



WILKES UNIVERSITY'S 79TH ANNUAL

Spring Commencement

FOR THE CONFERRING OF GRADUATE DEGREES

Saturday, May Sixteenth
Two-thousand and twenty-six • 10 a.m.

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

*O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars,
Through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched,
Were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare,
The bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night
That our flag was still there.
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free
And the home of the brave?*

*Words by Francis Scott Key
Arranged by John Philip Sousa
Harmonized by Walter Damrosch*

ALMA MATER

*Wilkes, our Alma Mater,
We pledge our hearts to thee,
Honor, faith, and courage,
Truth and loyalty,
In our work and in our pleasure,
Guide us as a friend;
We shall always love thee,
Loyal to the end.
Thou shalt lead us onward
In search of finer things.
May we find the wisdom
That thy spirit brings.
May our deeds of love and service
Ever swell thy fame —
Wilkes, we stand to greet thee!
Glory to thy name.*

Words and Music by Eleanor C. Farley



WILKES UNIVERSITY'S SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL
Spring Commencement

DISCLAIMER: The inclusion of a student's name in this program does not indicate that the student has successfully completed their degree requirements and graduated.

Order of Exercises

PROCESSIONAL

March No. 4, Op. 39.....Edward Elgar

Arranged by Joel M. Graham

(The audience is requested to rise as the procession begins.)

The Wilkes University Commencement Band

WELCOMEDAVID M. WARD

Senior Vice President and Provost

INVOCATION.....FR. BROGAN C. RYAN, C.S.C.

Director of Campus Ministry

College Chaplain, King's College

The Star-Spangled Banner.....Words by Francis Scott Key

Arranged by Joel M. Graham

(The words to The Star-Spangled Banner are printed on the inside front cover of the program.)

The audience is requested to stand and sing the National Anthem with the chorus and band.)

The Wilkes University Commencement Band and Chorus

GREETINGS.....WILLIAM R. MILLER '81

Chair, Board of Trustees

BEN TOLL

Chair, Faculty Affairs Council

Associate Professor, Political Science

KIMBERLY WAGNER HEIMAN

Member of the Class of 2026

AIR FORCE COMMISSIONING:

THE OATH OF OFFICE.....JONATHAN HOGAN

Lieutenant Colonel, United States Air Force

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS.....GREG CANT

President, Wilkes University

Order of Exercises

THE CONFERRING OF THE DEGREES.....GREG CANT

ALUMNI INDUCTION.....MICHAEL NOONE '97
President, Alumni Association

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....GREG CANT

Alma Mater.....*Eleanor C. Farley*
Arranged by Joel M. Graham and Richard Chapline
(The words to the Alma Mater are printed on the inside front cover of the program.
The audience is requested to stand and join in the singing.)
The Wilkes University Commencement Band and Chorus

BENEDICTION.....FR. BROGAN C. RYAN, C.S.C.

Let Music Be Our Memorial.....*J.A.C. Redford*
The Wilkes University Commencement Chorus

RECESSIONAL

Folk Songs from Somerset.....*Ralph Vaughan Williams*
Arranged by Ed Huckleby
(The audience is requested to rise as the recessional begins.)
The Wilkes University Commencement Band

Music Provided By:

Wilkes University Commencement Band

Joel M. Graham, Conductor

Wilkes University Commencement Chorus

Joshua Harper, Conductor

Ceremony Interpreted By:

Interpretek

Commencement Address

GREG CANT

Greg Cant was named the seventh president of Wilkes University in 2019. A native of Australia, he has 30 years of experience as an educator and administrator in the United States and abroad. President Cant is regarded as a visionary academic leader who grew enrollment at previous institutions by developing a variety of innovative and market-driven programs.

When Cant officially began his tenure at Wilkes in late May 2020, the campus and the country were faced with significant challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Among his priorities was overseeing plans for a successful campus reopening for the fall 2020 semester. Under his leadership, a cross-functional group of University employees ensured that Wilkes students, faculty and staff could experience a fall semester with residential opportunities and uninterrupted academic instruction.

In 2021, Cant developed the transitional *Bridge to the Future* strategic plan, designed to guide the University through the pandemic. In 2023, a more comprehensive and traditional planning process led to the University's current strategic plan, *Innovate. Engage. Thrive*. The plan introduced six key goals essential for Wilkes to flourish: advancing academic success; promoting innovation and partnership; supporting student success; prioritizing community, enrichment and service; strengthening financial resilience and optimizing infrastructure.

Under Cant, Wilkes has received a number of transformative gifts to support student success as well as key initiatives outlined in the strategic plan, including the naming of the Dr. Bing K. Wong College of Arts and Sciences and the Dr. Richard Abbas Alley School of Education, the establishment of the Cohen Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, the formation of the Chu-Wiendl Scholarship and a significant investment in the Bonner Leaders Program.

Cant is the former dean of the Feliciano School of Business at Montclair State University and the Offutt School of Business at Concordia College in Minnesota. He also served as a professor in Guangdong, China, and worked in the United Kingdom, as well as in his native Australia.

Cant holds a doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Western Australia and a master's degree in industrial relations from Queen's University in Ontario, Canada. He earned his bachelor's degree in industrial relations and economics from the University of Western Australia.

