

Summer Commencement

107th ACADEMIC YEAR

Saturday, August 11, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Murphy Athletic Center, Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



Middle Tennessee State University has graduated 143,634 students since its inception in 1911. These students have received associate's, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees. Our first Doctor of Arts degrees were conferred on December 22, 1972, the first Educational Specialist degrees on December 20, 1974, the first Doctor of Philosophy degrees on May 10, 2003, and the first Doctor of Education degrees on August 6, 2016.

There have been 399 Doctor of Arts degrees, 1,899 Educational Specialist degrees, 321 Doctor of Philosophy degrees, and 20 Doctor of Education degrees awarded.



Program

Saturday, August 11, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Processional: "Pomp and Circumstance" by Edward Elgar

*Audience, please remain standing for the processional,
singing of the National Anthem, and moment of silence.*

Men, please remove hats for the singing of the National Anthem and the moment of silence.

National Anthem

Moment of Silence

Presiding..... Dr. Sidney A. McPhee
President

Commencement Address.....Dr. Joey Gray
2017–18 Faculty Senate President

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees..... Dr. Mark Byrnes
University Provost

Conferring of Degrees.....Dr. Sidney A. McPhee

Alma Mater..... Dr. Jennifer Vannatta-Hall
Associate Professor, School of Music

Recessional: "Hornpipe" from Water Music by G. F. Handel

Audience, please remain standing until the procession has left the arena floor.

Organist..... Mr. Joseph Walker

Announcing the Graduates..... Dr. Jennifer Vannatta-Hall

Ms. Kristi Shamburger
Associate Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance

Assisting with Diplomas..... Ms. Jaye Kiblinger
Executive Aide, Department of Marketing

Commencement Marshal

Dr. Laurie Witherow
Associate Vice Provost for Admissions and Enrollment Services

Heralds

Ms. Yvonne Elliott, Ms. Anne Ford, Mr. Tyler Henson,
Ms. Sherry Preston, and Ms. Pat Thomas

Commercial photographers will photograph each diploma presentation. These pictures will be available to graduates for purchase. No additional photography will be allowed on the floor of Murphy Center.

Platform Party

Saturday, August 11, 2018

Dr. Sidney A. McPhee
President

Dr. Mark Byrnes
University Provost

Dr. Joey Gray
2017–18 Faculty Senate President

Mr. Alan Thomas
Vice President for Business and Finance

Mr. William J. Bales
*Vice President for
University Advancement*

Mr. Bruce Petryshak
*Vice President for Information
Technology and Chief
Information Officer*

Dr. Debra K. Sells
*Vice President for Student Affairs
and Vice Provost for Enrollment
and Academic Services*

Mr. Andrew Oppmann
*Vice President for Marketing
and Communications*

Dr. Cheryl B. Torsney
Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Dr. David L. Butler
*Vice Provost for Research and
Dean, College of Graduate Studies*

Dr. Richard Sluder
*Vice Provost for Student Success and
Dean, University College*

Dr. Robert Fischer
*Dean, College of Basic and
Applied Sciences*

Dr. Harold Whiteside
*Dean, College of Behavioral
and Health Sciences*

Dr. David Urban
Dean, Jones College of Business

Dr. Lana Seivers
Dean, College of Education

Dr. Karen Petersen
Dean, College of Liberal Arts

Mr. Kenneth A. Paulson
*Dean, College of Media
and Entertainment*

Dr. John R. Vile
Dean, University Honors College

Ms. Bonnie Allen
Dean, James E. Walker Library

Board of Trustees

Mr. W. Andrew Adams
*Former Chair and CEO, National
Healthcare Corp.
Former CEO, National Health Investors and
National Health Realty, Inc.*

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Owner and CEO, Sprint Logistics

Mr. Pete DeLay
*Executive, Forterra Building Products
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*Vice Chair
Executive Chair, Zycron Inc.*

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Chair and CEO, Acadia Healthcare

Ms. Christine Karbowskiak
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Vice Chair, Board of Directors,
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*Faculty Trustee
Professor, School of Agriculture*

Mr. Peyton Tracy
*Student Trustee
Master's Candidate, Business Administration*

Alumni Association President

On behalf of the Middle Tennessee State University National Alumni Association, I congratulate you on joining a very special group. With today's ceremony, you move from being a student to joining more than 140,000 MTSU alumni. As an alum, you are a vital part of the Middle Tennessee State University family. We count on you to represent us to this nation and the world. We hope that your experiences as a student will serve you well in the future.

