The Graduate Commencement Program December 16, 2023

Presiding:

Christopher M. Fiorentino, Ph.D., President
Jeffery L. Osgood, Jr., Ph.D., Interim Executive Vice President and Provost
Jen Bacon, Ph.D., Interim Deputy Provost and Dean, College of Arts and Humanities
Lisa M. Calvano, Ph.D. Dean of the Graduate School
John Craig, Ph.D., Interim Dean, University College
Christopher Hanning, D.M.A., Dean, Wells School of Music
Scott Heinerichs, Ed.D., Dean, College of Health Sciences
Evan Leach, Ph.D., Dean, College of Business and Public Management
Lisa Marano, Ph.D., Interim Dean, College of the Sciences and Mathematics
Desha Williams, Ph.D., Dean, College of Education and Social Work

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

WELCOME Dr. Calvano

"STAR SPANGLED BANNER" The Audience

Michael Repko '23, Soloist

REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS Dr. Fiorentino

MUSICAL INTERLUDE Wells School of Music Brass and Percussion Ensemble

"Green Sleeves" trad., arr. David Uber

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES Dr. Calvano

CONFERRING OF DEGREES Dr. Fiorentino

GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WCU Alumni Association

CONCLUSION Dr. Fiorentino

ALMA MATER

The Audience
Michael Repko '23, Soloist

ALMA MATER

(First Stanza)

West Chester, hail, all hail, noble and strong, To thee with loyal hearts we raise our song, Swelling to Heaven High, our praises ring, West Chester, hail, all hail, of thee we sing.

ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL

August 2023 Graduates

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTORATE DEGREE

PSYCHOLOGY

Kelsey Elizabeth Blum

Embodiment, Scholarship Pressures, and Eating Disordered Behaviors in Division II Collegiate Athletes

Theodora Malinowski

The Effects of a Six-Week Mindfulness Intervention Designed for Adolescents on Emotion Regulation and Perceived Stress in College Students

Giemaly E. Soto

Community Violence and Adolescent Aggression: The Moderating Role of Perceived Parental Support

Derrick D. Stahl

Heart Rate Variability and Relationship Alliance Quality

Madeline Lourdes Vandevere

Progression and Protectiveness of Social Bonds and Play in a Captive Group of Western Lowland Gorillas

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Mark W. Jaronczyk

Reading Proficiency As A Public Policy Agenda Indicator: The Importance Of Reading Ability On The Educational Outcomes Of Students And The Collateral Effects To Society

Julie K. Mesaros

Unbounding Rationality: Observing and Mitigating K-12 Public Education Administrators' Cognitive Bias Sam Musa

Economic Impact of Land Use Planning (Transit-Oriented Development): A Comparative Analysis

CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE

COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

Nicholas Eberly Emily Fletcher Carter R. Grimm Alexis Hughes Dian M. McKinney Sydney E. Wise

Ryan Amentler

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & PUBLIC MANAGEMENT

Ta-Tanisha Barrett
Cassandra Bartolucci
Pauric Barton
Jacquelyne Berrier
Stephen M. Braunlinger
Christopher R. Burton
Kotryna Chua
Lauren E. Cook
Samantha Crotty
Kyle Thomas Curcio
Laura Delles
Steven H. Doggett
David Doyle
Scott M. Egan, II

Madison S. Ernst

Edwin Ismael Figueroa Bermudez

Niki Francois

Brian Thomas Fulcher Miranda Lauren Grier Marisa Harding

Daniel Matthew Honohan

Olivia A. Jacobson

Samuel J. Kochersperger IV

Olivia Lopatofsky Siddhartha M. Martinez

Jason McCue Nicholas F. McGrath Tammy Cassandra McNeil

Angela Lee Morley-Ringenary
Conor E. Murray
Jacob P. Newman
Cindy Huong Nguyen
Lachezar Nikolov
Dulba Omeragic
Tyler David Piccotti
Carolina Pisani
Connor Pretko
Jezebel Rivera
Kara T. Robbins
Michael Rochelle
Stephanie C. Sawyer

