

Governors State University

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5-22-2021

### Commencement Program: 2021 - College of Education

Governors State University

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**2021** *GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY*  
*COMMENCEMENT*  
College of Education



This program is not an official university document.  
The publication of the names of students does not necessarily constitute their official certification as graduates.  
Governors State University is not responsible for any omissions, errors, and/or changes in this Commencement program.

## A MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS

Dear Graduates,

Today, we celebrate your achievements at Governors State University's first-ever virtual Commencement ceremony.

As the university's sixth president, I joined Governors State last summer in the midst of the pandemic. Throughout this academic year, I have seen you adapt to unique and challenging circumstances in remarkable ways. While many students finished their experience entirely online, others donned masks to finish their courses in labs and studios.

Perseverance, grit, and tenacity – these characteristics are the hallmark of almost every college experience, but even more so for you, the graduates of 2021.

On behalf of the Governors State University Board of Trustees, faculty, and staff, I congratulate you and wish you all the best as you take the next steps of your career or academic journey.

And to those who are joining us today – parents, spouses, relatives, and children – I thank you for your support of our graduates.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cheryl Green  
President of Governors State University

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## GSU'S ROOTS

Governors State always was and still is a model of innovation. Founded in 1969 as an upper-division regional public university, GSU served as the premier institution for a highly motivated student population of bachelor's, master's, and doctoral students. Located in Chicago's Southland, where the prairie meets the city, GSU's competency-based curriculum was ahead of its time. Transparency, intellectual curiosity, and diversity were hallmarks of its institutional identity.

That founding spirit of innovation and creativity still guides the institution today, now a four-year comprehensive university.

## JAGUAR GEMS

From our accredited academic programs to our rankings for diversity and least student debt by U.S. News and World Report, Governors State University is a gem in the Chicago Southland. Our students, alumni, faculty, and staff are a source of great pride, and we honor their achievements.

Read more: [govst.edu/jaguargems](http://govst.edu/jaguargems).

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Governors State University is a hub for learning, culture, and innovation within the region. The university partners with community organizations, state and local governments, entrepreneurs, small businesses, major corporations, and economic development organizations to tackle societal challenges and advance economic growth in the region. Community and business collaborative efforts focus on realizing a shared vision for healthier and more engaged citizens, thriving economies, and a better tomorrow.



## *The Mace*

The governor's mace, traditionally carried by the Faculty Senate President who leads the academic procession, is a symbol of the authority of the university as a degree-granting institution. The legal authority of the university is grounded in the intellectual authority of the distinguished faculty who follow in the procession.

In antiquity, the mace was a weapon used to establish the "authority" of the physically strong. Its transformation into a symbol of intellectual authority is both a tribute to and a reminder of the civilizing force of a university's teaching, research and community service functions.

Engraved on the four side-panels of the governor's mace are the seal of the State of Illinois; a cardinal, the state bird; the seal of the former Illinois Board of Governors Universities; and an inscription which reads "The governor's mace, a symbol of tradition and authority of Governors State University, dedicated to the search for excellence in the pursuit of truth, knowledge and the love of learning. Presented by Peter Levin, friend of the university, June 2, 1979."

Atop the mace is a silver rendition of the university logo. The three sides of the "triangle" symbolize the university's teaching, research and community service functions. The three lines visually suggest the shape of a rocket; reminding us both that the university was founded within days of Neil Armstrong setting foot on the moon and that the university is a hope-filled, pioneering community, committed to a better future for all men and women. The circle symbolizes the fact that the university is, indeed, a community. Finally, the fact that the tips of the triangle reach beyond the circle indicates the university's outreach into the region, state and nation, and its commitment to teaching, research and community service.

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# *Order of Exercises*

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Saturday, May 22, 2021 • 2 p.m.  
College of Education  
Dr. Cheryl Green, *University President*, Presiding

CALL TO ORDER..... Dr. David Golland, *Faculty Senate President*

WELCOME AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS ..... Tony Labriola, *Master of Ceremonies*

NATIONAL ANTHEM..... Sessily Gianakos, *2021 Graduate*

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.....Lisa M. Harrell, *Chair*

GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY..... Dr. David Golland, *Faculty Senate President*

GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ..... Kayla Siam, J.D.

STUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESS.....Jeanine Latrice Koger, *2021 Graduate*

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS .....Dr. Cheryl Green, *President*

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE.....Dr. Elizabeth A. Cada, *Provost*

CONFERRING OF DEGREE .....Dr. Cheryl Green, *President*

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT, DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS .....Jill Wine-Banks

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES .....Dr. Elizabeth A. Cada, *Provost*

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN ..... Dr. Shannon Dermer, *Dean*

CONFERRING OF DEGREES .....Dr. Cheryl Green, *President*

CLOSING REMARKS..... Tony Labriola, *Master of Ceremonies*

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## *Honorary Degree Recipients*

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### *Jill Wine-Banks*

#### Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa

Before the term ‘shattering glass ceilings’ existed in the national lexicon, Jill Wine-Banks made it fashionable, leaving a trail of broken shards as evidence of her female existence.

A special prosecutor in Richard Nixon’s historic Watergate case, Wine-Banks advanced gender equality as the only woman on the team seeking criminal charges against the most powerful man in the world. In her fierce pursuit of justice and representation in a male-dominated legal world, Wine-Banks fought to overcome the sexism and gender discrimination women faced, including being described as “a girl,” “a lady lawyer,” and “the mini-skirted lawyer.” Now she sees those labels as emblematic of the obstacles of the era and – winking at that patriarchal system – titled her 2020 book “The Watergate Girl.”

After the Nixon trial, Wine-Banks continued blazing trails. In President Jimmy Carter’s Pentagon, Wine-Banks served as General Counsel of the Army where she helped integrate women into the ranks and introduced them to the exclusive club West Point. Back in her home state of Illinois, Wine-Banks stepped into the Deputy Attorney General role as the first woman to do so and then took the reins of the American Bar Association as the first female Chief Operating Officer.

Outside the world of plaintiffs and prosecutors, Wine-Banks’ brilliance shone as a corporate executive at two Fortune 500 companies. In the public and nonprofit sectors, she created Chicago’s first early college program as a Chief Officer of Chicago Public Schools and continues to work with public and private boards to advocate for their missions.

With a unique perspective on two Republican presidents who faced impeachment charges, Wine-Banks now offers legal analysis, most notably to MSNBC viewers seeking a rare and informed glimpse of the intersection of politics, history, and media.

For a lifetime of breaking barriers in the pursuit of justice for all – regardless of race, religion and gender – and for her continued demonstration of a commitment to Governors State University’s ideals of diversity and inclusion as well as to social justice for all students, the Board of Trustees is honored to award Jill Wine-Banks – legal scholar, author and analyst – the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa. We welcome her into our community of inspirational scholars, artists, and educators.

### *J. Latrice Koger*

J. Latrice Koger served her country for more than a decade as a member of the U.S. Army, and then used that training to serve faculty, staff, and students at Governors State University.

With determination and drive, Latrice has performed strategically in a series of ascending roles beginning with Treasurer for the Black Student Union, President of the Psychology Club and Vice President of Psi Chi International Honors Society. Latrice was a student representative to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Board of Trustees before being named to Governors State University’s Board of Trustees in 2020.

The same year, the Lincoln Academy of Illinois recognized Latrice’s overall excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities with the Student Lincoln Laureate honor. The award is given to one senior from each of the state’s four-year colleges for their contributions to “the betterment of humanity.”

In 2019, Latrice transferred to Governors State after earning her associate degree at Prairie State College as part of the university’s Dual Degree Program, a partnership with community colleges that provides students with a pathway to earn both an associate and bachelor’s degree in just four years.

At Prairie State, Latrice received awards —including the President’s Award — for her commitment, including stints as president of two honor societies, Psi Beta National Honor Society for Psychology and Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of two-year colleges and academic programs.

Now, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Governors State with a perfect GPA, Latrice said she plans to pursue a Master of Arts in Counseling because the community needs her.