Always be proud of your alma mater and stay connected to your University. To be involved in the Alumni Association, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-800-533-MTSU (6878) or visit mtalumni.com.

Welcome to the future and to your National Alumni Association.

Guy Wilson ('77)
President, MTSU National Alumni Association Board, 2018–19

Commencement Speaker

Saturday, August 11, 2018

Dr. Joey Gray
2017–18 Faculty Senate President
Program Director, Leisure, Sport, and Tourism Studies
Associate Professor, Department of Health and Human Performance



Dr. Joey Gray is an associate professor and program director of Leisure, Sport, and Tourism Studies in the Department of Health and Human Performance. She received her Ph.D. in Leisure Behavior from Indiana University, her master's degree in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management from North Carolina State University, and her bachelor's degree from Averett University. A faculty member at MTSU since 2006, Gray focuses her research primarily on pedagogy in Leisure Studies and gender issues in Leisure.

Gray's dedication to teaching is marked by a history of student engagement and a few awards along the way. Her most prized honor to date is the MTSU Outstanding Teaching Award she received in 2017. While at Indiana University, Gray also received the Trustees' Teaching Award. She has been acknowledged by students as a dedicated teacher throughout her career. Gray says the most rewarding part of teaching is when students say that she has made a difference in their lives. Asked about her dedication to students she said, "I once hunted down a student when she dropped out of school. We had a connection, and I knew she needed a nudge every now and then. She was one of my first students in 2006–07 and graduated in May 2015." Among her students, she is well known for her sense of humor, accessibility, and devoted mentorship.

Active in the MTSU community, Gray is the outgoing president of the Faculty Senate and serves as a member of the Honors faculty, graduate faculty, and EXL and MT Engage programs.

Mace and Chain of Office

Originally a medieval knight's weapon, the mace evolved into a symbol of royal scepters in various crown jewel collections. Large versions of the scepter have come to represent the power and authority of institutions such as our University. The mace measures 50 inches in length and is made of Tennessee cherry wood embellished with sterling silver and lapis lazuli. The Tennessee flower, the iris, denotes the public the University serves who, by their loyalty, give it strength and power. The leaves form a crown to symbolize the ennobling achievements of our graduates. Tennessee freshwater pearls, the official state gem, suggest the inestimable value of inquiring minds. The streamer on the wooden shaft carries the names by which the University has been known since its founding. The finial at the base of the mace is a stylized nut, representing the seed from which springs the mighty tree of those committed to lifelong learning.

The chain of office worn by the president is made of sterling silver. The lapis lazuli gems, mounted on scroll shapes, represent the colleges within the University. The knotted components depict the interdependence of knowledge and the various academic programs of MTSU. The lapis lazuli and sterling represent the University colors of blue and white. The Great Seal of the State of Tennessee embellishes the medallion suspended from the chain and represents the University as a state institution of higher learning.

These unique emblems of authority were designed and crafted by Professor Klaus Kallenberger, formerly of the Art Department. The mace and chain of office are a generous gift to the University from the MTSU Foundation.

MACE BEARER

Dr. Rebekka King is an assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Toronto, an M.A. from Queen's University, and a B.A. from Bishop's University. Prior to coming to MTSU, she was a postdoctoral fellow at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

King joined the MTSU faculty in 2013 and currently serves as director of the new Religious Studies B.A./B.S. program. She teaches courses on religion and public life, global Christianity, receptions of Jesus, women and gender studies, and ethnographic methods. Her research and publications focus on religious hybridity within contemporary North American Christianity. She also publishes and presents regularly at conferences on the topics of pedagogy and program design in regard to the academic study of religion.

