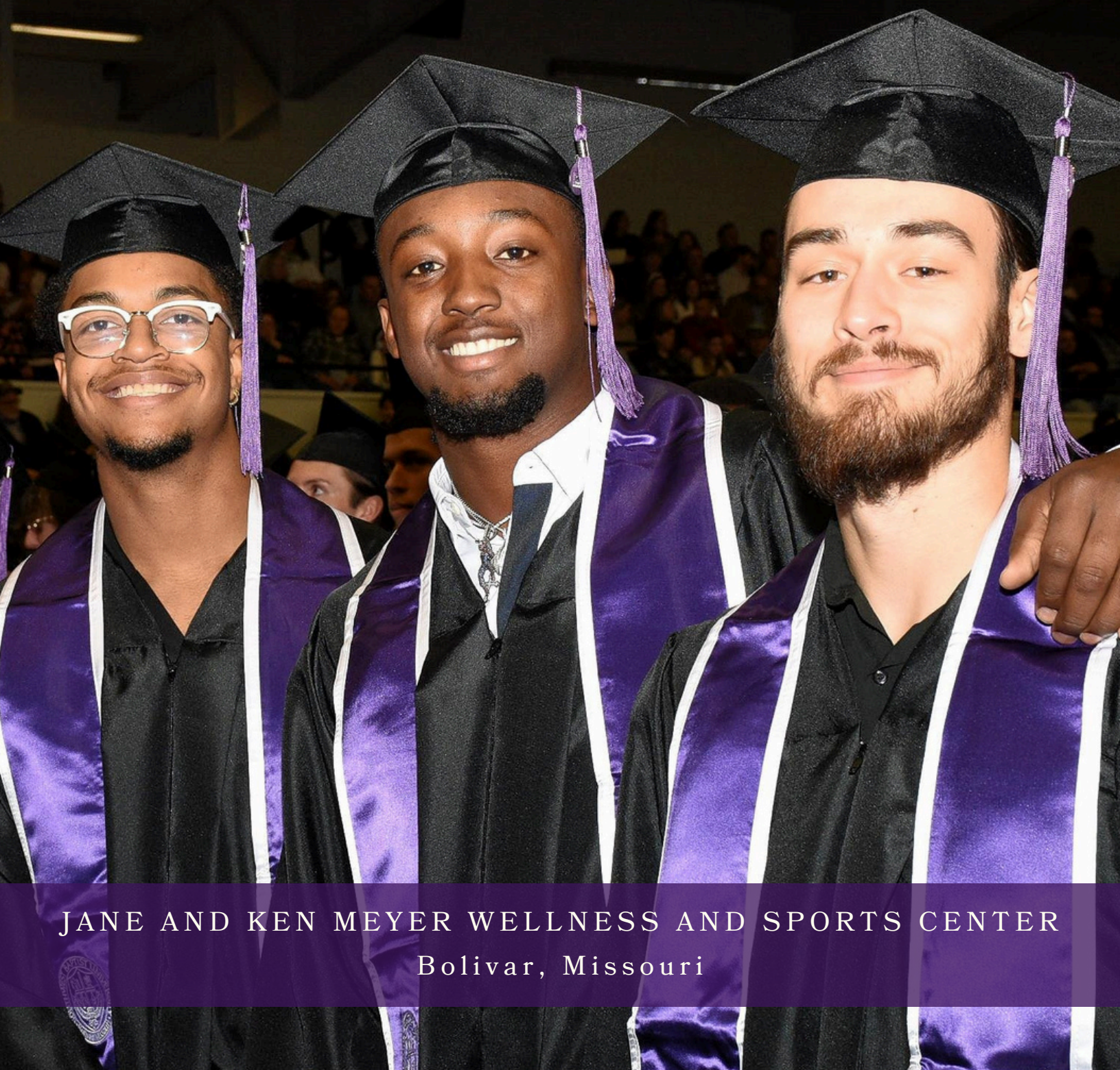


Southwest Baptist University

SPRING COMMENCEMENT

CLASS OF TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX



JANE AND KEN MEYER WELLNESS AND SPORTS CENTER
Bolivar, Missouri



Southwest Baptist
UNIVERSITY

Commencement Ceremony

Decorum	<u>5</u>
Friday, May 8	
SBU Commencement 11 a.m.	<u>7</u>
Degree Candidates	<u>9</u>
Mercy College of Health Professions 4 p.m.	<u>7</u>
Degree Candidates	<u>9</u>
Academic Leadership	<u>19</u>
Commencement Marshals	<u>20</u>

Please take a moment and silence your devices to respect those graduating today.

Dear Graduates, Families, and Friends,

On behalf of the entire Southwest Baptist University community, I am honored to extend a warm welcome to each of you as we gather to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the Class of 2026. Today marks a significant milestone in the lives of our graduates, and it is a privilege to share in this momentous occasion with all of you.

