

6-12-2010

Commencement Program: Spring 2010

Governors State University

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GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

*Spring
Commencement Exercises
of the Thirty-Ninth
Academic Year*

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2010

11 A.M.



GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

Celebrating the Past, Charting the Future

When Governors State University was founded in 1969, change was in the air. The Civil Rights, anti-war, and women's movements transformed society and altered everyone's perspective.

Now, the nation is again facing great challenges. The many calls for change at all levels of society have led GSU, once more, to a renewed commitment to serve students and the community.

When the first GSU students came to class in bellbottoms with flowers in their hair, they were met by classrooms without walls and coursework without grades. While today's programs have more structure and rigor, GSU remains dedicated to the educational innovation and experimentation that guided the university in its early years. The ideal that drove the initial design of GSU - that all students were entitled to an affordable, accessible education - has remained constant.

To fulfill the diverse educational needs of students and the shifting demands of society, GSU has adapted, innovated, and developed its degree and certificate programs. Currently, the university offers bachelor's, master's, and doctorate programs that not only create qualified personnel to fulfill today's employment opportunities, but prepare graduates for the demanding careers of the future.

The university has opened its doors to the community, inviting everyone - area residents, current students, alumni, retirees, and visitors - to celebrate academic achievement and accessibility. GSU has remained true to that early, guiding vision and is today everything it was meant to be - the educational choice for a powerfully diverse, professional, and non-traditional student body.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

Pat Quinn, Governor

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Bruce Friefeld
Lois Mayer
Bryce Johnsen, Student Trustee

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.*

Photographers are requested to refrain from taking pictures during the ceremony.

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Honorary Degree Candidate

Peter Schjeldahl

Peter Schjeldahl has spent his life observing the world, its art, and its people. He has taken those observations and keenly crafted them into poetry, criticism, and educational opportunities.

Schjeldahl is a product of the Midwest. He was born in North Dakota and raised in Minnesota. He attended Carlton College and The New School and began wielding his pen as a reporter for newspapers in Minnesota and Iowa.

After a year in Paris, he moved to New York City in 1965, and began writing art criticism first for *ArtNews* and later for *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, and *7 Days*. He is currently chief art critic for *The New Yorker*.

Using his keen insight and clear eloquence, Schjeldahl invites his readers into the world of art. He maps a clear path to the understanding of complex visual ideas for both the novice and experienced art connoisseur. His writing is elegant and spare without oversimplification. His observations are compelling. He has no agenda but to help his readers find their connection to the art he reviews.

He shared his observations and appreciation in a narrative describing the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park. His essay, *A Park for the Prairie God*, appears in a 1987 catalog describing the park setting and its sculptures. His essay eloquently expresses the unique integration of art, education, and nature found on the grounds of Governors State University.

Schjeldahl has published five books of poetry and four books of criticism. For four years, he taught a seminar for studio seniors in the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard University.

He has received the Clark Prize for Excellence in Arts Writing from the Clark Art Institute, the Frank Jewett Mather Award for excellence in art criticism from the College Art Association, and a Guggenheim Fellowship for his nonfiction literary contributions.

As a poet, critic, and educator, Peter Schjeldahl has used words to enlighten and engage his readers and students and encourage them to open their eyes and minds to the new, the different, the exciting, and the unique.

Order of Exercises

Saturday, June 12, 2010, 11 a.m.
College of Arts and Sciences
College of Business and Public Administration
College of Education
College of Health and Human Services