# College of Education

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

Muhammed A. Abu-Issa \*  
Aarin Adams  
Elijah Aguilar  
Lawrence Agyei \*  
Dania Alkhateeb \*\*\*  
Rayan M. Alzoubi  
Jennifer Aponte Cruz  
LaTonya Janell Atkins  
Sarah Ann Avery  
Dialah Azam \*\*\*  
Melony Joy Baccof \*  
Malgorzata Anna Bachleda-Zawacki  
Juana Maria Barajas \*\*\*  
Iesha Monique Barnes  
Natalie Marie Bartos \*\*\*  
Brian Matthew Blewitt \*  
Kynesha N. Bonner  
Arlene Marie Boomsma \*\*\*  
Julia Boruszewski  
Dejenae Bradshaw  
Amy Lynn Brenner  
Samantha J. Brittain \*\*\*  
Izabella Marie Broberg  
Jessica Marie Brooks \*\*\* §  
Krystine Anne Brownlee  
Danielle N. Bush \*\*  
Mayte Castanon \*  
Isabel Cervantes  
Andrea M. Coletta \*\*\*  
Mireli Cortez \*\*  
Tyler Costella \*\*\*  
Lindsey Cotton  
Taylor Marie Craven \*  
Quincy Rose Crump  
Agnes M. Czernik \*\*  
Nura Damisi \*  
Megan Dearden  
Lorena Diaz \*  
Darcey Alexandra Drapeau  
Nadeen Elkhatib  
Kaitlyn Juliette Elliott  
Sarah Ely \*  
Jacqueline Estrada \*  
Mario F. Falco  
James Sterling Fields  
Tracy R. Flahaven \*\*\*  
LaWanda Flennoy \*  
Jessica Flores  
Marissa Nicole Flores  
Joseph Fragoso  
Nathaniel C. Garcia  
Miyoshe Sedae Gatewood  
Jessica George \*\*\*  
Sessily Ann Gianakos \*\*\*  
Elizabeth Gonzalez  
Dominique Antionette Grant  
Antoinette Quinnesse Ward  
Elyse Elizabeth Marie Gustafson \*\*\* §  
Victoria Gutierrez  
Darvette Hamb  
Nadine Hamideh \*\*\*  
Max William Hanson  
Yassmean Mamoun Hasan  
Alexandra Hatfield  
Patricia Hernandez \*\*  
Janet Herrera \*\*\*  
Mitchell Lawrence Hicks  
Amnah Hzaiyen \*\*  
Guillermo Islas  
Zoë Desiree Janisse \*\*\*  
Jontel Lee Jones  
Qur'Annah Jones  
Lisa Renee Jordan  
Aniah Autumn King  
Jeanine Latrice Koger \*\*\*  
Olivia Renee Koslab  
Allison A. Kraft \*  
Caitlin Lorraine Kurtz \*  
Caroline M. Larson \*\*\*  
Ashley Lauren Lejman  
Jose Eduardo Lopez  
Karla Yanet Lopez  
Hannah Elizabeth Mata \*\*\*  
Intisar Matarieh  
Danielle D. McCray  
Asia Elaine McDonald  
Kelly Melzer-McHale  
Kayla Rosemary McLain \*  
Yaritza Abigail Mendoza Chavez \*\*\*  
Caitlin Rich \*  
Kymberlie Mykel Mills  
Andre Mitchell  
Jalayah Anille Mitchell  
Janie Marie Morrison  
Rauda O. Msalha \*\*  
Yazen Muhammad  
Yarithza Munoz  
Amanda Lynn Nagel \*\*\*  
Stefanie Neylon \*\*\* §  
Tiasha Oakes \*  
Yasmin Ochoa  
Amya Orr  
Juventino Paniagua  
Daniela Pena-Marquez \*\*\*  
Jennifer Lauren Pendleton \*\*  
Madeline Marie Poole \*\*\*  
Rana A. Qurt \*  
\*\*\*Abrea Ramadan  
Jena Lynn Rayas \*\*\*  
Raejon Jerrice Reynolds  
Shamar Riggins  
Myles L. Robinson  
Tea'tianna Robinson  
Caitlin M. Roeh  
Kiley Marie Rolder \*\*\*  
Ashley Marie Rorer \*  
Nassim Saeed \*\*\*  
Katherine Therese Saldana  
April S. Sanchez \*\*\* §  
Samantha Sanchez  
Ashley Lauren Sandoval  
Amane H. Sbitan  
Shena Chong Scalf \*  
Isabella Rose Scatena  
Ashley M. Schaefflein \*\*\*  
Lyndsie Schleder \*\*\*  
Sydney Lyn Schurman \*\*  
Rachel Sebastian \*\*\*  
Francisco Javier Serna  
\*\*\*Sajeedah Abdullah Shabaneh  
Gema Solis \*\*\*  
Ashley Riche Starks-Martin  
Kathryn Shannon Sugrue  
Manar T. Suleiman \*  
Sydni Jean Swain  
Shadi Jiries Sweis  
Erica Ashley Szymczak  
Kaylie Danielle Tanis \*\*\*  
Jesse John Tomaras \*\*  
Ariana Alexis Torrence \*  
Emily Elaine Torres  
Hope Triezenberg \*\*  
Mark Anthony Tyler, Jr.