As we look around this room, we see the culmination of countless hours of study, challenges overcome, and milestones achieved. Each graduate sitting before us has shown remarkable resilience and commitment, and today, we acknowledge and honor their incredible journey.

To the families and friends who have supported our graduates, your encouragement, love, and sacrifice have been instrumental in their success. Your presence here today is a testament to the strong network of support that has helped our students reach this point, and for that, we are deeply grateful.

To the graduates, today is a celebration of your potential and the promise that your future holds. As you step into the next chapter of your lives, remember that the education and experiences you have gained here are the foundation upon which you will build your future. Embrace the opportunities that lie ahead with the same enthusiasm and determination that have brought you to this day.

On behalf of the entire university, I extend heartfelt congratulations to our graduates. We are incredibly proud of you, and we look forward to watching you make your mark on the world.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Richard J. Melson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard J. Melson, Ph.D.

President, Southwest Baptist University

Highland Bagpipes at SBU

A Tradition of Heritage and Celebration

Highland bagpipes have long been used in military and ceremonial settings, where their distinctive sound conveys dignity, heritage, and significance. In academic contexts, many universities adopted the tradition in the late twentieth century to mark meaningful milestones and create memorable ceremonial moments.

At Southwest Baptist University, this tradition began under President Dr. C. Pat Taylor, who invited Dr. Ron Maupin to incorporate bagpipes into Welcome Week. Each fall, the pipes signify students' official induction into the SBU community, marking the beginning of their academic journey with a sense of ceremony and continuity.

That symbolism is completed at commencement. The instrument that welcomed students as they began their studies now honors them as they celebrate their greatest academic achievement.

“Having bagpipes play at both the start and conclusion of the students' academic journey symbolizes a sense of tradition and continuity. By incorporating this unique instrument, the commencement ceremony connects the graduates' journey full circle, from their first day of classes to their final achievement.”

- Dr. Rick Melson, SBU President

Today, bagpipes remain a cherished SBU tradition—connecting students across generations

Decorum

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The history of academic dress dates to the Medieval European universities of the 14th century. European universities continue to follow varied patterns in cut and color of gown and type of headdress. In the United States, the colleges and universities have standardized the academic dress so that its features are common and uniform throughout the country. The standard dress in the United States is as follows:

THE GOWN

The color is usually black. The pattern varies with the degree held: square-cut sleeves for the bachelor's degree; and long, closed, sleeves with a slit for the arm for the master's and specialist's degrees. The doctoral gown is faced down the front with velvet and three bars across the sleeves.

THE HOOD

Hoods are not worn for the undergraduate degrees. The master's hood is shorter than the specialist's hood, which is shorter than the doctoral hood. Hoods are lined with the colors of the school granting the degree, while the color of the binding or edging of the hood indicates the discipline in which the degree was attained.

THE STOLE

All undergraduate students wear a stole. The stole bears the University seal and is crafted in purple and white, the University colors. The stole represents membership within the University body as a student and continuing on in the body of SBU alumni.

CORDS

Solid-colored cords signify bachelor degree students graduating with honors. Summa Cum Laude (with highest honor), a grade point average of 3.85 and above, is represented with a gold cord. Magna Cum Laude (with great honor), a grade point average of 3.70 but less than 3.85, is represented with a silver cord. Cum Laude (with honor), a grade point average of 3.50 but less than 3.70, is represented with a bronze cord. The red, white, and blue cord represents those who have served or are presently serving in the United States Armed Forces. Blue and white cords indicate the graduate has secured employment with Mercy, our healthcare partner.

GORDON & JUDY DUTILE HONORS PROGRAM

Students seeking bachelor degrees are selected to the Gordon & Judy Dutile Honors Program at admission to Southwest Baptist University based on their service, leadership, and scholarship. To graduate from the program, honors program students complete an enriched general education curriculum, as well as honors-specific courses and an Honors Capstone Project. Dutile Honors graduates are wearing a medallion with their regalia in recognition of their completion of the program.

Commencement is a special event to honor all students who have earned a diploma after many years of hard work and dedication. The distinction of the college degree and of the academic community should be recognized. Please be mindful of the graduates and their families during the ceremony.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

Commencement Ceremony

***Presiding: Dr. Richard Melson, Ph.D.,
President of Southwest Baptist University***

May 8, 2026: 11 a.m.