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The Dr. Bing K. Wong College of Arts & Sciences

Paul T. Riggs, *Dean*

MASTER OF ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING

David Charles Brett

Kyler Jaqueline Burke

Christine Marie Cooper

Stacey Marie Faustner

Duane Granston

Lois Ann Grimm

Eden Emiko Hall

Morgan Elizabeth Jennings

Amber Niven

Brigid Reese

Lindsey Scorey

Mallory Sorber

The College of Business and Engineering

Abel Adekola, *Dean*

The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Faizan Ali

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Raymond Ethan Anderson

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Katlin A. Beenders

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Molly Blaskiewicz

Kimberly Buckery

Kieran James Burrier

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Jacob Cambria

Bryan Chilson

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Jessica Cho

Ross Cianflone III

Brooke Emily Coleman

Dorianna Estebania Del Orbe

Dominguez

Cesia Elisa Diaz

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Eric M. Dixon

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Hayley Marie Farrell

Nolee Ana Grabowski

Caleb Brian Francis Graham

Hunter L. Greenberg

⁵ Brenda Gruver

⁵ Stephen Nathan Gruver

Brett Hause

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Alexandra Holmstrom

De' Von James

Margaux Evelyne Pascale Jarry

Marwa Khan

Kevin Kim

Iida Mandi Maria Laitinen

Olivia Margareta Elisabeth Lindberg

Mason Madden-Edwards

⁵ Thomas James Matern, Jr.

Shawn P. McCullough

Kierstin Miller

Jordan Favian Mosquera

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Jonah Nguyen

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Hari Patel

Nicole Caron Pezzino

Jack Piscitelli

Makenzie J. Psarakis

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Business and Engineering (*Continued*)

Teresita A. Shovlin

Kelly A. Siegfried

Kelly Ann Sklanka

Aliyah Morgan Smolinsky

Brooke Charlotte Snopkowski

Nicholas Alexander Splain

Sarah Stofanak

Rebecca Timko

Courtney Brianne Turowski

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Sara E. Urena

Arrington Lee Wall

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

⁵ Letitia Noelle Warunek

Katelyn L. Wilson

Evan Cole Zaharick

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Donovan Scott Zong

Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy

Engineering

Abel Adekola, *Dean*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOENGINEERING

Sara Ahmed

Miquela Langan

Adelyne Olson

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

Gurinder S. Badwal

Raunak Shrestha

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Pradip Poudel

Nicholas Chance Romas

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Dr. Richard Abbas Alley School of Education

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Gillian Barbara Armstrong	Irelyn Jannuzzi
Lasha Basadzishvili	¹³ Todd William Kern
Jaka Bird	Faith T. Kessell
Micah Bryce Brickner	Kyle Lawrence Kiehart
Jessica Cerra	Ryan Kilgarriff
Jaime Krysta Clugston	Jarred Maylath
Eliza Craig	Leah Elizabeth McCann
Cassandra Deritis	¹³ Kathryn Donnelly Mercado
Danielle Dunbar	Armandria Mullen
Alycia Noel Ford	Hayat Oukaki
Dawn Freemore	Nicholas C. Palonis
Darryl Givens	Peyton Joseph Reese
Kathy Lynn Goff	Matthew Rinaldi
Christina M. Gross	Madison Shrive
Jamie Halpin	Tyler Terza
Wayne G. Hummer	Joy Christina Tetlak-Adelstein

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Sophie Elizabeth Adler	Kasey Alyse Bieber
Breana Agan	MaKayla Jean Billings
Robin Alexander	Abigail Bleacher
Chelsea Alshouse	Jennifer Lynn Boccadori
Karina Alt	Phillip Morgan Boehmerr
Adrienne Anderson	Emma Boekenkamp
Karen Aquino	Tiffany Bosch
Ryan C. Aukamp	Stephanie Nicole Bowers
Mary E. Aungst	Kaitlin Marie Boyer
Emma Elizabeth Bair	Rene Susan Boylan
Brooke Anne Baker	Daniel J. Brady
Ryan E. Baker, Sr.	Justin Michael Braim
Tresa Ann Bartosh	Andrew Robert Brett
Bryce Jordan Baumgardner	Amanda M. Brooks
Stephen Sebastian Beck III	Kristi Brown
Kara Bellis	Allison Nicole Butler
Angelina L. Bender	Zachary J. Cardone
Jennifer Beth Bermejo	Erika Leigh Carolus
Camie Bertolet	Madelyn N. Carpenter
Veronica Michelle Best	Colton Eric Cassel

