



M E R C E R   U N I V E R S I T Y

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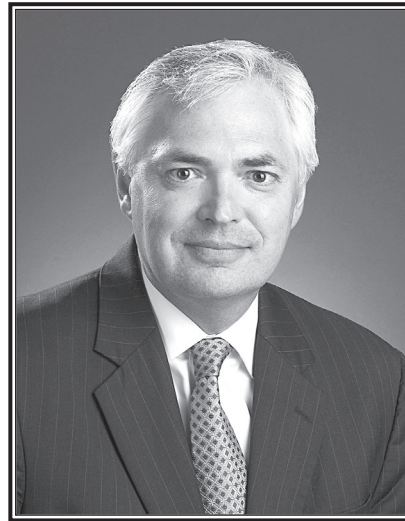
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C O M M E N C E M E N T

2018



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



May 2018

Dear Mercer Graduate:

On behalf of the entire Mercer University community, I congratulate you on the occasion of your graduation. You have achieved one of the most significant goals of your life, and you have added immeasurably to the intellectual and spiritual foundation on which you will stand in the years ahead.

You may be receiving your first Mercer degree this spring. Or, perhaps your accomplishment represents your second or even third degree from the University. Whichever it may be, you share a common bond with all of the graduates today of having made real what was once an aspiration. As a graduate, you are entitled to feel a strong sense of fulfillment as you reflect on your hard work and personal commitment.

With each passing year, you will find that memories of your Mercer experiences will grow to mean more to you. As you reflect on the friendships, the learning experiences, the joys and the frustrations of the time you have spent at Mercer, you increasingly will come to realize that the University is a part of your life forever.

Commencement is a rewarding time for the faculty and staff as students move beyond the University to continue along their life's path. The measure of a university is not the accolades accumulated from popular college guides and national rankings. The true measure is the transformation our students experience that prepares them to be intelligent, thoughtful and compassionate leaders who are committed to making a positive difference in their community and the world. We encourage you to stay in touch with the University in the years ahead.

We are grateful that you chose to pursue your educational goals here and that you always will be a part of Mercer University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, written in a cursive style. The signature reads "William D. Underwood".

William D. Underwood  
President

# MERCER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENTS

Approximately 2,150 students will participate in Mercer University's spring commencements. To make graduation a special day for these students and their families, Mercer University will conduct four ceremonies in May. Each ceremony will be unique and will reflect the schools and colleges represented.

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Saturday, May 5, 2018 | 2:00 p.m.  
Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon Campus

## ATLANTA

College of Pharmacy | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics  
Tift College of Education | James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology  
Georgia Baptist College of Nursing | Penfield College | College of Health Professions

Saturday, May 12, 2018 | 8:30 a.m.  
Campus Lawn | Atlanta Campus

## WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

Saturday, May 12, 2018 | 10:00 a.m.  
Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon Campus

## MACON

College of Liberal Arts | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics  
School of Engineering | Tift College of Education | Penfield College  
Townsend School of Music | College of Health Professions

Saturday, May 12, 2018 | 3:30 p.m.  
Hawkins Arena, University Center | Macon Campus

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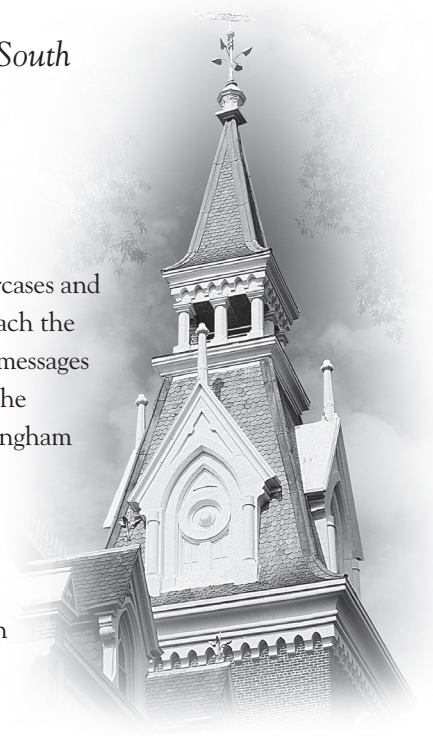
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# MERCER TRADITIONS

*Mercer University is one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the South and over 185 years has developed a number of cherished traditions.*

## SPIRES AND TOWERS

Each fall, part of freshman orientation includes a trek up a combination of ladders, spiral staircases and wooden stairs in the Godsey Administration Building, the Macon campus' oldest structure, to reach the tower overlooking campus. Students write their names, graduating years and sometimes favorite messages anywhere from the first stairwell to the actual tower. In addition to the majestic spires adorning the Godsey Administration Building, the Macon campus skyline is also known for the spires of Willingham Auditorium and Newton Chapel.



## PILGRIMAGE TO PENFIELD

Since the early 1900s, Mercer undergraduates have been making the 90-mile trip from Macon to Penfield to celebrate the founding of Mercer University. The Pilgrimage to Penfield, as the tradition is now called, has evolved over the years from a celebration for graduating seniors to an integral part of the Mercer freshman experience.

Penfield, which is located in rural Greene County, was the home of Mercer from 1833-1871. It was named after Josiah Penfield, a Savannah merchant, who challenged the Georgia Baptist Convention to match his \$2,500 contribution and support an educational institution. The Convention, fueled primarily from Jesse Mercer's financial contribution and leadership, met the challenge and opened Mercer Institute in 1833. It was renamed Mercer University in 1838.

Today, at Penfield, students participating in the Pilgrimage find the original University chapel, the foundation of the first University academic building, and a cemetery that includes the gravesites of Jesse Mercer, as well as a number of former University presidents, trustees and leaders.



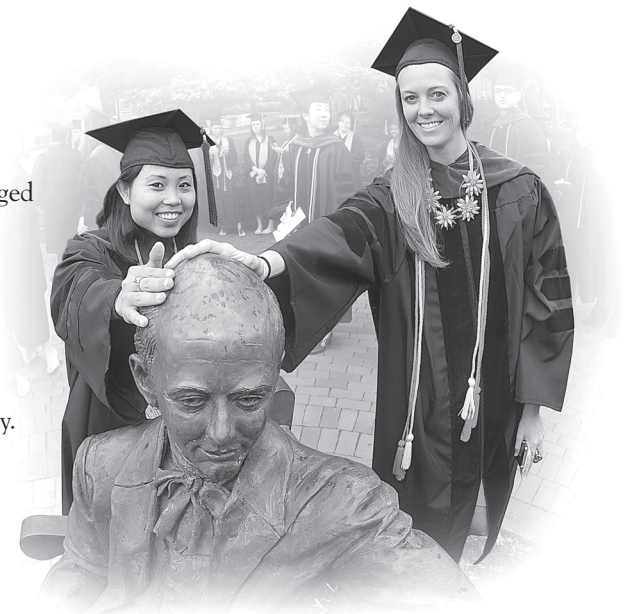
## JESSE MERCER PLAZA

Statues of Jesse Mercer sit casually on benches in the middle of Mercer's Macon and Atlanta campuses. The youthful-looking founder of Mercer is staged at a sideways angle, looking ready for a conversation with a passing student.

Occasionally, the statue's head is rubbed by a frantic or uneasy student, hoping the tradition of good luck will work on an upcoming exam. During finals, traffic past Mercer's respected namesake increases drastically.

The statues in Macon and Atlanta are encircled by quotes from Jesse Mercer, personally picked out by Mercer's 17th president, Dr. R. Kirby Godsey.

Since the statue was installed on the Macon campus in 1995, this area in the main Quadrangle has become one of the most visited sites on campus by students and alumni. The statue, sculpted by Don Haugen



of Marietta, was duplicated on the Atlanta campus in 2005. Beginning in 2009, freshmen, as part of Fall Convocation, and graduating seniors, as part of Baccalaureate, began processing past the Jesse Mercer statue on the Macon campus, rubbing his head at the beginning of their academic careers, and at the conclusion of their Mercer tenures.

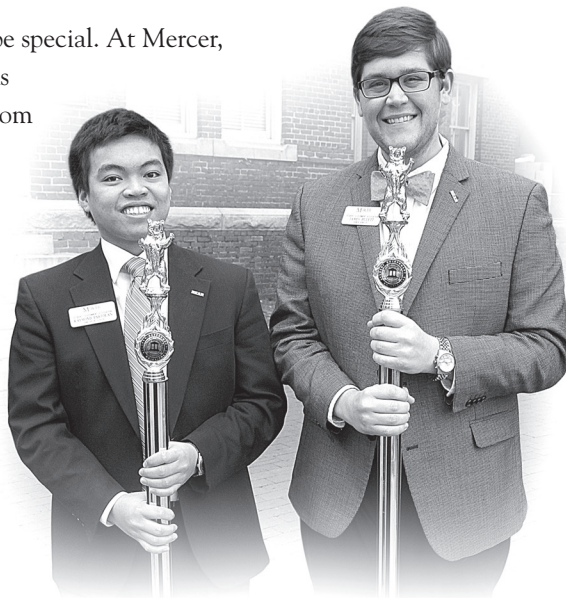
The statue was unveiled in 1995 in conjunction with the re-introduction of the tradition of Founders' Day. The statue was paid for by a Student Government Association fund established specifically for constructing the Jesse Mercer statue.

## FOUNDERS' DAY

For a university that is almost two centuries old, Founders' Day is bound to be special. At Mercer, while the annual celebration has a checkered history, the tradition is as strong as ever today. Founders' Day began in 1891, 20 years after the University moved from Penfield to Macon. At that time, Founders' Day was a celebration centered on Jesse Mercer's birthday. Mercer's two competing literary societies, Phi Delta and Ciceronian, each brought in a speaker to honor the heritage of Mercer and its founder.

Founders' Day remained a significant annual event for Mercer for the next 40 or 50 years, according to Dr. Doug Pearson, vice president and dean of students. The occasion had different formats during this period, ranging from political events attended by state governors to all-day historic celebrations.

While this tradition remained strong during the early- to mid-1900s, interest began to wane in the 1950s and 1960s. By the end of the 1960s, the tradition had been completely removed from the University calendar. The absence of Founders' Day lasted until the mid-1990s. At that time, the Student Government Association brought the event back to the Macon campus.



## RINGING THE TIFT BELL

When Tift College merged with Mercer in 1986, the alumnae of the Forsyth women's school were apprehensive about Mercer's commitment to honor the Tift heritage. Mercer had joined with the Tift College Alumnae Association to create a plan to honor the historic institution, but when Mercer closed the campus in 1987, that concern was heightened by many members of past classes.

Then-President Dr. R. Kirby Godsey acknowledged the challenges of merging Tift into Mercer, especially following the closing of the school. During that period of the late 1980s, he continued to stress Mercer's commitment to honoring the legacy and heritage of Tift.

That persistence paid off for Mercer and Tift alumnae, primarily through the partnership of past alumnae and current Mercer women participating in the Tift College Scholars Program. This program provides scholarships, leadership development and, most importantly, mentoring from Tift alumnae to 125 women attending Mercer, which also named its College of Education for Tift in 2001.

The preservation of the Tift legacy is a combination of the heritage of Tift and the momentum of Mercer. Part of this history and tradition is the ringing of the Tift Bell, which was relocated to the Macon campus after the merger. Tift graduates began ringing the bell in 1959 as part of commencement festivities.



# GRIFFIN B. BELL AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



In March 1999, Judge Griffin B. Bell was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in Trusteeship by the Association of Governing Boards and Universities. The longtime Mercer Trustee was one of two national honorees selected from the 50,000 board members who volunteer their time to higher education. For this noteworthy accomplishment, Judge Bell was presented a crystal Steuben sculpture and a framed certificate. The University, in Judge Bell's honor, was presented a \$10,000 unrestricted cash award. At its April 2000 meeting, the Mercer Board of Trustees voted to use the award to establish the Griffin B. Bell Award for Community Service. This award, along with a replica inspired by the Steuben that was given to Judge Bell, is presented annually to deserving graduating students from among Mercer's 12 schools and colleges.

## THE HONORABLE GRIFFIN B. BELL



Originally from Americus, Griffin B. Bell graduated *cum laude* from Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law with an LL.B. degree in 1948. He practiced law in Savannah and Rome, before joining the law firm of King & Spalding in Atlanta as a partner in 1953.

In 1959, while a senior partner at King & Spalding, Judge Bell was appointed Chief of Staff by Georgia Governor Ernest Vandiver. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed him as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. After 15 years of service on the Court of Appeals, Judge Bell returned to King & Spalding. He resigned from the firm to become the 72nd Attorney General of the United States on January 26, 1977, following his nomination by President Jimmy Carter.

He served as U.S. Attorney General until August 16, 1979, when he returned to King & Spalding, serving as chair of its Policy Committee. An active counselor and adviser to leaders in Congress, the U.S. Attorney General's office and U.S. presidents, Judge Bell's influence was wide reaching. He is recognized as one of the country's great Americans. Judge Bell died January 5, 2009, at the age of 90.



# 2018 GRIFFIN B. BELL AWARD RECIPIENT

## CHELSEA FECHTER

*School of Medicine*



Chelsea Fechter embraced the role of community service while pursuing her Doctor of Medicine degree. She has participated with student interest group service projects over the past four years, including Rooms for the Heart, remodeling rooms for children with severe illnesses, and Bear Buddies, teaching science projects to middle-school children. Fechter has spent her Saturdays at the Macon Volunteer Clinic where she has served as a student coordinator and focused her efforts in the Women's Health Clinic.

Yet, her most memorable service project was the founding of MedScouts, a series of interactive workshops for girls in grades 2 through 12 in partnership with the Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia. These workshops aim to connect young girls with medical students in an effort to earn the First Aid badge while getting a hands-on learning experience in medicine. MedScouts encourages girls to become stewards of health for themselves and those around them.

For her leadership and service projects, Fechter received the 2017 Outstanding Medical Student in Volunteerism and Advocacy Award from the Georgia Chapter of the American College of Physicians. She has served as the School of Medicine student body president for the past two years and is serving as chair of the student council this year.

Outside of community, classroom and hospital duties, Fechter enjoys playing in the Middle Georgia Concert Band, which performs in local assisted living facilities and at community events.

## PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

**2017**  
Matthew Mackenzie  
Kahrmann  
*School of Medicine*

**2016**  
Ebony Jervonne' Brown  
*Walter F. George School of Law*

**2015**  
Ashley Wilkerson Finney  
*College of Pharmacy*

**2014**  
Gary Wall  
*College of Liberal Arts*

**2013**  
Nancy Boore  
*College of Pharmacy and  
Health Sciences*

**2012**  
Chelsea Marie Flieger  
*College of Liberal Arts*

**2011**  
Andi Thomas Sullivan  
*McAfee School of Theology*

**2010**  
Gloria Ann Jordan  
*College of Continuing and  
Professional Studies*

**2009**  
Shannon Louise Moon  
*Georgia Baptist College of Nursing*

**2008**  
Grant Michael Jenson  
*Walter F. George School of Law*

**2007**  
Chpryelle Carr  
*School of Medicine*

Steuart Hutchings  
Botchford  
*College of Liberal Arts*

**2006**  
Hollie Benet Preston  
*Georgia Baptist College of Nursing*

**2005**  
John Michael Carroll  
*College of Liberal Arts*

Dennis Drummond  
*Tift College of Education*

**2004**  
Amanda Elaine Meloun  
*Walter F. George School of Law*

Leah Marie Phanco  
*College of Pharmacy and  
Health Sciences*

**2003**  
Caroline Gary  
*Walter F. George School of Law*

**2002**  
Rachel Gunter Shapard  
*McAfee School of Theology*

**2001**  
Stephanie Anne Shelton  
*College of Liberal Arts*

**2000**  
Virginia Campbell Leslie  
*School of Medicine*

# WALLACE ODELL DUVALL

## EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Wallace Odell DuVall Excellence in Leadership Award at Mercer University recognizes the outstanding leadership of a graduating senior from one of the University's undergraduate schools and colleges. For award consideration, students must be recommended by a faculty or staff member and nominated by their respective dean. Eligible candidates must demonstrate the abilities to motivate and inspire the confidence and trust of others, while possessing vision, intelligence, integrity and common sense, and having a good academic record. The selected recipient receives a financial award.

Wallace Odell DuVall (1901-1993) was an Atlanta attorney who spent most of his career in the banking industry. He served as secretary and attorney of the Atlanta Building and Loan Association, which later became Georgia Federal Savings and Loan Association, of which Mr. DuVall became chairman of the Board of Directors and chairman of the Executive Committee. A generous benefactor and longtime friend of Mercer University, he was a founding trustee of Atlanta Baptist College, which merged with Mercer in 1972 and became the University's Atlanta campus. He served three terms on Mercer's Board of Trustees, 1972-77, 1978-83 and 1985-90. The Dean's Suite at the Law School is named for him, as well as an academic building on the Atlanta Campus, where his portrait hangs.

### EMILY M. THOMPSON

*Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics*



During her time at Mercer, Emily Thompson excelled in the classroom with a 3.94 GPA in the Stetson School of Business and Economics, co-founded university-wide initiatives and served in long-term roles in various student organizations. Her list of accomplishments at Mercer is impressive, including finance chair of MU Miracle, president of Mercer College Republicans, peer adviser, Student Government Board of Appropriations member, president of Mobilize Mercer, co-founder of Bears Speak, Truman Scholarship finalist and Stamps Scholar. She was only the second finalist in the University's history for the prestigious Truman award, the premier graduate scholarship for aspiring public service leaders in the U.S.