Prelude	SBU Wind Symphony Mr. Stephen Mathews, Director
Call To Order	Dr. Duke Jones <i>Professor of Christian Ministry</i>
* Processional	Amanda Evans '02, '05 <i>Highland Bagpipes</i> SBU Wind Symphony Mr. Stephen Mathews
* Invocation	Mrs. Angela Snyder, '99 <i>Senior Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning</i>
Instrumental Feature	"Crown Him"SBU Wind Symphony by George J. Elvey/arr. Dan Forrest SBU Chorale Mr. Stephen Mathews
Video Presentation	
Welcome and Introductions	Dr. Rick Melson <i>President</i>
Senior Speaker.....	Mrs. Rachel McCullah <i>Graduate, B.S. in Education</i>
Award Presentations.....	Dr. Rick Melson Dr. Tracy Manly <i>Provost</i>
Introduction of Speaker.....	Dr. Rick Melson

*Denotes time to stand

Commencement Address.....	Mr. Bill Hennessey <i>Retired, Vice President of Mission for Mercy Springfield</i>
Presentation of Class	Dr. Tracy Manly
Presentation of Diplomas	Dr. Rick Melson Dr. Tracy Manly
Alumni Induction	Leon Wirth '93 <i>Vice President, Institutional Advancement</i>
* Alma Mater	Dr. Sarah Howes <i>Associate Professor of Music</i> <i>acc. SBU Symphony Band</i>
* Benediction	Dr. Rick Melson
** Recessional	<i>Commando March</i>SBU Wind Symphony by Samuel Barber <i>Mr. Stephen Mathews</i>

*Denotes time to stand

** Please wait for graduates and faculty to exit

Commencement Ceremony

***Presiding: Dr. Richard Melson, Ph.D.,
President of Southwest Baptist University***

May 8, 2026: 4 p.m.

Call To Order Dr. Duke Jones
Professor of Christian Ministry

* Processional

* Invocation.....Dr. Mindy Having '98 '00, '07.
*Asst. Professor of Physical Therapy
2024-2025 Faculty Newcomer of the Year*

Video Presentation

Welcome and IntroductionsDr. Rick Melson
President

Commencement Address.....Mr. Bill Hennessey
Retired, Vice President of Mission for Mercy Springfield

Presentation of ClassDr. Tracy Manly

*Denotes time to stand

Presentation of Diplomas Dr. Rick Melson
Dr. Tracy Manly

Alumni Induction Leon Wirth '93
Vice President, Institutional Advancement

* Alma Mater Dr. Sarah Howes
Associate Professor of Music
acc. SBU Symphony Band

* Benediction Dr. Rick Melson

** Recessional

*Denotes time to stand

** Please wait for graduates and faculty to exit

Candidates for Graduation

ASSOCIATE DEGREES

Ed & Theo Clark University Success Center, Dr. Scotti Moats, Director

Isaiah Mathew Dusenberry	A.S.	General Studies
Clay Allen Frescoln	A.S.	General Studies
Megan Grace Gorskey	A.S.	General Studies
Afton G. Hopkins	A.S.	General Studies
Monica L. Metroz	A.S.	General Studies

Mercy College of Health Professions, Dr. Brittney Hendrickson '08,'11,'12, Dean

Division of Health Sciences & Post-Licensure Nursing

Dr. Cindy Todd, Head '07, '11,'13

Amaya Isabella Broekhoven	A.S.R.	Radiography
Catrina Jill Cooper-Mahan	A.S.R.	Radiography
Kasey Diane Edmonson	A.S.R.	Radiography
Maleigha Suzanne Goddard	A.S.R.	Radiography
Jeff M. Kagogo	A.S.R.	Radiography
Alexis Miller	A.S.R.	Radiography
Mackenzey Kristeen Moore	A.S.R.	Radiography
Mishika Dawn Pentecost	A.S.R.	Radiography
Kristen Michelle Raap	A.S.R.	Radiography
Misty K. Revell	A.S.R.	Radiography
Logan E. Sheppard	A.S.R.	Radiography
Tahlia Simmons	A.S.R.	Radiography
Annie Marie Stallings	A.S.R.	Radiography
Logan Leann Swearengin	A.S.R.	Radiography
Austin Thrower	A.S.R.	Radiography
Jerrad L. VandeBrake	A.S.R.	Radiography

Marysa Louise Weydert	A.S.R.	Radiography
Daniela Zuniga	A.S.R.	Radiography

Mercy College of Health Professions, Dr. Brittney Hendrickson '08,'11,'12, Dean
Division of Health Sciences & Post-Licensure Nursing
Dr. Renay McCarley, Head

Tamara Ann Anderson	A.S.N.	Nursing
Lauren Bailey Atchison	A.S.N.	Nursing
Lynnae Christine Barton	A.S.N.	Nursing
David Matthew Bernier	A.S.N.	Nursing
Synthia Anne Bishop	A.S.N.	Nursing
Andrea M. Bohac	A.S.N.	Nursing
Jennifer J. Bolin	A.S.N.	Nursing
Ecclesietta Ophelia Boyd	A.S.N.	Nursing
Jaiden Danille Briggs	A.S.N.	Nursing
Heather Deanna Buchanan	A.S.N.	Nursing
Daisy M. Burkart	A.S.N.	Nursing
Ashley R. Burton	A.S.N.	Nursing
Kristen Olivia Campbell	A.S.N.	Nursing
Maleesa Lynn Cano	A.S.N.	Nursing
Kathleen D. Castens	A.S.N.	Nursing
Madeline Lynn Chrestman	A.S.N.	Nursing
Lillian S. Compton	A.S.N.	Nursing
Shelby Ann Crews	A.S.N.	Nursing
Natalie Diane Daugherty	A.S.N.	Nursing
Samantha Nichole Davenport	A.S.N.	Nursing
McKayla Jo Davis	A.S.N.	Nursing
Shelby Owen Dobbs	A.S.N.	Nursing
Madison Renee Duncan	A.S.N.	Nursing
Christine S. Fahland	A.S.N.	Nursing

