5-14-2016

Commencement Program: 2016

Governors State University

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From its inception in 1969, innovation and putting students first have been the hallmarks of GSU’s success. In 2016, that tradition continues. The university has expanded its reach and has solidified its commitment to inspiring hope, realizing dreams, and strengthening community for generations to come.

Our work is informed by the following principles:

**GSU’s strategic planning and financial decisions always put students first.** We know that nothing in higher education is more powerful than an uncompromising commitment to student success.

**GSU students deserve a high quality education,** with a strong foundation in critical thinking, civic engagement, and communications. Credentials without quality are empty. GSU is an “island of excellence,” according to Dr. Martha J. Kanter, former Under Secretary of the United States Department of Education. With bold new initiatives and 64 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, GSU excels at providing the quality education that is essential for success in today’s global society.

**GSU is inclusive,** providing students from varying socio-economic and cultural backgrounds with unequaled educational opportunities and the support – financial, academic, and social – they need to be successful. The award winning Dual Degree Program continues to encourage community college students to complete both an associate and bachelor’s degree. Ninety-one percent of DDP students who have matriculated at GSU have either graduated or are on track to graduate.

**GSU is a place of civic engagement,** where students learn to connect their studies to the responsibilities of citizenship.

**GSU is a public square.** We are educationally, culturally, and economically committed to programs and partnerships in education, healthcare, government, and business. The Center for the Performing Arts, Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, and the Visual Arts Gallery bring students and community members together to live in the midst of art.
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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ORDER OF EXERCISES
Saturday, May 14, 2016, 10 a.m.
College of Arts and Sciences  College of Education

Dr. Elaine P. Maimon
University President
Presiding

PRELUDE ........................................................................................................Encore Concert Band
Bill Schuetter, Conductor

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

PROCESSIONAL ........................................................................... LaTonya Holmes, Grand Marshal
Dr. Barbara Winicki, Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Rosemary Johnsen, Excellence Award Recipient

“Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1,” by Edward Elgar .............. Encore Concert Band

CALL TO ORDER .......................................................................... Dr. Barbara Winicki, Grand Marshal

NATIONAL ANTHEM ................................................................. Felice Kimbrew, 2016 Graduate

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES .......... Brian D. Mitchell, Chair, Board of Trustees
GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY .............................. Dr. Barbara Winicki, Faculty Senate President
GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION .... Dr. Knitasha Washington, Alumni Representative

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER ....................................... Yolanda Pitts, Student Trustee
STUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESS .................................................. Debra Earl, 2016 Graduate

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ............................................................ Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES ........................... Dr. Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost
College of Arts and Sciences ......................................................... Dr. Reinhold Hill, Dean
College of Education ...................................................................... Dr. Andrea Evans, Dean
Name Readers ............................................................................ Dr. Deborah James, CAS – Dr. Colleen Sexton, COE
Name Reader, Doctoral Candidates ............................................. Dr. Elizabeth A. Cada, Dean

CONFERRING OF DEGREES........................................................... Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

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

RECESSIONAL ........................................................................... LaTonya Holmes, Grand Marshal
Dr. Barbara Winicki, Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Rosemary Johnsen, Excellence Award Recipient

“Crown Imperial,” by William Walton ............................................... Encore Concert Band

FANFARE SELECTION ................................................................. Encore Concert Band

Sign language interpretation provided by Susan Bova.
The audience is requested to rise and remain standing during the Processional and Recessional.
ORDER OF EXERCISES

Saturday, May 14, 2016, 5 p.m.
College of Business   College of Health and Human Services
Dr. Elaine P. Maimon
University President
Presiding

PRELUDE .................................................................Encore Concert Band
Bill Schuetter, Conductor

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

PROCERSSIONAL .....................................................................Dr. Barbara Winicki, Grand Marshal
LaTonya Holmes, Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Rosemary Johnsen, Excellence Award Recipient

“Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1,” by Edward Elgar .........................Encore Concert Band

CALL TO ORDER .....................................................................Dr. Barbara Winicki, Grand Marshal

NATIONAL ANTHEM ..................................................................Phillip Richardson, 2016 Graduate