King was recently elected the vice president of the North American Association for the Study of Religion and serves as co-chair of the American Academy of Religion's Sociology of Religion program unit. She is an editor for *Critical Research on Religion* and a fellow of the Center for Critical Research on Religion in Boston. She has won numerous awards and is a recipient of the MTSU Outstanding Teaching Award, MTSU Outstanding EXL Faculty Award, MTSU Faculty Research and Creative Activity Award (twice), and most recently a "Teaching Against Islamophobia" Fellowship from the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion.

Academic Regalia

The black gowns and colorful hoods traditionally worn at Middle Tennessee State University commencement ceremonies have their origins in the Middle Ages.

A statute in England in 1321 required that all “Doctors, Licentiates, and Bachelors” wear gowns. In the second half of the 14th century, the statutes of certain colleges forbade “excess in apparel” and prescribed the wearing of a long gown. Scholars were often clerics as well, and they adopted costumes similar to those of monastic orders. While the special attire covered rank or social status, thus lending a uniform look to ceremonies, it also served another purpose: warmth in drafty, unheated buildings.

As universities began to pass from the control of the church, colors often were added to the somber robes and hoods, eventually signifying the degree and specialization.

The cut of the gown, which is usually black, also varies with the degree held—pointed sleeves for the bachelor’s degree; long, closed sleeves with a slit in the arm for the master’s degree; and round, open sleeves for the doctoral degree. While the bachelor’s and master’s gowns have no ornamentation, the doctoral gown is faced down the front with velvet and has three velvet bars across the sleeves.

At Middle Tennessee, hoods are worn by holders of the master’s and doctor’s degrees, with the latter being longer. Hoods are lined with the official colors of the university that confers the degree; thus, holders of degrees from MTSU wear hoods lined in blue and white. The velvet edging on the hood, and often the velvet edging on the gown, represents the candidate’s major academic field. Often holders of the Doctor of Philosophy degree (Ph.D.) will be seen with hoods in dark blue instead of a color symbolic of their discipline. Further, the velvet bars on the sleeves may be either black or the same color as the discipline color of the hood. Colors associated with various subjects follow:

- Agriculture** - Maize
- Arts, Letters, Humanities** - White
- Commerce, Accountancy, Business** - Drab
- Criminal Justice** - Midnight Blue
- Economics** - Copper
- Education** - Light Blue
- Fine Arts** - Brown
- Home Economics** - Maroon

- Journalism** - Crimson
- Law** - Purple
- Library Science** - Lemon
- Music** - Pink
- Nursing** - Apricot
- Oratory (Speech)** - Silver Gray
- Philosophy** - Dark Blue
- Physical Education** - Sage Green
- Science** - Golden Yellow
- Social Work** - Citrine

The black cap, either a mortarboard or a tam, is customarily worn. There is no general rule for the position of the tassel. In practice at Middle Tennessee State University, the tassel is worn on the right. It may be shifted to the left after the degree is awarded. Men may remove their caps during prayer, the playing of the alma mater, and the commencement address.

Undergraduate honors graduates are distinguished by the stoles added to their gowns: gold for those graduating *summa cum laude*, 3.90 to 4.0 (overall grade point average); silver for *magna cum laude*, 3.75 to 3.89; and white for *cum laude*, 3.50 to 3.74. Graduates with University Honors wear blue and white cords and have completed at least 31 hours with a 3.25 average in the Honors program, a curriculum of special classes designed for superior students. Those who have maintained a minimum average of 3.65 in the Honors program are graduating with Distinction in University Honors. Undergraduate honors graduates and persons graduating with University Honors, along with those who have been commissioned as second lieutenants in the United States Army, are listed in this program after the degree recipients.

Some academic honor societies and programs may provide cords, ribbons, medallions, or lapel pins designating the achievement and involvement of their members.