Kristine Michaela Cruz Falig	A.S.N.	Nursing
Jazmin Marie Flores	A.S.N.	Nursing
Rhonda M. Forsythe-Copling	A.S.N.	Nursing
Rebecca Anne Gohl	A.S.N.	Nursing
Jaylee S. Gooch	A.S.N.	Nursing
Chasity D. Grayson	A.S.N.	Nursing
Madison N. Gregory	A.S.N.	Nursing
Shannon Nichole Harden	A.S.N.	Nursing
Stacey Dale Harris	A.S.N.	Nursing
Lula Heerman	A.S.N.	Nursing
Mason J. Herrod	A.S.N.	Nursing
Sophia Karoline Hesketh	A.S.N.	Nursing
Kaitlyn M Hewitt	A.S.N.	Nursing
Ashton Marie Hines	A.S.N.	Nursing
Lauren Kathleen Horton	A.S.N.	Nursing
Lauren M. Houchin	A.S.N.	Nursing
Camryn Clair House	A.S.N.	Nursing
Marissa Marie Israel	A.S.N.	Nursing
Austin Ronald Jackson	A.S.N.	Nursing
Amanda Kathleen Jordan	A.S.N.	Nursing
Anna C. Keltner	A.S.N.	Nursing
Caitlin Brianna Rose King	A.S.N.	Nursing
Kailey Jo Knaak	A.S.N.	Nursing
Molly Elizabeth Kroenlein	A.S.N.	Nursing
Heather L. Lawrence	A.S.N.	Nursing
Triniti A. Leonard	A.S.N.	Nursing
Kelsi Nichole Long	A.S.N.	Nursing
Auston Charles Luna	A.S.N.	Nursing
Drew Mackenzie Maher	A.S.N.	Nursing
Crystal Marie Martin	A.S.N.	Nursing

Isabella Alyss Martinov	A.S.N.	Nursing
Harmoni McCoy	A.S.N.	Nursing
Ella Jade Messier	A.S.N.	Nursing
Michelle Mettlach	A.S.N.	Nursing
Melissa Sue Moynihan	A.S.N.	Nursing
Anna Elizabeth Newlin	A.S.N.	Nursing
Savannah Jo Owen	A.S.N.	Nursing
Hannah Reanne Owens	A.S.N.	Nursing
Micheala Dawn Piatt	A.S.N.	Nursing
Reid Michael Pruitt	A.S.N.	Nursing
Eric Charles Plummer	A.S.N.	Nursing
Melissa Lynn Pratte	A.S.N.	Nursing
Whitman Carrington Quillin	A.S.N.	Nursing
Katilyn Mary Ragsdale	A.S.N.	Nursing
Marcy L. Ralls	A.S.N.	Nursing
Dianna Ramos	A.S.N.	Nursing
Victoria Repina	A.S.N.	Nursing
Jose E. Reyes, Jr.	A.S.N.	Nursing
Grey Eugene Emerson Roberts	A.S.N.	Nursing
Douglas Michael Schriever	A.S.N.	Nursing
Kesley E. Schroeder	A.S.N.	Nursing
Ciara Marie Smith	A.S.N.	Nursing
Jennifer Thomas	A.S.N.	Nursing
Stephanie Dawn Thompson	A.S.N.	Nursing
Sarah G. Thompson	A.S.N.	Nursing
Ryker Tuter	A.S.N.	Nursing
Derek Wallace Watson	A.S.N.	Nursing
Francis Weyimi Wemegah Atsangbe	A.S.N.	Nursing
Brittani R. Williams	A.S.N.	Nursing
Emerald E. Williams	A.S.N.	Nursing

Trinity Williams	A.S.N.	Nursing
Kelli Michele Williford	A.S.N.	Nursing
Abby Leeann Witt	A.S.N.	Nursing
Ashlyn Alyssa Wyatt	A.S.N.	Nursing

Geneva Casebolt College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Bill DuVall, Dean

Courts Redford Division of Christian Ministry

Dr. Matt Kimbrough '08, Head

Daniel L. White	A.S.	Ministry
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The inclusion of a student's name in the program does not guarantee the student is fully qualified to graduate.