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES .......................Brian D. Mitchell, Chair, Board of Trustees
GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY ...........................................Dr. Barbara Winicki, Faculty Senate President
GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ....................Jamelia Hand, Alumni Representative

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER .................................Yolanda Pitts, Student Trustee

STUDENT SPEAKER ADDRESS ..................................................Dr. Joseph Klis, 2016 Graduate

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ......................................................Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES .............................Dr. Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost
College of Business ....................................................................Dr. Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean
College of Health and Human Services ....................................Dr. Elizabeth A. Cada, Dean
Name Readers ........................................................................William Kresse, COB – Dr. Rebecca Wojcik, CHHS
Name Reader, Doctoral Candidates .............................................Dr. Elizabeth A. Cada, Dean

CONFERRING OF DEGREES......................................................Dr. Elaine P. Maimon, President

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

RECESSIONAL ...............................................................Dr. Barbara Winicki, Grand Marshal
LaTonya Holmes, Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Rosemary Johnsen, Excellence Award Recipient

“Crown Imperial,” by William Walton ..............................................Encore Concert Band

FANFARE SELECTION ............................................................Encore Concert Band

Sign language interpretation provided by Susan Bova.
The audience is requested to rise and remain standing during the Processional and Recessional.
This morning’s student commencement speaker, Debra Earl, has always been motivated to help others as an ardent advocate who speaks her mind and backs her words with actions.

After earning her bachelor’s degree from Chicago State University, Ms. Earl worked for 25 years in the private sector, married, and raised her family. During that time, she also faced a personal crisis that taught her the blessings of an extra day and what can be accomplished in one. She put her days to good use working for non-profit organizations focusing on at-risk youth and became active in civic engagement and social justice issues. She also experienced politics and advocacy in action, canvassing during elections and interning for a state representative and Senator Dick Durbin.

Her studies at GSU reflect her passion. As a double master’s degree student, Ms. Earl received a Master of Political and Justice Studies in August 2015, and she will receive a Master of Public Administration at today’s commencement ceremony.

At GSU, she became a member of Pi Alpha Alpha - Global Public Administration Honor Society, Pi Sigma Alpha - National Political Science Honor Society, Alpha Sigma Lambda - Higher Education Honor Society, the Master of Public Administration Club, and served on the Student Conduct Committee. She participated in the 2014 Midwest Political Science Conference in Chicago, presenting a poster paper on immigration reform. She was editor assistant for the book “The Political Roots of Racial Tracking in American Criminal Justice,” by Dr. Nina M. Moore of Colgate University.

Ms. Earl plans to attend law school next year and focus her career on advocacy for undocumented immigrants. She hopes to be instrumental in shaping the dialogue and policy toward immigration.

Celebrating Ms. Earl’s achievements with her today are her very supportive family: her husband, daughter, grandsons, and mother. “The support of my family has been a rare blessing and I am fortunate that I did not do this alone.”
For Joseph Klis, today’s afternoon commencement ceremony speaker, the values of hard work and perseverance exemplified by his parents are the principles that have guided his journey. Today he crosses the stage as Dr. Joseph Klis, having earned his Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

As the son of immigrants, Dr. Klis’ first language was Polish. He learned English in school and never looked back. At a young age, he set his sights on being the first in his family to earn a degree. With a full tuition scholarship, he first attended Moraine Valley Community College and completed his B.S. at the University of Illinois-Chicago before entering the Doctorate in Physical Therapy program at Governors State University.

Dr. Klis’ decision to enter physical therapy came after he spent time during high school investigating different healthcare fields. He shadowed E.R. physicians, pharmacists, and dentists, before discovering physical therapy when he took his grandmother to her appointment. When he saw the profession at work and witnessed firsthand how the therapist helped his grandmother achieve increased mobility, he knew what he wanted to do.

His determination to help others has not been limited to his work as a therapist. As a student at GSU, Dr. Klis has worked as a graduate assistant in New Student Programs and served as DPT class liaison, assisting in communication of class-related matters. He has become an active member in the Illinois Physical Therapy Association, serving on several committees and programs. He presented a poster detailing his research and work at the IPTA annual meeting.