Mary R. Schmid Karen Schmidt

Jonathan Christopher Senczakowicz

Caleb J. Sevick Brenna Smith Zachary P. Stratton Senait Tsegay

Stephanie Paige Umstead

Brooke Weber

Hunter Michael Wenger Shaun A. Wessner Sydney Elizabeth Wiesner George Edward Wright, IV Marquez A. Wright Sage A. Wronowski Chance Zarilla

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Julie A. Bygrave

Kiera I. Callahan

Daanyaall Milanja Kymir Dior Coleman

Scott Denoro, Jr.
Kelsey Dougherty
Troy Alan Everly
Shae Lea Fisher
Alec M. Freedman
Erica K. Fus
Kelly J. Gumble
Kinsey Alexis Hartert
Daniel Helms
Kristy Kingan
Christine Lees
Erica Lewis

Joelle Elizabeth Linstra Samira A. Mack Kathryn McAllister Helena M. McKendrick

Connor Mears Cillian O'Sullivan Chantal Peou Jessica Colleen Plank William Rouse Joanna Rose Sauer Chiara Eveyln Sheahan

Julia Weimer

Victoria L. Williamson

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Jaimeson Bair
Clara Naomi Baker
Armita Bakhtmand
Rachel Lyn Bernard
Casey M. Boehmer
Samantha L. Bouton
Lydia Bowers
Emma E. Brodhag
Rachel Brown
Melissa Buccellato
Amanda Colon
Symone Costin
Alexandra Davis
Lacey M. Deeter

Emily G. Diskin

Ingrid Farrell Kierra E. Feeley Annelise Fickinger Jessica Foley Julia Fraim Stephen W. Franks

Alissa M. Frey Ashley M. Giordano Kelly Goodling Marianna Grudziak Michelle Hallinan Krystal Lynn Hallman Mackenzie Hammond

Samantha Lauren Hankey Sara Fatima Hassan Jessica E. Hillard Daniel Hofmann Colleen Patricia Huck Caitlin Iannini Shannon Kelly Haley M. Kircher Eleanor Louise Kleponis Taylor Elyse Knorr Sarah Koch

Helen Kreschollek Austin Robert Lambert

Balee R. Leeser

Cynthia Terri Leger
Tori M. Loebsack
Emily A. Lubenetski
Rebecca Ellen Lynch
Mackenzie K. Makatche
Seth Michael Martin
Tara S. McLaughlin
Alexis Mignone
Madison N. Minniti
Linda Mykietyn
Kendall L. Napuda
Nicole Nelson

Hannah Elizabeth Newman

Jaymar Nixon Kathleen Noriega Robin Nuse Tome Allison A. O'Connor Hannah Rose Ozmon Ian Markus Patterson Sydney Regina Kaitlyn E. Rossiter Cieara Rouse

Courtney Bridget Rowe

Tristan Roy Nicholas R. Salamone Emma C. Scudder Arielle L. Segal Kirsten Patricia Servis Kyra Elizabeth Shank Karlene A. Shaw

Andrew Keith Sorber Rachel Sottolano Angela Sumner

Sarah Smith

Julinette Vazquez-Tanon Katelyn Marie Vargo Cassandra Lynn Weber

Lauren Weeks Erik Wilson Rebecca L. Woods Brytney Wornham Paige K. Wrigley Abigail Zerbe

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WELLS SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Karah Barrist Joyanna Daniel Noelle G. Horrell Shaina M. Tessari

December 2023 Graduates

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTORATE DEGREE

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Tamerra Bailey

The Impact of Social Capital on Female Students at Job Corps

Descriptive Analysis of Open Government Practices of Four Mid-Sized Cities in New York State

Shirley Ann Dews

Sustaining Equitable Child Welfare Policies in Foster Care: Perspectives from Nonprofit Frontline Workers and Support Professionals and Their Role in Implementing Multidisciplinary Policy Collaborations