Candidates for Graduation

BACHELOR DEGREES

Ed & Theo Clark University Success Center, Dr. Scotti Moats, Director

James Randall Harris	B.S.	General Studies
Koen van 't Klooster	B.S.	General Studies

Geneva Casebolt College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Bill DuVall, Dean

Bob R. Derryberry Division of Humanities

Dr. Kwasi Ofori-Yeboah, Head

Jeremiah L. Besses	B.S.	Media Studies
Alex DeHaven	B.S.	History/Political Science
Abigail Marie Henry	B.S.	Political Science/Criminal Justice
Nicholas Ryan Jian Pruett	B.A.	Political Science
Kamau Ransom	B.S.	Organizational & Strategic Communication
Dawson Sozio	B.S.	Media Studies
Ava Elizabeth Staggs	B.A.	Organizational & Strategic Communication
Lane M. Walker	B.S.	History
Makenzie A. Zimmerman	B.A.	English

Courts Redford Division of Christian Ministry

Dr. Matt Kimbrough '08, Head

Jared D. Gaskins	B.S.	Student Ministry
Hope R. Holderle	B.S.	Christian Ministry
Robert T. Holderle	B.A.	Student Ministry
Aidan M. Presley	B.A.	Church Ministry
Titus Thompson	B.S.	Student Ministry
Luke Josiah Urban	B.A.	Biblical Studies
Rebekah Jean Yarick	B.A.	Biblical Studies

Division of the Arts

Dr. Kwasi Ofori-Yeboah, Head

Olivia R. Barr	B.M.	Music Education
Micah N. Mattsfield	B.S.	General Music/Mathematics
Allison G. Meglan	B.M.	Music Education
Emelia Grace Miller	B.S.	General Music
Alexis Jo Ann O'Farrell	B.S.	Graphic Design
Samuel J. Southards	B.S.	Studio Art

Division of Behavioral Sciences

Dr. Shelley Kilpatrick, Head

Hannah Joy Bowe	B.S.	Psychology/Criminal Justice
Graccee Cole Brockman	B.S.	Criminal Justice
Shawn Deval Cherry	B.S.	Criminal Justice
Jadyn Tayler Clark	B.S.	Criminal Justice/Psychology
Susan C. Dusenberry	B.S.	Psychology
Esther Grace Flerchinger	B.S.	Criminal Justice
Tamerra Gantt	B.S.	Sports Psychology
Lauren Michell King	B.S.W.	Social Work
Levi W. Maskrod	B.S.W.	Social Work
Hayley K. Miller	B.S.W.	Social Work
Kristy Nicole Miran	B.S.	Psychology
Jalonie Lamar Moses	B.S.	Criminal Justice
Emma Elizabeth Peugh	B.S.W.	Social Work
Brandon A. Shaw	B.S.	Psychology
Jonathan Lane Snow	B.S.	Psychology
Austin R. Spradling	B.S.	Criminal Justice

Division of Natural Sciences
Dr. Jena Whetstine, Head

Weston Borgeson	B.S.	Sport Management
James Daniel Burnett	B.S.	Agricultural Business
Sara Elizabeth Campbell	B.S.	Biomedical Biology
Alex Carter Crawford	B.S.	Exercise Science
Jaevalen Daniels	B.S.	Exercise Science
Samantha Paige Dillon	B.S.	Chemistry/Criminal Justice
Gavin William Duchscherer	B.S.	Exercise Science
Brett Leigh Frost	B.S.	Exercise Science
Aliya Noelle Hall	B.S.	Exercise Science
Sarah Beth Hamilton	B.S.	Biomedical Biology
Natalie Lin Johnson	B.S.	Exercise Science
Tyler J. Johnson	B.S.	Biology Education
Elizabeth G. Kitchin	B.S.	Exercise Science
Betty Yan Liu	B.S.	Biomedical Biology
Caleb Hunter Long	B.S.	Exercise Science
Alyssa Mae Mann	B.S.	Exercise Science
Kade L. Martin	B.S.	Engineering Physics
Alaina Qiutian McCray	B.S.	Exercise Science
Caden Norman	B.S.	Sport Management
Braden R. Postlewait	B.S.	Exercise Science
Jaron V. Saunders	B.S.	Exercise Science
Samuel Michael Schmidt	B.S.	Sport Management
Paul D. Seufert	B.S.	Exercise Science
David William Shipp	B.S.	Sport Management
Rory Leighann Stanley	B.S.	Biomedical Biology
Benjamin Stelken	B.S.	Exercise Science
William Conner Titus	B.S.	Exercise Science

Kevin Xavier Uthe	B.S.	Physics
Alyssa Marie Villavicencio	B.S.	Exercise Science
Shalie Kathlene Wooden	B.S.	Exercise Science

Robert W. Plaster College of Business, Dr. Troy Bethards '93, Dean
Division of Business
Dr. Nathan Wright '05, Head