Outside of Mercer, she has interned for a senator in Washington, D.C., as well as in the Macon-Bibb community.

At the heart of Thompson's activities are her strength of character and incredible passion for politics, social issues and helping others. She has spent much of her Mercer career engaged in social and political efforts and cares deeply about addressing issues through civil dialogue and proper channels of engagement. She is deeply grateful to be a Mercerian and wants this University she loves so much to continue to be a wonderful experience for those who come after her.

### PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

<p><b>2017</b> Aaron Micheal Scherf <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p><b>2013</b> Noah Maier <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p><b>2009</b> John Christopher Elder <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p><b>2006</b> Samson Julius Alva <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>James Derek Cook <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>Jimmy Thomas Howell <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>Larissa Spell <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
<p><b>2016</b> Joseph Knight Wozniak <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p><b>2012</b> John Andrew Jones <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p><b>2008</b> Stephanie Ard <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p><b>2005 AND EARLIER</b> William Arnold <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Blair Cox <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Andy Lane <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Eric Trivett <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
<p><b>2015</b> Kaitlin Chance <i>College of Nursing</i></p>	<p><b>2011</b> Margaret McCampbell <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p><b>2007</b> Stacey Irene Harwell <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Julia Bowen <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Daniel Crager <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Adam Neal <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Jamanda Turner <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
<p><b>2014</b> Michael Tekesky <i>College of Nursing</i></p>	<p><b>2010</b> Amy Carol Abel <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Megan Boyd <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>Micahel Bryan <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Ben Drew Cravey, III <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>Frank Nelson <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Jamila Wideman <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
		<p>Michael Bryan <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Kala Cartwright <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>John Christopher Elder <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>Pamela Popwell <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>	<p>Becky Wilcox <i>Stetson School of Business and Economics</i></p>
			<p>Michael Bryan <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Rhett Fraser <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Emily Salman <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Megin Lea Williams <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
			<p>Michael Bryan <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Crystal Garmon <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Amber Sandlin <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>	<p>Gary Wood <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>
			<p>Kala Cartwright <i>School of Engineering</i></p>	<p>Tiffany Gibson <i>College of Liberal Arts</i></p>		

# LOUIE D. NEWTON GENERAL EXCELLENCE MEDAL

The Louie D. Newton General Excellence Medal is presented to the graduating student who best exemplifies scholastic achievement, personal integrity and character, service to the campus community and a commitment to spiritual values. The award is named in honor of Dr. Newton, Mercer alumnus, former Mercer professor, Christian journalist, distinguished pastor and renowned denominational leader.

## SHANE BUERSTER

*Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics*



Shane Buerster earned the respect of the entire Mercer community as a young man who came to Mercer to play baseball, yet answered the call to make a sustainable difference in the lives of people in a town thousands of miles away. Mercer On Mission helped Buerster find his passion, and his accomplishment has revealed his fortitude, wisdom and intelligence.

Upon Buerster's first trip out of the country with a Mercer On Mission trip to Ecuador, the local government in the town of Zaruma asked the University to gauge whether coffee was a viable economic alternative to gold mining. While conducting market research, Buerster developed a friendship with a local farmer. Although the researchers concluded there was not enough coffee farming to create any sort of business, Buerster and his farmer friend remained in contact. After a number of weeks, the two went to work to develop a supply chain for coffee, and Buerster began to develop his brand based on creating sustainable solutions for Ecuadorian farmers through fair-trade importation methods. Last August, 4,000 pounds of coffee were shipped to the U.S. for his new company, Z Beans, to take to market.

Buerster has received a number of awards and recognitions, including Presidential Scholar, Outstanding Graduate in Economics, Outstanding Graduate in Marketing and the Delta Sigma Phi Award for top GPA in the Stetson School of Business and Economics. Though he originally planned to pursue a Ph.D. in economics upon graduating from Mercer, he has updated his plan and is currently building a loyal following for the Z Beans brand. Since the creation of Z Beans, he has grown the business to generate a profit, put 14 farmers to work and become an active partner in the Mercer Innovation Center.

# ALGERNON SYDNEY SULLIVAN AWARD

The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award is presented to the graduating student who best exemplifies excellence in character, leadership, service to the community and commitment to spiritual values. This award was established by The New York Southern Society in 1925, and at Mercer University in 1926, in memory of Mr. Sullivan, a great humanitarian and philanthropist.

## OLATORERA AINA

*Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics*



The leadership abilities of Olatorera Aina are quickly recognizable. After she applied for the leadership position of student justice in the Office of Judicial Education, she was asked to apply to be associate chief justice within a year. She went on to serve in the highly coveted position of chief student justice. She has discharged her duties with integrity, discipline and respect for almost two years. Aina has answered what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said was “life’s most persistent and urgent question – What are you doing for others?” She has been serving and leading others, while maintaining an academically rigorous course load. In 2017, she volunteered with Project Help to address immigration awareness in Macon. She planned an immigration awareness week at Mercer and organized and moderated a panel of immigrants from countries such as Columbia, Vietnam and Cameroon. In 2015, she participated in Hurricane Sandy Relief efforts in Long Island, New York. She placed new drywall in a house and cleared debris left in the house from the hurricane. As a native Nigerian, she has always desired to become a well-rounded citizen of the world and has traveled far and wide serving and leading wherever she has gone. In 2016, she interviewed farmers in Ecuador about the expenses of coffee production while on a Mercer On Mission trip. She also went to Rio de Janeiro on a SendMeNow mission trip where she created and supervised activities for 5- to 7-year-old girls at a local church. She has coordinated fall and spring break mission trips for her peers through the University’s Baptist Collegiate Ministry. Aina has left her imprint on Mercer and will make an indelible imprint as a leader in her future profession in dentistry.

# THE JAMES T. MCAFEE, JR. ENDOWED VISION AND LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The James T. McAfee, Jr., Endowed Vision and Leadership Scholarship Fund recognizes outstanding leadership abilities of a junior, senior or graduate student in the College of Liberal Arts, Stetson School of Business and Economics, Tift College of Education, School of Engineering, Townsend School of Music, College of Pharmacy, College of Health Professions, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, School of Medicine, or McAfee School of Theology.

James T. McAfee, Jr. (1939-2004) provided strong leadership to Mercer University as chairman and a member of the Board of Trustees. He was a generous benefactor of the University, and Mercer's School of Theology in Atlanta is named for him and his wife, Carolyn, a member of the University's Board of Trustees. A nationally recognized leader in the healthcare industry, he served as chairman of Hallmark Systems, Inc., an Atlanta-based health care ownership and management firm. He also was chairman of the board of *Baptists Today*. He was a graduate of Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, and Georgia State University in Atlanta. He received honorary doctorates from Union in 1990 and Mercer in 1999.

The James T. McAfee, Jr., Endowed Vision and Leadership Scholarship Fund was established in 2005 by his wife and his son, J. Thomas McAfee, III, a graduate of Mercer's Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics and a member of the University's Board of Trustees.

## SHANE BUERSTER

*Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics*



Shane Buerster epitomizes the purpose of the McAfee Vision and Leadership Scholarship. Although Buerster has been a highly regarded student in every sense, he has also stepped outside the academic realm, even at the risk of personal failure, to excel in another way — to make a difference in the lives of others. Buerster possesses an entrepreneurial passion, with the vision and creativity to enact positive change in our community and in Ecuador. Mercer On Mission helped Buerster find his passion. The town of Zaruma had reached out to Mercer, asking the University to determine whether coffee was a viable economic alternative to gold mining. Although the student researchers concluded that there was not enough coffee farming to create any sort of business, Buerster developed a friendship with a local farmer who, in turn, sent Buerster a list of 43 farmers willing to grow and supply coffee. In August, 4,000 pounds of coffee were shipped to the U.S. for his company, Z Beans, to take to market. Though his graduation plans were originally to pursue a Ph.D. in economics, he has updated his vision and is currently building the Z Beans brand and a loyal following. Since partnering with the local farmer and creating Z Beans, Buerster has grown the business, generated a profit, put 14 farmers to work and has become an active partner at the Mercer Innovation Center. He has hired seven Mercer interns and has been a partner for three class projects. Business often gets a bad rap for its lack of desire to make the world a better place. However, there is a new breed of entrepreneur who gets it. Buerster gets it. He is very passionate about growing his business and partnering with the Mercer community to do so.

## PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

**2017**

MaryGrace Bender  
*Townsend School of Music*

Parth N. Desai  
*School of Medicine*

Andrew J. Kelley  
*School of Engineering*

Abigail E. Paris  
*Townsend School of Music*

**2016**

Timothy M. Lewis  
*College of Liberal Arts*

Emma R. Peel  
*College of Liberal Arts*

Aaron M. Scherf  
*Stetson School of Business  
and Economics*

Jessy Togba-Doya  
*McAfee School of Theology*

**2015**

Andrew T. Eck  
*School of Engineering*

**2014**

Emily Caitlin Dowling  
*Townsend School of Music*

Dalton E. Turner  
*College of Liberal Arts*

**2013**

Alison L. Smith  
*School of Medicine*

Ryan C. Bartholomew  
*School of Engineering*

**2012**

Abraham A. Deng  
*McAfee School of Theology*

Kaitlyn T. Schmitt  
*Stetson School of Business  
and Economics*

**2011**

Christopher L. Gaunder  
*School of Medicine*

Matthew G. Townsend  
*Stetson School of Business  
and Economics*

**2010**

Ashley J. Mooney  
*School of Medicine*

**2009**

Chris L. Kiker  
*College of Liberal Arts*

**2008**

Bailey Edwards Nelson  
*McAfee School of Theology*

Susan Elizabeth  
Yarbrough  
*Tift College of Education*

**2006**

Rebekah Carol Duke  
*McAfee School of Theology*

James Christopher  
Geiger, Jr.  
*Townsend School of Music*

# JOE AND JEAN HENDRICKS EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

The Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award is a University-wide award given at Commencement to an outstanding teacher at Mercer. Personal attention to students and a focus on superior teaching are distinguishing characteristics of a Mercer education, and this award elevates and honors these values. The award is named for two of Mercer's greatest teachers. Joe Hendricks, and his older sister, Jean Hendricks, are both legendary at Mercer for their dedication to students and for their ability to engage students in transformative learning and discovery.

Dr. Jean Hendricks, a 1942 graduate of Tift College, earned her Ph.D. from Florida State University, served as chair of the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts, and was the beloved dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in Atlanta. Dr. Joseph Hendricks, a 1955 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts, earned his Ph.D. from Emory University, taught in the First-Year Seminar program for 32 years (both Jean and Joe were instrumental in creating this long-running program), founded the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts, and taught for years in the Department of Christianity in the College of Liberal Arts.

The Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes a full-time teacher in one of Mercer's 12 schools and colleges who best exemplifies the qualities that distinguished Joe and Jean Hendricks as teachers and mentors to generations of Mercer students:

- Challenging and inspiring teaching in and out of the classroom;
- Active engagement of students in the process of learning, discovery, and leadership; and
- Caring mentoring to motivate students and junior faculty to achieve their highest aspirations.

The award carries with it a \$5,000 stipend.

## SUSAN SWEAT GUNBY

*Georgia Baptist College of Nursing*



As a long-time educator, Dr. Gunby epitomizes excellence in teaching. Over a period of five decades, she has sustained and effectively responded to every paradigm shift known to academe. Her teaching expertise not only captivates learning in the traditional classroom, but she has effectively made the transition to teach in both a traditional classroom setting and the online learning environment. Long-time educators are often stymied by the thought of teaching online, since creative teaching strategies are necessary to retain components of rigor, engagement and creativity. Dr. Gunby embraces the challenges with her new teaching ventures and greatly contributes to the development of additional classroom and online courses. She is admired for her willingness to take either type of learning environment to facilitate scholarly engagement where students are challenged, inspired and transformed. She truly holds the “gift to teach others” and, more importantly, her teaching transcends to learning. Beyond Dr. Gunby’s personal teaching effectiveness and ability to engage the learner, she is also recognized for cultivating new educators. Feedback and letters of support from current students, alums from the undergraduate and graduate programs, current nursing faculty, and national nursing leaders from across the country all attest to her ability to inspire those who aspire to be or already are nurses. Dr. Gunby is an exceptional academic scholar, a true model of nursing leadership and most worthy of this recognition.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
COMMENCEMENT

# SCHOOL OF MEDICINE COMMENCEMENT

Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Saturday, May 5, 2018 | 2:00 p.m.

Presiding .....	William David Underwood <i>The President of the University</i>
Prelude .....	Richard Riley Gress <i>Townsend School of Music, Class of 2019</i>
Academic Procession* .....	North Georgia Pipes and Drums
Invocation* .....	James Charles Elder, Jr. <i>Pastor, First Baptist Church, Columbus, Georgia</i>
Welcome .....	The President of the University
Greetings from the School .....	Jean Rawlings Sumner, M.D. <i>Dean, School of Medicine</i>
Greetings from the Board of Governors .....	Jennifer Nunn Tarbutton, M.D. '01 <i>Chair, School of Medicine Board of Governors, Macon</i>  Gustavous Holmes Bell, III <i>Chair, School of Medicine Board of Governors, Savannah</i>
Special Music, <i>Here I Am Lord</i> .....	Joy Elise Mote <i>Townsend School of Music, Class of 2018</i> Composed by Dan Schutte Accompanied by Richard Riley Gress
Introduction of Speaker .....	D. Scott Davis, Ph.D. <i>Provost</i>
Commencement Address .....	The Honorable Terry Lamar England <i>State Representative, District 116, State of Georgia</i>
University Honors .....	The President of the University
Special Awards .....	Jean Rawlings Sumner, M.D.
Conferring of the Degrees .....	The President of the University <i>Master of Family Therapy   Master of Science in Preclinical Sciences</i> <i>Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences   Doctor of Medicine</i>
Awarding of Diplomas .....	Jean Rawlings Sumner, M.D.
Hippocratic Oath	
Introduced by .....	D. Scott Davis, Ph.D. <i>Provost</i>
Led by .....	Martin Herbert Greenberg, M.D. <i>Professor, Medical Education, Savannah Campus</i>
Alumni Welcome .....	Mary Watson Keith, M.D. '14 <i>School of Medicine Alumna</i>
Benediction* .....	James Charles Elder, Jr.
Academic Recession** .....	Richard Riley Gress

\* The audience is requested to rise.

\*\* The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

A reception hosted by the School of Medicine will be after the ceremony in Heritage Hall.



# TERRY LAMAR ENGLAND

*Commencement Speaker*

*Doctor of Laws*



Representative Terry England has spent his entire working life in agribusiness as a skilled farmer. His career as a small businessman in the rolling hills of North Georgia laid the foundation for the beliefs that guide his service in the Georgia House of Representatives. As co-chair of The Rural Hospital Stabilization Committee, Representative England has worked endlessly to find sustainable solutions to meet the healthcare needs of rural Georgians and their community hospitals. He now serves on the House Rural Development Council studying ways to protect and grow our state's rural communities, where access to healthcare is a leading concern.

Elected to the House of Representatives in 2004, Representative England serves as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee and on the following committees in the House: Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, Education, Natural Resources and Environment, Industry and Labor as well as

Ways and Means.

Chairman England works tirelessly to represent his constituents as well as guiding the strategic and thoughtful use of Georgia's tax revenue. He is known in the halls of the Capitol as a visionary leader who listens to his colleagues' differing issues and molds a solution with grace and patience.

Chairman England is admired for his firm Christian beliefs and strong work ethic. He is consistently the first legislator to arrive at the Capitol ready to work, a habit from his days in agriculture and his rural values.

He currently serves at the pleasure of the residents of the 116th House District. Representative England has been married to the former Cindy Casper of Winder for more than 30 years. Terry and Cindy are active citizens within the community and their church. As members of First Baptist Church of Auburn, Cindy is the church's assistant chief financial officer and Mr. England serves as a deacon.

# WILLIAM J. HOSKINS

*Doctor of Science*



Dr. William J. Hoskins is former executive director of surgical activities in the Department of Surgery at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. He has also held the rank of member in the Gynecology Service of the Department of Surgery, and has served as professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell University. Dr. Hoskins is a double graduate of the University of Tennessee and performed his obstetrics and gynecology residency at the Oakland Naval Hospital in Oakland, California, and his fellowship in gynecologic oncology at the University of Miami in Florida. From 2002 to 2007, he was senior vice president for oncology and research and director of the Curtis and Elizabeth Anderson Cancer Institute at Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah, Georgia, and held the rank of professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Mercer University School of Medicine. Mercer's medical education and research facility in Savannah

is named in honor of Dr. Hoskins. He holds the rank of captain (retired) in the Medical Corps of the United States Navy. He is past president of the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists and a past member of the executive board of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Dr. Hoskins is the author or co-author of 200 peer-reviewed publications, 83 individual articles and book chapters, and has edited 22 textbooks.

# ARNOLD P. GOLD FOUNDATION LEONARD TOW HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARDS

A key component of medical education is the compassionate and humanistic care of patients. In support of that premise, the NBI Healthcare Foundation initiated the Humanism in Medicine Awards to recognize and honor graduating students and faculty members who have demonstrated the highest standard of compassion and sensitivity in their interactions with patients. Mercer University School of Medicine graduating students and the faculty have, respectively, chosen a faculty member and a student who embody empathic, sensitive and respectful behavior in providing patient care.