Dr. Elaine P. Maimon
University President
Presiding

PRELUDE.....	Encore Concert Band Bill Schuetter, <i>Conductor</i>				
WELCOME AND SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS	Tony Labriola, <i>Master of Ceremonies</i>				
PROCESSIONAL	Dr. Heikki Heino, <i>Grand Marshal</i> “Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1,” by Edward Elgar Encore Concert Band				
NATIONAL ANTHEM	Encore Concert Band <i>Please join in singing the national anthem</i>				
GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Lorine S. Samuels, <i>Chair - Board of Trustees</i>				
GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY SENATE	Dr. Heikki Heino, <i>President - Faculty Senate</i>				
INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER.....	Tony Labriola, <i>Master of Ceremonies</i>				
STUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESS.....	Bryce Johnsen				
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.....	Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, <i>President</i>				
PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE	Dr. David Curtis, <i>Interim Provost</i> Conferring of Degree	Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, <i>President</i> Honorary Recipient, Doctor of Humane Letters	Peter Schjeldahl		
PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES	Tony Labriola, <i>Master of Ceremonies</i> College of Arts and Sciences	Dr. James Howley, <i>Chair, Division of Liberal Arts</i> College of Business and Public Administration	Dr. Ellen Foster Curtis, <i>Dean</i> College of Education	Dr. Deborah Bordelon, <i>Dean</i> College of Health and Human Services	Dr. Linda Samson, <i>Dean</i>
CONFERRING OF DEGREES.....	Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, <i>President</i>				
CLOSING REMARKS	Tony Labriola, <i>Master of Ceremonies</i>				
RECESSIONAL	Dr. Heikki Heino, <i>Grand Marshal</i> “Crown Imperial,” by William Walton Encore Concert Band				
FANFARE SELECTION	Encore Concert Band Bill Schuetter, <i>Conductor</i>				

Ms. Susan Bova, *Sign Language Interpreter*
The audience is requested to rise and remain standing during the Processional and Recessional.

College of Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Arts

Eloise Adams
Linda J. Adams
Kylisha Alsberry
Sonja L. Anderson
Vincent C. Anyaso
^^^ Pamela R. Anzelone
Connie Ann Bambulas
Tenya S. Baskett
Milissa A. Baugh
Matthew P. Beasland
Rabindra Bickhem
Myrna Brady
Lucinda R. Branch
Richard J. Brantley
John H. Bush
Trevla J. Cain
Samantha M. Canada
Antoinette Cannon
Carter E. Cavitt
^ John N. Colby
Nicholas J. Cosentino
Orlando L. Craig
Katherine M. Cullinane
Peter J. Cummings
^^^ Ann Marie Cuning
^^ Kristin T. Dargent
LaNita N. Davis
^^^ Debra DeBoer
Adam P. DeFarno
Dennis W. Dean
Clifton G. Donaldson
Chrissy Dortch
Jamie L. Drzewiecki
Caprice Ellis
Justin M. Fialko
^ Allyson C. Fillicchia
^^ Erin M. Fionda
Stacey S. Ford
Elladeen Foster
Letha M. Foster
Therese Francis
^^ Christopher D. Gierhahn
^^ Susan L. Gonzales
Gregory A. Goosby
^ Willie J. Gordon
Megan C. Grady
Brian D. Gray
Dale L. Grinker
Sinad Hammad
^^ John M. Hardeman
Claudia D. Harris
Karen D. Harrison
Kimberley A. Harrison
Anthony B. Henderson
Denice Hill
Carolyn V. Holcomb
Frieda J. Holley
Jason C. Humbles
^^ Daniel L. Janusek
Bryce C. Johnsen
Carol M. Johnson
Glen E. Johnson
Naima A. Johnson
^^ Betty J. Jones
Conchetta A. Jones
Megan M. Kane
^^ Kathleen M. Karwoski
^^^ Monica Mary Keogh
Keyanna J. Kintred
^ Neil T. King
Toby Ladislas
^^ Lori L. Lambert
Robert Louis Lebda
Christina F. Lee
Joseph P. Lerro
^ Marlene Joyce Lewis
Jennifer A. Lola
^ Amy J. Lubke
Michael A. Lucia
Silvia J. Lumpkins
^ Dawn M. Malec
Leslie A. Malvin
Gregory L. Marconi
Samantha Marquez
Raja J. Matariyeh
^ Catherine A. Mayo
Kelly M. McDevitt
Natoya R. McGary
Jennifer K. McKinney
Cherise C. McLaurin
^ Jenna Medina
Melva M. Mitchell
^^^ Dymphna M. Mooney
James Morgan
Glensha L. Mullen
^ Adam F. Nagy
Daniel T. Nawara
Nicole M. Neuhaus
Hilario Nieto
^ Yvonne C. Noke
Albertin Oatis-Gibson
^ Cari M. Oladiji
Pamela M. Parker
^ Dominique Partee
^ Marvin W. Peters
Wanda Pettye
Suzette M. Porter
^ Angela M. Pretto
Helena N. Rachal
Jeannine M. Rein
^^^ Michael J. Resendiz
Joel A. Reyes
Michelle J. Robinson
Robert C. Robinson
Lora J. Roddy
Renee C. Rybak

