr. Beverly Roberts Gaventa

---

*Graduating as a Baptist College and University Scholar*
Su Jin Kang  
B.A., Baylor University, 2011;  
M.A., Baylor University, 2014;  
Dissertation, Sociology: Cross-national Analysis of the Association between Subjective Social Status and Health  
Mentor: Dr. Matt Bradshaw

Xiuhua Wang  
B.Mgt., Renmin University, 2011;  
M.Mgt., Renmin University, 2013;  
M.A., Baylor University, 2015;  
Dissertation, Sociology: Religion in Contemporary China  
Mentor: Dr. Paul Froese

Christopher James Casement  
B.A., Skidmore College, 2009;  
M.A., Wake Forest University, 2011;  
M.S., Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2014;  
Dissertation, Statistics: Graphical Methods in Prior Elicitation  
Mentor: Dr. David J. Kahle

Madeline Leigh Drevets  
B.S., Baylor University, 2013;  
Dissertation, Statistics: Bayesian Inference for Bivariate Poisson Data with Zero-Inflation  
Mentor: Dr. John W. Seaman, Jr.

Tyler Wells Nelson  
B.S., Colorado Mesa University, 2013;  
Dissertation, Statistics: Binomial and Poisson Regression with Misclassified Outcomes and Binary Covariates: A Bayesian Approach  
Mentor: Dr. James D. Stamey

Lori M. Sousa  
B.A., Saint John Fisher College, 1990;  
M.S.W., Syracuse University, 1996;  
Mentor: Dr. Gaynor Yancey
# Student Recognitions

## Graduates of the Honors Program

| Leonardo Kwak       | Emily Elizabeth Martin |

## Beta Gamma Sigma (honor society of business administration)

| Juan Jose Cervantes Jr. | Tammy Jung-Pei Leu | Lawrence B. O’Brien |

## Delta Phi Alpha (honor society of German)

| Emily Elizabeth Martin |

## Eta Kappa Nu (honor society of electrical and computer engineering)

| Alexander Preston Tsatsoulas |

## Kappa Delta Pi (honor society of curriculum and instruction)

| Jalissa Lynette Green | Amanda Stieb | Elena Marie Venegas |

## Psi Chi (honor society of psychology)

| Kensi Denise Boenker |

## Sigma Theta Tau (honor society of nursing)

| Katherine Marie Churchwell | Adrienne Ruth Duvall | Ann Martha Rahe | Katharine Lorraine Vogelaar |
| Jamie Katheryn Cornejo | Kelly Dawn Hunt | Shannon Marie Reed |

## Theta Alpha Kappa (honor society of religion)

| Scott Coggins Ryan |
A History of Baylor Commencement

Baylor University was chartered by the Republic of Texas in 1845 and Baylor trustees voted to grant certificates and diplomas in 1854, following a similar policy of Brown University, a Baptist school in Providence, Rhode Island. That same year Baylor celebrated its first official commencement at Independence, Texas, with the granting of an A.B. degree to Stephen Decatur Rowe. The following year the University granted a degree to the first woman graduate, Mary Kavanaugh Gentry. By 1856, the number of graduates increased to six men and two women.

The University moved from Independence to Waco in 1885 and commencement ceremonies were likely held each spring in the chapel of Old Main. Starting in 1903, commencement ceremonies were held in the chapel of Carroll Library. After the 1922 Carroll Library fire, the third floor chapel was not rebuilt and a new chapel-gymnasium structure served as the venue.

In 1930, commencement ceremonies were moved to Waco Hall, the newly constructed Baylor facility funded by the City of Waco. In 1943, the spring ceremony reflected the effects of World War II, when 43 of the 282 degrees conferred were given “in absentia” due to students serving in the armed forces.

By the early 1950s, commencement was held at either Municipal Stadium or Baylor Stadium (later known as Floyd Casey Stadium). Spring commencements moved to the Heart of Texas Coliseum from 1956 to 1988. With the completion of Ferrell Center in fall 1988, Baylor commencement ceremonies returned to campus. In 2009, spring graduation was expanded to three ceremonies over two days and more than 1,800 students participated.

From 400 to more than 800 students graduate in summer and fall ceremonies.

In 1889, the University began holding summer ceremonies, which were held at a local Baptist church, then Waco Hall and now Ferrell Center.

In 1984, the tradition of December ceremonies was begun. The December 2011 commencement marked the first time that two winter ceremonies were held.

Separate ceremonies are held for George W. Truett Theological Seminary and Baylor Law School.

The Mace

The mace, used in formal processions at Baylor, was adopted as the official Baylor mace by the Board of Trustees in March 1974 as a symbol of the authority of the University.

The gold-hilted sword that comprises the principal element of the mace was presented to Cyrus Alexander Baylor, brother of University namesake Judge R.E.B. Baylor, by President Andrew Jackson as an award for bravery in battle.