Since 1993, graduates of the University Honors College have received the official Honors medallion in recognition of their final thesis defense and completion of special requirements of the college. The medallion itself is a replica of the official seal of the University Honors College and depicts a lighted torch, three Ionic columns, and a lightning bolt. Respectively, these symbolize the search for truth and knowledge, the stability and unwavering commitment to pursuing knowledge, and the flash of enlightenment or creative energy.

Military veteran students are distinguished by specially designed red stoles and red, white, and blue cords in recognition of their admirable service to their country.

Experiential Learning Scholars are distinguished by blue, silver, and white cords. These scholars completed EXL-designated hands-on learning courses, an off-campus service activity, an on-campus service activity, and a portfolio of reflections on their EXL activities. The EXL program provides students with opportunities for hands-on experience, valuable networking, and an opportunity to explore career paths through real-world experience.

International students may wear colorful sashes that represent their country of origin. Each sash symbolizes, in color and design, their country's flag.

Most American colleges and universities have adopted a uniform code. However, at any academic gathering, costumes often are worn that are not described by these guidelines. Some of these may be from foreign universities, others from American institutions that have preferred to remain with the European tradition of allowing each school to determine its own costume. Silver medallions worn by faculty denote 15 years of service, and gold medallions represent 25 years.

Academic Banners

The banners carried and displayed at commencement represent the University: its nine colleges (Basic and Applied Sciences, Behavioral and Health Sciences, Business, Education, Liberal Arts, Media and Entertainment, Graduate Studies, University College, and University Honors); Walker Library; and Faculty Senate. The design and execution of the banners was a collaborative effort among Professor Janet Higgins, Art Department; her student Kristi Baughman; and Darrell Callis Burks, designer in Creative and Visual Services and 2000 B.F.A. graduate. The colors used in each banner represent disciplines within the colleges. The University seal appears in the center of each banner, symbolizing that the whole is greater than any of its parts.

BANNER CARRIERS

College of Basic and Applied Sciences

Dr. Patricia Patterson is an associate professor in the Department of Chemistry. She earned her B.S. in Chemistry from Virginia State University and her M.S.E. in Macromolecular Science and Ph.D. in Macromolecular Science from Case Western Reserve University. She teaches K–8 pre-service teachers chemistry, physics, geology, and astronomy concepts in interactive student-centered environments. She has provided in-service teacher opportunities as part of her numerous professional development grants. She has served as the MTSU Science Olympiad director since 2001. Patterson has received the MTSU Outstanding Teacher Award, MTSU Outstanding Public Service Award, and CBAS Faculty Service Award.

College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Ms. Dana L. Miller is a professor in the Department of Human Sciences. She has been with MTSU for 26 years and since 2016 has served as the Human Sciences Department's Interior Design program coordinator. Miller received her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Interior Design from Eastern Kentucky University. She has practiced commercial interior design in Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia. Her work has appeared in *Contract* and *Interior Design* magazines. Miller has presented on both a regional and national level and is a co-author of *Textiles for Residential and Commercial Interiors*. Areas of specialization include construction; interior finishes; building codes; ADA design; business practices; and office, hospitality, and retail design. The governor appointed Miller to serve as the interior design representative on the Tennessee State Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners during 2004–08. She is a member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) and the Interior Design Educators Council. She has participated as an exam juror for the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) licensing qualification exam. Miller is a NCIDQ certificate holder and a Tennessee Registered Interior Designer. She has been awarded the ASID Tennessee Chapter Education Award and the Education Award from the Tennessee Chapter of the International Interior Design Association. As one of the founding members of the Tennessee Interior Design Coalition, she participated in developing the Tennessee Interior Design Title Act of 1991.

Jennings A. Jones College of Business

Dr. Jong-Sung Lee is an associate professor of Information Systems and Analytics in the Jones College of Business. He received his Ph.D. from Mississippi State University. Lee teaches Introduction to Business Analytics and Quantitative Methods Survey. He has received various awards at MTSU, including the Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology Award.