^ Jacqueline Ryon
Namita Sareen
Bakr N. Shahen
Kennice L. Shaw
Cynthia R. Sims
Simon Sroka
^ Patricia Sterba
Ali Sulemani
Joseph C. Sullivan
Jetaun L. Teamer
^ Amanda S. Teske
^^ Theresa M. Tofiga
Candice L. Wade
Renee A. Washington
^^ Dawne D. Washington-Shelton
Marc C. Westbrooks
Monica J. Williams
Linda J. Wills
^^ Latonya Wyatt
Nathania Renee Wynn
Ashley L. Yates
Versetta P. Young
^^ Ruby Zambrano
§^^ Kevin A. Zickterman

Bachelor of Science

Michael E. Abels
Joseph P. Ambrosino
^^^ Jonathan G. Bardahl
^^^ Zachary T. Delaney
Jon Dharamsy
Arianna J. Farias
Ramon C. Fuller
Dale L. Grinker
Trisha M. Hodock
^ Jeffrey W. Hojnacki
Malak M. Jaber
Robert B. Miller
Benjamin D. Novotny
Mathew J. Rossell-Griffin
^ John J. Spotora
Krzysztof Tralka
Camaro Walker
Jason Robert Zenawick
Thaddeus J. Zuzga

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^^ = Magne Cum Laude 3.90-3.97
^^^ = Summa Cum Laude 3.98-4.00
§ = University Honors Program

College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Arts

Tresa S. Abraham
Elvin L. Altman
Jeremy J. Basso
Andrea Nicole Batie
Alicia T. Beal
Christopher J. Clark
Eric R. Coleman
Elizabeth M. Cook
Chrishan S. David
Robert S. DeWitt-Barber
Aliscia M. Doriety
Manal M. El-Hrisse
Lydia J. Gasca
Tina Marie Hill
Karen Keorpes
Thomasine A. Laib
Demetria L. McClenton
Dona A. McCullough
Tonoah P. Merritt
Jocelyn T. Meyers
Fabiola Mireles
James C. Orr
Sheena V. Parker
Monique R. Parker-Tarleton
Dorothy T. Petraitis
Raygnol Pierre
Rahkal C. Shelton
Jeremy M. Spence
Jennifer E. Stoner
Christopher J. Vasel
Tonia J. Ware
Todd C. Williams

Master of Fine Arts

Jamiel K. Chapple
Yusef Hood

Master of Science

Mohammed Azeem
Mirza Azheruddin Baig
Abdul Qawi Hazari
Varun Chander R. Lenkala
Ahmed Baig Mirza
Nida Ullah Khan Mohammed
Waseem Mohiuddin Mohammed
Rama Gopal Neerukonda
Sreekanth Penumetsa

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^^ = Magne Cum Laude 3.90-3.97
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College of Business and Public Administration