## FACULTY HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD

Joanne Mary Kennedy, M.D.

*Associate Professor, Pediatrics*

## STUDENT HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD

Courtney Large Sanchez

## COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

### FACULTY MARSHALS

Martin Herbert Greenberg, M.D.

*Professor, Medical Education, Savannah Campus*

Thomas Dominick Hope, M.D.

*Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, Macon Campus*

### READERS

George Bowden Templeton, Ph.D.

*Program Director, Master of  
Family Therapy Program*

Susan Dawn Cline, Ph.D.

*Program Director, Master of Science  
in Preclinical Sciences Program*

Richard Olin McCann, Ph.D.

*Program Director, Master of Science  
in Biomedical Sciences Program*

Alice Aumann House, M.D.

*Senior Associate Dean, Columbus Campus*

Wayne Collier Glasgow, Ph.D.

*Senior Associate Dean, Savannah Campus*

Edwin Walker Grimsley, M.D.

*Senior Associate Dean, Macon Campus*

# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

◊ Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society | ♦ Gold Humanism Honor Society | † Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

### MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

Katherine Elizabeth Adams †  
*Macon, Georgia*

Matilda Teniola Adu  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Julia Denise Anderson  
*Roanoke, Alabama*

David Chapman Blanchard  
*Decatur, Georgia*

Curnesia Smith Bogans  
*Snellville, Georgia*

Bernestine Denise Bryant  
*Macon, Georgia*

Taylor Elise Chandler  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Lindsey Rae Coltraine †  
*Braselton, Georgia*

Cora Lee Flowers †  
*Griffin, Georgia*

J'Lynn Nicole Harvey  
*Sandy Springs, Georgia*

Holly Elizabeth Hattaway  
*Milledgeville, Georgia*

Sarah Caitlin Helton †  
*Kennesaw, Georgia*

Thomas Eric Hightower  
*Macon, Georgia*

Adrian Linese Howard  
*Macon, Georgia*

Kayla Kathleen McFadyen  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Holly Rochelle Marecheau  
*Lithonia, Georgia*

Lauren Briana Metayer  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Elizabeth Michelle Ngo  
*Fayetteville, Georgia*

Carlee Marie Owens  
*Saint Simons Island, Georgia*

Kinsey Elizabeth Pocchio †  
*Canton, Georgia*

Jasmine Amasa Florence Ramsey  
*Tampa, Florida*

Maria Teresa Rodriguez  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Jessica Lois Settle  
*Decatur, Georgia*

Monica Shiree Shaw  
*McDonough, Georgia*

S. Anni Skurja †  
*Thomaston, Georgia*

Kelly Grant Stephens †  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Wachovia Vidalia Indigo Thornton  
*Montezuma, Georgia*

Christie Lea Wakefield  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Cecil R. Walker  
*Dacula, Georgia*

Michael Christopher Williamson †  
*Macon, Georgia*

Charna Francine Wilson  
*Washington, Maryland*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PRECLINICAL SCIENCES

Mata Alexi Adams  
*Monroe, Georgia*

Idris Fathi Idris Ali Amghaiab  
*Brentwood, Tennessee*

Erin Anne Baker  
*Johns Creek, Georgia*

Jea Hoon Chang  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Joseph David Cherof  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Ji Hoon Choi  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Sagar Darira  
*Hickory, North Carolina*

Karishma Dayani  
*Grayson, Georgia*

Jewell Carter Dinkins  
*Winston Salem, North Carolina*

Brittany Elliott  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Kayla Guinn  
*Gainesville, Georgia*

Emily Caroline Houston  
*Dallas, Georgia*

Mariam Khalid Ishaq  
*Kennesaw, Georgia*

Brooke Ashlyn Kent  
*Boston, Massachusetts*

Xzavier Michael Killings  
*Hoebuck, South Carolina*

Chloe Marie LaGuardia  
*Newman, Georgia*

Holden Blayne Lee  
*Juliette, Georgia*

Amanda Cecilia Lemus  
*Pooler, Georgia*

Matthew Ronald LeSieur  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Sierra McClendon  
*Macon, Georgia*

Taylor Joseph Meetze  
*Athens, Georgia*

Michael David Mellace  
*Rome, New York*

Cydney Alexis Mitchell  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Jecee Beaux Morgan-Verdan  
*Fayetteville, Georgia*

Chinyerem Andrea Onokalah  
*Raleigh, North Carolina*

Edith Park  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Daniela Elizabeth Swinford  
*Macon, Georgia*

Joseph Fletcher Tiller  
*Macon, Georgia*

Ajay Chandra Valluri  
*Cumming, Georgia*

My Duyen Hoang Vo  
*Norcross, Georgia*

Christian Everett Walker  
*Cumming, Georgia*

Jiyeong Mun West  
*Athens, Georgia*

Mathishka Wickramasuriya  
*McDonough, Georgia*

Hae Young Yoon  
*Savannah, Georgia*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Wyatt Tyler Cramble †  
*Fayetteville, Georgia*

Nick Emamifar  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Robert Charles Fussell  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Eseosarea Igbinigie  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Troy Kendrick  
*Stanley, North Carolina*

Phillip Tyler Lindsey  
*Bowling Green, Kentucky*

Sarah Elizabeth Orr  
*Gainesville, Georgia*

Lea Maryam Sedghi  
*Macon, Georgia*

### DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

#### COLUMBUS CAMPUS

Danny Duc Bui  
*Bishop, Georgia*

Justin Patrick Fericola ◊  
*Fortsom, Georgia*

Benjamin Harris Goldsmith  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Dustin Doyle Morgan ◊  
*Buchanan, Georgia*

Joshua Daniel Naterman  
*Dunwoody, Georgia*

Marla Suzanne Peters  
*Lenox, Georgia*

Benny Howard Screws  
*Dublin, Georgia*

Charlotte Michelle Smith ◊  
*Wadley, Georgia*

Rachael Christina Smith  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Anna F. Spelts ♦  
*Leesburg, Georgia*

Park Peng Zheng ◊  
*Savannah, Georgia*

David Dawei Zhu ♦  
*Roswell, Georgia*

#### SAVANNAH CAMPUS

Samah Ahmadih  
*Grovetown, Georgia*

Merry Ellen Dirksen Barnett ◊♦  
*Evans, Georgia*

Christopher Ryan Bates  
*Augusta, Georgia*

Joshua Philip Bloodworth  
*Abbeville, Georgia*

Matthew Joseph Boss  
*Stockbridge, Georgia*

Taylor Elizabeth Boyd ◊†  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Madison Campbell Brooks ◊  
*Ringgold, Georgia*

Laurel Duvall Cantrell  
*Roswell, Georgia*

Michael Calvin Cantrell †  
*Dacula, Georgia*

Timothy Jerome Cartwright, Jr. ♦  
*Milledgeville, Georgia*

Jacob Nelson Chandler  
*LaFayette, Georgia*

Brian Matthew Close  
*Richmond Hill, Georgia*

Evelyn Brenda Coile  
*Hephzibah, Georgia*

Anastasia Couvaras  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Brian Thomas Darrith  
*Saint Simons Island, Georgia*

Johnathan Andrew Drevik ◊  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Sean Joseph Durkin  
*Athens, Georgia*

Benjamin Heath Foster  
*Dacula, Georgia*

Joseph Derrick Hayes  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Ruma Houghton  
*Berkeley Lake, Georgia*

Amy Huff  
*Douglasville, Georgia*

Kevin Andrew Jiles ◊♦†  
*Carrollton, Georgia*

Adrienne Nicole Jones  
*Jasper, Georgia*

Brooks Alan Keene  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Kasey Marie Lanier ♦  
*Johns Creek, Georgia*

Alayna Susanne LeCroy †  
*Athens, Georgia*

Meagan Pressly Marshburn  
*Homer, Georgia*

Akshat Jyotir Mehta  
*Albany, Georgia*

Andrew Reid Merwin ◊†  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Chelsea Renae Metzger  
*Franklin, Georgia*

Jose Anthony Millan  
*Statesboro, Georgia*

Kamran Shafi Mohammad  
*Evans, Georgia*

Magen Elizabeth Nicholson  
*Rome, Georgia*

Sajal Suren Patel  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Caylie Marie Peters  
*Ringgold, Georgia*

Inna Igorivna Polyakova  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Thomas Smith Reams  
*Savannah, Georgia*

John Weston Robison ◊†  
*Lyons, Georgia*

DeWitt Ralph Rogers  
*Decatur, Georgia*

Shadab Saboori ♦  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Ethan Joshua Sheinbaum ◊  
*Roswell, Georgia*

Steven Kyle Sparks  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Aaron Joseph Umansky  
*Augusta, Georgia*

Rachel Ann Walsh  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Mark Kainbridge Weaver  
*Ringgold, Georgia*

#### MACON CAMPUS

Adam Peter Albano  
*Roswell, Georgia*

Madiha Aseem  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Channing Elyse Bowers ♦  
*Smyrna, Georgia*

Spencer Alexander Carter  
*Decatur, Georgia*

Frances Jacqueline Cobb ◊  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Clifford Andrew Cranford  
*Newman, Georgia*

Siddharth Dalal  
*Macon, Georgia*

Ashlee Lauren Davis  
*Tifton, Georgia*

A'ngelique Rose Edwards  
*Albany, Georgia*

Chelsea Marie Fechter ♦  
*Evans, Georgia*

Joshua J Ferenczy ◊  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Robert McCreery Flowers, II ♦  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Blake Olivia Foxworthy  
*Alpharetta, Georgia*

Andrew Lane Fozzard  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Brittiany Hailey Gray ♦  
*Cartersville, Georgia*

Anna Tadsen Hill  
*Conyers, Georgia*

Mary McGee Hopper  
*Athens, Georgia*

Amy Kay Howard  
*Acworth, Georgia*

Sebastian Hyman  
*Acworth, Georgia*

Deanna Sarah Joe  
*Norcross, Georgia*

Rachel Leigh Kushner †  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

William Andrew Lewis  
*Alpharetta, Georgia*

Edward Larry Long, III  
*Macon, Georgia*

Allison Michelle Lord  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Joshua Howard Masdon  
*Sharpsburg, Georgia*

Sonia Mathew  
*Snellville, Georgia*

Graham Arthur Mercier ◊†  
*Hiram, Georgia*

Katherine Fratino Miller ◊†  
*Rome, Georgia*

Spencer Rickman Osbourn  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Samantha Jean Osteen  
*Augusta, Georgia*

Kunal Atul Patel  
*Covington, Georgia*

Natasha Patel  
*Watkinsville, Georgia*

Sabine Michaela Povian  
*Lawrenceville, Georgia*

Tyler Wayne Reed ◊♦  
*Lawrenceville, Georgia*

Melissa Bender Rienstra  
*Covington, Georgia*

Matthew Aaron Robinson †  
*Griffin, Georgia*

Thomas Luther Rogers, III  
*Macon, Georgia*

Courtney Large Sanchez ♦  
*Villa Rica, Georgia*

Jared William Shoops  
*Douglasville, Georgia*

Hugh Franklin Smisson  
*Macon, Georgia*

Katherine Emilie Rhoades Smith †  
*Bonaire, Georgia*

William Morgan Smith, II ♦  
*Tifton, Georgia*

William Tyler Solomon  
*Douglas, Georgia*

Ansley Danielle Stone  
*Monticello, Georgia*

Sarah Nicole Telliard ♦  
*Cartersville, Georgia*

Alexander Abbas Vakili  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Colton Robert-Jesse Webber ◊  
*Clarksville, Georgia*

Miles Chia-hung Wei  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Emory Adam Wilson  
*Milledgeville, Georgia*

## HIPPOCRATIC OATH

I SWEAR TO FULFILL, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY AND JUDGMENT, THIS COVENANT:

I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.

I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures which are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.

I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.

I will not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery.

I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.

I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.  
I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body as well as the infirm.

If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.



ATLANTA COMMENCEMENT

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

EUGENE W. STETSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

JAMES AND CAROLYN McAFEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

GEORGIA BAPTIST COLLEGE OF NURSING

PENFIELD COLLEGE

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

# ATLANTA COMMENCEMENT

Campus Lawn, Atlanta Campus | Saturday, May 12, 2018 | 8:30 a.m.

Presiding .....	William David Underwood <i>The President of the University</i>
Academic Procession* .....	Verdi's <i>Aida: Grand March</i>
Invocation* .....	James Sidney Netherton <i>Executive Vice President for Administration and Finance</i>
Welcome .....	The President of the University
Greetings from the Board of Trustees .....	Spencer Bidwell King, III <i>Mercer University Board of Trustees</i>
University Honors .....	The President of the University
Conferring of the Degrees .....	The President of the University
College of Pharmacy .....	Dean Brian Louis Crabtree <i>Doctor of Pharmacy   Doctor of Philosophy</i>
Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics .....	Dean Susan Perles Gilbert <i>Bachelor of Business Administration   Master of Accountancy Master of Business Administration   Master of Science</i>
Tift College of Education .....	Associate Dean Allison Cobb Gilmore <i>Bachelor of Science in Education   Master of Arts in Teaching Master of Education   Specialist in Education   Doctor of Philosophy</i>
James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology .....	Dean Jeffrey Guy Willetts <i>Master of Arts   Master of Divinity   Doctor of Ministry</i>
Georgia Baptist College of Nursing .....	Dean Linda Ann Streit <i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing   Master of Science in Nursing Doctor of Nursing Practice   Doctor of Philosophy</i>
Penfield College .....	Dean Priscilla Ruth Danheiser <i>Bachelor of Arts   Bachelor of Science   Bachelor of Applied Science Bachelor of Science in Social Science   Master of Science   Specialist in Education   Doctor of Philosophy</i>
College of Health Professions .....	Dean Lisa Murphey Lundquist <i>Master of Public Health   Master of Medical Science Doctor of Physical Therapy   Doctor of Psychology</i>
Presentation of Graduates .....	Readers
Alumni Welcome .....	Penny Loraine Elkins <i>Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management</i>
Benediction* .....	Kellie Raiford Appel <i>Senior Vice President for Strategic Initiatives</i>
Academic Recession**	

\* The audience is requested to rise.

\*\* The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

# SPENCER BIDWELL KING, III

## Greetings from the Mercer Board of Trustees



A pioneer in cardiac catheterization, coronary arteriography and interventional cardiology, Dr. Spencer B. King, III, was co-developer of the multi-purpose technique of coronary arteriography and has directed invasive and interventional cardiology training for more than 150 cardiology fellows. In 1972, he became the first Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory of Emory University Hospital and in 1980 recruited Andreas Gruentzig to begin the interventional cardiology program. Dr. King was President of the American College of Cardiology (1998-1999), President of the Society for Cardiac Angiography and Interventions (1991-1992) and served as the first Chair of the Interventional Cardiology Boards of the American Board of Internal Medicine (1997-2007). He is currently Chairman of the New York State Cardiac Advisory Board and has participated on many committees of the American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). Dr. King

is author of over 600 papers on cardiology, has edited or co-edited 10 books including *Interventional Cardiology* and *Hurst's The Heart* 9th through 13th editions. He is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology: Cardiovascular Interventions* and associate editor of the *Journal of American College of Cardiology*. He has served as principal investigator or member of the steering committees of 15 national and international clinical trails in cardiology, as well as conducting the first NHLBI-sponsored trial of coronary angioplasty versus bypass surgery.

His research interest has been in the area of restenosis prevention, having been a developer of radiation therapy to block restenosis, as well as new device development, evaluation of therapeutic approaches to cardiovascular disease and preventive cardiology. Honors include Master of the American College of Cardiology, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the TCT, and Honorary International Fellow of the Japan Circulation Society, the Bishop Lecture of the American College of Cardiology, the ETHICA Award of the European Society of Cardiology, the Jesse E. Edwards Lecture of the American Heart Association and Distinguished Alumnus Awards from the Medical College of Georgia and Mercer University. He currently serves as Chair of the Mercer University Board of Trustees.

## COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

### UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

Susan Sweat Gunby

*Professor, Georgia Baptist College of Nursing*

### FACULTY MARSHALS

J. Grady Strom

*Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences  
College of Pharmacy*

C. Gerry Mills

*Lecturer and Director of Accreditation  
Stetson School of Business and Economics*

William Otis Lacefield, III

*Professor of Mathematics Education  
Tift College of Education*

Graham B. Walker

*Professor of Theology and Philosophy  
McAfee School of Theology*

Helen Hodges

*Professor, Georgia Baptist  
College of Nursing*

William David Lane

*Professor of Counseling  
Penfield College*

Leslie Taylor

*Associate Dean and Professor, Department of  
Physical Therapy, College of Health Professions*

Stephen Michaels

*University Library*

Lynette Robson

*Instructor, English Language Institute*

### BANNER BEARERS

Susan W. Miller

*Chair and Professor of Pharmacy Practice  
College of Pharmacy*

Jordan M. Blanke

*Distinguished Professor of Computer  
Science and Law, Stetson School  
of Business and Economics*

Sylvia Y. Cain

*Associate Professor of Education  
Tift College of Education*

David P. Gushee

*Distinguished Professor of Christian Ethics  
and Director of the Center for Theology and  
Public Life, McAfee School of Theology*

Lana Chase

*Clinical Associate Professor  
Georgia Baptist College of Nursing*

Wesley Nan Baker

*Assistant Professor of Religious Studies  
Penfield College*

Nannette Turner

*Chair and Associate Professor,  
Department of Public Health  
College of Health Professions*

### READERS

Karen Gwynn Massey

*Associate Dean, Associate Professor  
of Christian Education  
McAfee School of Theology*

Sharon Lim Harle

*Assistant Vice President, Office of Alumni Services and University Special Events  
College of Pharmacy, Stetson School of Business and Economics, Tift College of Education,  
Georgia Baptist College of Nursing, Penfield College, College of Health Professions*

# SPECIAL AWARDS

## COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

2017 – 2018 DISTINGUISHED EDUCATOR AWARD

Angela Shogbon Nwaesei, Pharm.D.

*Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice*

## GEORGIA BAPTIST COLLEGE OF NURSING

2017 – 2018 DISTINGUISHED FACULTY MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Patricia Troyan, Ed.D., RN, CNM, CNE

*Associate Professor of Nursing*

## EUGENE W. STETSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

2017 – 2018 DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD

Julie Petherbridge, Ph.D.

*Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Graduate Programs*

## TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

2017 – 2018 CATHRYN FUTRAL EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Geri S. Collins, Ed.D.

*Associate Professor of Education*

## PENFIELD COLLEGE

2017 – 2018 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Wesley Nan Barker, Ph.D.

*Assistant Professor of Religious Studies*

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

2017 – 2018 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Elizabeth Dickerson, M.D.

*Clinical Associate Professor of Physician Assistant Studies*





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\* Cum Laude | \*\* Magna Cum Laude | \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

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— Continued

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*Xi'an, Shaanxi, China*

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*Milton, Georgia*

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*Atlanta, Georgia*

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*Kennesaw, Georgia*

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*Woodstock, Georgia*

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*Selma, Alabama*

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*Suwanee, Georgia*

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*South Korea*

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*Alpharetta, Georgia*

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*Atlanta, Georgia*

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*Chatsworth, Georgia*

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*Tunja, Boyaca, Colombia*

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*Atlanta, Georgia*

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Shalonda Waynette Witcher  
*Fairburn, Georgia*

Caryn Comer Woolley  
*Kansas City, Missouri*

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*Yinchuan, Ningxia Province, China*

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Touré Askia Calloway  
*Fairburn, Georgia*

Shannon Elizabeth Coburn  
*Tampa, Florida*

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*Hanoi, Vietnam*

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*Atlanta, Georgia*

Demis R. Leon Gonzalez  
*Caracas, Venezuela*

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Lakshmi Nagaraja  
*Bangalore, Karnataka, India*

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*Powder Springs, Georgia*

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*Orlando, Florida*

Alene H. Tyree  
*Safety Harbor, Florida*

Landon Anthony Woods  
*Powder Springs, Georgia*

Xin Zeng  
*China*

Jia Qing Zhu  
*Bedford, Texas*

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Jessica Lynn Bigham \*  
*Oxford, Georgia*

Stacey Michelle Bloodworth \*  
*Milledgeville, Georgia*

Britsheny Janéa Bolaji \*\*  
*Covington, Georgia*

Carla Tisha Bolivar  
*Ellenwood, Georgia*

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Eboni Toneil Iona Crosby  
*Newman, Georgia*

Brenda Renee' Culpepper \*  
*Riverdale, Georgia*

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Jazmin Alisha Dickerson  
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Jasmin Danielle Disroe-Avant  
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Tia Demmon Driver  
*Memphis, Tennessee*

Robin Ball Eagle  
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Valerie Ustacie Wiley  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Patricia Ann Woods \*\*  
*Jackson, Georgia*

### MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Shazia Ali  
*Lawrenceville, Georgia*

Meredith Lind Ammons ~  
*Roswell, Georgia*

Continued —

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

\* Cum Laude | \*\* Magna Cum Laude | \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Katherine Elizabeth Amundsen <i>Raleigh, North Carolina</i>	Sana Fatima Hamid Hussain <i>Cumming, Georgia</i>	Erin LaRae Quick <i>Snellville, Georgia</i>	Kayla Sorayle Bennings <i>College Park, Georgia</i>	Tamekia Rosza Powell <i>Marietta, Georgia</i>	Muriel Lorraine Huntley <i>New Orleans, Louisiana</i>	Kimberly Sharron Flanders ~ <i>Carrollton, Georgia</i>
Keona La'Isa Anderson <i>Lawrenceville, Georgia</i>	Lindsey Erin Irvin <i>Woodstock, Georgia</i>	Kirsten Jill Quinn <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Silvia Elena Bilbao <i>Dunwoody, Georgia</i>	Christina M. Pruitt <i>Denver, Colorado</i>	Andrew Gray Jameson <i>Dunwoody, Georgia</i>	Deborah Gray Green <i>Lovejoy, Georgia</i>
Arthur Morgan Armstrong <i>Miami, Florida</i>	Jayrelle Monique Israel <i>Saint Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands</i>	Herschel David Revzin <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Kristie Reese Blizzard <i>Macon, Georgia</i>	Carson McCall Raymond <i>Roswell, Georgia</i>	Yolwana L. Jones <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Cami Rae Hamlin <i>Jeffersonville, Georgia</i>
De'Monica Shareen Banks <i>Macon, Georgia</i>	Jack Richard Parker, III <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Elizabeth Gulick Ross <i>East Point, Georgia</i>	Michael Anthony Bosquet <i>Athens, Georgia</i>	Rhonda Yvette Robinson <i>Smyrna, Georgia</i>	Wendy Rebecca Kight <i>Hazlehurst, Georgia</i>	Jocelyn Marie Harrington ~ <i>Buffalo, New York</i>
Lauren Elizabeth Bearden <i>Marietta, Georgia</i>	Eulisa Michelle Jerez <i>Chicago, Illinois</i>	Amy Nicole Sanders ~ <i>Killeen, Texas</i>	Melissa Denniston Bryant <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	David-Aaron Roth <i>Rochelle, Georgia</i>	Renina Maria Knapp <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Courtney Marie Herbert <i>Warner Robins, Georgia</i>
Kionca Binns <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Chyteal Nikole Jones <i>Albany, Georgia</i>	Melody Renee Saunders <i>Upper Marlboro, Maryland</i>	Anaya Lani Bryson <i>College Park, Georgia</i>	Antonio T. Small <i>Grenada, Mississippi</i>	Kristall KeiShelle Manns <i>Macon, Georgia</i>	Marco Viveca Hicks-Brown <i>Jacksonville, Florida</i>
Sharnea Desiree Boykin <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Henry Louis Jones <i>St. Louis, Missouri</i>	Matthew Jay Scott <i>Grand Rapids, Michigan</i>	Brian Joycelyn Carr <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Brian Palmer Smith <i>Juliette, Georgia</i>	Chaney Leigh Moon ~ <i>Grayson, Georgia</i>	Kelly Lynn Holloway <i>Macon, Georgia</i>
Emily Lee Brincks <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Hayden Ward Kelly <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Sarah Elizabeth Sheehan <i>Gloucester, North Carolina</i>	Cequita Kenta Clark <i>Belzoni, Mississippi</i>	Briana Smith <i>Los Angeles, California</i>	Lauren Jaelyn Myers <i>Toledo, Ohio</i>	Don Edwin Jenrette, III <i>Bonaire, Georgia</i>
Julius Frank Carrafa, III <i>Grayson, Georgia</i>	Bridget Ciarra Kelsey <i>Milledgeville, Georgia</i>	Hannah Marie Siegel ~ <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	O'Marr Savollas Curry <i>Athens, Georgia</i>	Brian Christopher Sullivan <i>Marietta, Georgia</i>	Andrea Lanee Nunn <i>Decatur, Georgia</i>	Meghan Dianne Lowe <i>McDonough, Georgia</i>
Yonna Maria Coleman <i>Acworth, Georgia</i>	Darrell Latrell Lee <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Roshandrea Lanease Simmons <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Bena Elizabeth DeVaney <i>Lookout Mountain, Georgia</i>	Gantt Levi Thomas, Jr. <i>Roswell, Georgia</i>	Monica Louise Roberts <i>Columbus, Georgia</i>	John Peter Mangano <i>Lilburn, Georgia</i>
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Susan Kay Duderstadt <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Keithia Ashley Maddox <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Rashonda Denise Thames <i>Morrow, Georgia</i>	Kara Jordan Garner <i>Mableton, Georgia</i>	Vickie Ann White <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	James Anthony Platts <i>Covington, Georgia</i>	James Anthony Platts <i>Savannah, Georgia</i>
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Letitia Monique Etheridge <i>Bellingham, Massachusetts</i>	Latise Yolanda McCord <i>Decatur, Georgia</i>	Rebecca Elizabeth Vaughan <i>Decatur, Georgia</i>	Erika Lawandza Holland <i>Jonesboro, Georgia</i>	<b>DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY</b>	Kelly Derry Shadden <i>Charlotte, North Carolina</i>	Kelly Derry Shadden <i>Charlotte, North Carolina</i>
Megan Margaret Fannon <i>Doraville, Georgia</i>	J. Nathan Meadows <i>Harrodsburg, Kentucky</i>	Kiah Leigh Vernon <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Krystal Monique Horsford <i>Brooklyn, New York</i>	<b>SPECIALIST IN EDUCATION</b>	Audrey D. Smeltzer-Schwab <i>Tempe, Pennsylvania</i>	Audrey D. Smeltzer-Schwab <i>Tempe, Pennsylvania</i>
Donald Dexter Freeman <i>Lithonia, Georgia</i>	Donyelle Angellan Moore <i>Savannah, Georgia</i>	Rebecca Belle Walsh <i>Marietta, Georgia</i>	Kimberlyn Alford Jackson <i>Blakely, Georgia</i>	LeYoia Nyre Banks <i>Grand Rapids, Michigan</i>	Alison Dawn Smith <i>Covington, Georgia</i>	Alison Dawn Smith <i>Covington, Georgia</i>
Earlisa Page Gibson <i>Montpelier, Louisiana</i>	Emily Echols Morton <i>Cumming, Georgia</i>	Rachel Teresa Ward-Tobaishi <i>Ellenwood, Georgia</i>	Laura Elizabeth Johnson <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Dana Thomas Brock <i>Perry, Georgia</i>	Bettina LaFoi Polite Tate <i>Savannah, Georgia</i>	Bettina LaFoi Polite Tate <i>Savannah, Georgia</i>
Kristy Marie Gonzalez <i>Hampton, Georgia</i>	Randall Gerard Mosely <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Bruce Eric Weinkle <i>Norcross, Georgia</i>	Sheresa C. Kendricks <i>Warrenton, Georgia</i>	Kristal Serbrina Carmetta <i>Bernard, Brooklyn, New York</i>	Cheryl Petrice Twyman <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Cheryl Petrice Twyman <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>
Sumner Willingham Green <i>Roswell, Georgia</i>	Kassandra Anne Natrass <i>Cumming, Georgia</i>	Jasmin Dlor West ~ <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Valerie Lemon <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Karen Denise Buchanan <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Kimberly Stevens Ward <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Kimberly Stevens Ward <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>
Emily Ann Hogan <i>Sugar Hill, Georgia</i>	Dawn M. Parkman <i>Laurelton, New York</i>	Emily Elizabeth Whitman <i>Dallas, Georgia</i>	Zhenting Liu <i>Chengdu, China</i>	Shara Sheriese Conway <i>Pass Christian, Mississippi</i>	Stacy Renee Coker Carr <i>Macon, Georgia</i>	Stacy Renee Coker Carr <i>Macon, Georgia</i>
Leigh Ann Nicole Holt-Jordan <i>Americus, Georgia</i>	Collissina Aziza Pemberton <i>Snellville, Georgia</i>	<b>MASTER OF EDUCATION</b>	Therese Mitchell <i>Thomasville, Georgia</i>	Cortrell Le'Jon Davis <i>Memphis, Tennessee</i>	Richard Bryan Collins <i>Huntsville, Alabama</i>	Richard Bryan Collins <i>Huntsville, Alabama</i>
Sladjana Hrnjak <i>Buford, Georgia</i>	Patti Sook Phillips <i>Cumming, Georgia</i>	Jasmine Marie Allen <i>Snellville, Georgia</i>	Tricia-Ann Lisa Natalie Morais <i>Stockbridge, Georgia</i>	Rachel Grooms Gates <i>Lilburn, Georgia</i>	Jeffery Paul Compton <i>Griffin, Georgia</i>	Jeffery Paul Compton <i>Griffin, Georgia</i>
Sondra Latoria Hubert <i>Kennesaw, Georgia</i>	Natasha Melika Powell <i>Uniondale, New York</i>	Denika Yvonne Alston <i>Bethlehem, Georgia</i>	Julian H. Nation <i>Cyners, Georgia</i>	Alithia Mignon Goodman <i>Atlanta, Georgia</i>	Kara Elizabeth Cowdrick <i>Lilburn, Georgia</i>	Kara Elizabeth Cowdrick <i>Lilburn, Georgia</i>
Taylor Matthew Hunt <i>Canton, Georgia</i>	Jena Prather <i>Decatur, Georgia</i>		Kori Amanda Leigh Perez <i>Griffin, Georgia</i>	Anterro Anthony Graham <i>Punta Gorda, Florida</i>	Adam Reece Crownover <i>Charlotte, North Carolina</i>	Adam Reece Crownover <i>Charlotte, North Carolina</i>
				Stacey Lee Guider <i>Griffin, Georgia</i>	Trellis Latreece Davis <i>Lithonia, Georgia</i>	Trellis Latreece Davis <i>Lithonia, Georgia</i>

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Larry Darnell De'Bose, Jr.  
*Bakersfield, California*

Darnell Patron Long  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Tammi Terrell Vaughn  
*Cuthbert, Georgia*

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*Fort Worth, Texas*

Deborah Laverne Asbury  
*Concord, North Carolina*

Lee Clifton Ayres  
*Norcross, Georgia*

Ashley Rebekah Bell  
*Laurens, South Carolina*

Kamilah Diarra Bernstine-Bradley  
*Brooklyn, New York*

Corey L. Brown  
*Quitman, Georgia*

Darrick Lavon Brown  
*Seattle, Washington*

Justin Michael Brown  
*Macon, Georgia*

Cody James Everett Carpenter  
*Albany, Georgia*

Natalia Champaigne Daies  
*Macon, Georgia*

Guyton Zenobia Daniels  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Charri F. Doyle  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Sonya Olivia Dunham  
*Jonesboro, Georgia*

Quinta Shamale Ellis  
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Brenda Joyce Phillips  
Rensselaer, Indiana  
Shanate Delores Porter  
Lithonia, Georgia  
LaTrea Denise Price  
Richmond, Virginia  
Jason Allen Randolph  
Los Angeles, California  
Larissa Marie Ranglin  
Buford, Georgia  
Nichelle Janice Reefer  
Panama, Panama  
Megan Q'vec Ridley  
Montezuma, Georgia  
Jenise Rivera  
Lithium, Georgia  
Brianna Monya' Robinson  
Jackson, Mississippi  
Malcolm James Robinson  
Birmingham, Alabama  
Crystal Renee Robinson-Fisher ~  
Covington, Kentucky  
Elisciana Marier Davis  
Rodriguez  
Fayetteville, North Carolina  
Cherie' Faith Ross  
McDonough, Georgia  
Vernon Ollice Ruth, Jr.  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Tajia Charisse Samuels  
Decatur, Georgia  
Nina Thomas Santhosh  
Lawrenceville, Georgia  
Austin Lee Shugart  
Dacula, Georgia  
Jasmine Sims  
Gainesville, Florida  
Jaleesa Kay Smith  
Covington, Georgia  
Kellie Audrey Smith  
Dublin, Georgia  
Richard Todd Smith  
Snellville, Georgia  
Timothy Kyle Smith  
Decatur, Georgia  
Wesley Roy Smith  
Marietta, Georgia  
Sharianne Kiona Smith-McLean  
Grayson, Georgia  
Kimberly Enn-bierr Song  
Evans, Georgia  
Tiffany Annette Stephens  
Ringgold, Georgia

Jabari Akim Strozier  
La Canada Flintridge, California  
Erica Dongli Suh  
Palmetto, Georgia  
Ciera Denise Swain  
Lawrenceville, Georgia  
Florence Y. Tang  
Chicago, Illinois  
Samantha Ann Taranowski  
Savannah, Georgia  
Kaylee Coopersmith Taylor  
Johns Creek, Georgia  
Jessi Ray Tench  
Cornelia, Georgia  
Shikera LeAnne Thomason  
Roopville, Georgia  
Briana Jacquise Thompson  
Thomasville, Georgia  
Shivonie Tirbawanddat  
Coryers, Georgia  
Elizabeth Ann Topoleski  
Lawrenceville, Georgia  
Emerald Camille Tunie  
Lithonia, Georgia  
Cortney Rashad VanHook  
Chicago, Illinois  
Tina Athiyal Varghese  
Tucker, Georgia  
Tamika RaShon Veal  
Buford, Georgia  
Robert Brennan Vore  
Alpharetta, Georgia  
Cara Darise Waiswils  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Nicolé Deonca Walden  
Thomason, Georgia  
Alexandria Denise Walker  
Coryers, Georgia  
Stephanie Walker  
Ellenwood, Georgia  
Nikita Renee Warren  
Calhoun, Georgia  
Anastasia Evaughn West  
Marietta, Georgia  
John Otis Wilkins  
Aliceville, Alabama  
Jasmine N. Williams  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Paige Leigh Williams  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Tenica Lashay Williams ~  
Blakely, Georgia  
Zenitra Shereen Williams  
Brooklyn, New York