While earning his DPT has been his immediate goal, Dr. Klis’ determination and perseverance does not end here. In the future, he plans to earn additional certifications and qualifications to enable him to work with athletic and sports organizations. Additionally, he will continue his involvement with professional associations working to support the goals of the physical therapy.

Celebrating with Dr. Klis today are his proud and supportive parents and brother.
Bachelor of Arts

Felix Adams III
Glenn Adams
Abeer Adi
Ghadeer Adi
Joel Ahrenberg
Liliama Alamillo
Ata Alaraj **
David Alexander *
Jasmine Alica
Monica Almaguer
Sunayana Amin
Timothy Anderson
Cesar Andrade
Salvador Arias
Adam Arkin
Aimee Armstrong
Myrna Asencio
Wanda Atterberry **
Anna Augustynyek **
Sean Bailey
Cameecee Ballenger
Judith Balogh
Irma Barajas
Daniel Barney
Lloyd Batt Jr.
Grzegorz Bednarczyk
Jenika Belcher
Tara Bell
Dwanye Belle Jr. ***
David Beltran
Patrick Bentley
Vivian Betouni
Matthew Bette
Maura Bilek
Earlirina Blackmon
Dashaunda Bohanon
Rebecca Bolton *
Kyle Bonner
Andrea Bouie
Kimberly Bowen-Peterson *
Christopher Brennan **
Alexander Brockman
Alvon Brown
Derrick Brown
Jacqueline Brown

Sean Brown
Shaniva Brown
Sparkel Brown
Barbara Brummel
Leda Brunzie *
James Bryson Jr. *
Dabney Buchanan
Lakesha Burton
Leroy Burton
Lance Butler
Karolina Bzdyk ***
Piotr Bzdyk
Candace Capolillo ***
Peter Cargill
Jeffrey Carr
Luke Carr **
Yesenia Carrasco
Derrick Chambliss *
Jehan Chapelle
Timothy Cherep ***
Jennifer Cogliansese ***
Akesha Coleman
Angela Coleman
Alfred Collier Sr.
David Collins *
Marikay Collins
Rebecca Colon **
Alicia Compton
Jessica Connolly
Linda Cortopassi
Pat Crean
Stacey Crims
Melissa Crownover
Joseph Crudo
Melinda Culbreath
Aja Curry
John Curtin
Manal Dabouseh
Jacqueline Daker ***
Shaun Daukasas ***
Aaron Davis
Angenet Davis
Catherine Davis
James Davis **
Sharon Davis
Talisha Davis
Kyle Delnegro ***
Tabatha Dent
Brandon Denton
Bryan Diaz
Dino Distasio
Jasmine Dorsey
Carol Dowding *
Courtney Doyle
Stephanie Ducksworth
Anil Durgut
Tamarah Efein
Nahed Elayyan
Alexa Esparza *
Victoria Eumana
Charles Evans **
Dawn Ewing
Ryan Farquharson
Ian Faynik
Marcus Felgenhauer **
Andres Fernandez
Christopher Fielding
Deborah Fields-Bates
Karissa Fleming *
Evelyn Flores
James Foley **
Steven Follenweider *
Valery Foote
Kylla Foster
Alaynia Franklin
Nikki Franklin
Kasandra Gamble *
Anita Gawlak *
Malaika Gay
David Gethers *
Christine Gilhooly *
Heather Glocker
Kelly Goetzler
Dustin Gray
Darlene Gray-Everett ***
Vankettia Green
Angel Green-Cholke
Monika Gruszczyk ***
Michelle Hale
Alana Hall
Jeremy Hamann
Ericka Hamilton
Aina Harris
Nizar Hasaan ***
Sade Hayes
Melanie Haza
Taylor Heard
Jacquelyn Hedderman
Donna Heitz Gray
Jacqueline Hernandez
Jessica Herridge
Breanna Hightower
Jennifer Hinton
Sarah Hirsch ***
Ryan Hobby
Myisha Holmes
Megan Homann
Kyle Horn *
Terri Hoskins
Lisa Hovel
Karmen Howard
Precious Hubbard ***
Maysa Ihmud *
Dawn Isenhart
Aiam Jaber
Joyce Jackson
Lisa Jackson
Michael Jafilann
Jennifer Jiles
Paul Jimenez ***
Dawanna Johnson
Faith Johnson
Michelle Johnson
Sarah Johnson
Shaquita Johnson
Tamara Johnson
Catina Jones
Larry Jones
Leon Jones Jr.
Marlene Jones
Melanie Jones
Shequile Jones
Shondra Jones
Thaddeus Jones Jr. *
Victoria Jones
David Kachiroubas
Joseph Kasper *
Kara Kentner ***
Michael Kernan
Felice Kimbrew
Monica King *