Bachelor of Arts

^ Leean M. Abramowicz
Kenneth Britter
^^ Susan P. Browne
Darlene Burtis
Michael J. Byrne
Charles Carrington
Justin Clinton
Leslie Blaine Coulter
Richard A. Dennison
Northern Denson
Emily S. Dubs
Michelle L. Farrell
Daniel K. Firlej
Irma Flores
Yesenia M. Flores
Angela M. Frausto
^ Thomas J. Hampton
LaDonna P. Holmes
Melissa R. James
Senatha Jenkins
Lisa L. Jones
Parris R. Jones
Michael R. LaPorte
Angelique Lacey
Luis I. Lopez
^ David M. Love
Brandon M. Lukasik
Scott F. MacDonald
John Mauch-Major
Holly Ann McNichols
Celena J. Minetti
Bonnie J. Mitchell
David S. Nemsick
^ Wendy M. Oswald
^ Michael B. Paczkowski
^^ Adam C. Pepper
Heather A. Radcliffe
Bernadette G. Reed
Tabitha P. Richardson
^ Katherine M. Schippits
Wendell E. Schubbe
Darren L. Seefeldt
Noah J. Smarjesse
Ava A. Solariski
Russell R. Stovall
James P. Sweeney
Kristina L. Temple
Justin D. Thompson
Shakita D. Tillman
Sarunas Varnauskas
Tiesha M. Vernon
Katherine Wambangco
LaTonya L. Whiteside
Donna R. Wilkinson
^ Carl J. Wojciak

Bachelor of Science

Rammy Ahmad
^^ Akemi Arias
^^ Valicienne A. Arnold
^ Tara M. Bryze
^ Gregory T. Burke
^^ Heather J. DeRuiter
Tanya L. Funches
Jill S. Gregory
Joanna Halupka
Sabrina M. Johnson
La'Quisha R. Lewis
Erica Moore
Ryan Murphy
Suzanna Raigoza
^ Kil S. Yan
Khafayat Funmilayo Young

Master of Business Administration

Naela Asmar
Benson A. Cariyadil
Yi Chen
John D. Chisholm
Jian Zhu Huang
Anthony W. Jacob
Nashena L. Johnson
John D. Leszczynski
Wenyi Liang
Michael J. Montgomery
Pamela Rochelle Morgan
Janiqua Vanette Nash
William Charles Pender
James M. Poling
Christina M. Scruggs
Gigi Koshy Simon
Antawana C. Smothers
Robyn Marie Vukelich
Sheryl Rena Wilder
Xiaoke Yi
Xi Ni Zhang
Liuzhen Zheng

Master of Public Administration

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Doris J. Barnes-Cook
Douglas T. Beckman
Timothy J. Biron
Michael D. Brady
Peter B. Chmura
Tony L. Curtis
Scott A. Durano
Judith L. Edwards
Denise L. Ellis
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Timothy J. Kristin
Tammy K. McMullan
John P. Murphy, Sr.
Antonio L. Padron
Toure G. Peck
Rena Redic
Tajuana L. Rice
Steven H. Roberts
Willie L. Rogers
Karyn A. Schmidt
Jennifer M. Sheard
Kevin D. Sisk
Timothy W. Sisk
Robert B. Stegenga
Daniel V. Sylvester
Karen Y. Thurmon
John T. Touhy
Gregory S. Vitale
Samantha M. Webb

Master of Science

Thomas J. DeYoung
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Carron S. Johnson
Patricia I. Norek
Joel D. Pepin
Katie J. Saylor
Deborah A. Taylor
Linda J. Taylor