## SPECIALIST IN EDUCATION

Constance Denise Rogers  
Covington, Georgia  
**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**  
Catherine Ann Bell  
Decatur, Georgia  
Necole Contrice Bryant  
Savannah, Georgia  
Kenika Shunai Holloway  
Decatur, Georgia  
Margarita Velez Rice  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Adrienne Denise Rice  
Richmond, Virginia

# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

\* Cum Laude | \*\* Magna Cum Laude | \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

### MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Cristian Sebastian Acero  
*Buford, Georgia*

Yusra Amjad ~  
*Islamabad, Pakistan*

Alex Arhmon Ausborn  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Deanna A. Baker  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Jerilyn Genise Bebs  
*Lawrenceville, Georgia*

Tamika Renee Bentley  
*Detroit, Michigan*

Jeanay Butler  
*New Orleans, Louisiana*

Shirleyas Makonda Tytonia Chambers  
*Crest Hill, Illinois*

Gilles Cavell Charles  
*La Brea, Trinidad and Tobago*

Erika Renee Clater  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Sabrina Tamara Clayton  
*Orange, New Jersey*

Alyssia Danielle Clore  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Sydney Catherine Coleman  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Paige Alexandria Crawford Martin  
*Seattle, Washington*

Christian Ciarra Dancy  
*Washington, District of Columbia*

Nicole Brittany Dixon  
*Loganville, Georgia*

Tifarah Lashay Dixon  
*Wildwood, Florida*

Kendra Davia Doctor  
*Decatur, Georgia*

Christina Lynne Evans  
*Stone Mountain, Georgia*

Abiola Oludamilola Fakile  
*Liburn, Georgia*

Josie Lynn Garcia  
*Canyers, Georgia*

Charlton Marvell Goodwin  
*Columbia, South Carolina*

Charrica Kiwanas Green  
*Memphis, Tennessee*

Taylor Sarda' Hart  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Terence Jerod Hickey  
*McDonough, Georgia*

Jessica Hope Mildred Hudson  
*Cleveland, Ohio*

Kartee Johnson  
*Brookhaven, Georgia*

Tanya E. Jules  
*Malden, Massachusetts*

Kyla Joanne Langdon  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Stephanie Yanne Leppry  
*Acworth, Georgia*

Brittany Loadholt  
*McDonough, Georgia*

Jasmine Earlene Manning  
*Jonesboro, Georgia*

Carion Marcelin  
*Haines City, Florida*

Danielle Marie McCoy  
*Lake Orion, Michigan*

Ashley Renese McLean  
*Los Angeles, California*

Peter Ifeanyichukwu Mgbemena  
*Riverdale, Georgia*

Courtney LaTrice Nesbitt  
*Spartanburg, South Carolina*

Nosa Lloyd Nwaonumah  
*Port Harcourt, Nigeria*

Oluwatofunmi O. Olowoyo  
*Severn, Maryland*

Brittney Jenee' Palmer  
*South Bend, Indiana*

Chandni Tushar Patel  
*Carrollton, Georgia*

Davisha J. Patel  
*Carrollton, Georgia*

Kim Bharat Patel  
*Villa Rica, Georgia*

Neha Kishor Patel  
*Cartersville, Georgia*

Spencer Price  
*Valdosta, Georgia*

Reuben Arthur Reynolds  
*Bainbridge, Georgia*

Darren Shavae Robinson  
*Lithonia, Georgia*

Caitlin Audrey Roell  
*Macon, Georgia*

Arianna Lynette Sabur  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Vlad Alexander Schorstein  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Cherie Michelle Simmons  
*Rockmart, Georgia*

Lauren Marie Simons  
*Columbia, South Carolina*

Brianna Denise Smith  
*Orlando, Florida*

Kevin Varghese ~  
*Snellville, Georgia*

Michelle Vu  
*Stone Mountain, Georgia*

Joy Bianca Walker  
*Greenwood, Mississippi*

Kamesha Dena' Walker  
*Greensboro, Georgia*

Michelle Nicole Walton ~  
*Union City, California*

Joe Devaughn Washington  
*Aliceville, Alabama*

Andrea Elaina Williams  
*Stone Mountain, Georgia*

Julia Kalila Wristen  
*Tucson, Arizona*

### MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

Cameron Marie Allen  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Haley Elizabeth Bauguss  
*Liburn, Georgia*

Jessica Preanna Broderick  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Audrey Jane Chasteen  
*Tucker, Georgia*

Jennifer Ging Chen  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Pamela Van Chi ~  
*Cumming, Georgia*

Aleece Diaz  
*Bodesa, California*

Heather Michelle Farmer  
*Kingsland, Georgia*

Daniel Louis Fazzino  
*Woodbury, Connecticut*

Lindsey Meg Hanshaw  
*Newnan, Georgia*

Elizabeth Chandler Harris  
*Birmingham, Michigan*

Grace Aldrich Higgins  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Matthew Benjamin Hintz  
*Stevens Point, Wisconsin*

Alexandra Nicole Hodson  
*Brookhaven, Georgia*

Lauren Erin Holcomb  
*Sugar Hill, Georgia*

Emily Jannine Jamshedi  
*Williamsport, Pennsylvania*

Elizabeth Tanner Judy  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Grace Corinne Kittrell  
*Austin, Texas*

Cody Jackson Leatherwood  
*Buchanan, Georgia*

Kathryn Elizabeth Leviner ~  
*Dalton, Georgia*

Tammy May Luu  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Kris Ann Magpantay  
*Stockbridge, Georgia*

Chelsey Elizabeth Masters  
*Rome, Georgia*

Hayley Lauren House  
*McPhedran, Naples, Florida*

Jennifer Erin Millsap  
*Alpharetta, Georgia*

Elizabeth Rogers Nagengast  
*Navarre, Florida*

Sarah Nayeosadri ~  
*Roswell, Georgia*

Deep Gautam Patel  
*Acworth, Georgia*

Katharine Follin Patrick  
*Athens, Georgia*

Veronica A. Paz ~  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Elizabeth Anne Peoples  
*Naperville, Illinois*

Danica Leigh Pinson  
*Cumming, Georgia*

Erica Catherine Polcari  
*Bluffton, South Carolina*

Kathleen Kayner Pritchett ~  
*Jacksonville, Florida*

Casey Ann Reilly  
*Birmingham, New Jersey*

Jordan Ryan Sapp  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Sally Duggan Sfeir  
*Stevens Point, Alabama*

Dhaval Devesh Shah  
*Cliffwood, New Jersey*

Sara Catherine Stephano  
*Raleigh, North Carolina*

Camden Michael Thurmond  
*Jefferson, Georgia*

Megan Deanne Tracy  
*Lawrenceville, Georgia*

Jessica Leigh Tucker  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Shelby Taylor Ward  
*Birmingham, Alabama*

Catherine Kight Wilson  
*Waynesboro, Virginia*

Samantha Castillo Wilson  
*Gainesville, Georgia*

Caroline Adams Wolter  
*Mableton, Georgia*

Catherine Elizabeth Woznak  
*Winchester, Virginia*

### DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Lauren Mae Elizabeth Alongi  
*Huntsville, Alabama*

Lisa Katherine Beksell  
*Purcellville, Virginia*

Celia Lauren Bouton  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Sarah Elizabeth Brooks  
*Glenelg, Maryland*

Katherine Paige Butler  
*Maryville, Tennessee*

Mary Anna Caldwell  
*Chattanooga, Tennessee*

Kathryn Leigh Cushen  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Karl Joseph Demings  
*Mobile, Alabama*

Haley Graham Dendy  
*Cadwell, Georgia*

Bill Issa Djire  
*Dunwoody, Georgia*

Carolyn Rose Elliott  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Katie Elizabeth Gould  
*Birmingham, Alabama*

Grace Joy Han  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Katherine Elizabeth June  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Erin Elizabeth Kaminsky  
*West Friendship, Maryland*

Jaе Man Kim  
*Seoul, South Korea*

Melissa Joann Kolazyk  
*Birmingham, Alabama*

Lindsay Marie Lastinger  
*Valdosta, Georgia*

Megan Elizabeth Loyd  
*Ringgold, Georgia*

Ann Viktoria MacDougall  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Kelly Elizabeth McKinnon  
*Winnebago, Illinois*

Megan Leigh McLain  
*Jonesboro, Georgia*

Jordan Purser Miles  
*Dublin, Georgia*

Donnell Rashied Akiel Moss  
*Wellington, Florida*

Ryan J. Mussell  
*Milner, Georgia*

Rachel Storz Parkman ~  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Hemal Patel  
*McDonough, Georgia*

Kimberly Jayne Pauley  
*LaGrange, Georgia*

Mary-Kathryn Piontek  
*Newman, Georgia*

Jonathan Andrew Purser  
*Culhoun, Georgia*

Stephanie Nicole Sarandos  
*Waukesha, Wisconsin*

Sabine Schartman  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Brian Richard Schneider  
*Eastchester, New York*

Taylor Renee Smith ~  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Andrew Charles Thompson  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Chelsea Victoria VonBartheld  
*Pelham, Alabama*

Stefanie Joy Wheeler ~  
*Alpharetta, Georgia*

Emma McGill Wishart  
*Knoxville, Tennessee*

Jessica Marie Zecchino ~  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

### DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Maria Helen Anastasiades  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Vilmarie Báez  
*Pembroke Pines, Florida*

Stephen Tyler Brown  
*Abbeville, South Carolina*

Andrea Pusser Eaton  
*Florence, South Carolina*

Chase Vaughn Grosse  
*Lexington, Kentucky*

Olivia Anne Gupton  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Kelsie Christina Harding  
*South Daytona, Florida*

Christian Nickole Klepper  
*West Palm Beach, Florida*

Lindsey Bigham Pallas  
*Martinez, Georgia*

Laura Catherine McKenzie  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Christine Marie Mullen  
*Flagler Beach, Florida*

Krystal Tomskey-Jackson  
*Macon, Georgia*

Participation in the graduation ceremony does not necessarily represent conferral of the degree. Degrees are awarded at the end of the term in which all requirements are met. Honors printed in the program and announced at the commencement ceremony are based on grades earned at the time of program publication, and may not reflect final honors.

WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW  
COMMENCEMENT

# WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

## COMMENCEMENT

Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Saturday, May 12, 2018 | 10:00 a.m.

Presiding .....	Cathy Cox, '86 <i>Dean and Professor of Law</i>
Prelude .....	Jack Mitchener <i>University Organist</i>
Academic Procession* .....	Jack Mitchener
Invocation* .....	Timothy Wesley Floyd <i>Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Advocacy and Director of Experiential Education</i>
Welcome .....	D. Scott Davis <i>Provost</i>
Greetings from the Law School .....	Cathy Cox
Introduction of M. Peterson Robinson .....	Cathy Cox
Introduction of Speaker .....	M. Peterson Robinson, '80 <i>Managing Partner-Atlanta, Troutman Sanders LLP</i>
Commencement Address .....	The Honorable Nathan Deal, AB '64, JD '66 <i>Governor, State of Georgia</i>
Student Awards .....	Jenny Wright <i>Assistant Dean for Student Affairs</i>
Special Recognitions	
George Waldo Woodruff Award of Excellence .....	Cathy Cox
Reynold J. Kosek, Jr. Excellence in Teaching Award .....	David Seth Cromer <i>Editor in Chief, Mercer Law Review</i>
Conferring of the Juris Doctor .....	D. Scott Davis Cathy Cox
Charge to Graduates .....	Cathy Cox
Presentation of the Class of 2018 .....	Jacob Seth Langley <i>President, Student Bar Association</i>
Hooding Ceremony .....	D. Scott Davis Cathy Cox
Alumni Welcome .....	M. Anne Kaufold-Wiggins, '05 <i>President, Alumni Association Board of Directors</i>
Benediction* .....	Timothy Wesley Floyd
Academic Recession** .....	Jack Mitchener

\* The audience is requested to rise.

\*\* The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.



# NATHAN DEAL

## Commencement Speaker



Since taking office in 2011, Gov. Nathan Deal, AB '64, JD '66, has led Georgia to become the No. 1 state in the nation for business for three years in a row — a first in Georgia history — and helped create more than 540,000 private sector jobs. In the last six years, Georgia's job growth has outpaced the national average, while its population has jumped from 10th to 8th nationally.

Through tax reform, workforce development initiatives and investment in education and infrastructure, the state continues to grow local small businesses and attract top companies from around the world. During Gov. Deal's tenure, Georgia has become a global destination for companies in a wide range of industries. Under his leadership, Georgia has produced six balanced budgets, saved millions of taxpayer dollars by maintaining Georgia's AAA bond rating and grown the Rainy Day Reserve Fund to more than \$2 billion.

In order to keep up with a growing infrastructure demand, Gov. Deal implemented a number of investments in Georgia's transportation system. He worked with the General Assembly on the Transportation Funding Act of 2015, which included a number of significant infrastructure projects and will generate \$10 billion in new transportation funding over 10 years.

Transportation projects under Gov. Deal have alleviated traffic and improved safety for a growing state, including the widening of I-85, installing new truck lanes on I-75 north and south of Atlanta, widening roads in South Georgia and completing the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway extension near the Port of Savannah. To track the progress of these projects, the *GA Roads* website was launched to provide unprecedented clarity and transparency in these investments. Georgia's infrastructure projects and transparency measures are currently being used as a model for other states across the nation.

Georgia also leads the nation in criminal justice reform. When Gov. Deal took office, Georgia was in the midst of a criminal justice crisis, with high incarceration costs and recidivism rates. To address these issues, he implemented a series of bipartisan reforms that have already paid dividends by saving taxpayers \$264 million and reducing the need for 5,000 prison beds.

A Sandersville native and double Mercer Bear, Gov. Deal served in the U.S. Army at Fort Gordon in Augusta after graduating with a law degree from Mercer. He then began a private law practice in Gainesville, the hometown of his wife, Sandra Deal. While his wife taught in Hall County public schools, he began a career in public service, working as a prosecutor, judge, state senator and U.S. congressman for Georgia's 9th District. He was elected as Georgia's 82nd governor in 2010 and re-elected in 2014. The Deals have four adult children and six grandchildren.

## COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

### FACULTY MARSHALS

Anthony R. Baldwin  
*Professor of Law*

Linda D. Jellum  
*Ellison Capers Palmer Senior  
Professor of Law*

### HOODERS

James P. Fleissner  
*Professor of Law*

Patrick E. Longan  
*William Augustus Bootle Chair  
in Professionalism and Ethics*

Michael D. Sabbath  
*SBLI/Walter Homer Drake, Jr.,  
Endowed Chair in Bankruptcy Law*

Karen J. Sneddon  
*Professor of Law*

### USHERS

Mercer Law Students

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

\* Cum Laude | \*\* Magna Cum Laude | \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

# WALTER F. GEORGE SCHOOL OF LAW

### JURIS DOCTOR

Justin Bradley Adams  
*Pelham, Georgia*

Halton Tony Albritton, Jr.  
*Butler, Georgia*

Michael Jarrod Alexander  
*Macon, Georgia*

Aliayah Jasmine Baaiith\*  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Chase Laine Baldwin  
*Buford, Georgia*

Jarrold Michael Baskin\*  
*Valdosta, Georgia*

Lauren Therese Beasley  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Spenser Roy Bettis  
*Cumming, Georgia*

Monique Jacqueline Bianco  
*Tampa, Florida*

Matthew Charles Bottoms\*\*  
*Cumming, Georgia*

Lauren Elizabeth Bridgers  
*Metter, Georgia*

Lillian Brooke Bristow\*  
*McDonough, Georgia*

Courtney Michelle Britt  
*Woodstock, Georgia*

Beau Bagnal Brogdon\*  
*Snellville, Georgia*

Benjamin Dale Brubaker  
*Coker, Georgia*

Mark A. Buckland  
*Macon, Georgia*

Briana Lavon Carter\*  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Nalda Kay Charles  
*Stone Mountain, Georgia*

Alex Robert Cidado  
*Woburn, Massachusetts*

Gretchen Olivia Connick\*  
*Cypress, Texas*

Hannah Mary Couch\*\*~  
*Statesboro, Georgia*

Jesse Michael Cox  
*Marietta, Georgia*

David Seth Cromer\*\*  
*Thomaston, Georgia*

Michael James Deal  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Hernan Antonio Diaz-Caballero  
*Lima, Peru*

Justin Charles Duane  
*Arcadia, California*

Nancy Bodenhamer Early  
*Sandy Springs, Georgia*

Diantha Virginia Ellis  
*Tifton, Georgia*

Robert Kyle Evans  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Benjamin Ryan Farmer  
*Cumming, Georgia*

Poneh Fetanat  
*Johns Creek, Georgia*

Katelyn Elizabeth Fischer\*  
*Dalton, Georgia*

John Edward Bryan Gordy\*  
*Cumming, Georgia*

Beatrice Carolyn Hancock\*  
*Hamilton, Georgia*

Max Andrew Harris  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Heather Faye Hartley  
*McDonough, Georgia*

Ebony Shameka Hayes\*\*~  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Jessica Brooke Haygood\*\*~  
*Culloden, Georgia*