* = Cum Laude 3.80-3.89 ** = Magna Cum Laude 3.90-3.97
*** = Summa Cum Laude 3.98-4.00 § = University Honors Program
Academic honors awarded to undergraduate students only.
For Commencement, cumulative GPA calculated through Fall 2015.
Kaitlyn Klopp  
Maureen Koce  
Sylwia Kowalczyk  
Malgorzata Krawiec  
Spencer Krohn  
Joseph Kus  
Anthony Kwasek  
Brianne Kwasek  
Grace Lawrence  
Abigail Lebioda ***  
LaShonda Lewis  
Niyah Lewis  
Frederick Lindsay  
Katie Lindsey-McCoy  
Nicole Lipscomb  
Paul Lorenzini **  
Aungeline Lucas  
Christine Lux  
Timothy Lyons  
Dawonna Mack  
Bianca MacNeal  
Sanar Majdobeh  
Marcos Maldonado  
Dafina Maliqi *  
Devin Malliett *  
Daniel Malloy  
Miguel Marino Castillo  
Vedrana Markovic  
Josephine Martey  
Angela Martin  
Janaan Martinez  
Raji Martinez ***  
Victor Maruszak  
Anneelee Mascarella ***  
Iasha Mason  
Robert Matias *  
Hannah Matichak  
Stephanie Matos  
Kimberly Mayfield  
Andrew McArthur ***  
Lindsey McCastle *  
Kenda McGaughy  
Terrell McKinney  
Susan McMullen *  
Gina Melendez  
Leslie Menninga  
Taiylore Merriweather  
Krista Meyers  
Robert Meyers  
Harris Mian **  
Brooke Miller  
Anita Mitchell  
Tyra Mitchell  
Briana Mitok  
Bashaer Mohamad  
Janice Montgomery  
Gabriela Montoya *  
Maria Montoya  
Belinda Moore  
Vivian Moore  
Sonia Moore-Price  
Julio Morel  
Tamara Morgan  
Michael Morsovillo  
Watoris Mosley  
John Moss  
Calvin Muenchow ***  
Guadalupe Munoz *  
Ashley Murphy  
Daniel Murphy  
Shauna Murray  
Marc Musselman  
Krystle Nance  
Evan Nave §  
Danyel Nelson *  
Tonia Nelson  
Lois Nemeth  
Sheila Nesbit  
Stella Nichols **  
Tashea Nichols  
Stephanie Nicks  
Jasmine Ochoa  
Ebenezer Okrah ***  
Terry O’Neal ***  
Jessica O’Young  
Michelle Palmore  
Kenneth Pannaralla  
Susan Pate  
Michelle Pawela  
Rashanda Payne  
Shari Payne  
Gina Pechulis  
Kristy Pedigo  
Lea Perez  
Manuel Perez Venegas ***  
Sheila Perry  
Domenique Peteet  
Phoebe Peterson  
Erica Petratis  
Tarcianikki Pillows  
Shedell Pinkney  
Tammie Pitts  
James Powers  
Nancy Preston  
Denise Price  
Rasheaka Proctor  
Thomas Pruin  
Matthew Prusak  
Alexandria Ramos  
Michael Rampage  
Tracci Randolph  
Diana Rangel  
Debra Rash  
David Raska  
Teresa Repetny  
Maurisha Rice  
Phillip Richardson  
Regina Richardson  
Patrick Riemersma  
Elizabeth Rivera  
Tatiana Roberson  
Max Roberts *  
Nia Robertson  
Darius Robinson  
Tanda Robinson  
John Rochon Jr. ***  
Nellina Rogers  
Sheila Rogers-Kyte  
Tony Roop ***  
Lauren Rose  
Karla Runnels  
Jonquil Russell  
Tiffany Saletta-Kerrigan  
Joy Sanders  
Tonesha Sanders  
Vernea Sanders  
Jasmine Santoyo  
Matthew Savage  
Jessica Schneider ***  
Matthew Sedlacek  
Konrad Sek  
Aiste Seskaite  
Yamini Shah **  
Mechele Shinall  
Courtney Shipp  
Elizabeth Siegel  
Eric Sieruga  
Latoya Simpson  
Laura Simpson ***  
Amanda Sitar  
Gelisa Smith  
Kevin Smith *  
Carrie Smith-Wrigh *  
Kirsten Smock  
Elijah Sofowora  
Colleen Soppet  
Matthew Spencer  
Thomas Stillwell  
Renee Stone  
Danielle Stringfellow  
Telvia Suarez  
Ellis Sutton Jr.  
Leif Swan ***  
Christine Szpunar  
Brandon Taylor  
Dineen Taylor  
Yevgen Tefledzhuk  
Sade Thomas-Adams  
Zarak Thompson Sr.  
Bruce Todd  
Ryan Togliatti  
Mary Toomey ***  
Avishkar Trivedi  
Harry Valentine Jr.  
Johna Valentine  
Mychael Vanarsdale  
Lakesha Vaughn  
Bertha Versetto  
Marko Vesin  
Oumou Wague  
Janette Waksmanski  
Linda Walker  
Trellynn Walker  
Yvonne Walker  
Andrea Ward  
Nina Watts  
David Weinhalter ***  
Peter Weitzel ***
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Bradley Wheeler ***
Jasmine White
Nicole White
Harold Whitehead Jr.
Lukasz Wierzbicki
Casimir Wilgosiewicz ***
DeAnthony Wilkins
Camiella Williams
Lashaunda Williams
Jennifer Williams-Mubararak
John Wilson
Stephanie Wojewoda
Alyssa Wolfe
Brittney Woods
Latasha Woods
Dashawn Woolfolk
Tashya Wright
Cherry Young **
Lanie Young
Tiffany Young
Patricia Zamudio
Nicole Zarnecki **