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College of Education

Bachelor of Arts

Angela M. Adochio
^^ Elizabeth A. Anthony-McDowell
Janell E. Armstrong
^^^ Samantha E. Barker
Cherry R. Bennett
Kelly Lee Blackmon
Josey Marie Bonadona
Nicole C. Breit
^ Erin E. Brennan
Crystal A. Briney
Romel Bryant
^ Lori A. Caswell
Catherine A. Dalla Betta
Kelly K. Dial
^ Peter Arthur Drey
Lisa M. Dulek
^^ Diane E. Elliott
Katherine M. Fitzgibbons
^^ Nicole D. Frey
Gustien R. Glover
Amanda M. Gramza
^^^ Tina M. Gray
§^^ Glenda R. Grundy
Jessica M. Guzman
Gladys A. Gyabaah
Jennifer Hayden
Hayley J. Helfrich
Leah R. Ipema
^ Jenifer Jenicek
^ Dawn M. Kieffer
Sophia E. Kodura
^^ Jennifer E. Kozinski
^ Kevin E. Kuzanek
Jacqueline A. LaFave
Kristina M. LaMorte
Danielle LeVee
Katie S. Litwin
Megan K. Mahoney
Brandon L. McCreary
^ Alexandria E. Merrick
^ Kimberly Anne Miller
Danielle Desire' Montijo
^^^ Jennifer Moore
^ Janice L. Morande
^^ April Muller
Jamie A. Muzika
Linnea M. Nemcek
Shanee' J. Norfleet
Taylor M. O'Keefe-Hart
Chiquita M. Patterson
^ Jaclyn R. Pavlick
Christin M. Pawchak
^^ Michelle Philippi

James T. Pitcairn
Angel K. Raines
^ Rebecca A. Saathoff
Rasheedat A. Said
^^ Maria E. Sandora-Meeder
^ Edward R. Slak
Temitope Sofowora
^^ Katie L. Springfield
Tracey A. Stege
Stephanie L. Szykowny
Stacey D. Taylor
Karra D. Thompson
^^ Bethany J. Treasure
Javier Vasquez
Alan Watkins
^ Susan L. Waxweiler
^^^ Jenna R. Weglarz

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College of Education

Master of Arts

Kameyal Alexander
Rosalyn A. Alsup
Creo S. Argue
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Diane M. Barrett
Dana R. Becker
Twylia L. Bennett
Kathleen M. Bisch
Michelle G. Body
Michelle M. Bongiovanni
Kevin G. Broene
Aaron D. Brown
Paula Burnett
Michelle A. Cartolano
Veridiana Chavez-Alonso
Christine A. Clavenna
Megan A. Cleary
Nancy L. Coluzzi
Ashley R. Cosentino
Therese Coughlin
Craig M. Crafton
Patricia A. Crowe
Catherine P. Doran
Carolyn Eberhard
Linda Esposito
Andrew J. Findysz
Debra Gaskin
Barbara J. Gindville
Michelle L. Gulo-Hernandez
Laura A. Gray
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Stacy L. Griffin
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Donnald Eugene Hamrin
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Harmony Hitchcock
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Consuelo Rodriguez
Marcia A. Rogers
Julie B. Rowoldt
Maricela Ruiz
Patrick M. Rush
Felix Sanchez
Michael J. Schroeder
Sabrina M. Scott
Amanda M. Shannon
Jennifer M. Smith
Melissa M. Smotherman
Rebecca J. Snyder
Kelly A. Swan
Elizabeth Ann Swaney

Thomas L. Tucker
William R. Tucker
Yetunde Toro Uwajeh
Carrie M. Van Duyne
Christopher L. VanNoord
Ryan S. Visser
Tyrone D. Ward
Melissa A. Weber
Crystal D. Williams
Sarah A. Winbush

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College of Health and Human Services

Bachelor of Health Administration

Susan L. Ader
Shkendije Arifi
Renee M. Damiani
Lakita Patrice Daniels
Rosemary Dominguez
Patricia A. Fryer
Kourtney V. Hartmann
Kayla S. Heyward
Jessica L. Miggins
^ Megan M. Paraday
^ Stelliani Peters
Joshua Raglione
^^ Gail S. Szewczyk
Chavahn L. Williams

Bachelor of Health Science

Susana J. Almazan
Ohood M. Baste
^ Bill Biederman
Sharon L. Burnham
Melinda S. Foresta
Elissa Ann Kurz
Maria E. Maldonado
Kelli M. Merlo
Nina A. Ortega
Brandy Pilny
Javier Soler
^^^ Sara M. VanByssum

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

^^^ Lynn M. Christian
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Nneka P. Johnson
^ Michael J. Lane
Abigail U. Ogunniyi
^^^ Ed Allen E. Roska
Tamara L. Smith
Irene Thomas