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION *(Continued)*

Cooper Chaffee	Katrina Fry
Samara Cheifetz	Randi Lynn Fulmer
Holly Marie Chilson	Jenaway L. Gallo
Alexa Lyn Chladny	Luke Richard Garner
Joshua Claycomb	Savannah Garrett
Caroleena Mariela Cole	Mackenzie Nichole Geesaman
Cassandra Barbara Colozza	Michel Germán
Logan M. Corle	Vanessa Gimbor
Danielle Craig	Amy Sheree Glass
Michael Cramer	Felicia Gonzalez
Katelyn Marie Cuciti	Ryan Paul Good
Megan Arlene Daily	Stephanie Ann Good
Tywanna D. Dargan	Phillip Thomas Goyette
Caroline Audrey Dawson	Kasey Lynn Grant
Molly E. Day	Kierston Greggs
Michael DePrince	Megan Gregoire
Olivia DePrince	Brandon Michael Gregor
William DeBellis	Marissa Greiner
Kimberly J. Denton	Jenna Grimes
Joseph Henry Allen Depue	Adrienne F. Groff
¹³ Presleigh Derosette	Janelle Suzanne Groff
Shannon Noelle Diaz	Trisha M. Haffner
Christina Marie Diltz	Karen M. Hall
Christel D. DiVincenzo	Maria G. Hammaker
Patricia Eileen Donner	Karina Harhigh
Megan Dowdrick	Veronica Harker
Jakob William Dreyer	Nicole L. Hartline
James Dumont	Chelsea Heckman
Sarah Duris	Jason Daniel Heflin
Caitlin Eberling	Reilly Kathleen Henry
Andrea J. Ebersole	¹³ Cynthia Herring
Rochelle G. Fagan	Melissa Elaine Hershey
Angelica Maria Fajardo	Matthew Hills
Madalyn Rayne Ferrari	Amy L. Hockenberry
Sarah Fischer	Jordan Hodge
Diane Fitzgerald	Lauren Holinger
¹³ Kelly Mae Flicker	Kristen Leigh Hood
Jonathan Daniel Fogle	Laura Mae Hostetler
Stephanie Lorraine Foresto	Amy Lynn Huey
Jennifer L. Freed	Maryann Veronica Huzvar

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION *(Continued)*

Lehann Joerger	Paige Stevens Matteson
Jason Jones	Leigha Mayers
Renee Nicole Jones	Molly McAndrew
Amanda Christine Kalberer	Keith Ryan McCabe
Tara Lynn Kasperowski	Patrick Stanley McCarty
Charles Michael Keer	Ashley Tiffany McCoach
Jessica E. Kerr	Kelsey McDonald
Lori A. Kish	Megan McGarry
Julie Ann Kline	Megan Ruth McGinnis
Megan Sarah Klopp	Emily Violet McLeod
Kiersten Marie Knorr	Barrett McMurtry
James J. Kofskie, Jr.	Lauren Michelle Merrill
Steven Michael Kovalevich	¹³ Jordyn Merritts
Kimberly Marie Kowalski	Christopher Michelone
Olivia Nicole Kozlowski	Haley Anastacia Midgley
Matthew Charles Krauss	Dana Miller
Julie Rose Kreck	Ashley Milosek
Aliza Kulina	Derek Monastra
Susan M. Kupres	Kaitlyn Monzo
Sydney Kurtz	Alexa Love Morea
Stephen KwunHo Kwong	Nicole D. Morrissey
¹³ Dana Renee Lance-Holland	Barrett Myers
Sadie M. Landis	Lauren Kimberly Myers
¹³ Alexis Lauer	Maggie Myers
Lainey Rachel Lavelle	Ryan James Naugle
Nicole Leiby	Matthew Navin
Sarah Ann Lesko	Craig Neiman
Shey A. Lieberman	Cortney Nichols
Gianna Marie Lore	Ian Michael Nickischer
Jeremy Loudon	Alexis Brianna Nunes
Jenna Malingowski	Laura O'Dell
Alexia Mancarella	Leah O'Dell
Jill R. Mancuso	Chloe Olszewski
Brianna Mann	Lindsay Palmer
Amanda K. Manuel	Lindsay Palmer
Alison Elizabeth Marnell	Ashley Elizabeth Papson
Connie Cimberly Martin	Kenneth Dean Patterson
Sarah Martin	Audra Payton
Richard A. Martini	¹³ Sean M. Pear
Lyn Maria Matera	Emily Phillips

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION *(Continued)*

Rebecca Porpiglia	Rachel Elise Smith
Kristen Marie Pursell	Kay Solderitch
Jessica Ramsey	Elizabeth R. Sperlich
Cassidy Marie Reel	Megan Amelia Spess
Madeleine Ashe Reese	Christopher Robert Stahl
Melissa Remaly	Heather Stahler
Ryan Rettstadt	Morgan Anne Stearns
Noe F. Reyes	Korrin Stevens
Bethany Hope Rhodes	Amy M. Stinner
Toni Marie Riggs	Shannon Gabrielle Stoltzfus
Joseph Rittle	Kellie Lynn Stone
Jennifer Rivera	Elisabeth H. Strawser
Dalyse Rodriguez	Sarah Sweda-Martinez
Haley Roof	Jackilyn Swisher
Amy Ross	Ashley Paige Taggart
Trevor J. Rosser	Meghan Ashley Tevnan
Matthew Rusnock	Jennifer Thoman
Elizabeth Russella	Janelle Tompsett
Faith Russo	Nicole Umbenhauer
Melissa Anne Rutkowski	Amanda Urey
Joshua Charles Rytel	Alexandra Vana
Svetlana Sagalov-Feldman	Jordan Wagner
Kady Schley	Linda Wall
Kendra Elizabeth Schreffler	Courtney Wayman
Sarah Scott	Samantha Weitzel
Brian Selman	Linsey Anne Wesner
Taylor Nicole Serafin	Kelly M. Whalen
Wei-Hua Shao	Michelle Wheeler
Kaylie Brienne Shenton	Tyler Wilczek
Tegan Shortlidge	Jeannene Lynn Willow
Thomas Showvaker	Justine Wolenski
Meghan Shumway	Courtney Wolgemuth
Emily Jane Simmons	Maggie Sue Woods
Samuel Smerbeck	Sheila Wynn
Austen Brian Smith	Abigail Zeamer
Jessica Smith	Riley Zimmerman
Rachel Anne Smith	