Bachelor of Fine Arts
Andre Grady
Kayla Kreiniker
Manuel Mendieta
Jessica Roeda *§
James Saverson
David Sifuentes

Bachelor of Science
Rachel Avelis
Anupama Ayyala Somayajula
Grover Barnes
Anthony Bennett
Mir Bilal **
Matthew Chase
Alan Cook
Kevin Davis
Melissa Davlantis
Annie Detloff ***
Mircea Dimb* Ryan Easton
Jennifer Elenteny-Mejia
Muna El-Natour

Olayinka Erogbegbo
Jake Flanagan
Jerrica Flanagan
Juan Flynn *
Tanya Ghannam
Rosemarie Griffin
Kaleigh Gruben
Janusz Guros ***
Omar Hassan
Piotr Iwaszek
Jason Jordan **
Elizabeth Keyes
Hani Khatib ***
Steven Kolb
Edwin Koszulinski **
Gemma Koszulinski
Lynette Kruck *
Perla Lamie
Everardo Lorenzo-Morales
John Maleady *
Gerardo Mangila
Jeff Marlowe
Eliceo Martinez Jr.
Grzegorz Maryniarczyk***
Mike Matook
Greg McCollum
Brian Menke ***
Eric Miuilli ***
David Nee
Kristen Newberry
Bidemi Ogbara *
Similoluwa Oluwole ***
Justin Pakula
Shenique Payne
Adlin Pazmino
Zaid Rafati
Arturo Ramos
Tywaun Rogers
Eric Rosas
Axel Rutter *
Alyssa Semetis
Jose Serrano **
David Shelton **
Farhan Siddiqui *
Megan Soto
John Stercay
Derrick Tolliver
Mateusz Topor
Armando Torrez
Damian Tucker ***
Mustafa Turshan
Francisco Vasquez ***
Veroljub Velickovic
Michael Villanueva
Alyssa Walker
Eric Wisch
Matthew Wohlberg *
Ahmad Yasin
Michael Zapata
Alexandra Zarack
Joseph Zuklic