Bachelor of Social Work

Michelle L. Adams
Sarah A. Adekola
^^ Brenda Allen
Angel R. Alston
^^ Janell V. Bailey
Deborah A. Bashir
^ Kimberly Brennan
Jessica Bujanski
Kristen R. Carr
^^ Samantha A. Dagenais
^^ Trevaughn Davis-Neal
Francisco Enriquez
Carmen L. Free
Scott C. Hedge
§^^ Jaclyn S. Hicks
Roxanne Hughes
Ruaa S. Jaber
^^ Shannon L. Kraehmer
^^ Leo W. Lavender
Valerie Marks
Patricia R. Moen
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^^ Dana Marie Osborn
^^ Sima J. Patel
Montreal Robinson
^ Gianni P. Sansone
Vanita A. Seals
Latoya Y. Smith
Maria L. Ursetta
Constance M. Vann
Monica M. Walker
Latonya J. West
Elana M. Willis

Master of Health Administration

Marcus M. Allen
Manuel H. Beltran
Tamika D. Hinton
Ipshita Sheelam

Master of Health Science

JoAnn Alferink
Barbara R. Burgess
Latanya O. Craig
Pamela Theresa Daffin-Sibless
Tiffany B. Dixon-Johnson
Lillie B. Dodd
Anthony Giles
Tomorrow A. Griffith
Christine B. Grzybowski
Amy R. Hunte
Bertha F. Johnson

Megan M. Knarr
Anabela Largo
Kathryn L. Lauing
Ella J. McDonald
Enchelle R. Morris
John P. Nilsson
Terrance W. Patillo
Kiante T. Reed
Dorothy M. Robinson
Julia R. Romero
John F. Smith
Wendi C. Swift
Vanessa Virgous
Willie B. Watts
Cristiane N. White
Gwendolyn White
Venus L. Whitiker

Master of Occupational Therapy

Stephanie Anne Noreiko

Master of Science in Nursing

Debra L. Boyd-Seale
Diane Carr-Lynn
Tina M. Decker
Paula M. Dunskis
Linda H. Hale
Clementha A. Ingram
Berlinda Jones
Terry L. Muhammad
Elizabeth Nevarez
Ramona Williams

Master of Social Work

Kenneth Earl Abrams
Janette R. Arceneaux
Vilija Aukstuolis
Michelle Bashton
Pamela Bills
Karissa J. Blaschek
Quintin Bradley
Brenton P. Bridgeforth
Aishia R. Brown
Sarah K. Clark
Tracy L. Cunningham
Jabari H. Dowdell
Alicia A. Driscoll
Brooke A. Escobar
Megan I. Givens
James E. Golding

Matthew J. Gonzalez
Teresa L. Illum
Dyneen M. Jackson
Jovan Johnson
Kathleen A. Keating
Demesha T. Lewis
Rachel M. Magruder
C. Grainne Mahoney
Gwendolyn A. Malinowski
Megan T. McShane
Diane M. Moler
Yolanda Ringo
Brigid M. Rousonelos
Regina M. Serio
Bridgette L. Spann
Sister Ann Sylvia Tamale
Nathan A. Underhile
Mildred F. Woodward
Myesha K. Wright
Jessica F. Zimmer

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Shirley K. Comer
Patricia A. Martin

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Tanya L. Anders
Patricia L. Barker
Megan A. Bryce
Scott Thomas Bullard
Michelle A. Gibbons
Emily C. Harn
Kristina N. Jones
Shannon K. Kleinfelder
James A. Lagoni
Andrew S. Lange
Cheryl A. Luif
Cari D. O'Donnell
Bradley D. Phillips
Megan Renee Schneider
Joshua Velarde
Justin Velarde
Jena M. Zientek
Gregory J. Zukowski

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§ = University Honors Program

Student Speaker

Bryce Johnsen

Student Commencement speaker Bryce Johnsen says he attended Governors State University for all the right reasons. The school was close to his Park Forest home. It was affordable. His credits from Prairie State College transferred, and GSU had the degree program he wanted.