College of Education

Dr. Donald Snead, professor in the Womack Educational Leadership Department, earned his B.S. in Natural Science from Fort Valley State University, his M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from Western Kentucky University, and his Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in science education from the University of Kentucky. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the Womack Educational Leadership Department, is educational advisor for teacher education students seeking licensure to teach agriculture at the secondary level, and serves on the Teacher Education Admission Committee. Snead chairs doctoral dissertation committees. Three of his candidates have successfully graduated, and one is presently completing the research project. He has been an educator for 36 years, beginning as an eighth-grade math teacher in Georgia. Snead has been inducted into the Kentucky Distinguished Educators Cadre. He is an advocate for social constructivist teaching; thus, his research focuses on learning and teaching processes.

Faculty Senate

Dr. Pippa E. Holloway is a professor of history. She received a B.A. from the University of North Carolina, an M.A. from the University of North Carolina–Greensboro, and a Ph.D. from Ohio State University. Since coming to MTSU in 1999, she has taught graduate classes in 19th-century history, LGBT history, and historical research methods. Holloway also teaches U.S. History II as part of the General Education program. She has served as graduate director in the History Department and president of the MTSU chapter of the American Association of University Professors. Holloway's research focuses on legal and political culture. She is the author of *Living In Infamy: Felon Disfranchisement and the History of American Citizenship* (Oxford University Press, 2013), which was funded in part with a Soros Justice Fellowship from the Open Society Foundations. She is also the author of *Sexuality, Politics, and Social Control in Virginia, 1920–1945* (University of North Carolina Press, 2006), which won the Willie Lee Rose Prize from the Southern Association for Women Historians, and editor of *Other Souths: Diversity and Difference in the U.S. South, Reconstruction to Present* (University of Georgia Press,

2008). Her work on the history of felon disfranchisement has been cited in numerous court cases, and recently she was one of 10 American historians who signed an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in *Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute*. Her most recent article, "Testimonial Incapacity and Criminal Defendants in the South," will be published in *Crime and Punishment in the Jim Crow South*, forthcoming from the University of Illinois Press.

College of Graduate Studies

Dr. Frank P. Lambert has served as an assistant professor for the Master of Library Science (M.L.S.) program in the Womack Educational Leadership Department, College of Education, since 2016 and as the program coordinator of the M.L.S. program since 2017. Lambert earned his undergraduate (Honors B.A., History) and graduate (master's and Ph.D. in Library and Information Science) degrees from the University of Western Ontario (UWO) in London, Ontario. Before coming to MTSU, Lambert served as an assistant professor at Kent State University's School of Library and Information Science and UWO's Faculty of Media Studies. He has published and presented his research in national and international scholarly journals and conferences. His research interests include community informatics, information organization, information literacy, and informetrics (the study of quantitative phenomena of information). Lambert teaches and has taught courses in information organization, research methods, and statistics at the master's and doctoral levels, and information technology. Besides his service to MTSU through his work on various department and University committees, Lambert serves his community as a trustee on both the Rutherford County Library System and Stones River Regional Library boards. He also delivers workshops on Resource Description and Access (RDA) for Tennessee cataloging librarians and library technicians across the state.

College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Mei Han is associate professor in the MTSU School of Music and director of MTSU's Center for Chinese Music and Culture. As an ethnomusicologist, she focuses her research on music of East Asia, the Chinese diaspora within North America, and contemporary music influenced by Asian philosophies. Han has published journal articles, book chapters, and entries for dictionaries in both English and Chinese. She works with students of all ages on learning Chinese musical instruments and ensemble performance. Han founded/directed several Chinese music ensembles, including that of the University of British Columbia, University of Michigan, and Kenyon College in Ohio. She is also an internationally acclaimed concert artist on the zheng (Chinese long zither), performing in a multitude of

musical genres including traditional, contemporary, creative improvisation, and electro-acoustic music.

College of Media and Entertainment

Mr. Michael L. Hanson is an assistant professor of Audio Production in the Recording Industry Department. Hanson received his B.S. degree in Recording Industry and his M.F.A. in Recording Arts and Technologies from Middle Tennessee State University. He has held such positions as producer/engineer with MLH Productions, chief engineer/studio manager with Arrowhead Studios, and audio engineer with Ocean Way Studios.