Master of Arts
Linda Abrahamson
Mukaram Abu-Issa
Mariam Adi
Sandra Alvarado
Lyne'ya Anderson
Antonio Artis
Ammanuel Melaku Ayalew
Clarence Ayers
Jeanette Baker
Reginald Barker
Bridgette Battle
Russell Bergtold
Cherish Brown
Valencia Brown
Gabriela Carranza
Christina Carrarini
Lisa Cavanaugh
Christina Christner
Mara Coleman
Arims Collins
Cynthia Culpepper
Candace Dade
Yakeea Daniels
Kathy Davis
Kimberly Davis
Jose De La Paz
Casey Diamond
Mary Dill
Robert Drake
Meisha Edwards-White
Alyssa Ewing

James Fisher
Paulette Foster
Christy Fresas
Miguel Frost
Jacquelyn Gilles
Willie Gordon
Janet Grier
Tynisha Harding-Smith
Angela Hayward
Sean Heilig
Lillian Jackson
Carrie Johnson
Sylvia Jones
Raida Khamis
Michael LaCien
Evelyn Lovelace
Sharon Massenburg
Angela McDowell-Richards
George McDuffie
Paulette McKinnis
Steven McNeela
David Melnychenko
Annette Mitchell
Patricia Moore
Teri Moore
Carol Morris
Thorntone Murray
Robert Nawrot
Kristie Nieman
Julian Nunnally
Steven Pelino
Edwidge Philizaire
Delton Pierce
Ouidie Pollard
Sylvia Ponce De Leon
Carisha Pulley
Dibran Ramadan
Charmaine Reed
Angela Sales
Rose Santiago-Estrada
Michelle Sebasco
Christopher Senese
Kimberly Shannon
Lauren Shelby
Stephanie Shostok
Kimberly Spivey
Cynthia Staples

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Lisa Strickland
Phyllis Taylor
Angela Thornton
Monica Vergara
Francesca Walker
Cindy Walters
Antron Washington
Sarah Wegley
Cynthia Williams
Michelle Williams
Shareesia Wilson
Measha Young

**Master of Fine Arts**

Walter Banasiak
Peter Bosy
Hakeela Buford
Levilyn Chriss
Kevin Connaughton
Nikki Daily
Jill Lobianco-Bartalis
Christopher Martin
Robert Mason
Joyce Speechley
Joshua Young

**Master of Science**

Mohammed Abdul Qadeer
Aali
Asmaa Abdulhameed
Mothe Adithya
Obaid Ahmed
Ajay Kumar Akarapu
Reddysagar Akkaru Chenchu
Salvador Alcantar
Uday Kiran Allamudi
Aparna Allusivala
Swetha Susan Alur
Sharanya Amuduri
Jyothsna Annepu
Papineni Anoop
Hima Bindu Aradadi
Satyanarayana Asundi
Anitha Avula
Mounica Avuthu
Sreeja Babers
Sriyakar Reddy Baddam
Bilal Bailey
Bhargavi Ballamudi
Mounika Bandaru
Rob Belin
Jagadeep Reddy Bhimireddy
Manoj Reddy Bhimireddy
Ugendra Bhuvan Bobba
Abhilash Boggavarapu
Matthew Brady
Santhoshini Chakrapani
Preethika Chanda
Surya Teja Cherali
Priyanka Reddy Chinker
Vidyanath Chittiprolu
Krishna Prasad Chouty
Amanda Cobb
Chandrananth Reddy Dasari
Vamshider Reddy Dasari
Sairam Dasu
Prathibha Davuluri
Sumanth Deeti
Nagaraju Deshini
Lenkala Devendar Reddy
Kamala Manasa Dhara
Madhuri Dharmala
Pratima Dharmala
Patrick Douglas
George Dovgin Jr.
Sean Dwyer
Radhika Eedara
Narendra Emdadi
Varun Chowdhary Enjum
Richard Evans
Laura Finley
Charles Flemming Jr.
Shiva Sai Kumar Gaday
Sruthi Gaddam
Krishna Pavan Gandi
Pavan Kumar Gangavarapu
Anil Gangishetti
Geetha Ganta
Shekar Reddy Gattu
Vivek Reddy Gayam
Monsoor Ghazanfer
Audrey Givens
Sandep Gopal
Revanth Reddy Guija
Bhavena Reddy Gunamgari
Pranav Gopal Reddy Gundra
Maneesh Gunnala Ranga Rao
Bharath Gupta
Sai Rathna Reddy
Hanumandla
Reuen Hicks
Kelly Howell
Mohammed Irfan
Sanjay Pruthy
Sam John