Scott Patrick Allan	B.S.	Business Management
Gavin L. Bellah	B.S.	Marketing
Alejandro Beneyto Sánchez	B.S.	Global Business
John Raymond Blair	B.S.	Business Administration
Seth Parker Cannon	B.S.	Business Administration
Tiffany Michelle Counterman	B.S.	General Business
Marie Kay Daggett	B.S.	Digital Marketing
Cannon Jaden Frazier	B.S.	Business Management
Jake H. Fuller	B.S.	Business Management
Conner M. Greninger	B.S.	Accounting
Jack Patrick-James Harris	B.S.	Business Management
Kelden M. Hastings	B.S.	Economics/Finance
Taylor Nicole Howard	B.S.	Business Administration
Sibusiso Mokoena	B.S.	Accounting
Jeremy Everett Moore	B.S.	Business Management
Hayden M. Prewitt	B.S.	Business Administration
Kaelyn Rae Quessenberry	B.S.	Business Management
David Mark Riefer	B.S.	Economics/Finance
Samantha Carlie Short	B.S.	Marketing
Emily Sue Sokilik	B.S.	Accounting
	B.A.	Biblical Studies

Jobe Daniel Smith	B.S.	Marketing
Matthew Taylor St.Pe	B.S.	Marketing
Samuel James Stickney	B.S.	Accounting
Cale T. Vernon	B.S.	Digital Marketing
Emily Grace Young	B.S.	Marketing

College of Professional Programs, Dr. Troy Bethards '93, Dean

**Division of Computing and Mathematics
Dr. Amos Gichamba, Head**

Brady Daniel Brown	B.S.	Computer Science/Mathematics
Nash Thomas Crosby	B.S.	Mathematics
Elijah Shane Daugherty	B.S.	Software Engineering
Conner James Hammonds	B.S.	Software Engineering
Lucas A. Middleton	B.S.	Cybersecurity Operations & Management
Kananelo Motaung	B.S.	Information Systems
Devon Nelson	B.S.	Cybersecurity
Kristalyn Elizabeth Riefer	B.S.	Computer Science

**Division of Education
Dr. Julie Bryant '97, Head**

Jordan A. Abercrombie	B.S.	Physical Education
Faith Rose-Marie Allesch	B.S.	Elementary Education
Katelyn Brooke Baker	B.S.	Elementary Educaiton
Kayla Marie Coltrin	B.S.	Middle School Education
Robert Gene Davis	B.S.	Elementary Education
Madison Emily Delmont	B.S.	Elementary Education
Sara Nikole Farmer	B.S.	Elementary Education
Chiana Jo Farris	B.S.	Elementary Education
Justice Andrew Reece Hinsley	B.S.	Physical Education

Emma L. Kreisel	B.S.	Elementary Education
Maddeline Simone Lahmann	B.S.	Elementary Education
Rachel Marie McCullah	B.S.	Elementary Education
Kaitlynn Rose Millenbine	B.S.	Elementary Education
Kaitlin Rene Nelson	B.S.	Elementary Education
Abigail Zipporah Newborn	B.S.	Global Education
Luke Benjamin Ogle	B.S.	Elementary Education
Aleya Pyeatt	B.S.	Elementary Education

Mercy College of Health Professions
Dr. Brittney Hendrickson '08, '11, '12, Dean

Division of Health Sciences & Post-Licensure Nursing
Dr. Cindy Todd, Head '07, '11, '13

Irina Abney	B.S.N.	Nursing
Alycia Nichole Bailey	B.S.N.	Nursing
Ryan K. Belloir	B.S.N.	Nursing
David E. Christofferson	B.S.	Health Sciences
Charity Christine Day	B.S.N.	Nursing
Kaylee L. Deckard	B.S.N.	Nursing
LaDawn L. Pratt	B.S.N.	Nursing
Margo Smith	B.S.N.	Nursing
Ileana Marie Waldron	B.S.N.	Nursing
Tara Danielle Weter	B.S.N.	Nursing
Rachel Katholine Whelan	B.S.N.	Nursing
Aubrey N. Winslow	B.S.N.	Nursing

Division of Pre-Licensure Nursing
Dr. Renay McCarley, Head

Riley Kate Arnold	B.S.N.	Nursing
Annabelle Lynn Bean	B.S.N.	Nursing
Rachel A. Carr	B.S.N.	Nursing
Katie Marie Chapman	B.S.N.	Nursing
Stephanique Makayla Dean	B.S.N.	Nursing
Alexis Kaitlyn Detwiler	B.S.N.	Nursing
Morianna Christine Jolynn Ebert	B.S.N.	Nursing
Jacob Jeffery Gaskins	B.S.N.	Nursing
Kaydence Lynn Gibson	B.S.N.	Nursing
Norah Jean Gottman	B.S.N.	Nursing
Maleah Marie Hermann	B.S.N.	Nursing
Riley Cheyenne Kochanowicz	B.S.N.	Nursing
Hannah Marie Mauchenheimer	B.S.N.	Nursing
Bianca Dawn McBride	B.S.N.	Nursing
Maggie Elizabeth Mitchell	B.S.N.	Nursing
Darby Eleora Nachtigal	B.S.N.	Nursing
Justin S. Page	B.S.N.	Nursing
Katherine Delores Pogue	B.S.N.	Nursing
Bailey G. Raines	B.S.N.	Nursing
Allyson D. Readshaw	B.S.N.	Nursing
Hayley Caroline Sites	B.S.N.	Nursing
Grace Elizabeth Stearns	B.S.N.	Nursing
Ciara Elisabeth Woosley	B.S.N.	Nursing
Zaakyaa Asiya Ali Young	B.S.N.	Nursing

The inclusion of a student's name in the program does not guarantee the student is fully qualified to graduate.