Kenneth Leonard Henley  
*Brunswick, Georgia*

Ralph Elliott Hensley  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Michael Sebastian Hibdon\*\*~  
*McMinnville, Tennessee*

Laura Dantzler Hicks\*\*  
*Conway, South Carolina*

Julian Albert Hinds  
*Conyers, Georgia*

Megan Camry Howerter  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Jeffrey Alexander Jackson  
*Milton, Georgia*

Catherine Miles Jenkins  
*Luthersville, Georgia*

Mary Catherine Jenkins  
*Peachtree City, Georgia*

Sara L. Jones  
*St. Louis, Missouri*

Daniel Thomas Kilfoyle\*  
*McDonough, Georgia*

Eric Foster Kramer\*\*  
*Alama, Georgia*

Jacob Seth Langley  
*Sylvester, Georgia*

William Douglas Leach  
*Johns Creek, Georgia*

Jessica Alexandria Lill\*  
*Canton, Georgia*

Jena Camella Lombard\*\*  
*Salisbury, North Carolina*

Morgan Elizabeth Lyndall  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Leah Cristina Mayo  
*Rome, Georgia*

Megan Caley McDonald  
*LaGrange, Georgia*

Declan Chandler McGinty  
*Los Angeles, California*

Maria Carter McMillen  
*Eatonton, Georgia*

Gabriel Mark Medford\*  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Rasheed Damon Merrell  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Nathaniel Quintin Meyers\*  
*Telford, Pennsylvania*

Anna Grace Mills  
*Biloxi, Mississippi*

Asya-Lorrene Morgan  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Alex Grayson Myers\*\*  
*Sylvania, Georgia*

Taylor Danielle Nelson  
*Statesboro, Georgia*

Nathan Riggs Nicholson\*\*  
*Cornelia, Georgia*

Min Ji Park  
*Seoul, South Korea*

Hiten P. Patel  
*Rockledge, Florida*

William Quinton Platt, IV\*\*~  
*Panama City, Florida*

William Jackson Prater\*\*  
*Tiger, Georgia*

Stefani Leigh Reed  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Darius Jauale Reese  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Lauren Marie Rogers  
*Hoschton, Georgia*

Veronica Nicole Rogusky  
*Alpharetta, Georgia*

Brandon Deon Sartin  
*Macon, Georgia*

James Daniel Sears  
*Douglas, Georgia*

Scott Pendleton Serafy\*  
*Macon, Georgia*

Kathryn Lynn Shirley  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Lindsay Elizabeth Simmons  
*Fort Myers, Florida*

Caroline Luisa Sison  
*Duluth, Georgia*

Alan Douglas Smith  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Giovanna Sotera Soto\*\*  
*Macon, Georgia*

Howard Eugene Spiva, II\*  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Sarah Katherine Stapleton  
*Wilmington, North Carolina*

Nathan Patrick Stewart  
*Peachtree City, Georgia*

Krysta Rae Tate\*\*~  
*Valrico, Florida*

Autumn Rose Triplett\*  
*Athens, Georgia*

Cosette G. Troidl\*\*  
*Endwell, New York*

Anna Lucille Usry\*  
*Byron, Georgia*

Tash Miller Anestos Van Dora  
*Hartwell, Georgia*

Meghan Jordan Vickers  
*Bainbridge, Georgia*

Jordin Elizabeth Walker  
*Newnan, Georgia*

Kaitlyn Elizabeth Walker  
*Johns Creek, Georgia*

Christina Nicole Waller\*\*  
*Cumming, Georgia*

Breona Jahne Ward  
*Alpharetta, Georgia*

Rebecca Ann Ward-Davies  
*Fort Wayne, Indiana*

Alyssa Marie Williams  
*Melbourne, Florida*

Andrew E. Williams  
*Stockton, California*

Lauren Raquelle Wilmer  
*Frederick, Maryland*

Sara Alexis Louise Witherspoon  
*Irmo, South Carolina*

Lawrence Pemberton Wright  
*Sacramento, California*

Dorothy Sarah Young  
*Carrollton, Georgia*

### SPECIAL HOODING

Andrew Thomas Bennett  
*Pleasantville, Ohio*

William Lovett Bennett\*\*  
*Statesboro, Georgia*

Spenser Danielle Berrios\*\*  
*Winter Springs, Florida*

Joshua David Boyd  
*Macon, Georgia*

Sarah Hauck Carbo  
*Louisville, Kentucky*

Elizabeth Grace Jolly  
*Augusta, Georgia*

David Jackson Kendrick\*  
*Bainbridge, Georgia*

Kelsey Lane Kicklighter\*  
*Rincon, Georgia*

Robert Hardin Malone, IV  
*Macon, Georgia*

Andrew Bryce Moody\*  
*Perry, Georgia*

James Thomas Palmer  
*Calhoun, Georgia*

Dorie Lynn Sapp  
*Salisbury, North Carolina*

Alexandra Camille Sparks  
*Jasper, Georgia*

Philip William Stewart\*  
*Lawrenceville, Georgia*

### JURIS DOCTOR/ MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Sheryle Lynn Dickens  
*Augusta, Georgia*

Raine Ascott Miller  
*Greenville, Georgia*

Omolayo Olusegun Omotosho  
*Lagos, Nigeria*

*Final grades for graduates are not due until June. Degrees and honors will not be determined or become final until all grade point averages of students are computed in June. The program reflects those graduating students who, based on grades earned in the first five semesters, are likely to receive honors when final grades are calculated.*

## CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED LEGAL WRITING, RESEARCH, AND DRAFTING

Michael Jarrod Alexander  
Aliayah Jasmine Baaiith  
Spenser Danielle Berrios  
Monique Jacqueline Bianco  
Sarah Hauck Carbo  
Briana Lavon Carter

Hannah Mary Couch  
Justin Charles Duane  
Diantha Virginia Ellis  
Ebony Shameka Hayes  
Laura Dantzler Hicks  
Julian Albert Hinds

Megan Camry Howerter  
Jena Carmella Lombard  
Rasheed Damon Merrell  
Alex Grayson Myers  
Min Ji Park  
William Jackson Prater

Darius Jauale Reese  
Caroline Luisa Sison  
Cosette G. Troidl  
Alyssa Marie Williams  
Lauren Raquelle Wilmer  
Sara Alexis Louise Witherspoon



MACON COMMENCEMENT

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

EUGENE W. STETSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

PENFIELD COLLEGE

TOWNSEND SCHOOL OF MUSIC

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

# MACON COMMENCEMENT

Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus | Saturday, May 12, 2018 | 3:30 p.m.

Presiding .....	William David Underwood <i>The President of the University</i>
Prelude .....	Jack Mitchener <i>University Organist</i>
Academic Procession* .....	Jack Mitchener
Invocation* .....	Craig Thomas McMahan <i>Minister of the University and Dean of the Chapel</i>
Welcome .....	The President of the University
Greetings from the Board of Trustees .....	Barbara Brown Taylor <i>Mercer University Board of Trustees</i>
Special Music, <i>Irish Blessing</i> .....	Joy Elise Mote, <i>soprano</i> <i>Bachelor of Music in Performance, Class of 2018</i> Composed by Bob Chilcott Accompanied by Jack Mitchener
Introduction of the Speaker .....	D. Scott Davis <i>Provost</i>
Message to the Graduates .....	Jazmine G. Buckley <i>Political Science and Women's and Gender Studies; Class of 2018</i>
Student Awards .....	Douglas R. Pearson <i>Vice President and Dean of Students</i>
Conferring of the Degrees .....	The President of the University
College of Liberal Arts .....	Dean Anita Olson Gustafson <i>Bachelor of Arts   Bachelor of Science   Bachelor of Science in Health Science</i>
Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics .....	Dean Susan Perles Gilbert <i>Bachelor of Business Administration   Master of Business Administration</i>
School of Engineering .....	Dean Laura Waneta Lackey <i>Bachelor of Science   Bachelor of Science in Engineering   Master of Science   Master of Science in Engineering</i>
Tift College of Education .....	Associate Dean Kelly Elizabeth Reffitt <i>Bachelor of Science in Education   Master of Arts in Teaching   Master of Education</i>
Penfield College .....	Dean Priscilla Ruth Danheiser <i>Bachelor of Arts   Bachelor of Science   Bachelor of Applied Science   Bachelor of Science in Social Science</i>
Townsend School of Music .....	Dean C. David Keith <i>Bachelor of Arts   Bachelor of Music   Bachelor of Music Education   Master of Music</i>
College of Health Professions .....	Dean Lisa Murphey Lundquist <i>Bachelor of Science</i>
Presentation of Graduates .....	Edward J. Weintraut <i>Professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures, College of Liberal Arts; Reader</i>
Alumni Welcome .....	John Andrew Patterson <i>Senior Vice President for University Advancement</i>
Alma Mater* .....	Stanley Leroy Roberts, B.A. '84 <i>Arthur Lowndes Rich Professor of Choral Conducting and Associate Dean, Townsend School of Music</i>
Benediction .....	Craig Thomas McMahan
Academic Recession** .....	Jack Mitchener

\* The audience is requested to rise. \*\* The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

## BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR

### *Greetings from the Mercer Board of Trustees*



Barbara Brown Taylor is a *New York Times* best-selling author, professor and Episcopal priest. She was named one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English-speaking world, following a worldwide survey conducted by Baylor University. Her first memoir, *Leaving Church*, won a 2006 Author of the Year award from the Georgia Writers Association. Her last book, *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, was featured in *TIME* magazine. Taylor has served on the faculties of Piedmont College, Columbia Theological Seminary, Candler School of Theology at Emory University, McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University, and the Certificate in Theological Studies program at Arrendale State Prison for Women in Alto, Georgia. In 2014, *TIME* included her on its annual list of Most Influential People; in 2015, she was named Georgia Woman of the Year; and in 2016, she received The President's Medal at the Chautauqua Institution in New York. She currently serves on the Mercer University Board of Trustees and is working on her 14th

book, *Holy Envy*, forthcoming from HarperOne in August 2018. Her work has been translated into five languages.

## JAZ G. BUCKLEY

### *Student Commencement Speaker*



The many talents and skills of Mercer graduates are showcased once again at the Macon Commencement. Jaz Buckley is an accomplished and gifted public speaker who has successfully debated and presented orally to judges and listeners around the world. In 2015, Buckley became the first freshman and the first African-American to be named top speaker at the National Parliamentary Debate Association (NPDA) tournament, the nation's largest parliamentary debate tournament. Bookending her decorated collegiate debate career in March, Buckley and fellow senior Kyle Bligen became the first African-American team to win NPDA nationals, defeating 45 different colleges and universities, including traditional debate powerhouses UC Berkeley, Rice and Notre Dame. Buckley — a political science and women's and gender studies double-major — has also won top speaker honors at the Georgia State Debate Tournament, the Golden Gate Invitational at UC Berkeley and the Mile High Swing Tournament at the

University of Utah. In her four years as debate team captain, she has coached new debaters, led practices and represented Mercer at high school tournaments. During the summer of 2016, she served as debate coach at Pelican Park and Kennemayer primary schools in South Africa. From January to May 2017, she served as a volunteer debate coach at Peach Place and Motivating Youth, where she taught elementary-age children debate, public speaking and critical-thinking skills after school. Additionally, she has been an A.V. Elliott Conference presenter, BEAR Day presenter and Pilgrimage to Penfield speaker. Buckley, in her commencement address today, wants to “take some time to reflect on our future as young professionals and future leaders. From there, I would like to explore the phrase, ‘Mercer Majors in Changing the World.’” After graduation, Buckley plans to pursue a law degree.

# SPECIAL AWARDS

## INNOVATIONS IN TEACHING AWARD

*Co-sponsored by the Vulcan Materials Company and Mercer University*

**Michael MacCarthy, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Professor of Environmental Engineering, School of Engineering*

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

2017 – 2018 SPENCER B. KING, JR.

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

**Chinekwu Obidoa, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Professor of Global Health*

## SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

2017 – 2018 CLAYTON R. PAUL

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

**Richard Kunz, Ph.D., P.E.**

*Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering*

## TOWNSEND SCHOOL OF MUSIC

2017 – 2018 OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARD

**Montgomery Cole**

*Associate Professor of Clarinet, Saxophone, and Jazz Studies*

## COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

### UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

**Gary A. Richardson**

*Professor of English*

*College of Liberal Arts*

### FACULTY MARSHALS

**Kedrick Hartfield**  
*Professor of Mathematics*  
*College of Liberal Arts*

**Tammy Crutchfield**  
*Professor of Marketing*  
*Stetson School of Business*  
*and Economics*

**Behnam Kamali**  
*Professor of Electrical and Computer*  
*Engineering, School of Engineering*

**Sybil Keesbury**  
*Associate Professor of Education*  
*Tift College of Education*

**Charles Roberts**  
*Associate Professor of Mathematics*  
*Penfield College*

**Douglas Hill**  
*Professor of Music and Director of*  
*Undergraduate Studies and Instrumental*  
*Ensembles, Townsend School of Music*

**Nannette Turner**  
*Chair and Associate Professor,*  
*Department of Public Health Program*  
*College of Health Professions*

**Theresa Rhodes**  
*Associate Professor and*  
*Assistant Dean for Collection Services*  
*University Library*

### STUDENT MARSHALS

**Olivia Georganna Buckner**

**Gregory Michael Smith**

# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

\* Cum Laude | \*\* Magna Cum Laude | \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude | † University Honors | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society | ° Phi Beta Kappa

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Joshua Edmond McKay Adams  
*Wilmington, North Carolina*

Jastine Jaya Alan  
*Diamond Bar, California*

Bethany Lynn Alexander\*\*  
*Six Mile, South Carolina*

Zayna Iyad Al-Husein \*°  
*Centerville, Georgia*

Sumeja Aljic \*\*\*°  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Joshua Matthew Allison  
*Smyrna, Delaware*

Madalyn Cayley Ammann \*\*\*  
*Gray, Georgia*

Margaret Corinne Anderson  
*Macon, Georgia*

Emma Louise Andrew  
*Jacksonville Beach, Florida*

Kelsey Barron Andrews \*  
*Bainbridge, Georgia*

Tyler John Arnold  
*Hinesville, Georgia*

Nyle Doré Avery  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

LeMarkus D. Bailey  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Matthew Ali Bajikian †  
*Lilburn, Georgia*

Brooke Lindsey Barker \*\*\*\*°  
*Thomaston, Georgia*

Austin Taylor Barrett  
*Milton, Tennessee*

Kaija Rolin Barrett  
*Covington, Georgia*

Sarah Sterling Barry \*\*\*†  
*Richmond Hill, Georgia*

Austin Hunter Bass  
*Monticello, Georgia*

Songha Beak \*\*  
*Macon, Georgia*

Kayla Louise Beasley \*  
*Peachtree City, Georgia*

Brett Helms Beavers \*  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Garren Ridge Belflower  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Lee Davies Bellmer, III  
*Martinez, Georgia*

Cortlyn Ryle Belvin  
*Macon, Georgia*

Delana Ann Benton  
*Athens, Georgia*

Di'Nasia Michelle Berry  
*Jamaica, Queens, New York*

Mackenzie Lowman Best \*\*  
*Athens, Georgia*

Victoria Marie Blakeman \*\*\*°  
*Raleigh, North Carolina*

Emily Morgan Blakey  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Kyle Lawrence Bligen \*\*  
*Peachtree City, Georgia*

Amy Catherine Booth \*\*\*°  
*Newnan, Georgia*

Elizabeth Ann Boswell \*  
*Newnan, Georgia*

Avery Arlen-Lamont Braxton  
*Peachtree City, Georgia*

Emily Sara Brewer  
*Boone, North Carolina*

Emma Caroline Brown \*  
*Oxford, Georgia*

Jazmine Grace Buckley \*\*\*°  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Olivia Georganna Buckner  
*Junction City, Georgia*

Isaiah J. Buehler  
*Apopka, Florida*

Christina Celeste Mae Bure  
*Senoia, Georgia*

Jastine Jaya Alan  
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*Jacksonville, Florida*

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*Ludowici, Georgia*

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*Macon, Georgia*

Slayten McKenna Carter \*  
*Willacochee, Georgia*

Xinxin Chen  
*Guangzhou, Guang Dong, China*

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*Dublin, Georgia*

Marvin Conrad  
*Baltimore, Maryland*

Sterling Teri Conyers  
*Fayetteville, Georgia*

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*Augusta, Georgia*

Ashley Elizabeth Coughenour  
*Macon, Georgia*

Sarah Crosby  
*Saint Simons Island, Georgia*

Catherine Therese Crowe \*\*  
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*Macon, Georgia*

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*Kennesaw, Georgia*

Chandler D. Curtis  
*Calhoun, Georgia*

Andre B. Daniels, Jr.  
*Albany, Georgia*

Kailin Elizabeth DeLeo  
*Pawtucket, Rhode Island*

Dominique Devero  
*Macon, Georgia*

Addison Grace Dillard \*\*\*°  
*Nashville, Tennessee*

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*Canton, Georgia*

David Jahmal Doleman  
*Phenix City, Alabama*

Taylor Britney Drake  
*Alpharetta, Georgia*

Samuel Ward Dunklin  
*Sharpsburg, Georgia*

Cameron Akin Dunning \*\*\*  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

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*Ellaville, Georgia*

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*Valdosta, Georgia*

Colbie Louise Ermolenko  
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*Sylvania, Georgia*