University Honors College

Ms. Sisavanh Phouthavong-Houghton is an associate professor of painting in the Department of Art and Design. In 2014, she won one of three MTSU Teacher of the Year Awards, and in 2017 she was awarded one of two prestigious Tennessee Arts Individual Artist Fellowships for 2D. She earned her B.F.A. from the University of Kansas and her M.F.A. from Southern Illinois University. Currently, her body of work is inspired by the nonprofit organization Legacies of War mission statement: "to raise awareness about the history of the Vietnam War-era bombing in Laos and advocate for the clearance of unexploded bombs." For refugees/immigrants, the processes of connecting and disconnecting with a place or community are abstracted ideas of migration. The collage and painting process is unpredictable and is an ongoing dialogue about assimilating and relocating into another culture and space. Her current and upcoming exhibitions include Minnesota Museum of American Art; Hunter Museum of American Art in Tennessee; Lauren Rogers Museum in Mississippi; Huntsville Museum of Art in Alabama; Reece Museum in Tennessee; and Flying Solo Arts in the Airport BNA Exhibit, Nashville. Her work has been published in *Wall Street International*, *Create Magazine*, *Voices of America*, *Studio Visit Magazine*, *College of Liberal Arts* magazine, *The Tennessean*, and *The Pinch Journal Publication*. Her works are found in permanent collections such as the American Embassy, Paramaribo,

Suriname; Legacies of War Office, Washington, D.C.; Tennessee State Museum; Pinnacle Bank, Memphis and Nashville; and Sweetwater Center for the Arts, Sewickley, Pennsylvania. Her research has been funded numerous times by the Tennessee Arts Commission and the generous support of MTSU grants. She continues to give back to the refugee community by partnering with The Frist Center for the Visual Arts' Educator for Community Engagement, Oasis Center, and CRIT (Center for Refugees+Immigrants of Tennessee). She is represented by Tinney Contemporary gallery in Nashville.

University College

Dr. Christina Cobb, an assistant professor of University Studies at MTSU, specializes in mathematics. She has been an MTSU faculty member since 2011 and taught in Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools for three years before joining the collegiate teaching ranks. Her research interests include active learning, instructional creativity, at-risk student populations, and faculty development. Cobb is very active in her community and greatly enjoys public service opportunities. Specifically, she tutors, is a praise dancer, and serves on the board for Judah Temple of Praise in Nashville. Cobb is currently co-chair for the NADE MATH NETWORK and the membership vice president for the AAUW Murfreesboro branch. Cobb supports all students and seeks to be a role model to young women in her community.

James E. Walker Library

Mr. Ken Middleton, Digital Initiatives librarian and professor, has 25 years of experience at MTSU. He is part of a team that builds digital collections, develops digital humanities projects, and integrates digital content into the classroom. He has been a leader in Tennessee's statewide digitization program for the past 15 years, served as editor of the journal *Microform & Digitization Review*, and received two national awards for his work in making digital content in women's history more accessible.

THE COLLEGE OF *Graduate Studies*

Doctor of Education

Tori Leann Young

Ed.S., Middle Tennessee State University
M.Ed., Tennessee State University
B.S., Athens State University
Dissertation: "Perception of the Response to an Intervention Program (RTI) in an Elementary K-4 School Setting"
Hooded by: Kevin Krahenbuhl

Doctor of Philosophy

Jingning Ao

M.S., The Chinese Academy of Science
B.S., Dalian Marine College
Dissertation: "Ride of a Lifetime: A Netnographic Research to Unveil the Leisure Experience Attached to Orbital Space Tourism"
Hooded by: Joey Gray

Robert Lyndhurst Beatty

M.A., University of Central Florida
B.A., University of Central Florida
Dissertation: "You Wanna Play in My Band, You'd Better Come to Pick: Duane Allman and American Music"
Hooded by: Carroll Van West