Candidates for Graduation

GRADUATE DEGREES

Robert W. Plaster College of Business, Dr. Troy Bethards '93, Dean

Division of Business

Dr. Nathan Wright, '05, Head

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Andrea Renee Copeland	M.B.A.	Marketing
Natalia Krystine Crooke-Rivera	M.B.A.	Health Administration
Jaleesa Anice Dillard	M.B.A.	Sports Administration
Minh Q. Dinh	M.B.A.	Management
Dez A. Duncan	M.B.A.	Management
Diego Enrique Espino Olivares	M.B.A.	Data Analytics
Logan Davis French	M.B.A.	Health Administration
Aleksandr Romanovich Glushkov	M.B.A.	Management
Victor Valero Gutierrez	M.B.A.	Management
Olivia R. Littleton	M.B.A.	Sports Administration
Scotti A. Moats	M.B.A.	Data Analytics
Omari J. Oggs	M.B.A.	Management
Youssef Mohamed Osman	M.B.A.	Data Analytics/Marketing
Charles Ashton Rogers	M.B.A.	Health Administration
Jalen I. Royal-Eiland	M.B.A.	Health Administration
Lily June Simmons	M.B.A.	Leadership

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORTS ADMINISTRATION

Blake Ryan Gordon	M.S.	Sports Administration
Tyler Joe Hart	M.S.	Sports Administration
Cale Thiessen	M.S.	Sports Administration

College of Professional Programs, Dr. Troy Bethards '93, Dean
Division of Graduate Technology & Information Sciences
Dr. Kenneth George, Director

Syed Shoukath Ali M.S. Information Technology

Division of Education
Dr. Julie Bryant '97, Head

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Alexis Rae Adams	M.S.Ed.	Literacy
Sarah Beth Barkley	M.S.Ed.	Elementary Education
Jennifer K. Bence	M.S.Ed.	Instructional Technology Leadership
David Brick Brack III	M.S.Ed.	Athletic-Activity Director
Jenna Marie Carter	M.S.Ed.	Teacher Leadership
Alexis Marie Caruso	M.S.Ed.	Instructional Technology Leadership
Logan Matthew Claborn	M.S.Ed.	Athletic-Activity Director
Dylan Gabrielle Coleman	M.S.Ed.	Education
Lauren Michele Davis	M.S.Ed.	Teacher Leadership
Allison Madonna Duggan	M.S.Ed.	Instructional Technology Leadership
Shelby Rene Enright	M.S.Ed.	Instructional Technology Leadership
Belma Alcalde Fields	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Evelynn Grace Gonzales	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Megan Renee Groat	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Megan Brittany Grossbauer	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Colleen Hayden	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Sarah Beth Hollis	M.S.Ed.	Literacy
James F. Jones, Jr.	M.S.Ed.	Elementary Education
Jeremy Todd Land	M.S.Ed.	Athletic-Activity Director
Jodi Mocker	M.S.Ed.	Instructional Technology Leadership
Renee Recer	M.S.Ed.	Instructional Technology Leadership

Vincent Earl Sbisa	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Madeline Elizabeth Smith	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Sawyer Lee Smith	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Nathaniel Stelken	M.S.Ed.	Athletic-Activity Director
Zoey Ranae Taylor	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Brendan K. Telker	M.S.Ed.	Athletic-Activity Director
Mary Elizabeth Teuton	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Taylor Lauren Thuet	M.S.Ed.	Literacy
Sarra D. Tice	M.S.Ed.	Elementary Education
Emma Claire Aniela White	M.S.Ed.	Curriculum & Instruction
Kelly A. Wiegand	M.S.Ed.	Instructional Technology Leadership

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

John Wayne Bellich	M.S.	Educational Administration
Cecil Lee Bratton III	M.S.	Educational Administration
Michelle Cramer	M.S.	Educational Administration
Cameron Isabel Crosser	M.S.	Educational Administration
Cole Edgar Easley	M.S.	Educational Administration
Elizabeth Griffin	M.S.	Educational Administration
Brittany Renae Hedges	M.S.	Educational Administration
Matthew James Holt	M.S.	Educational Administration
Ralph Elijah Stephen Hungerford	M.S.	Educational Administration
Katie Ann McDowell	M.S.	Educational Administration
Cindi Lee Noblitt	M.S.	Educational Administration
Jacob Paul Noblitt	M.S.	Educational Administration
Trish M. Porter	M.S.	Educational Administration
Nicole Ann Pugh	M.S.	Educational Administration
Melissa Marie Roux	M.S.	Educational Administration
Melanie Rae Skidmore	M.S.	Educational Administration
Sara Jane Stilley	M.S.	Educational Administration