Evaluating Assertiveness, Support, and Gameplay Patterns by California Rural County Departments in Acquiring Budgetary Resources

The Impact of COVID-19 on the Healthcare Industry's Systems and Policies: A Case Study

Michelle R. Gherardi

The Role of Mentoring in Combating Racism and Sexism in Higher Education as a Blueprint for Other Historical Institutions in the United States

Zachary Elijah Ising

Diagnosing Market Inefficiency: The Impact of Consolidation in the Private Health Insurance Market on Healthcare Costs in the United States

Δ Ja'von Long

The Powerful Actors of the Criminal Justice System: Understanding Prosecutorial Discretion From the Viewpoint of Prosecutors.

Yogananda Pittman

Women are Needed at the Top of Law Enforcement Agencies

Kesley Richardson

Quality Check: How Good is your Emergency Management Program?

Brett David Smith

Community Cultural Wealth and its Impact on Pandemic Relief Funding for Small Businesses

Δ Lamar Lacey Stovall

The Impact and Effectiveness of Welfare Programs in Reducing Poverty in South Asia

Garman Williams, Ir.

Diversity Matters: Federal Executives' Influence

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Jacquelynne S. Conyers-Jordan

Diana M. Dopheide

Jonathan B. Eisen

Jacqueline I. Gaud Salome

Rachide Geraldo

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Seth Polich Rackeem Reid John L. Rodia, Jr. Nathaniel Sall Shanelle Lee Stovall Caitlyn Rose Swiston Michael Szczechowski Edith A. Tettey

Regina Balestrieri Vottero Sophia Paige Weiner Matt Wileyto

WELLS SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Pedro Brack Aguilar Timothy L. Jernigan Adam Naroff Zachary Ray Hanna Yoon

PROGRAM NOTES

Academic Dress Today

Today's graduates wear one of three types of gowns. The bachelor's gown is black, untrimmed, with long, slightly pointed sleeves. It is always worn closed. Recipients of associate degrees also wear the bachelor's gown.

The master's gown is also black and untrimmed, but its sleeves are long and square at the bottom, except for a circular cut at the front just above the bottom. The sleeves are sewn shut with slits, either just above the wrists or above the elbow, through which the wearer's hands protrude. The master's gown may be worn open or closed.

The doctoral gown features full sleeves and velvet trim consisting of a strip down either side of the front closing and three narrow strips on each sleeve. The trim may be black or in the color that represents the subject in which the wearer received his or her doctorate. While the doctor's gown is usually black, graduates of some universities have brightly colored robes, such as those in "Yale" blue or those from Harvard or the University of Chicago, which are in different hues of red.

The traditional mortarboard hat is made of the same material as the gown and usually has a black tassel. Doctors' hats may be made of velvet and may have tassels of gold or in the color of the wearer's degree. Women graduates of some institutions wear soft caps, and some universities have special styles of hats for holders of their doctorates.

The colorful hoods designate the degree of the wearer, the subject in which the degree is held, and the institution that awarded the degree.

The colors of the lining identify the institution. For example, bachelor and master graduates of West Chester wear a

hood that has a purple lining with a gold chevron while those earning doctoral degrees wear a hood that has a yellow lining with a purple chevron.

The length of the hood and the width and color of its velvet border show the degree held. Bachelors' hoods are 3 feet long and have trim 2 inches wide. Masters' hoods are 3 ½ feet long and have trim 3 inches wide. Doctors' hoods are 4 feet long and have trim 5 inches wide.

Seals

The seal of the University plays an important part in today's ceremony. Seals have been used since ancient times to authenticate documents. The diplomas to be received by today's graduates will bear the University seal. The chain of office worn by the president and the medallion worn by the provost are inscribed with the seal.

The West Chester University seal, like those of most Pennsylvania state system universities, consists of the seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania surrounded by the name of the institution and its founding date. A copy of the seal is stamped on the front of today's program.