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Passan School of Nursing

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Samuel Acheampong	Son Hong Cao
Sunday Adekunle Adebayo	Trang Thi Huyen Cao
Olubukola Adebote	Krystal Lynn Carlson
Komi M. Adjogble	Tisha Evette Carter
Oluwasegun Ebenezer Ajayi	Shaquioa Cheatham
Adela Andoinoh Akomoneh	Arielle Chiong
Blazie Guadalupe Alaniz	Rodrigo Cardoso Cirqueira
Anna Altmiller	Mellissa Clarke-Chestnut
Nichole Elise Anderson	Taylor Samóne Collier
Bernice Asare Anyanwu	Jessica Marie Comstock
Gigi Nicole Arp	Brooke L. Cooks
Alyse Asyoon	Carleigh Jo Corl
Rachel Ault	Joy Victoria Courtney
Jillian Elizabeth Bailey	Shannon Curtis
Regina S. Balmer	Myiah Custer
Elena Barkhamer	Sheena Davis
Wendy Batiste	Sharn Deep
Crystal Bawuah	Yosmaira Cesilia Deleon
Megan Angela Nomi Becirevic	Krishna Dewashrayee
Melissa Marie Bell	Iris L. Diaz Hernandez
Tracy Bensaah	Justina C. Dieujuste
Alexander Betz	Kennedi S. Dixon
Suvidha Bhasin	Mallory Lynne Dobrosky
Alexandra Blanco	Dylan Donnelly
Erin Bowe	Amanda Dorsinville
Tracy Brion	Susan Douglas
Elizabeth Bristow	Sung Yoon Dowdy
Jeré Brooks	Camille Dragony
Paula P. Brown	Gina Lyn Dreyer
Oluwabunmi Browne	Michael Evan Duca
Taylor Bunn	Rebecca Duff
Lorin James Burgett	Luke Franklin Dunn
Tana Burke	Kelly Jo Durie
Dejanera L. Burnside	Austin K. Dusch
Maya Buslov	Courtney Elizabeth Dyer
Serifé Buyukkarakaya	Margaret Edimo
John Edwin Alipio Cachuela	Kimra Edwards
Jairo Manuel Camacho	Narlee Elie
Gail Cameron	Mohamed Elzanaty
Lisa Candilora	Christi Esanu

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Parastoo Eshghisanati	Nathan Lachell
Mohammad Farooq	Camille Laflamme
Vanessa Fayemiwo	Christy Sofia Minhtuyet Lam
Katherine Reinprecht Fedun	Cinda Kay Lantz
Sahana Fischer	Michael La Porta
Dayna Foster	Leah Nicole Lear
Amanda Fucci	Brittany S. Lemon
Talah Furrakh	Marie Lindor-Zamor
David Galloway	Ruby Liss
Stephanie S. Gayed	Eleanore Marie Little
Kierra Marie Gilmore	Jingjing Liu
Hannah Goldberger	Pam Llerena
Andrea Carman Gowd	Alexis Mariah Llewellyn
Akemi M. Gregg	Kelley Marie Lomady
Angelica K. Gross	Jennifer Londono
Abigail Elizabeth Guarino	Laura Beth Lovett
Sandra Georgina Guerrero-Combatti	Carlos Luna
Bruce Guu	Regina M. Lynch-Black
Peter Hagendorf	Christopher Makrinos
Grace Elizabeth Harte	Kelly Man
Heather Harvey	Lindsay Marks
Priscilla V. Heffernan	Azam Mondona Mashayekhi
Jessica M. Heller	Makayla Marie McDole
Ramiro Hermosillo	Alicia McElroy
Taylor Ranee Herron	Amanda Rae Meachon Havens
Bridgett D. Holt	Maryam Mehmood
Emily Hoover	Mahilat G. Mekonnen
Alyson Anne Hudson	Jacquelyn Menninga
Basma Idris	Natalia Mesa Rueda
Jamie Jarrett	Gwendalene Mofatt
Fefithe J. Elie	Jillian Victoria Morgan
Claudine Sasha Jean Louis	Lindsay Murray
Kelly Karen Johnson	Kenneth Mongoi Musalia
Latoya Toni-Ann Johnson	Brenda Irene Pauline Nakato
Adrienne Kaiser	Samantha Elise Nelson
Justin Michael Kaiser	Tochi Stella Nkwocha
Lauren Michele Kelly	Chioma Nwanoruo
Kanoj Khan	Breanna O'Farrell
Dianah Oulanayh King	Anita Chiamaka Obi
Wendy Ofosu Koranteng	Eva Obuobi
Olena Korsun	Olumide Rapheal Oluwadahunsi
Karina Kremen	Temilola Esther Omotosho