EDUCATION SPECIALIST

Jason Edward Ash	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Christopher Jay August	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Stevan Lawrence Bateman	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Kara Marie Beldo	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Stacey Bevill	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Crystal Dawn Brown	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Craig C. Coleman	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Austin James Conrad	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Daniel Scott Durst	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Johnathan Felton	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Gregory D. Francis	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Kaitlin Cheyenne Hartmann	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Melissa Renee Hayes	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Emili Rae Isaacs	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Jamie Nicole Kessler	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Joshua Michael Lollis	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Sara Krissan Mashburn	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Nathan L. Parker	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Sarah Grace Parker	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Jana Mae-Marie Parrigon	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Kaleb Douglas Patterson	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Nathanael T. Perkins	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Laurie Philipp	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Brooke Lynn Smith	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Megan N. Tegerdine	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Timothy Kilroy Timlin	Ed.S.	Educational Administration
Taylor Marie Young	Ed.S.	Educational Administration

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Michelle R. Bell	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Jason Burnell Blair	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Chelsea Ann Boyd	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Heather Broome	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Erin L. Butler	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Katie Marie Coen	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Amber Dale Dishman	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Jason M. Duey	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Cheryl Walker Hayes	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Aibeen Silva Holland	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Riley Noelle Keltner	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Jessica Laine Kennedy	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Tambra Lee	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Amy Nicole Martin	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Kasha L. Oetinger	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Benjamin Jeffrey Potter	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership
Orissa Odessa Ramirez	Ed.D.	Educational Leadership

The inclusion of a student's name in the program does not guarantee the student is fully qualified to graduate.

Mercy College of Health Professions Dr. Brittney Hendrickson '08, '11, '12, Dean

Division of Physical Therapy

Dr. Terry Cox, Head

Carter Jacob Adams	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Danielle Renee Banda	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Abigail J. Bernard	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Kelsey J. Biro	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Christian Aaron Bisno	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Mason P. Bolton	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Kaitlin Rachelle Burgess	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Jessica Ann Burkhart	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Mackenzie Dawn Buske	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Zachary S. Butler	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Laura Elizabeth Cook	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Kaitlyn Michelle Padget	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Kiley Marie Counts	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Devon J. Crum	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Bailey Anna Cushman	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Desiree Monee Edwards	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Thomas Allen Finley	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Zion M. Fralin	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Troy Alan Froeschle	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Tristan Gilmore	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Brock F. Glavey	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Bethany Rose Glore	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Daniel Greben	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Elizabeth May Gregory	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy

The inclusion of a student's name in the program does not guarantee the student is fully qualified to graduate.

Chelsea Camilla Hall	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Sara M. Hopper	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
William Maxwell Hunter	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Matthew Kallis	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Raegan Faith Kelly	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Sophia Claire Kramer	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Blaine Lee Kujath	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Alexandra Marie Lanzafame	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Natalie Ayda Matian	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Jordyn Elaine Medley	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Joseph Michael Miller	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Garrett Edward Morgan	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Joshua Chinweoke Nnaji	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Emma Grace Pitts	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Zachary N. Plunkett	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Kimbrie A. Putnam	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Dylan R. Rand	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Emily Grace Rice	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Kaylee G. Riebel	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Collin L. Riemensnider	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Autumn Taylor Roybal	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Kali Marie Schiffhauer	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Krystopher Ridge Smith	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Austin Quang Truong	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
yCiarra Villaflor	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Harrison Werner	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Janell Megan Wilson	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy
Timmy Angel Zavala	D.P.T.	Physical Therapy

The inclusion of a student's name in the program does not guarantee the student is fully qualified to graduate.

Academic Leadership

PRESIDENT

Dr. Richard Melson

PROVOST

Dr. Tracy Manly

ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR ONLINE LEARNING

Dr. Troy Bethards '93

ASSISTANT PROVOST FOR GENERAL EDUCATION AND TRANSITION

Dr. Scotti Moats

Deans

MERCY COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Dr. Brittney Hendrickson '08, '11, '12

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

ROBERT W. PLASTER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dr. Troy Bethards '93

GENEVA CASEBOLT COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. Bill DuVall

Commencement Marshals

FACULTY MARSHALS

Dr. Renay McCarley, Faculty Senate President
Dr. Matt Kimbrough, Faculty Senate President-Elect

JUNIOR MARSHALS

Trevor Johnson
Jeanna Smathers

LIVESTREAMING

The Commencement Ceremony is livestreamed and available for viewing at a later date through this link:

[Spring 2026 Commencement Livestream - 11 a.m.](#)

[Spring 2026 Commencement Livestream - 4 p.m.](#)

PHOTOS

Individual professional photos taken at each ceremony are provided by Grad Images. Images may be viewed and purchased by visiting www.FindMyGrad.com.