A second element of the mace is a gold-headed walking cane that was presented to Baylor President Rufus C. Burleson by his students in 1860.

The third element of the mace is a gold-headed walking cane, bearing the date of 1836, that belonged to General Sam Houston.

Immediately beneath the three elements, a three-dimensional seal of Baylor University is mounted on the staff, which was milled from a timber taken from a roof beam in Old Main, the first building constructed on the Waco campus.

A distinguished emeritus professor, symbolizing Baylor’s debt to the immediate past, carries the mace in formal processions.

Academic Regalia

Academic dress traces its beginnings to the Middle Ages. When English universities were forming in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, scholars were also clerics and they adopted robes similar to those of their monastic orders. Caps were a necessity in drafty buildings and capes with hoods attached were needed for warmth. In 1895, the Intercollegiate Commission specified a code that was adopted by American institutions of higher learning to standardize the regalia worn by faculty and graduates. It has stood virtually unchanged to present time.

The bachelor’s gown has pointed sleeves, while the gown for the master’s degree has an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist. The doctoral gown, which may be worn open or closed, is trimmed down the front with velvet and has three velvet bars on the bell-shaped sleeves. These facings and crossbars may be black or may be the color distinctive to the degree.

The hood is the most distinctive feature of American regalia. At Baylor, hoods are worn for the master’s degree, the education specialist, and all doctoral degrees. The doctoral hood is longer and marked by a wider velvet binding. The color of the velvet edging of the hood indicates the degree; the color of the lining represents the university that confers the degree.

Colors for the various disciplines include white for the Master of Arts; gold for Master of Science; Fine Arts, brown; all music degrees, pink; social work, citron; business administration, drab; divinity and theology degrees, red; law, purple; education, light blue; nursing, apricot; engineering and computer science, orange; Doctor of Psychology, dark blue; Doctor of Science, golden yellow; and Doctor of Philosophy, royal blue. All master’s degree candidates wear black tassels with the appropriate hood.

The University introduced unique doctoral regalia in 1995, its sesquicentennial year. The gown is forest green with dark green velvet crossbars on the sleeves, outlined in gold braid. The velvet on the matching doctoral hood reflects the degree. A velvet, eight-sided tam with gold bullion tassel completes the regalia.

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The Diploma

The design of the diploma was introduced in 2000 and features an original pen-and-ink drawing of Pat Neff Hall by Baylor art professor Berry Klingman. The diploma is 14 inches x 11 inches horizontal. Signatures of the chairman of the Board of Regents, the president, the provost, and the appropriate dean, along with a gold embossed seal, are on the diploma.

Most students graduating today receive their diploma. Those who graduate with Latin honors – summa cum laude, magna cum laude, and cum laude – may receive their diplomas today or in about six weeks, after new diplomas are ordered reflecting the appropriate honor.

Graduating with Latin Honors

Students are eligible for Latin honors recognition by meeting grade point average and residency requirements.

To be recognized with summa cum laude honors, graduates must have at least a 3.95 grade point average (GPA) with a minimum of 94 credit hours earned at Baylor.

For magna cum laude, requirements include at least a 3.85 GPA with a minimum of 94 credit hours earned in residence; at least a 3.90 GPA with 61-93 credit hours at Baylor; or at least a 3.95 GPA with 60 credit hours at Baylor.

The cum laude requirements include at least a 3.75 GPA with a minimum of 94 credit hours earned at Baylor; at least a 3.80 GPA with 61-93 credit hours at Baylor; or at least a 3.85 GPA with 60 credit hours at Baylor.

Only Baylor University residence credit is considered in calculating the averages.

Students graduating with a 4.0 GPA receive the Alpha Chi medallion when they are presented their diploma.

Baylor Interdisciplinary Core

The Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC), one of the four programs housed in the Honors College, provides students with an alternative core curriculum for their general studies requirements.

The Official Baylor Ring

The Official Baylor University Ring is a longstanding tradition among alumni, visually celebrating the academic achievement of Baylor graduates. Seniors wear the ring with the Baylor seal facing them. Graduates turn the ring on graduation day so the seal is read by those who look at the ring. This change signifies their preparedness to face the world with an education in hand. Official Baylor Rings are presented in spring and winter ceremonies where they hear the Baylor story beautifully portrayed in the details incorporated into the ring’s design.

Baylor Senior Class Gift

Each year, Baylor University seniors band together to raise funds before graduation. This tradition is a way of showing thanks to Baylor, demonstrating a sense of community and connection, and leaving a lasting impact that reflects the spirit of the class.

To commemorate their time at Baylor, the Class of 2017 has been raising funds to commission a mural on campus; the hope is to have it completed before Homecoming. All funds raised in excess of the project cost will used to provide scholarships to future Baylor students.