Lauren Johnson
Kranthi Kumar Reddy
Kalam
Srinivasa Raju Kallelpalli
Nikith Reddy Kalva
Yashwanth Kumar Kalva
Divyasri Kambhampati
Sushrutha Kumar
Kanuganti
Naresh Kanyakanti
Varun Kumar Kattekolu
Bhuvana Chandra
Katterasila
Jahnvi Keerthipati
Vinay Keerthipati
Mohammad Khan
Sameer Khan
Douglas Kwan
Madhurika Kommineni
Vinay Reddy Kondam
Ujjwal Kumar Chowdary
Konka
Vinod Kontam
Venkata Siva Kopparavur
Durga Prasad Kosuri
Phanindhar Kothapalli
Aashray Kovai
Shashank Reddy Kuchukulla
Manoj Kukkal
Ashrita Kunchala
Mallikharjuna Rao Kurapati
Suresh Kumar Kurapati
Vamshidhar Reddy Lega
Chengpeng Li
Siva Machineni
Pranav Reddy Madadi
Phani Hemanth Maddali
Bhanuprakash Madupati
Chellu Mahesh Babu
Ashok Mamidi
Sushmita Mamidi
Sindhu Reddy Mandadi
Srivani Manne
Sai Srinivas Mantrala
Anudeep Masetty
Sai Merugu
Prathyusha Metla

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Krishnakar Mogili
Aslam Mohammad
Ateeq Uddin
Mohammed
Ateequddin
Mohammed
Atifullah Khan
Mohammed
Firasat Ali Mohammed
Ishaq Mohammed
Kaleem Danish
Mohammed
Shuja Ur Rahman
Mohammed
Taufeeq Mohammed
Wahed Ali Mohammed
Mohammed Azhar Ali
Ramachandran Mohan
Mohid Emrooz
Quutb Mohiuddin
Phanendar Mowa
Sri Vidy Rani
Mudunuri
Sravankumar Reddy
Mukkonda
Sai Kiran Munigala
Saikrishna Munigala
Naga Krishna Reddy
Muppidi
Mohammed Muslim
Sharif
Lokeshwar Reddy
Nalavolu
Radhakrishna Nalluri
Ravali Nirumalla
Gopichand Pallepati
Sranan Kumar Palletti
Rushika Goud Pally
Ramakrishna Pamarthi
Dilip Kumar Pampana
Sandhya Vani Pasam
Deepakumar Patel
Urmil Patel
Tejaswi Patha
Anil Kumar Paudala
Chandra Sekhar
Pinnamaneni
Santosh Pothuganti
Srinivas Pothuguntla
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Kambhampati Pramod
Kartheek Punna
Sudharshan Reddy
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Quraishi
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Ramamoorthy
Venkatanarasimhan
Priyanka Ranga
Motru Ranjith Kiran
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Syam Sada
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Faisal Saleem
Kalyan Lakshman
Samavedam
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Shivaprasad Reddy
Sangireddy
Sai Roopak Sarva
Rohit Satpute
Michael Schmidt
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S Syed
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Ahmed Hussaini Syed
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Anupchandra Thogiti
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Yashwant Kumar Vaddi
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Vangeti
Peddineni Vardhan
Choudary
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Vasala
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Bhargav S Chandra
Kumar Roy
Veerramachaneni
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Krishna Vootkuri
Kranthi Sudha
Vudatha
Veerendra Vundavalli
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Salman Syed
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Omsiah Alghadban
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Ann Ballout **
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Courtney Smith
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Emily Urbanski
Shanee Weisinger
Sylvia White
Catrice Williams
Mahmud Yassin
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**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**
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Ablavi Amou-Berry
Vera Appiah-Dankwah
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Catherine Anzelmo
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Niveen Atieh
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Freya Ruda
Sumera Seraj
Sarah Stoksus
Nelson Tamala Jr.
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Angel White
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Okon Okorie
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Kahlea Reeves
David Riel
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Sounja Thompson
Sara Thomson
Kawryne Tillman
Elwin Trammell II
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Chris Ward
Paris Williams
Lisa Wujek
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Doctor of Nursing Practice
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Katie Koerner
Regina Ward
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Christopher Corey
Kirstie Cua
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Joan Johns Maloney – Administration and Finance