\* = Cum Laude \*\* = Magna Cum Laude  
\*\*\* = Summa Cum Laude § = University Honors Program  
Academic honors awarded to undergraduate students only.  
For Commencement, cumulative GPA calculated through Fall 2020.



# College of Education

Emily Vlahakis  
Christina Lynn Vuollet \*\* §  
Jessica Walsh \*  
LaSoji Elizabeth Ward \*  
Shannon Annette Ward  
Emma Anne Wendt \*\*  
Ashley Diamond Westmoreland \*\*\* §  
Ivanne Y. White \*  
Kierra Wilson  
Jessica Germaine Worden  
Hajja Madinah Terecena Yamini \*\*  
Jacquelyn N. Zenek \*\*\*

## MASTER OF ARTS

Alexia Nicole Aguayo  
Janell E. Armstrong  
LaTasha Bailey  
Carolyn L. Baker  
Lashanna Bankston-Clark  
Jennifer Shamia Barnes  
Oheneba Bonsu Wiafe  
Tyler Anson Bontrager  
Sara D. Brown  
Joseph H. Butler  
Marla Itzel Cardenas  
Kiley Ann Clark  
Gina Marie Coltro  
Jessica Conte  
Sonnice Cousins  
Michelle Diana Crosby  
Michael S. Davis  
Lekesha Dean  
Jaclyn Lauren DeBold  
Hollye Dionne  
Jennifer Dominiak-Hering  
Kiah S. Duncan  
Kurtis Ellison  
Hilda Aarinola Emelogu  
Taylor Renee Ewing  
Maureen Fogarty  
Charlotte Fox  
Erik J. Frederiksen  
Kelly Siedentop  
Sydney Gadson  
Courtney A. Gogins  
Bree Danielle Kipp  
Leslie E. Grange  
Lori Ann Grzelak  
Morgan Holly Hamblen

James C Harris  
Rosa E. Harris  
Brian Hazard  
Matthew Paul Hedding Hess  
Kristin Lynn Heidorn  
Joseph Stephen Herald  
Stephanie R. Heusman  
Fatimah Hishmeh  
Sharon P. Holmes  
Jessica Elizabeth Hornsby  
Carol F. Humm  
Fatimah Hishmeh  
Violetta C. Janowiak  
Elizabeth Jeziorny  
Crystal Jacinda Joseph  
Emily Jane Kath  
Martin Ross Kelly  
Morgan Marie Kennedy  
Dominique J. King  
Agnieszka Kwiecinski  
Caroline Laird  
Mark W. Langusch  
Jennifer Ann Lee  
Angela M. Thomas  
Marvin Lorde  
Brittany Goodwin  
Kymberly L. McNabb  
Julie A. Mongado  
Corina Gabrielle Nelson  
Kyle Thomas Nevills  
Melissa Ann Nichols  
Monique I. Ocanas  
Melissa Olloway  
Jacqueline Elizabeth Olson  
Pamela Marie Panozzo  
Stacey Lynn Paprocki  
Alexandria Renee Pearson  
Yolanda Pender-bey  
Jasa Shakae Perry  
Michael David Piechocinski  
Kelly Prendergast  
Matthew J. Raglione  
Kim Elaine Reese  
Carol Ann Reichelt  
Ashlee Denise Rodgers-Pritchett  
Erin Rossow  
Marram M. Salman  
Trevor Richard Sampson

Matthew John Shanahan  
Alex Joseph Snodsmith  
Colleen Sobczak  
Laquita Christal Spencer  
Ashley Stachniak  
Joseph B. Strain  
Taylor Vincent  
Chardae D. Wiggins  
Kiarra Williams  
Ira Young  
Jennifer Renee Young