Anne Marie Fair \*\*\*  
*Augusta, Georgia*

Eayd Fairaq  
*Macon, Georgia*

Victoria Marie Ferdinand  
*Slate Hill, New York*

Elliot James Fernandez  
*Huntington Beach, California*

Hannah Lindsay Flaherty  
*Richmond Hill, Georgia*

Dylan Scott Franklin  
*Monroe, Georgia*

Kaylah Danielle-Jacquelyn Fritho  
*New Britain, Connecticut*

Andrew David Futral  
*Fort Valley, Georgia*

Pooja Chetan Gala  
*Douglasville, Georgia*

Megan Allain Gates \*  
*Grovetown, Georgia*

Cameron Albert Gatt  
*Point Cook, Australia*

Diana Michelle Gomez  
*Calhoun, Georgia*

Ariana Chabeli Gonsalves-Barreiro  
*Conyers, Georgia*

Brittany Nicole Goodrum  
*Maumee, Ohio*

Vivian Reid Goodwin \*\*\*  
*Augusta, Georgia*

Mackenzie Elizabeth Goss  
*Acworth, Georgia*

Brandi Renee Graham  
*Grovetown, Georgia*

Zandreé Danielle Granston \*  
*Saint Elizabeth, Jamaica*

Jack Alexandre Granzow  
*Rincon, Georgia*

Georgia Elyn Green  
*Brevard, North Carolina*

Kenneth James Griffin, Jr.  
*Stone Mountain, Georgia*

Haleigh Elizabeth Griffin \*\*~°  
*Macon, Georgia*

Gabrielle Elyse Hale \*\*\*†°  
*Kennesaw, Georgia*

Michael Alex Hanson \*  
*Tampa, Florida*

Nicholas Kane Hardeman  
*Covington, Georgia*

Ashley Kaitlyn Harper  
*LaGrange, Georgia*

Laura Ann Harrell \*\*\*†°  
*Saint Simons Island, Georgia*

Jacob Andrew Harvey \*\*\*†  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Emily Erin Hatchett \*\*\*†°  
*Dublin, Georgia*

Seth Gavin Hattaway  
*Macon, Georgia*

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*Midway, Georgia*

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*North Tustin, California*

Joseph Thomas Jackson, III \*\*\*†  
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Anna Camille Jackson  
*McIntyre, Georgia*

Lewis Braselton Jackson  
*Gainesville, Georgia*

Christine Amanda James  
*Bronx, New York*

Ashila Akber Jiwani  
*Peachtree City, Georgia*

Brittany Latrice Johnson  
*Lawrenceville, Georgia*

Ryan Rohan Johnson  
*Greensboro, North Carolina*

Sierra Grace Johnson  
*Calhoun, Georgia*

Amber B. Jones  
*Statesboro, Georgia*

Kareene Zoe Kakou  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Adwoa-Angelina-Sarpong  
*Nantwi Kankam Kumasi, Ghana*

Jason Orland Kavgazoff  
*Fort Valley, Georgia*

Briona Alexs Keith  
*Marietta, Georgia*

Josephyn Elizabeth Kennedy  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Jin Young Kim  
*Daint Cook, Australia*

Malcom Lenard King  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Sydney Erin Koenig \*\*\*†°  
*Richmond Hill, Georgia*

Kaitlyn Nicole Koozt  
*Peachtree City, Georgia*

Chase Amira Laudenslager \*\*\*†°  
*Charleston, South Carolina*

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*Valdosta, Georgia*

Keanu Lowo  
*Nacross, Georgia*

Kathryn Emily Lyles  
*Macon, Georgia*

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*Snelville, Georgia*

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*Spring Hill, Florida*

Alison Marie McWilliams  
*Fort Valley, Georgia*

Makala Kasey Meadows \*\*\*°  
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Sydni Alexandria Means  
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Tyler Brice Miller  
*Lizella, Georgia*

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*Brunswick, Georgia*

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*Marietta, Georgia*

Jonathan Teva Oakes  
*Dunwoody, Georgia*

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*Milledgeville, Georgia*

Michael Tochukwu Okafor  
*New Haven, Connecticut*

Oluwatomilayo Olamide Okuboyejo  
*Austell, Georgia*

Oge Chiwendu Onuh \*\*\*†°  
*Franklin, Tennessee*

Quinten Peprah Oppong  
*Verona, Italy*

Sarah Michael Oxford \*\*\*  
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Kruti D. Patel  
*Pooler, Georgia*

Raj Mukesh Patel  
*Jonesboro, Georgia*

Unnati H. Patel  
*McDonough, Georgia*

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*Duluth, Georgia*

Chandler Anne Peavy \*\*\*  
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*Dalton, Georgia*

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*Lithia, Florida*

Cheyenne Leah Reyome  
*Roswell, Georgia*

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*Boca Raton, Florida*

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Mary Violet Roberts  
*Charlotte, North Carolina*

Andrew William Robinson \*  
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Drac Dillon Robinson  
*Merritt Island, Florida*

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*Suwanee, Georgia*

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*Cumming, Georgia*

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*Grand Rapids, Michigan*

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*Conyers, Georgia*

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*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Justin Alan Stokes  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

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*Anaheim, California*

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*Watkinsville, Georgia*

Anthia Taylor Sublett  
*Augusta, Georgia*

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*Saint Simons Island, Georgia*

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*Valdosta, Georgia*

Rebekah Sheree Swinford  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Erik Jamal Sylvain  
*Jackson, Georgia*

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*Winston-Salem, North Carolina*

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*Duluth, Georgia*

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*Hephzibah, Georgia*

Nicola Elizabeth Tirpak \*\*\*°  
*Mount Pleasant, South Carolina*

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*Virginia Beach, Virginia*

Jodi Beth Upchurch  
*Watkinsville, Georgia*

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*Columbus, Georgia*

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*Bloomington, Georgia*

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*Barrington, Illinois*

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*Cumming, Georgia*

Shayna Samantha Waltower \*\*\*  
*McDonough, Georgia*

Nova Skye Ward  
*Glen Mills, Pennsylvania*

Jackson Cale Ware  
*Statesboro, Georgia*

Kayla Danielle Washington  
*Jonesboro, Georgia*

Stephen Andrew Wheeler  
*Natchez, Mississippi*

Robert Dustin White  
*Pooler, Georgia*

Zakiya Kragnaedrell White \*°  
*Conyers, Georgia*

Alexandria Vir-Leah Williams  
*College Park, Georgia*

John Edward Williams  
*Carrollton, Georgia*

Kiara Ashley Williams  
*Pooler, Georgia*

Macleynne Elaine Williams  
*Jeffersonville, Georgia*

Anna Olivia Womick \*\*\*°  
*Roswell, Georgia*

Halie Maddison Zastre \*\*\*  
*Hartwell, Georgia*

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Kayla Ann Aber \*\*\*  
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Kaitlyn Danielle Adams \*  
*Tyronne, Georgia*

Matthew G. Adams  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Hamad M.H.A.M.A. Alali \*  
*Sabah Al Salem, Kuwait*

Zayna Iyad Al-Husein \*°  
*Centerville, Georgia*

Sumeja Aljic \*\*\*†°  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

John Joseph Allen \*  
*Macon, Georgia*

Joshua Matthew Allison  
*Smyrna, Delaware*

Callie Anne Alonso  
*Tampa, Florida*

Ahmad Amer Alrafati \*\*\*  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Meagan Leblanc Andreason  
*Warner Robins, Georgia*

Shriya Mahesh Athalye  
*Alpharetta, Georgia*

Jordan Patrick Austin  
*Savannah, Georgia*

Jillian Hannah Bailey \*  
*Victor, New York*

Jin Joo Bang \*\*  
*Suwanee, Georgia*

Brooke Lindsey Barker \*\*\*°  
*Thomaston, Georgia*

Cortlyn Ryle Belvin  
*Virginia Beach, Virginia*

Victoria Marie Blakeman \*\*\*°  
*Raleigh, North Carolina*

Ali Adel Bohamad  
*Al Quor, Kuwait*

Sarah Marjorie Burch \*  
*Bloomington, Georgia*

Christina Celeste Mae Bure  
*Senoia, Georgia*

Kay Elizabeth Bush \*\*\*†  
*Bainbridge, Georgia*

Shawn Patrick Canavan  
*Newnan, Georgia*

Emma Christine Chandlee  
*Mansfield, Texas*

Marina Chavez \*  
*Guatemala City, Guatemala*

Anna Lisa Ciarrocca \*\*\*  
*Laurinburg, North Carolina*

Griffin Tygart Clyatt  
*Valdosta, Georgia*

Essence Renee Coachman  
*Tyronne, Georgia*

Robert Charles Deion Colvin \*  
*Grayson, Georgia*

Kathryn Kyleigh Combo \*\*\*  
*Spokane, Washington*

Daniel Wade Copeland  
*Vidalia, Georgia*

Madison Marie Copeland \*  
*Monroe, Georgia*

Sydney Sinclair Coppin  
*College Park, Georgia*

Branson Tyler Cosby  
*Columbus, Georgia*

Erica Lynn Coyne \*  
*Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania*

Edward Rodriqueous Daniel  
*Newnan, Georgia*

Marquett L. Daniels  
*Augusta, Georgia*

Alessandra Lillian Delligatti  
*Kennesaw, Georgia*

Zachary Bruno Di Giusto  
*Tyronne, Georgia*

Ted Eustache Jacques Dorfeuille \*  
*Miami, Florida*

Rachel Elizabeth Dreggors \*\*\*  
*Dacula, Georgia*

Stephanie Isabelle Duffy \*\*\*°  
*Madison, Georgia*

Jessica M. Dusek  
*Dacula, Georgia*

Kaitlyn Elizabeth Ellington \*\*\*†°  
*Winder, Georgia*

Veronica J. Enchautegui-Ortiz ††  
*Valdosta, Georgia*

Lloyd Steven Fisher, Jr.  
*Albany, Georgia*

Jake Thomas Foster  
*Barnesville, Georgia*

Jerrald Wesley Eugene Fox \*  
*Locust Grove, Georgia*

James Marrion Franklin \*  
*Americus, Georgia*

Continued -

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

\* Cum Laude | \*\* Magna Cum Laude | \*\*\* Summa Cum Laude | † University Honors | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society | ° Phi Beta Kappa

### COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

— Continued

Jordan Alexander Freeman  
Canton, Georgia

Hannah Swopna George  
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Olivia Kaye George  
Marietta, Georgia

Gabriella Justine Goldberg \*  
Duluth, Georgia

Brandi René Graham  
Grovetown, Georgia

Jamie Allison Haines \*\*†  
Roswell, Georgia

Victoria Dru Hall  
Cumming, Georgia

Taylor Kathryn Hallenbeck  
Athens, Georgia

Brett Spencer Hammett  
Warner Robins, Georgia

Donald Carter Harper  
Jefferson, Georgia

Emily Joyce Herron \*\*\*\*†  
Warner Robins, Georgia

Oriana Lee Hollingsworth ††  
Midway, Georgia

Michelle Elizabeth Holmes  
Charlotte, North Carolina

Caleb Webster Holt \*\*\*  
Kathleen, Georgia

Taylor Kathleen Horner  
North Tustin, California

Janelle Hurtado \*\*°  
White, Georgia

Sarah Ija Husain  
Kuwait City, Kuwait

Joseph Thomas Jackson, III \*\*†  
Augusta, Georgia

Daryl Bashon Jackson, Jr.  
Norcross, Georgia

Caroline Elizabeth Jackson  
Savannah, Georgia

Gabriel Monae Jones  
El Paso, Texas

Joshua Gary Kaplan  
LaGrange, Georgia

Shane Anderson Keaney  
Gray, Georgia

Kiante Jahi Kennedy  
Harrison, Georgia

Perry Logan Kezh  
Decatur, Georgia

Adnan Ahmad Khawaja  
McDonough, Georgia

Rachel Nicole Kicklighter  
Richmond Hill, Georgia

Shayla Mae Kicklighter \*  
Live Oak, Florida

Nathaniel Kim Kitchens \*\*  
Harrison, Georgia

Sydney Erin Koenig \*\*\*\*°  
Richmond Hill, Georgia

Saundra Kaylyn Latimer  
Decatur, Georgia

Christopher Phú Lê  
Santa Ana, California

Jacqueline Luise Linder  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

Elise Claire Luettingen  
Milton, Georgia

Thomas Baker Marchman \*\*  
Gainesville, Georgia

Patrick Massey  
Lilburn, Georgia

Quirisa Kealohalani Aveibepa  
Mauga  
San Diego, California

Andrew Devin McBryde \*  
Lizella, Georgia

Miriam Essex McKenzie  
Suwanee, Georgia

Gabriella Christine Meyering  
Augusta, Georgia

Jordan Donovan Mike  
West End, Grand Bahama

Zachary Edward Mikos  
Elijah, Georgia

Casey Alexis Barnard Miller  
McDonough, Georgia

Wyatt Andrew Moore  
Macon, Georgia

John Evange Morris, IV \*\*†  
Augusta, Georgia

Kathryn Elizabeth Morris \*\*  
Macon, Georgia

Kyle P. Mullen  
Dacula, Georgia

Vaishnavi T. Narain  
Warner Robins, Georgia

Maia Marie Nichols \*\*\*  
Marietta, Georgia

Wills Buelvas Nowicki  
Savannah, Georgia

Katherine Anne O'Quinn  
Macon, Georgia

Aakash Manoj Patel  
Sandy Springs, Georgia

Birva R. Patel \*\*°  
Placentia, California

Karishma Patel \*  
Centerville, Georgia

Mit Minesh Patel  
Jonesboro, Georgia

Parth Manoj Patel  
Savannah, Georgia

Savannah Nicole Payton  
Hinesville, Georgia

Catesby Danielle Penn \*  
Woodstock, Georgia

McKenna KateLynn Perry \*  
Elijah, Georgia

Haley Marie Peters  
Tunnel Hill, Georgia

Marissa Alexis Pickford  
Sharpsburg, Georgia

Emily Porter Polk  
LaGrange, Georgia

William Clayton Ragsdale, Jr.  
Conyers, Georgia

Thomas Allen Redman \*  
Savannah, Georgia

Jessica Dorothea Resnick \*\*\*\*†  
Woodstock, Georgia

Shamaza Neqella Rivers  
Ellenwood, Georgia

Robert Martin Roach \*\*\*\*†  
Roswell, Georgia

Marley Savori Roberts  
Charlotte, North Carolina

Mary Melissa Roland  
Americus, Georgia

Edwin Steve Sanchez  
Cleveland, Georgia

Matthew Simon Schneider \*  
Perry, Georgia

Peter Jonathan Schultz \*\*  
Crystal, Minnesota

Kaelen Bryanna Scott  
Phenix City, Alabama

Anleigh Catalina Seaver \*\*†  
Kailua, Hawaii

Samuel Zoua Segnou  
Bamenda, Cameroon

Meghan Eileen Segreti \*  
Tunnel Hill, Georgia

Hamzah M. Shroof  
Warner Robins, Georgia

Andrew Graham Slater  
Dublin, Georgia

Lucas Steven Slotsema  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Triston Ezekiel Smith  
Dalton, Georgia

Bhaumik Prakash Sony  
Powder Springs, Georgia

Quaniece Christina Spearman  
Macon, Georgia

Kelsey Elizabeth Steedley  
Homerville, Georgia

Anna Elizabeth Stewart  
Carrollton, Georgia

Fakhra Tehreem Sultan \*\*\*\*°  
Macon, Georgia

Darryl Cottrell Wanton, Jr.  
Fayetteville, Georgia

Tristan Carter Watkins  
Tybee Island, Georgia

David Leon Wells  
Pooler, Georgia

Natalie Elizabeth Wharton \*\*\*\*†  
Melbourne, Florida

Crystal Sabra White \*\*  
Eastman, Georgia

Trenton Gregory Whitely  
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Callie Marie Wilson  
Macon, Georgia

Phillip Karl O'Neil Woo  
Locust Grove, Georgia

Jada W. Wright  
Chicago, Illinois

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCE

Clare Mary-Joyce Beebe \*\*  
Bend, Oregon

Ellen Taylor Besier \*\*\*  
Canton, Georgia

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*Sumter, South Carolina*

Michael Paul Rodgers \*  
*Kathleen, Georgia*

Linda Patricia Southward \*\*  
*Macon, Georgia*

Reco LaSean Stephens  
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Casey O'Neal Walker, Jr.  
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Tryuntay Ortiz Wright  
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Lauren Michelle Parker  
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Millicent Phillips-Wooden  
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Amanda Victoria Greene  
*Darlington, South Carolina*

Morgan Elizabeth Morgan  
*Macon, Georgia*

Melissa Ivette Rodriguez  
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Lindsey Michelle Rueter  
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*Culloden, Georgia*

Brandon Andrew Tran  
*Kennesaw, Georgia*

Participation in the graduation ceremony does not necessarily represent conferral of the degree. Degrees are awarded at the end of the term in which all requirements are met. Honors printed in the program and announced at the commencement ceremony are based on grades earned at the time of program publication, and may not reflect final honors.

MERCER UNIVERSITY

## MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

May 2018

Welcome to the Mercer University Alumni Association! By virtue of your graduation, you join the ranks of more than 77,500 Mercerians in a common fraternity that began over 180 years ago. Like each graduate before you, you will leave here today with aspirations for yourself, your career and your family. Mercer would be honored to remain a central part of your story — especially the new chapter that begins today.