What he found when he got to GSU was more than educational opportunity. He found enlightenment, direction, and empowerment. Through his education at GSU, Bryce developed a different perspective on the world and formulated his own direction. Education, according to Bryce, gave him more choices by exposing him to new ideas and differing points of view.

In the short time he has been at Governors State University, Bryce has earned more than his Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies. He has earned the respect of his professors, the university administration, and fellow students. As the elected student representative to the GSU Board of Trustees, Bryce played a key role in representing student interests in trustee and administration discussions.

Bryce provided a student perspective during the recent Higher Learning Commission review. He also served as a volunteer student mentor in the interdisciplinary studies program, which led him to pursue his goal of becoming an academic advisor. He is currently studying for his master's degree in communication and training at GSU.

“Education is empowering. I want to help people develop their direction and encourage them not to be afraid to learn about themselves,” said Bryce.

Bryce currently interns in the GSU Office of Admission and was recently elected as a member of the GSU Student Senate.

Bryce believes that one of the most important lessons he has learned at GSU is how to become part of the decision-making process—to question, analyze, and think critically to formulate a solution. While he remains focused on his studies, he is also determined to be an active and contributing member of the university community.

“When I got to GSU, I realized why education is so important and how it can be the key to success. Many people fear that they don't have the ability to achieve great things, but they can do anything if they put their minds to it. I learned a lot about myself at GSU. Education gives people the confidence to make a difference.”

Academic Regalia

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

The Cap

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.

The Gown

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: gold signifies high honors; white, honors. The master's gown has sleeves, with a back end extending down below the knee in a crescent shape. The doctor's gown is an elaborate costume, with velvet panels down the front and around the neck, with three velvet bars on the bell-shaped sleeves.

The Hood

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. The trim colors for master's hoods are as follows:

Accounting.....	Drab
Addictions Studies	Salmon Pink
Analytical Chemistry	Golden Yellow
Art.....	Brown
Business Administration	Drab
Communication Disorders	Salmon Pink
Communications and Training	White
Computer Science	Golden Yellow
Counseling.....	Light Blue
Early Childhood Education.....	Light Blue
Education	Light Blue
Educational Administration	Light Blue
English	White
Environmental Biology	Golden Yellow
Health Administration.....	Salmon Pink
Management Information Systems	Golden Yellow
Multicategorical Special Education	Light Blue
Nursing.....	Apricot
Occupational Therapy.....	Slate Blue
Physical Therapy	Teal
Political Studies.....	White
Political and Justice Studies	White
Psychology	Light Blue
Public Administration	Peacock Blue
Social Work	Citric
Sociology.....	White

COMMENCEMENT MARSHALS

University Grand Marshal

Heikki Heino - President, Faculty Senate

Coordinator of Marshals

John Stoll - Vice Provost

Assistant Coordinator

Colleen Rock - Director, SAAS

College of Arts and Sciences

Xiaoyong Chen - Associate Professor

James (Chip) Coldren - Associate Professor

Daniel Cortese - Assistant Professor

Rashidah Muhammad - Professor

Nancy Shlaes - Professor

College of Business and Public Administration

Mary Bruce - Assistant Professor

Kathleen Hamby - University Lecturer

Akkanad Isaac - Division Chair

John Simon - Assistant Professor

Colleen Rock - Director, SAAS

College of Education

Sara Acton - Director of Field Experiences

Thomas Bierdz - University Lecturer

Jung-ah Choi - Assistant Professor

George Garrett - Professor

Sharon Neste - University Lecturer

College of Health and Human Services

Kim Boland-Prom - Assistant Professor

Rupert Evans - Assistant Professor

Martha Gainer - University Lecturer

Joyce Sligar - University Lecturer

Beverly Younger - University Lecturer

The Mace



The governor's mace, carried by the marshal 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.