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Onafadeji, Adedoyin Onasanya	Meagan Sistrunk
Constance Orleski	Marian Punzalan Skirpan
Taryn Orloski	DeAnna Smith
Abayomi Samuel Osho	Andrew Michael Socci
Yuti Patel	Magdalena Solano
Megan Rileigh Peifer	Benadette Song
Alexis Pekala	Angela M. Starkey
Christina Rae Petro	Lisa D. Starr
Brooke A. Pezak	Evie Steinhart
Brianna Lynn Picht	Christian Sua
Misty M. Pickard	Katia Rose Sylvestre
Ashley Picone	Maribel Tam
Josue Pimentel	Chista Tatar
Christina Watson Plaisted	Carly Taylor
Jennifer Lynn Platt	Danielle Marie Taylor
Carrie R. Puckett	Amanda Thomas
Victoria Paige Rath	Ashma J. Thomas
Sheree Ashley Ray	Marie Hortense Tiokou
Jasmine Richardson	Zoey Trang Tran
Kerra K. Richardson	Vu Tuan Tran
Jennifer Rae Robison	Ana Marie Samson Tuason
Lisette Rodriguez Morales	Cassidy Michele Umann
Alisson J. Rodriguez	Nadia Sofia Valentin
Devon Marnette Rodriguez	Alexander VanBergen
Kimberly Samantha Rodriguez	Vanessa Leigh Vargas
Paola Michelle Rodriguez-Melendez	Rachael Vazquez
Nirva Roney	Clibern Dizon Villaflo
Paige Alexandra Rossi	Jason Michael Villegas Oppenheimer
Madison Rose Nemeth	Nickole M. Viselli
Virginia Rubio	Jessica Renee Vogel
Luke M. Rudy	Heather M. Wagner
Adrian Obryan Russell	Holley Walker
Kamini Kiren Saigal	Gwen Mary Weller
Rebecca Carroll-Hockman Santos	Angela Marie Wilkison
Kimberly Colleen Scalzo	Yanna Wills
Emily Elizabeth Schwarz	Samantha Woodruff
Jennifer Scrivener	Ryan J. Yaletchko
Alon Raphi Shaul	Eunice Yeboah
Patrick Anthony Sheehan	Laura Youn
Sarah Sheehan	Waleade O. Yusuf
Samantha Danielle Sherwood	Jiaxin Zheng
Cierra Gayle Sidelinger	Rena Zimmerman
Ama Sika-Iddrisu	

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING

Nafisah Abdul Salam	Mikaela Deans
Roslyn Achmad	Romuald Claude Delacroix
Rachel Alexander	Sara DiSalvo
Nadine Alfred	Tricia Tashara Dobson
April Michelle Wilson Allen	Darlin Dorcely
Leona Seretha Allen	Lindsay Morgan Dougherty
Amitha Anandula	Kim Lugris Dovalo
Arcangela Andrade	Geraldine Dufort-Baptiste
Kimberly Ann Andrews	Breana Janay Dunn
Serge Andreyeff	Chiraly Dutrevil
Jessica Arbogast	Morgan Alexandra Dysert
Wantanee Arromdee	Nahomie Eloy-Gotay
Jennifer Mia Barnett	Godswill Evouka
Regine Barosy	Geraldine Ezeani
Lutchana Patrina Beckford-Ennis	Rhenita L. Fawagan
Christy Rose Belczyk	Sylvie Felix
Sherine Bennikutty	Shannon L. Ferrari
Lauren Bracken	Liuber Forte Rodriguez
Christina Braddy	Gillian F. Foster
Devon John Buckley	Dumekia Akelia Freeman
Marlene Marquelis Caicedo	Shakeria Gaither
Cheryl Latoya Carew	Katherine P. Garfield
Naadira A. Carter	Dawn Gellar
Rhodalyn Castelo	Karen Shanaker Germain
Nelly Sara Cavero	Ruth Germain
Sabine Cayo-Saylor	Gabrielle Gillen
Jennifer Marie Chiasson	Daniel Humberto Viktor Gonzalez
Ashley Lauren Clark	Micaela Gordon
Jeanette Marie Clark	Brittany Gould
Ebony Fortier	March Ellen Gray
Taylor Connor	Nicole Ama Gyamfi
Veronica Farrah Cook	Asata C. Hamill
Helena Maria Peneiras Correia	Nicola M. Harrington
Stephanie Morgan Courvisier	Idalmis Hernandez Lugo
Jordan Clay Cox	Rachel Ann Houston
Melissa Cuevas	Nadine Sabina Hubert
Grace O. Dada	Mary Eileen Hulse
Linda Danda Nash	Khadijat Monilola Ige
Victoria Davison-Adams	Ernestine Ihekire
Sheila De Jesus Rosado	Maureen Jackson Butts
Elena Marie DeTaranto	Heather James
	Laura Jarosz