The Alumni Association is a non-dues membership organization. You are a member for as long as you desire to be. We ask only that you stay in touch by keeping your contact information current, and that you support Mercer with your time, talent and resources as you feel led.

We look forward to celebrating the milestones of your life with you, and to being a resource for your lifelong learning.

Go Bears ... but please come back to visit often!

Sincerely,



Jill H. Kinsella  
Executive Director



MERCER UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, Georgia 31207-1517  
(478) 301-2715 | (800) 637-2378 | Alumni@Mercer.edu

# EMBLEMS

## THE MACE

The mace is carried by the Marshal as a symbol of the authority of the University to confer degrees. Originally a weapon of war, the mace came to be used as an emblem of military power and civil authority. Its use as a symbol of university authority dates from medieval times.

The Mercer mace was designed in 1960 by Marshall Daugherty, professor of art in the College of Liberal Arts, and was first used for the inauguration of President Rufus C. Harris. It depicts a cross atop a globe, symbolizing the spiritual commitment of the University as it seeks to understand the world. Circumscribing the globe are the words, "Mercer University, 1833," symbolizing the influence of Mercer throughout the world. Beneath the larger globe is a smaller one, which represents the microcosm of the University. This, in turn, rests atop a form suggestive of a spire. The mace is made of bronze.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL SEAL

The seal is worn by the President as a sign of authority. The seal was designed by Professor Otis D. Knight and Professor Marshall Daugherty and was first used for the inauguration of President Rufus C. Harris in 1960.

The seal, which was carved directly in fine silver and bronze, is a mandola-shaped pendant that depicts the form of the Godsey Administration Building, a riband and a stylized stained-glass window of Willingham Auditorium. The background is in bronze and the window is in blue and red cloisonné enamel. On the riband are the Latin words for science, law, religion and the arts. On the border are inscribed the name of the University in Latin and the date of its founding. The shape of the seal is traditional for early university seals.

## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The practice of wearing academic attire extends back to medieval times and the Renaissance, when it was the custom for teachers and students in European universities to wear gowns, caps and hoods. Although the wearing of the garb is now limited to formal occasions, the garb itself may be called the uniform of the professional scholar and teacher. The style and color serve as symbols of collegiate attainment.

The long sleeves of the gowns and the deep hoods were, on occasion, used to carry books and refreshments. Each European university developed its own style of garb with strict rules for its design. In the United States, however, most American colleges have agreed on a uniform design and color code.

Holders of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees wear black gowns; the pattern and trimming differ for each degree. Originally, the bachelor's gown was made of serge or worsted and the master's of serge, worsted or silk; but now synthetic fibers are also used. The bachelor's gown is distinguished by its long pointed sleeves. The master's gown has long sleeves with a slit for the arm at either the elbow or the wrist. Doctor's gowns are adorned with velvet panels and bars that may be black or of a color distinctive to the wearer's discipline.

Holders of all degrees wear caps, popularly known as mortarboards, to which a long tassel is fastened that hangs over the left side of the cap. Doctors may wear tassels of gold thread. Holders of bachelor's and master's degrees may wear colors

indicating the faculty by which their degrees were granted.

The academic hood is an ornamental fold that goes around the neck and hangs down the back of the gown. The length and shape of the hood vary with the level of the degree. Hoods are generally lined with the colors of the university which granted the degree and trimmed with the color representing the faculty by which the degree is granted.

The following colors are associated with the various faculties:

Arts, Letters, Humanities .....	White
Commerce, Accountancy, Business .....	Drab
Education .....	Light Blue
Engineering .....	Orange
Journalism .....	Crimson
Law .....	Purple
Library Science .....	Lemon
Medicine .....	Green
Music .....	Pink
Nursing .....	Apricot
Speech .....	Silver Gray
Pharmacy .....	Olive Green
Philosophy .....	Dark Blue
Physical Education .....	Sage Green
Physical Therapy .....	Teal
Physician Assistant .....	Kelly Green
Public Health .....	Salmon Pink
Science.....	Golden Yellow
Theology .....	Scarlet



## PHI BETA KAPPA ZETA OF GEORGIA

**T**HE PHI BETA KAPPA SOCIETY — THE NATION'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS ACADEMIC HONOR SOCIETY — CHARTERED MERCER UNIVERSITY TO SHELTER THE ZETA CHAPTER OF GEORGIA IN 2015.

In recommending Mercer for membership, the Society's Committee on Qualifications described Mercer as a "quintessentially Phi Beta Kappa institution" in its values and mission, in its curriculum and general education requirements, in the variety of opportunities it provides its students, in the quality of its best undergraduates, and in the dedicated engagement of the faculty in all aspects of undergraduate education.

Phi Beta Kappa was founded Dec. 5, 1776, at the College of William and Mary by five undergraduates who sought to create a student society that would be more serious-minded than others that had previously existed at the Williamsburg, Virginia, institution.

The first college society with a Greek-letter name, Phi Beta Kappa is derived from the initials for the society's motto, "love of learning is the guide of life." ΦBK introduced the essential characteristics of the numerous Greek societies that would follow. These included a badge, mottoes in Greek and Latin, a code of laws, an elaborate form of initiation and a seal.

Phi Beta Kappa is not awarded simply on the basis of high grade point average or class rank, but on a student's breadth of knowledge and coursework, including foreign language, math and sciences, and humanities and fine arts. An inductee into Phi Beta Kappa has taken a wide range of courses beyond a major. In addition to seeking out a broad range of academic interests, the ideal Phi Beta Kappa member has demonstrated intellectual inquiry and integrity as well as tolerance for freedom of thought and varied points of views. These are the distinctive elements of Phi Beta Kappa that distinguish it from Latin honors such as *summa cum laude* or department honors in a discipline.

Only 10 percent of the nation's institutions of higher education have been awarded chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, and only 10 percent of its seniors may be inducted, making Phi Beta Kappa one of the most competitive and distinguished honors a student may achieve. Since ΦBK's founding, 17 U.S. presidents, 39 U.S. Supreme Court justices and more than 130 Nobel laureates have been inducted as members, along with countless authors, diplomats, athletes, researchers, actors and business leaders.

### 2018 PHI BETA KAPPA INDUCTEES

Zayna I. Al-Husein  
Senior | Centerville, Georgia

Sumeja Aljic  
Senior | Lawrenceville, Georgia

Brooke Lindsey Barker  
Senior | Thomaston, Georgia

Victoria Marie Blakeman  
Senior | Raleigh, North Carolina

Amy Catherine Booth  
Senior | Newnan, Georgia

Jazmine G. Buckley  
Senior | Columbus, Georgia

Leslie Gabrielle Carter  
Senior | Macon, Georgia

Addison Grace Dillard  
Senior | Nashville, Tennessee

Stephanie Isabelle Duffy  
Senior | Madison, Georgia

Kaitlyn E. Ellington  
Senior | Winder, Georgia

Haleigh Griffin  
Senior | Macon, Georgia

Gabrielle Elyse Hale  
Senior | Acworth, Georgia

Laura Ann Harrell  
Senior | Saint Simons Island, Georgia

Emily Erin  
Senior | Dublin, Georgia

Megan Leigh Hinkle  
Junior | Ponte Vedra, Florida

Jannelle Hurtado  
Senior | White, Georgia

Hannah Renee Keller  
Junior | McDonough, Georgia

Sydney Erin Koenig  
Senior | Richmond Hill, Georgia

Chase Amira Laudenslager  
Senior | Isle of Palms, South Carolina

Mary Violet Martinez  
Senior | Savannah, Georgia

Brenley Taylor Martinez  
Senior | Macon, Georgia

Anisha Lee Massey  
Senior | Jacksonville, Florida

Makala Kasey Meadows  
Senior | Macon, Georgia

Sarah Elizabeth Myers  
Senior | Conyers, Georgia

Oge C. Onuh  
Senior | Franklin, Tennessee

Birva R. Patel  
Senior | Placentia, California

Sarah Brittany Pounds  
Senior | Macon, Georgia

Linzi Prpich  
Senior | Lawrenceville, Georgia

Elizabeth Reice Robinson  
Junior | Hampton, Georgia

Natalie Angela Ross  
Senior | McDonough, Georgia

Gregory Michael Smith  
Senior | Conyers, Georgia

Fakhra Tehreem Sultan  
Senior | Macon, Georgia

Twinkle B. Suthar  
Senior | Saint Simons Island, Georgia

Yael Tessler  
Senior | Duluth, Georgia

Nicola Elizabeth Tirpak  
Senior | Mount Pleasant, South Carolina

Zakiya Kragnaedrell White  
Senior | Conyers, Georgia

Anna Olivia Womick  
Senior | Roswell, Georgia

## THE MEDALLION OF PHI KAPPA PHI

The medallion is worn by faculty, administrators and students who are members of the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, an organization that initiates members from all disciplines. The cloisonné enamel medallion is decorated with the badge of the Society and is suspended from a blue, grosgrain ribbon.

## ALMA MATER

### MACON CAMPUS

On the city's western border  
Reared against the sky,  
Proudly stands our Alma Mater,  
As the years roll by.

#### *Chorus*

Forward ever be thy watchword,  
Conquer and prevail.  
Hail to thee, O Alma Mater!  
Mercer, Hail all Hail!

Cherished by thy sons and daughters,  
Mem'ries sweet shall throng  
Round our hearts, O Alma Mater,  
As we sing our song.

### ATLANTA CAMPUS

On the city's eastern border  
Reared against the sky,  
Proudly stands our Alma Mater,  
As the years roll by.

#### *Chorus*

Forward ever be thy watchword  
Conquer and prevail.  
Hail to thee, O Alma Mater!  
Mercer, Hail all Hail!

Cherished by thy sons and daughters  
Mem'ries sweet shall throng  
Round our hearts, O Alma Mater,  
As we sing our song.



# MERCER UNIVERSITY PROFILE

Mercer University is one of America's oldest and most distinctive institutions of higher learning, offering rigorous programs that span the undergraduate liberal arts to doctoral-level degrees. Founded by early 19th century Baptists, Mercer's mission is to teach, to learn, to create, to discover, to inspire, to empower and to serve.

With more than 8,600 students enrolled in 12 schools and colleges on campuses in Macon, Atlanta and Savannah; three medical school sites in Macon, Savannah and Columbus; and at three Regional Academic Centers around the state, Mercer is consistently ranked among the nation's leading institutions by such publications as *U.S. News & World Report*. Our more than 77,500 alumni are making important contributions to their professions and communities throughout Georgia, the Southeast and the world.

While offering a breadth of programs found at much larger universities, Mercer maintains an intimate, student-focused culture more characteristic of smaller liberal arts colleges. Mercer's uniqueness is found in the way the University integrates five defining components of its mission: Liberal Learning, Professional Knowledge, Discovery, Service to Humankind and Community.

## ACADEMIC DIVISIONS

**College of Liberal Arts (Macon):** The oldest of the University's academic units, the College of Liberal Arts is Mercer's cornerstone. The College offers an array of baccalaureate programs in the humanities, fine arts, sciences and social sciences, along with a vast array of interdisciplinary options.

**Walter F. George School of Law (Macon):** Founded in 1873, Mercer University School of Law is one of the oldest law schools in the United States and the first in the state of Georgia accredited by the American Bar Association. Mercer Law School's educational philosophy is based on a commitment to preparing students for high-quality, general practice in a day-to-day learning environment that is both supportive and professional.

**Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics (Macon, Atlanta, Douglas County Center and Henry County Center):** Established in 1984, the School is named for Eugene W. Stetson, a 1901 Mercer graduate and business pioneer who leveraged the first major buyout in corporate history. Over the past 80 years, Mercer has granted more than 12,000 business degrees, and many of its graduates hold senior leadership positions in companies around the world.

**School of Engineering (Macon):** Mercer's innovative and academically challenging engineering-related programs provide students with a comprehensive education, featuring a solid foundation in mathematics and sciences, a core engineering curriculum, a range of courses in engineering specialties and a strong emphasis on communication technologies. The School of Engineering continues to be ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top four master's degree-level engineering schools in the Southeast.

**Tift College of Education (Macon, Atlanta and Centers):** The College prepares more professional educators than any other private institution in Georgia. It offers baccalaureate and graduate degrees for initial teacher certification, teacher preparation and educational leadership.

**James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology (Atlanta):** Established in 1996, McAfee School of Theology brings Jesse Mercer's founding vision of providing students with a classical and theological education full circle as it prepares students for the ministry.

**Penfield College of Mercer University (Macon, Atlanta and Centers):** The College is committed to serving adult learners and currently enrolls more than 1,300 students. Undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs are offered to adult students seeking professional advancement into leadership roles in and beyond their communities. Educational programs provide students with distinctive, multidisciplinary programs that integrate theory and practice.

**Townsend School of Music (Macon):** Townsend School of Music is nationally recognized for its artist faculty, award-winning students, wide range of performance ensembles and state-of-the-art facilities. Specialized music programs include the Townsend-McAfee Institute for Graduate Church Music Studies and the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings.

**Mercer University Library:** The mission of Mercer's libraries is to serve as learning-centered gateways of information resources through robust collections and innovative, technology-rich patron services to support the educational endeavors of the University community.

**Mercer University Press (Macon):** Since its establishment in 1979, Mercer Press has published more than 1,500 titles, generally in the areas of Southern history, philosophy, religion and regional studies. The Press holds membership in the Association of American University Presses.

**Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC) (Warner Robins):** MERC is the non-profit applied research operating unit of Mercer University. MERC's core competencies include electronic, mechanical and electromechanical systems design, development and test; complex system modeling and simulation; information systems technology; structural analysis; reverse engineering and modernization; industrial systems design; materials testing; biomechanics and human factors; and cyber security.

## MERCER HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

**School of Medicine (Macon, Atlanta, Savannah and Columbus):** The School was established in 1982 to educate physicians and health professionals to meet the primary care and healthcare needs of rural and medically underserved areas of Georgia. The School of Medicine currently operates two four-year campuses. Following their second year, students participate in core clinical clerkships at the School's primary teaching hospitals: Navicent Health and Coliseum Medical Center in Macon, Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah, and The Midtown Medical Center and St. Francis Hospital in Columbus.

**College of Pharmacy (Atlanta):** The College of Pharmacy continues to build on its rich history, tradition of excellence, and legacy of offering quality degree programs that provide students with the necessary education and skills for careers in pharmacy. Mercer is ranked among the top six private pharmacy schools in the United States by *U.S. News & World Report*.

**Georgia Baptist College of Nursing (Atlanta):** Nationally recognized, the oldest nursing program in Georgia is grounded in its heritage of educating students to provide superior nursing care. All undergraduate nursing students are members of the National Student Nurses Association, thus providing them exceptional leadership and professional development opportunities.

**College of Health Professions (Macon and Atlanta):** The College is composed of four departments: Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant Studies, Public Health and Clinical Medical Psychology. In addition to its degree offerings, the College offers post-professional residencies and fellowships. The College seeks to improve the health and quality of life of individuals and society through excellence in teaching, research and service.

## ATHLETICS

Mercer is the only private university in Georgia to compete in Division I of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and is a member of the historic Southern Conference. In the 2016-2017 academic year, 76 percent of Mercer student-athletes achieved a grade-point-average of 3.0 or better. The grade-point-average for all student athletes for the year was 3.403. Mercer athletes led the SoCon with 314 named to the Academic Honor Roll, including 31 who earned a 4.0 GPA. Mercer's 18 intercollegiate teams include: men's baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer and tennis; and women's basketball, beach volleyball, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, track and volleyball.

## UNIVERSITY CORPORATE OFFICERS

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# SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES OF MERCER UNIVERSITY

## MACON

College of Liberal Arts | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics | School of Engineering | School of Medicine  
Tift College of Education | Townsend School of Music | Walter F. George School of Law | Penfield College | College of Health Professions

1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, Georgia 31207-0001  
(478) 301-2700 (Switchboard) | (800) 342-0841 (Georgia) | (800) 637-2378 (Out-of-State)

## ATLANTA

College of Pharmacy | Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics | Georgia Baptist College of Nursing  
James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology | Tift College of Education | Penfield College | College of Health Professions

3001 Mercer University Drive, Atlanta, Georgia 30341-4155 | (678) 547-6000 (Switchboard)

## SAVANNAH

School of Medicine

1250 East 66th Street, Savannah, Georgia 31404 | (912) 721-8144

## MERCER UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

JACK TARVER LIBRARY

MACON

(478) 301-2961

MONROE F. SWILLEY JR. LIBRARY

ATLANTA

(678) 547-6280

REGIONAL ACADEMIC CENTER

LIBRARY SERVICES

Douglas County, Henry County

## REGIONAL ACADEMIC CENTERS

DOUGLAS COUNTY CENTER

975 Blairs Bridge Road  
Lithia Springs, Georgia 30122

(678) 547-6200  
(800) 548-7115

HENRY COUNTY CENTER

160 Henry Parkway  
McDonough, Georgia 30253

(678) 547-6100  
(877) 840-8599

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THE MIDTOWN MEDICAL CENTER

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(706) 571-1000

COLISEUM MEDICAL CENTER

350 Hospital Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217  
(478) 765-7000

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

4700 Waters Avenue, Savannah, Georgia 31404  
(912) 350-8000

ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL

2122 Manchester Expressway,  
Columbus, Georgia 31904  
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