West Chester University Mace

The mace has a history as a symbol of authority in civil and academic processions. Now ceremonial, the mace was originally a formidable weapon held ready to protect the dignitary in a procession. The position of macebearer for the University is given to a senior faculty member or one who is being honored by the Council of Trustees and/or the University's senior administration. The macebearer always precedes the president in the procession.

The West Chester University mace is 37 inches long. It is made of sterling silver

with gold plate details, purple acrylic, and purpleheart wood.

Recessed into the top is the gold-plated engraved seal of the University. Below the seal is an inverted purple acrylic cone bearing six monograms, "WCU," in gold-plated sterling. Below the acrylic cone is an incised inscription, "WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY 1871."

The main part of the mace head is divided into 13 pentagonal fields each displaying a scene depicting one of 13 academic disciplines representative of the many fields of study offered at West Chester University. These are education, physical education, business administration, accounting, public administration, sociology and anthropology, dental and medical technology, health and nursing, liberal arts, performing arts, fine arts, mathematics and computer science, and natural sciences.

The shaft of the mace is made of purpleheart wood. The lower end, made of sterling silver, bears the engraved inscription, "PRESENTED TO WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY IN 1986."

The Chain of Office

Collars or chains of office historically have been worn by many academic officials including chancellors, rectors, and presidents of universities.

The West Chester University chain of office is 48 inches long. It is made of sterling silver with gold-plate details. The chain supports a medallion made of purple acrylic in a sterling silver frame. The center of the medallion carries the engraved, gold-plated sterling silver seal of the University. The frame of the medallion is engraved with "WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY." It has a keystone incised with the University's founding date "1871." The keystone

is flanked with a design of horses and mushrooms symbolizing Chester County's agricultural heritage.

The chain itself consists of 12 arched frames, each with one of the scenes representative of the academic disciplines used on the mace. The 12 frame links alternate with monogram links corresponding to those on the purple cone of the mace head.

Both the mace and the chain of office were designed and made by internationally known silversmith Kurt Matzdorf. They are gifts of the West Chester University Alumni Association.

Provost's Medallion

The provost wears a medallion and chain presented to West Chester University by the Class of 1938. The design of the medallion matches the centerpiece of the president's chain of office.

The medallion frame is engraved "Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost." The chain is made of links alternating between the West Chester University monogram and a symbolic open book. It was executed in sterling by Kurt Matzdorf. The medallion was given by the Class of 1938 in anticipation of its 50th Anniversary celebration.

Graduate Dean's Medallion

The graduate dean wears a medallion and chain at commencement. The medallion frame is engraved "Graduate Dean." The medallion was presented to the Graduate Dean, Dr. Jeffery L. Osgood, Jr., in spring 2016 by the Graduate Student Association.

Batons

The grand marshals leading today's academic procession carry batons presented by the Class of 1961. The marshals are responsible for directing members of the procession to their proper places, and the batons serve as the symbol of their authority. Made of highly polished wood, the batons are decorated with ribbons of purple and gold, the West Chester University colors.

International Flags

The flags behind the platform today represent the countries of graduating international students and the countries in which West Chester University students have studied.

Participation

Participation in Commencement does not necessarily indicate or guarantee degree completion. Publication of this program is completed prior to the end of the semester. Official records are kept in the Office of the Registrar.

West Chester University of Pennsylvania

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Dr. Jen Bacon, Interim Deputy Provost

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Mr. Andrew Lehman, Vice President for University Affairs and Chief of Staff

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Department of Communication and Media

Dr. Lisa Millhous, Chairperson

Department of English

Dr. Michael Burns, Chairperson

Department of History

Dr. Robert Kodosky, Chairperson

Department of Languages and Cultures

Dr. Cristobal Cardemil-Krause,

Chairperson

Department of Philosophy

Dr. Cassie Striblen, Chairperson

Department of Theatre and Dance Dr. Juliet Wunsch, Chairperson

Department of Women's and Gender Studies

Dr. Joan Woolfrey, Chairperson

College of Business and Public Management

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Dr. Lori Fuller, Chairperson
Department of Criminal Justice