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Shanda Johnson	Valerie Lynn Myers
Erika Lynne Jones	Vrinda V. Nadkarni
Lissy Joseph	Alana Nebblett
Kadiatu Mayeni Kamara-Hill	Kelvin E. Negron Soto
Bindu Kanaka	Jimmy Duy Nguyen
Melissa Karr	Thai My Ngoc Nguyen
Valerie Jayne Kassick	Timothy Ian Nguyen
Jurgita Katkauskaite	Linda Obiageriaku Nwahiri
Mandeep Kaur	Frances Nkemdilm Nwora
Salena Gul Khan	Cynthia Dawn Oberholtzer
Shanique Kidd-McDonald	Ibukunola Adekunbi Ojomo
Bo Ra Kim	Funmilayo Okuseinde
Eunice Ayoade Kolawole	Ibukun Abosede Olagunju
Shanna Lynn Kulick	Gerald Obaigwa Ombasa
Sunil Kumbukal Kurian	Kelvin Osemudiamen Omonzane
Hyacinth Masako Lai	Grace Opiyo
Talena Lank	Rommel Ordonio
Jettele Joy D. Lara	Waheed O. Oshungboye
Penny Laine Lee	Melissa Lee Osofsky
Christina Onassis Lewis	Jennifer Thim Oung Mathurin
Tzu Wei Lin	Chloe Pacheco
Lorrie Ann Loomis	Jemah V. Parker
Sheilla Louis	Nancy Parker
Fabiola Lovan Sampeur	Krutikaben Vishal Patel
Gina Marie Luciano	Vivek B. Patel
Albrando Lorenzo Lucino, Jr.	Heather Rae Payerchin
Michael MacDonald	Luz Mercedes Pena
Daniel O. Maduma	Karla Queren Peregrina
Astrid March	Carolyn Ruth Perry
Andriz Marotiere	Svetlana Polyak
Jessica Marshall	Connie Profesorske
Alayah Thresa Matamoros	Nidal Qaad
Nkiruka Virginia Mbonu	Bryan Razo
Lisa A. McCormick	Shandel Reith
Samar Amina McCorry	Nicole Rengifo
Ayasha Zaki McGhee	Kerriane Theresa Reuter
Raquel McVeigh	Taurie Lynn Rhoten
Rebeca Mendez	Christine Rincon
Tericka Denise Miller	Jessica Lynn Roseberry
Grace Kwamboka Mogaka	Brittney Schneider
Jennifer Marie Moses	Julia Olijnyk Selah
Sabine Moss	Beletshachew Sengendo

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Mary J. Shade	Danielle Trainor
Audrea Byrd Sherman	Quang Dao Tran
Raina Shrestha	Jamie Kaylyn Troiano
Adeline Simms	Winnie Tsang-Wu
Yrlande Simon	Chelsea Janee Van Rooy
Heather G. Simpson	Davina Vea
Sophia Sinanon-Reid	Anthony Felipe Banuelos Villa
Florencia O. Sisterson	Shera Fah Dominique Campbell Walker
Magdalena Maria Skiba	Judith Abigail Williams
Serita Smith	Lakira M. Williams
Steven Andrew Smith	Nicole A. Williams-Brown
Leslie Yvette Sterling-Gaines	Jacqueline Williamson
Arlene Swaby Reid	James Alva Wisdom
Lynn Swanson	Lynn Woods
Alethea Crystal Taylor	Dorothy Worika
Melissa A. Taylor	Justyna Wozniak
Olga Thompson	Elizabeth Ann Wrigley
Johannies Tillema	Nina L. Wyatt
Karen Torres Valentin	Theresa Audrey Yogboh
Dana Chantel Trahan	Nadege Zebaze

The Dr. Bing K. Wong College of Arts & Sciences

Paul T. Riggs, *Dean*

MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING

Vito Alexander Balice	Christine Renee Miller
Kathleen Mary Bednarek	Gina Zanolini Morrison
Melissa De Jesus Contreras	Kimberly Muta
Lori Coughlin	Anna Rose Naim
Elizabeth Cunningham	David Nicholas Penglase
Samantha Leigh Dutcher	Chlorissa Naedean Prothro
Sarasha Elion	Alexandria Quigley
Kimberly Wagner Heiman	James Lee Rinehart
Mike Kentz	Briauna Renee Carla Robinson
S. Talbot Logan, III	Zyen Mingo-Smoot
Sarah Elizabeth Hall Lyons	Jessica Van Orden
Ericka Monique Macarthy	Tonya Y. Walker
Jason R Macey	Assétou Xango
Cory Michael Massaro	

DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Nesbitt School of Pharmacy

Jonathan D. Ference, *Dean*

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

- | | |
|---|---|
| ²² Kimberly Ann Aldrich | ²² Ryan C. McLay |
| Faizan Ali | Taylor Allan McLay |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> | ^{17,22} Sidney Leah McNeil |
| Andrew Amato | ²² Adriana Luz Modesto |
| ²⁹ Raymond Ethan Anderson | ²² Kelcie Lynn Molchany |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> | ²⁹ Jordan Favian Mosquera |
| Katlin A. Beenders | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> | Jonah Nguyen |
| Jillian Bennett | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> |
| Kieran James Burrier | Aidan Barry Nicholas |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> | Emma Marie Oley |
| Madison Carpenter | Gisela Orama Orsini |
| ²⁹ Elizabeth Marie Cherinka | Lylah Elizabeth Oswald |
| Bryan Chilson | ^{17,22} Emily L. Peleschak |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> | ¹⁷ Macy J. Perry |
| Robert Lamar Davis | ²² Sydney Lynn Polk |
| ¹⁷ Cesia Elisa Diaz | ^{22, 29} Makenzie J. Psarakis |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> |
| Eric M. Dixon | Dominick Rizzo |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> | Jenna Rovine |
| ¹⁷ Carly Raechelle Eidle | Desiree Alexa Schechterly |
| Logan Joseph Evanosky | Morganne Karrera Seitz |
| Maria Celesta Fioti | Dean Michael Shaver |
| ²² Brandon Gebenus | ²² Isibelle Jade Sienkiewicz |
| Madison Claire Gordon | Aliyah Morgan Smolinsky |
| ¹⁷ Olivia Grabocka | JoEllen Ann Spencer |
| ¹⁷ Jaden Christina Greco | Abdul Hannan Tayyab |
| Brett Hause | ²² Courtney Brianne Turowski |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> |
| ²⁹ Alexander Thomas Heil | Lauren Elizabeth Wagner |
| Alianna Lee Hernandez | ¹⁷ Arrington Lee Wall |
| ¹⁷ Brianna Noel Honish | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> |
| Haris Imran | Carley Ann Yuhaz |
| ²² Thaddeus Karnish | Evan Cole Zaharick |
| Katelyn Irene Kinzel | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> |
| Jason Lin | ¹⁷ Madelyn Zavada |
| ¹⁷ Sarah Elizabeth Long | ¹⁷ Donovan Scott Zong |
| Michael S. Lukashunas | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i> |
| ^{17,22} Joshua M. Mattia | |
| Caitlin Jane McDonough | |

DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Passan School of Nursing

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Edna K. Akombe	Kim Carolyn Huynh
Yemi O. Alejo	Edith Adwoa Koduah
Ines Ingrid Tagne Anton	Melanie Ann Kohli
Jungyun Basham	Vonda Marie Love
April R. Daniel	Emma Majaura
Shannon DeReamus	Jamie Newson
Sunders Dorcely	Gladys C. Ojwang
Latifa Fedai	Renjini Rajan
Latoya George	Richard O. Wanga
Sandy Hussain	Danielle J. A. Wilson

The Dr. Richard Abbas Alley School of Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Megan Bohensky	Tara Lynn Miller
Sheri Lynn Brown	Dorothy Melenia Mubweka
Melanie Ann Christopher	Stacy Mullen
Anita Louise Churchville	Beryl Ann Nicholson
¹³ Rasha Elsayed	Victoria Pavlishin
Jane A. Endress	Mackenzie Anne Peters
Meghan Paige Garofalo	¹³ Jeanne Rabel
Cillian Thomas Gavin	JT Rehill
Nikki Marie Gelso	David J. Sanford
Kristopher M. Gildein	Jordan Haley Sharp-Rosenbaum
Karen Marie Hodge	Mary Simmons
Vincent Hoover	Amy Thomas
Zachary Horn	Sinae VanHaastert
¹³ Lora Kerwin	Elizabeth Watson
Mary Rose Latorre	Haley Welker
¹³ Erin Lynn Meehan-Mariano	Brittany J. White
Rebecca Layne Meyer	¹³ Amy Lynn Wise

The Passan School of Nursing

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING

Joab Zephaniah Magara	Anna Michael Sanvanson
Beryl Anima O'Donnell	Rosemary A. Timmerman
Joy Kelechi Obihara	Edward Charles White, Jr.

Scholarly Societies and Special Designations

- 1 *Membership in Alpha Chi, the National College Honor Scholarship Society*
- 2 *Membership in Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Honorary Society in Sociology*
- 3 *Membership in Beta Beta Beta, the National Honorary Society in Biology*
- 4 *Membership in Chi Alpha Epsilon, the Honorary Society which recognizes students admitted to the University through Higher Education Opportunity Programs*
- 5 *Membership in Beta Gamma Sigma, the International Honor Society for AACSB-Accredited Business Schools*
- 6 *Honors in Biology*
- 7 *Honors in English*
- 8 *Honors in Civil Engineering*
- 9 *Honors in Electrical Engineering*
- 10 *Honors in Environmental Engineering*
- 11 *Honors in Mechanical Engineering*
- 12 *Membership in Lambda Pi Eta, the National Honor Society in Communications*
- 13 *Membership in Phi Phi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honor Society in Education*
- 14 *Candidates for Pennsylvania Teacher Certification*
- 15 *Candidates for Pennsylvania Principal Certification*
- 16 *Membership in Phi Alpha Theta, the National Honor Society in History*
- 17 *Membership in Phi Lambda Sigma, the Pharmacy Leadership Society*
- 18 *Membership in Phi Sigma Tau, the National Honor Society in Philosophy*
- 19 *Membership in Pi Kappa Delta, the National Honorary Forensic Society*
- 20 *Membership in Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society*
- 21 *Membership in Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology*
- 22 *Membership in Rho Chi, the National Honor Society in Pharmacy*
- 23 *Membership in Sigma Tau Delta, the National Honor Society in English*
- 24 *Membership in Zeta Psi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society for Nursing*
- 25 *Tom Bigler Scholar*
- 26 *Pre-Medical Scholar*
- 27 *Membership in the National Student Nurses Association*
- 28 *Membership in Sigma Alpha Pi, the National Society of Leadership and Success*
- 29 *Honors Program Graduate*
- 30 *Membership in Sigma Delta Pi, the National Hispanic Honor Society*
- 31 *Barre Scholars Graduate*
- 32 *Membership in the Society for Student Nurses*
- 33 *Bonner Leader Graduate*

2026 Student Awards

For a complete listing of student award winners, please visit wilkes.edu/academicawards or scan the QR code below.