Matthew Lowell Booth

M.A., Middle Tennessee State University
B.A., University of North Carolina
Dissertation: "Macrodynamics Effects of Efficiency Wages and Wage Discrimination Policies Modeled with Habit Formation in Consumption"
Hooded by: Stuart Fowler

Angela S. Bowman

M.A., Middle Tennessee State University
B.A., Eastern Illinois University
Dissertation: "An Examination of Mental Health Literacy and Stigma Against Mental Illness Using an Item Response Theory Approach"
Hooded by: Norman Weatherby

Matthew David Duncan

M.S., Jacksonville State University
B.S., Jacksonville State University
Dissertation: "Prospective Teachers' Beliefs about Mathematical Mistakes: An Exploratory Case Study"
Hooded by: Alyson Lischka

Robin Stacy Fields

M.Ed., Lipscomb University
B.S., Union University
Dissertation: "Effects of Adapted Self-Regulated Strategy Development and Focused Vocabulary Instruction for Second Language Adolescents"
Hooded by: Amy M. Elleman

Tiffany E. Guess

M.Ed., Tennessee State University
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "Analysis of Gender Susceptibility in Cryptococcus Neoformans Infections"
Hooded by: Erin McClelland

Layci J. Harrison

M.S., Cumberland University
B.S., Lock Haven University
Dissertation: "Maintenance of Health and Distance Running Performance through Hydration Knowledge and Practices"
Hooded by: Jennifer Caputo

Marquinta Lee Harvey

M.A., University of Tennessee
B.S., University of Tennessee
Dissertation: "Perceived Discrimination in Immigrant and Refugee Adolescents in a Middle Tennessee High School: Examining the Impact of the 2016 Election"
Hooded by: Denise Bates

Samantha Louise Johnson

M.S., University of North Alabama
B.S., Northern Kentucky University
Dissertation: "Effect of an 8-Week Eccentric Endurance Training Intervention on Fall Risk Factors"
Hooded by: Jennifer Caputo

Heon Tae Kim

M.S., University of Texas
 B.S., Yonsei University
 Dissertation: "Sedentary Behavior Intervention:
 Application of Contextual Information of
 Sedentary Behavior"
Hooded by: Norman Weatherby

Anna Mooney Love

M.S., William Carey College
 B.A., Middle Tennessee State University
 Dissertation: "Vangl2-Dependent Plasma Membrane
 Protrusion Behaviors Require an Intact Fibronectin
 Extracellular Matrix"
Hooded by: Jason Jessen

Amber Louise Matuszewski

M.S.T., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
 Dissertation: "High School Statistics Teachers' Under-
 standing of Hypothesis Testing through Simulation"
Hooded by: Jeremy Strayer

Tracy Elizabeth Noerper

M.S., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Abilene Christian University
 Dissertation: "Addressing Food Insecurity: Nutrient and
 Social Network Analysis of Urban Church Food Pantries"
Hooded by: Janet Colson

Abul Hasnat Muhammed Salimullah

B.S., University of Chittagong
 Dissertation: "Essays on Higher Education, Parental Altru-
 ism, and Granger Causality"
Hooded by: Stuart Fowler

Michael T. Sirles

M.A., Western Kentucky University
 B.A., Western Kentucky University
 Dissertation: "A Myrrove for Magistrates: The Sociology
 of a Mid-Tudor Text"
Hooded by: Marion Hollings

Candace Pearl Terry

M.A.Ed., Cumberland University
 B.A., San Jose State University
 Dissertation: "Secondary Mathematics Teachers'
 Pedagogy through the Tool of Computer Algebra
 Systems"
Hooded by: Michaela Chappell

Rita Hope Whitaker

M.S., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University
 Dissertation: "The Exploration of Place Attachment and
 Festival Satisfaction of the Frontier Days Festival"
Hooded by: Joey Gray

Specialist in Education

Rebecca Jayne Clayton

M.A., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., University of Tennessee–Martin

Amanda Nored Counts

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Hollie Denise Daniel

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Tennessee Technological University