Dr. Mary Brewster, Chairperson

Department of Economics and Finance Dr. Kyle Kelly, Chairperson

Department of Geography and Planning

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Department of Management

Dr. Xiaowei Zhu, Chairperson

Department of Marketing

Dr. Yong Wang, Chairperson

Department of Public Policy and Administration

Dr. Peter Loedel, Interim Chairperson

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Dr. Maria Stetter, Associate Dean

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Dr. Karen Johnson, Chairperson

Department of Educational Foundations and Policy Studies

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Department of Educational Leadership and Higher Education Administration *Dr. Jackie Hodes, Chairperson*

Department of Counselor Education Dr. Peter Boccone, Chairperson

Department of Literacy

Dr. Diane Santori, Chairperson

Department of Secondary Education Dr. Laura Renzi, Chairperson

Department of Social Work

Dr. Greg Tully, Interim Chairperson

Department of Social Work – Graduate Dr. Ginneh Akbar, Chairperson

Department of Special Education Dr. Beatrice Adera, Chairperson

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Dr. James Brenner, Chairperson

Department of Kinesiology

Dr. Craig Stevens, Chairperson

Department of Nursing

Dr. Nancy Barker, Chairperson

Department of Nutrition

Dr. Christine Karpinski, Chairperson

Department of Sports Medicine

Dr. Katherine Morrison, Chairperson

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Department of Biology

Dr. Jennifer Chandler, Chairperson

Department of Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Zhongping Huang

Department of Chemistry

Dr. Mahrukh Azam, Chairperson

9

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Department of Mathematics

Dr. Allison Kolpas, Chairperson

Department of Physics and Engineering Dr. Matthew Waite, Chairperson

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Department of Psychology

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Department of Instrumental Music Dr. Ralph Sorrentino, Chairperson

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Dr. Marci Major, Chairperson

Department of Music Theory, History and Composition

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Department of Vocal and Keyboard Music Dr. Emily Bullock, Chairperson

University College

Dr. John Craig, Interim Dean

Interdisciplinary Studies and Academic Support Programs

Dr. Marie Bunner, Interim Chairperson

University Libraries

Dr. Jill Dixon, Dean

Deirdre Childs, Interim Associate Dean for Public Services

Kerry Walton, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Services

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Dr. Tim Sestrick, Chairperson

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Department of Counseling and Psychological Services

Dr. Rachel Daltry, Chairperson

Honors College

Dr. Timothy Jussaume, Director Dr. Gerardina Martin, Chairperson

Graduate Program Coordinators

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Communication Studies	Dr. Michael Boyle
English	
History	-
Holocaust and Genocide Studies	
Languages and Cultures	
Philosophy	
Teaching English as a Second Language	
College of Business and Public Management	
Business Administration	Dr. Brian Halsey
Criminal Justice	•
Geography and Planning	
Human Resource Management.	C
Public Policy and Administration.	-
	•
Urban and Regional Planning	
	Di. Jong woong Kini
College of Education and Social Work	D W D:1:
Counselor Education	
Early Childhood Education	
Early and Middle Grades Education	
Educational Foundations and Policy Studies	
Educational Leadership and Higher Education Administration	
Literacy	e e
Secondary Education	
C. 1171	
Special Education	•
Social Work	
	and Dr. 10dd vanidestine
College of Health Sciences	
Athletic Training	
Communication Sciences and Disorders	
Public Health Sciences	
Kinesiology	
NI	
Nutrition	-
Nursing	
Physician Associate Education	
Sport Management and Athletics	Dr. Ross Trachtenberg
College of the Sciences and Mathematics	
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Applied and Computational Mathematics	
Biology	
Computer Science	
Earth and Space Sciences	
Mathematics	
Psychology	
	and Dr. Vipanchi Mishra
Wells School of Music	
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