## EDUCATION SPECIALIST

Doris E. Nkwogu  
Amy Therese Steele  
Deairra Williams

## DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Julia Louise Abel  
Jamarius Tarell Andrews  
Bearlyn Yvette Ash  
Leslie Contos  
LaConyer Davis  
Abiodun Durojaye  
Paulette R. Eason-Williams  
LaToya L. Flowers-Roe  
Princess Gabrielle Gabor  
Donnica L. Gordon  
Alexandrea Horton  
Infini Patrice Jemison-Ewing  
Olive Kabaguma  
Dallas Bruce Mallory  
Todd A. Ramljak  
Leodis Roe, Jr.  
Myiti Sengstacke-Rice  
Latrise Waynette Wallace

\* = Cum Laude \*\* = Magna Cum Laude  
\*\*\* = Summa Cum Laude § = University Honors Program  
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For Commencement, cumulative GPA calculated through Fall 2020.

# ⇒ *Honors Cords, Medallions, and Stoles for Commencement* ←

The medals worn by some graduates symbolize their completion of the GSU Honors Program.  
The stoles or cords worn by some graduates symbolize their membership in an honor society or the Dual Degree Program.

## Honors Program – for undergraduates only

Honors Program graduates complete a rigorous academic curriculum including an honors capstone with the goal of promoting leadership and personal development for the betterment of the students, the university, and the local and global community.

<b>Program</b> .....	<b>Recognition</b> .....	<b>Color</b>
GSU Honors Program .....	Medallion.....	Gold

## University Honors – for undergraduates only

<b>Honor</b> .....	<b>Recognition</b> .....	<b>Color</b>
Cum Laude.....	Cord .....	White
Magna Cum Laude .....	Cord .....	Silver
Summa Cum Laude.....	Cord .....	Gold
Lincoln Laureate .....	Medallion .....	Gold

## Honor Societies – for students who are members of these Honor Societies

<b>Society</b> .....	<b>Recognition</b> .....	<b>Color(s)</b>
Alpha Eta Society (Allied Health) .....	Cord.....	Green
Alpha IOTA Sigma (Interdisciplinary) .....	Cord.....	Blue and White
Alpha Phi Sigma (Criminal Justice).....	Cord.....	Royal Blue and Gold
Alpha Sigma Lambda (Adult Learners) .....	Cord.....	Burgundy and Antique Gold
Beta Gamma Sigma (Business).....	Cord.....	Royal Blue and Gold
Chi Sigma IOTA (Counselors).....	Stole.....	Blue and White
Kappa Delta Pi (Education) .....	Cord.....	Green and Purple
Lambda Pi Eta (Communication) .....	Cord.....	Crimson and Cream
Phi Alpha (Social Work) .....	Stole.....	Blue and Gold
Phi Theta Epsilon (Occupational Therapy).....	Cord.....	Navy and Gold
Pi Alpha Alpha (Public Administration).....	Stole.....	Light Blue and Gold
Psi Chi International (Psychology) .....	Cord/Stole.....	Dark Blue and Platinum/Platinum
SALUTE Veterans.....	Cord.....	Red, White, and Blue
Sigma Tau Delta (English) .....	Cord.....	Red and Black
Sigma Theta Tau (Nursing).....	Cord.....	Purple
Tau Sigma (Transfer).....	Cord.....	Burgundy and Gold
Student Senate (Student Governance) .....	Stole.....	Black and White
Upsilon Phi Delta (Healthcare).....	Cord.....	Blue and Red
Upsilon Pi Epsilon (Computer Science) .....	Cord.....	Maroon and White

## Dual Degree Program – for undergraduates who entered GSU through the Dual Degree Program

<b>Dual Degree Program Partner</b> .....	<b>Recognition</b> .....	<b>Color(s)</b>
City Colleges of Chicago .....	Cord .....	Light Blue and Black and White
College of DuPage .....	Cord .....	Green and Black and White
Harper College .....	Cord .....	Blue and Black and White
Joliet Junior College.....	Cord .....	Purple and Black and White
Kankakee Community College .....	Cord .....	Red and Black and White
Moraine Valley Community College.....	Cord .....	Green and Black and White
Morton College .....	Cord .....	Blue and Black and White
Prairie State College.....	Cord .....	Green and Black and White
South Suburban College .....	Cord .....	Blue and Black and White
Triton College.....	Cord .....	Maroon and Black and White
Waubonsee Community College.....	Cord .....	Maroon and Black and White

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# Academic Regalia

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During the commencement ceremony, students and faculty wear academic costumes indicating the wearers' degrees, colleges/universities, and fields of study.