To be a part of leaving a mark at Baylor, text BUSECOND to 41444 on your phone to make a gift.

“To you seniors of the past, of the present, of the future, I entrust the care of Baylor University. To you I hand the torch.”

Samuel Palmer Brooks

Baylor President, 1902-1931
Vanessa Castleberry
Beth Farwell
Kathy Hutchison
Blaine McCormick
Cindy Riemenschneider
Mark F. Taylor
Randall Waller
Gaynor Yancey
Allison Yanos

Marshals for Commencement

Daniel E. Scott, Bearer of the Mace
C. Alton Hassell, Chief Marshal
H. Denyse Rodgers, Chief Marshal
Rosalie Beck, Assistant Chief Marshal
Jeff Olafsen, Assistant Chief Marshal
Linda Olafsen, Assistant Chief Marshal
Carol Schuetz, Assistant Chief Marshal

Corneliu Bolbocean
Rochelle Brunson
Linda Cobbs
Sandi Cooper
Debbie Davendonis-Todd
Karen Fredenburg
Kathy Hillman
Julia Hitchcock
Dennis Horton
David Jack
Chris Kearney
Nan Ketcham
Bradley Lail
Karon LeCompte
Tim McKinney
Joshua Patrick
Barbara Purdum-Cassidy
Marlene Reed
Abdul Saadi
Carolyn Skurla
Tanya Sudia
John Tripp
Benna Vaughan
Robin Wallace
Kathy Whipple
Tena Wilkerson
Randy Wood

Brass Ensemble

J. Eric Wilson, Conductor

Trumpets
Ryan Fitzgerald
Clare Hogan
Nathan Little
Stephen Spink
Sally Tepper

French Horns
Craig Adams
Brady Diffie
Corey Simmel
Kristine Smith

Trombones
Nick Halbig
Andrew Moser
Eric Sweet

Tuba
Calvin Goetsch

Percussion
James DeLuca

Public Exercises Committee

Carol Nowlin, Chairperson

Darrin J. Bellert
April Edmond
Sarah Michelle De Los Santos Fernandez
C. Alton Hassell
Jonathan C. Helm
Henry Howard
Mary Ann Jordan
Raymond H. Keathley

Dawn R. Khoury
Kaliah Little
Lyn Prater
H. Denyse Rodgers
Andy Trimble
Jack D. Tubbs
David J. White
Brad Wigil

Office of the Registrar

Ashleigh Bailey
Kay Berry
Elizabeth De La Garza
April Edmond
Jonathan C. Helm
Anna Kay Hollon-Harris
Dawn R. Khoury
Hannah E. King

Athletic Facilities and Operations

Henry Howard, Associate Athletic Director for Facilities and Operations
Jonathan D. Berry
Will Lattimore
Drew Pittman
Terry Tucker
Jeremy M. Vitt

General Information

Guests are asked to help maintain the dignity of this ceremony. We understand and encourage your show of appreciation for graduates, but guests must refrain from loud, disruptive cheering and use of any noise-making devices.

SEATING: Seating on the concourse level is open to all guests on a first-come, first-serve basis. Seats may be saved, but it may be required that seats be relinquished 15 minutes prior to the start of each ceremony.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Personal cameras and video recorders are allowed in the Ferrell Center for commencement, but guests are not allowed on the floor where graduates are seated. The lower rows in section 104 are reserved for guests to come and go during the ceremony and photograph their graduates.

NO SELFIES ON STAGE: As a show of respect to all graduates and in consideration of the length of the ceremonies, no selfies by graduates while on stage will be allowed.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE: An EMS station is located on the Ferrell Center concourse at section 102 in the event of an emergency. Ushers are available to assist guests to the EMS station.

USHERS: Faculty ushers, assisted by Ferrell Center staff, are available throughout the building. They are present to direct traffic of attendants and graduates and to assist guests during the ceremony.

PHONES: All mobile phones and pagers should be turned off or changed to a silent or vibrate mode for the duration of the ceremony.

PUBLIC WIRELESS ACCESS: Baylor provides public Wi-Fi inside the Ferrell Center. Choose the wireless or Wi-Fi option in your Settings app, select the “Ferrell-Wifi” network and click “Complete Registration” to accept the terms & conditions.

NOTE: This program is not an official University document. The exclusion of the names of students is not to be taken as indicative of their official status as non-graduates, nor is the inclusion of the names of students to be taken as certification of their official status as graduates.
The National Anthem

O say, can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro’ the perilous fight,
O’er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thro’ the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that Star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Francis Scott Key, 1814
That Good Old Baylor Line

That Good Old Baylor Line!
That Good Old Baylor Line!
We’ll march forever down the years
As long as stars shall shine.
We’ll fling our Green and Gold afar
To light the ways of time,
And guide us as we onward go:
That Good Old Baylor Line!