McHale Athletic Center, Simms Center on Main

FIRST AID — Medical personnel are available for first aid assistance at the first aid station in the Engel Room just off the lobby. Should you need assistance, please contact the usher or a Public Safety Officer.

PICTURE TAKING — Because of the space limitations, safety and control, no one, except the professional photographer and members of the press with appropriate credentials, will be allowed access to the stage area for the purpose of taking pictures or video. A photograph will be taken of each graduate as the diploma is presented by the President.

RESTROOMS — Restrooms are accessible from the lobby and on the second floor. A women's restroom is available at the rear of the McHale Athletic Center.

BEVERAGES — Water is available at the drinking fountains on the first floor of the building. Starbucks will be open during the ceremony.

LOST AND FOUND — The lost and found is inside the Wilkes University Public Safety Center located at 148 S. Main St.

Academic Costume

The celebration of Commencement is surrounded by rich traditions. The established community of scholars — the Faculty — convene to recognize officially the newest group of proven scholars — the Graduates — and welcome them in fellowship. Graduates don the attire that for years has symbolized scholarly attainment.

During the Middle Ages, those seeking an education traveled to European centers of learning. Centers of learning and universities were closely allied with the clerics of the time, and the scholars donned garb similar to that worn by the clergy. This evolved into the academic uniform, a long black gown, hood and cap, which proved useful for studying in unheated and drafty buildings. The hood served simultaneously as a head covering, a repository for coins and alms and the forerunner of the modern day book bag. The hood was adorned with the colors of the university and designated the young scholar's school or university affiliation. By their distinctive clothing the students were set apart and distinguished from the citizens of the town; hence the origin of the phrase "town and gown."

American colleges and universities adopted the wearing of the traditional apparel in Colonial times, and a common code for academic apparel was established in the mid-nineteenth century.

The hood is the most distinctive feature of academic regalia. The inside of the hood is lined with the official colors of the institution; today you see Wilkes graduates wearing hoods lined with the blue and gold colors of the University. The velvet trim around the outside of the hood designates the degree or field of study of the graduates. The velvet colors worn by today's graduates signify the following:

- Golden Yellow — *Science*
- White — *Arts, Letters, Humanities*
- Drab — *Business Administration*
- Brown — *Fine Arts*
- Olive — *Pharmacy*
- Blue — *Education*
- Apricot — *Nursing*

The style of the gown distinguishes graduates by the degree they have earned. Those earning the bachelor's degree wear a simple black gown with elongated pointed sleeves. Holders of the master's degree wear gowns with a longer, closed, square cut sleeve. The doctoral gown is trimmed with velvet stripes on the sleeves and panels of velvet on the front closure of the gown.

Some American universities have adopted doctoral gowns in their distinctive colors. You will notice the slate of Columbia, the red of Cornell, the burgundy of the University of Pennsylvania and the bright blue of the University of Michigan.

To have earned the privilege of wearing academic costume regalia signifies not only the completion of a program of studies, but entrance into the comradery of scholarship.

The University Mace and Presidential Chain of Office

The mace and the presidential chain of office used in academic celebrations represent traditions dating to the sixteenth century. The mace symbolizes the authority of the university and the chain of office designates the presidential leadership of the academy.

The Wilkes University mace and presidential chain of office were gifts of local donors and were first used in 1970 at the inauguration of the second president of Wilkes. They were designed by Ottie Hill Chwalek '61 and executed by Kurt Matzdorf, a nationally recognized gold and silversmith from the State University of New York at New Paltz.

The University Mace

The sterling silver mace has a gilt knob at its base and a gilt circle at the top bearing the inscription "Wilkes College 1933." The bowl, rising above the neck of the mace, signifies Wilkes-Barre's role as a melting pot, forming a new and vigorous community of people from many different backgrounds. This theme is reiterated in the inscription of the University's motto "Unity Amidst Diversity" which surrounds the upper part of the bowl. The gilt flame symbolizes the enlightenment gained from higher education, while the piece of anthracite coal set in the center of the flame commemorates the origin of the University in a community known for its coal mining past.

The Presidential Chain of Office

The Presidential Chain of Office, created from sterling silver, has alternating bowls and gilt flames, repeating the motif of the mace. On the front of the four-foot chain hangs a gilt seal of Wilkes which is suspended from a cluster of oak leaves with acorns, suggesting the strength and sturdiness of future generations. On the back of the Presidential Chain of Office is a silver portrait of Dr. Eugene S. Farley, the first President of Wilkes. Dr. Farley's portrait is surrounded by gilt oak leaves commemorating his strong leadership of the emerging institution.