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## The Cap

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The black mortarboard type is the most common cap worn. Degree candidates wear cap tassels that are black and white, the university colors. Colors worn by the faculty vary according to their fields of study.

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## The Gown

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Gowns are of three kinds. The bachelor's gown is relatively simple, with lines falling straight from a fairly elaborate yoke. Its distinguishing characteristic is the long pointed sleeve. Braided silken cords are worn by students who have achieved special scholastic recognition. The master's and specialist's gowns have sleeves with a back end extending down below the knee in a crescent shape. The doctoral gown is an elaborate costume with velvet panels down the front and around the neck and three velvet bars on the bell-shaped sleeves.

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## The Hood

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The official colors of the college or university from which a degree is conferred are represented in the lining of the hood. For each field of study, there is a corresponding trim color. While each program of study has a specific color, some programs display the same color. The repetitive color reflects the college (ex. Addictions Studies and Communication Disorders graduates earn a Master of Health Science for which the hood color is Salmon Pink). The trim colors for doctoral and master's hoods are as follows:

<b>Degree Programs.....</b>	<b>Color</b>
Accounting.....	Drab
Addictions Studies.....	Salmon Pink
Analytical Chemistry.....	Golden Yellow
Art.....	Brown
Business Administration.....	Drab
Communication Disorders.....	Salmon Pink
Communication and Training.....	White
Computer Science.....	Golden Yellow
Counseling.....	Light Blue
Counselor Education and Supervision.....	Light Blue
Criminal Justice.....	Navy
Early Childhood Education.....	Light Blue
Education.....	Light Blue
Educational Administration.....	Light Blue
English.....	White
Environmental Biology.....	Golden Yellow
Independent Film and Digital Imaging.....	Brown
Interdisciplinary Leadership.....	Light Blue
Health Administration.....	Salmon Pink
Management Information Systems.....	Golden Yellow
Mathematics.....	Bright Gold
Multicategorical Special Education.....	Light Blue
Nursing.....	Apricot
Occupational Therapy.....	Slate Blue
Physical Therapy.....	Teal
Political and Justice Studies.....	White
Psychology.....	Light Blue
Public Administration.....	Peacock Blue
Reading.....	Light Blue
School Psychology.....	Light Blue
Social Work.....	Citron

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## *Dual Degree Program Graduates*

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Dual Degree Program graduates received distinctive cords for their academic regalia that intertwine GSU's colors — black and white — with the colors of the student's community college. These students have participated in the Dual Degree Program throughout their associate and bachelor's degree programs. Braiding these colors together symbolizes the partnership and shared goal of the community college and GSU; working together to help these students achieve academic success.

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## *Investing In You*

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Now one of Governors State University's alumni, you represent the best of GSU. The GSU Foundation wishes you success in the next chapter of your life and personal and professional gratification in your future. Your story is GSU's identity. Your achievements reflect GSU's triumph, and our success enhances your accomplishments.

Today, we invite you to accept the pledge to invest in GSU for a minimum of \$250 paid over the next five years. This collective gift from each of you leaves a legacy from the Class of 2021. Every commitment matters. Please take action and make a difference.

Visit [www.govst.edu/donate](http://www.govst.edu/donate) to make your donation. For more information, please call Lauren Healy at 708.534.8390 or email [lesolato@govst.edu](mailto:lesolato@govst.edu). Donors will be recognized on our website.

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## *GSU Alumni Association*

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The Alumni Association connects graduates with each other, as well as to professional development, networking, and social and volunteer opportunities. As a graduate of GSU, the Alumni Association is your organization. Your engagement in the association can help make it what you need it to be for your success, both personally and professionally.

As GSU alumni, you represent the very best the university has to offer. Please advocate for GSU in your personal and professional networks, and encourage others to investigate opportunities to attend and/or support your alma mater. We welcome your return to campus and encourage you to volunteer as a mentor, leader, or lifelong learner, and join one of our growing alumni clubs.