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Susan Gaffney – Associate Professor
Michael Hart – University Lecturer
Elizabeth Johnson – Associate Professor
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Rupert Evans – Division Chair, Health Administration
Nicole Koonce – Assistant Professor
Zo Ramanonjiarivelo – Assistant Professor
Joyce Sligar – University Lecturer, Senior Status
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.

### Honors Program – for undergraduates only

Graduates who complete the rigorous Honors Program develop greater depth within their academic program by completing advanced studies, attending interdisciplinary seminars, and producing a final honors project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Recognition</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GSU Honors Program</td>
<td>Medallion</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### University Honors – for undergraduates only

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honor</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Cord</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magna Cum Laude</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summa Cum Laude</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Recognition</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Eta Society (Allied Health)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha IOTA Sigma</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Sigma Lambda (Adult Learners)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Burgundy and Antique Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chi Sigma IOTA (Counselors)</td>
<td>Stole</td>
<td>Blue and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Mu Delta (Business)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Purple and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambda Alpha Epsilon (Criminal Justice)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Reflex Blue and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambda Pi Eta (Communications)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Crimson and Cream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi Alpha (Social Work)</td>
<td>Stole</td>
<td>Blue and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi Theta Epsilon (Occupational Therapy)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Navy and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSI Chi International (Psychology)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALUTE Veterans</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Red, White, and Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma Theta Tau (Nursing)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Purple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tau Sigma (Transfer)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Burgundy and Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Senate (Student Governance)</td>
<td>Stole</td>
<td>Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upsilon Phi Delta (Computing)</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Red</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dual Degree Program Partner</th>
<th>Recognition</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Colleges of Chicago</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Light Blue and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of DuPage</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Green and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harper College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joliet Junior College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Purple and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kankakee Community College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Red and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moraine Valley Community College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Green and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morton College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie State College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Green and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Suburban College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Blue and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triton College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Maroon and Black and White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waubonsee Community College</td>
<td>Cord</td>
<td>Maroon and Black and White</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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. The master’s gown has 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.

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 doctoral and master’s hoods are as follows:

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

Governor State University’s nationally recognized Dual Degree Program is a partnership with 17 area community colleges that establishes a seamless pathway for students to complete their associate degrees at a Chicagoland partner community college and continue their education at GSU to attain their bachelor’s degrees.

The value of educational opportunity is celebrated by each graduating class with a legacy gift to Governors State University. The amount of each gift reflects the year of the student’s commencement. This year, graduates gave $20.16, although many choose to donate more. Additional contributions to the class gift provided graduates with the opportunity to express gratitude in the form of a dedicated donation to those who encouraged their achievement.

The Class of 2016 gift supports the Presidential Scholarship exemplifying GSU graduates’ commitment to educational opportunity. Presidential Scholarships are awarded annually to qualified students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement, leadership, and commitment.

The Alumni Association connects graduates with each other, as well as to volunteer opportunities, educational workshops and seminars, and cultural, recreational, and professional events.

GSU graduates serve as ambassadors of the university. They advocate for GSU in their personal networks and encourage high school, community college, veteran, and other students to attend GSU. They also return to campus, share their success stories, mentor current students, and donate to promote educational opportunity.

The Alumni Association and the generations of GSU alumni are proud to welcome the Class of 2016 to its ranks.
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.