The Alumni Association and generations of GSU alumni are proud to welcome the Class of 2021 to its ranks.

Congratulations and we look forward to seeing you soon! Visit [www.govst.edu/alumni](http://www.govst.edu/alumni) for more information.

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## *Stay Connected*

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The memories you have made as a Jaguar will not only last you a lifetime—they will add to the collective story of the university's alumni.

Use the social media hashtag #GovStateGrad to share the culmination of the journey to your degree on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, TikTok and Twitter.

# Faculty

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Luz Acosta  
*Visiting Professor*

Stuart Adamson  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Joseph Addison  
*Professor Emeritus*

Jacqueline Andrews  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Kayed Akkawi  
*Assistant Professor*

Benjamin Almassi  
*Associate Professor*

Emmanuel Alozie  
*Full Professor*

Nana Amponsah  
*University Lecturer*

Reynolds Andujar  
*Assistant Professor*

Carmen Armstrong  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Andre Ashmore  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Mohammad Ashraf  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Amanda Athon  
*Assistant Professor*

Allen Babiarz  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Richard Baisa  
*University Lecturer, Senior Status*

Courtney Barden  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Oscene Barrett  
*University Lecturer*

Robert Belin  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Robert Bell  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Uriah Berryhill  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Michael Blomarz  
*University Lecturer*

Sayoni Bose  
*Assistant Professor*

Janet Brewer  
*Assistant Professor*

Yvette Brown  
*Full Professor*

Mary Bruce  
*Full Professor*

Leanne Cambric  
*Associate Professor*

Nixon Camilien  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Darcie Campos  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Mary Carrington  
*Division Chair*

Joshua Carron  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Kristen Ceballos  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Edwin Cehelnik  
*Professor Emeritus*

Javier Chavira  
*Full Professor*

Neng-Shin Chen  
*University Lecturer*

Xiaoyong Chen  
*Full Professor*

Xin Chen  
*Assistant Professor*

Julie Chrones  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Daniel Cortese  
*Full Professor*

William Craig  
*University Lecturer*

Valerie Cronin-Fisher  
*Visiting Instructor*

Donald Culverson  
*Associate Professor*

Karen D'Arcy  
*Professor Emeritus*

Stalynn Davis  
*Adjunct Faculty*

David Deeds  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Shauna Donovan  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Stacy Eckert  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Christen Embry  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Natalia Ermasova  
*Associate Professor*

Elliott Fackler  
*Assistant Professor*

David Felix  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Joseph Field  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Richard Fox  
*University Lecturer*

Dianna Galante  
*Full Professor*

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## ***GSU's Birthday/Day of Giving • July 14, 2021*** ***Save the date!***

Join us on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, as Governors State University commemorates 52 years of excellence and innovation with an evening of family, music, and revelry at our annual Day of Giving Celebration\*.

The entire community will come together for a free “family reunion” in Park Forest for *Main Street Nights* – a free concert featuring Kaben Kafö – Djembe Drum Ensemble and Mucca Pazza. The July 14 celebration is an event that marks the founding of GSU with a Day of Giving to continue a legacy of education. This year also celebrates the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the university’s Center for Performing Arts.

Conceived as a bold, new model to transform lives through education in Chicago’s south suburbs, GSU opened the same week the U.S. sent Apollo 11 to the moon. Today, GSU is a full-service, four-year university celebrating 52 years of education, service, and commitment to its mission to be an “intellectually stimulating public square.”

We advance our mission through high quality programs supported by best practices, made possible in part by the generous the support of our donors.

In honor of GSU’s 52<sup>nd</sup> birthday, please join us on Wednesday, July 14. And please consider donating \$52 or more to commemorate the university’s anniversary and to support future GSU students.

Visit [www.govst.edu/donate](http://www.govst.edu/donate) to donate. For more information, please call 708.534.4105.

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*Governors State University would like to express our deepest sympathies to all who have been impacted by the loss of loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, we also celebrate the lives of Jaguars who left an indelible mark on the university's faculty, staff and students. Our lives and our communities are forever changed by their life's passion, purpose, and commitment to provide an accessible and exceptional education.*