Tracy M. Durham

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Sarah Jane Easterly

M.Ed., Walden University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Julie Elizabeth Ezell

M.Ed., Lipscomb University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Meredith Walker Gilliland

M.Ed., Walden University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Mary Ruth Golden

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Phillip Kyle Gowen

M.Ed., Lincoln Memorial University
 B.A., University of Tennessee

Christine Michelle Hunter

M.Ed., Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Shana Michelle McDaniel Morris

M.A., Virginia Polytechnic Institute
 B.A., University of Alabama–Huntsville

Jessica Leann Moyer

M.S.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Tabetha Newport-Sullens

MS.Ed., Kaplan University
 B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Sidney R. Ogle

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.Ed., Athens State University

Martha Kate Pettus

M.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Erin Josephine Phillips

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Tammy Marie Pirtle

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Tiffany Womble Roberts

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Appalachian State University

Stephen Alex Sircy

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.A., East Tennessee State University

Flora Lynn Smith

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Lindsee Rene Stephens

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
 B.S., Northern Illinois University

Paula Rae Suratt

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Devan Ryan Owsley
Michael David Oxley
Keysa Monia Palmer
Mary E. Phrachak
Angela L. Polston
Joshua Paul Riley
Deverya Shari Rose
Floyd Edward Russell Jr.
Carl Scott Jr.
Gene S. Sevier
Jared Shay Shelton
Lindsey Nicole Smith
Heidi Jane Nico Sprouse
Kyle Tyron Thompson
Amy T. Troutt Towns
Heather Nicole Vaughn
Autumn Marie Vincent
Brandon C. Walters
Juan A. Walters
Zackary Tyler Warmack
Michael Philip Welch
Tashia L. White
Grace Anne Whitson
Joshua Charles Windham

Honor Graduates

CUM LAUDE (3.50–3.74 GPA)

COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Emily Joanna Brackett
Tommy Chau
Emily Hope Cunningham
Chelsey Taylor Ellington
Colton David Gray
Emily Coleen Jookar
Bethany Helen Keathley
Joel Russell Norris
Christiana Destry Rosenberg
William Warren Steele
Zachary Caleb Williams
Anna Loree Wilson

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Carmen Karina Anchondo
Brianna Nicole Kelley Anderson
Cassandra Kate Beasley
Maleigha N. Bishop
Casey Allen Brown
Allison Elizabeth Bush
Deja L. Campbell
Kelley Rebecca Davis
Mary Marie Davis
Zachariah C. Espino

Amber Dawne Hickman
Laura Ann Higgs
Jessa H. Hunt
Bria E. Kirkland
Kendall Shea Lewis
Joseph A. McCarthy
Josie A. Messick
Marissa Hope Morren
Obofoni Kester Osifoh
Andrew Bradley Preston
Imani Faith Smith
Michael Andrew Travis
Heather L. Vance
Janet Michelle Watson
Bradley Mitchell White

JENNINGS A. JONES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Sami Shayeh Alshamari
Mohammed S. Alziyad
Yulong Du
Chandler Allen Hillhouse
Phillip Andrew Hogan
Jose V. Hurtado
Farrah Jean Palmer
Charish N. Short
Sydney C. Westberg

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Amanda Lee Couch
Avery T. Couey
Emily Samantha Dunkley
Rachel Renee Ford
Melissa F. Harlan
Cody Garrett Hartman
Jessica R. Mata
Ameera Mohammad Noaman
Christopher Patton
Hermon Phuntling
Morgan N. Tucker

COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT

Danielle Alexandria Mingo
Abigail E. Smith
Tristin Dakota Toran

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Samantha P. Ballard
Dorothy Ann Bobrow
Domonique Bragg
Kayla Lauren Curry
Brandon P. Flood
Traci L. Howard
Sheng Lee

MAGNA CUM LAUDE (3.75–3.89 GPA)

COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Ahmed Abdullah Altawi
Benjamin Graham Bechard
William Mackie
Austin Ellis Miller
Daniel Kirk Rae
Ryan John Swindell
Brianna Marie Walker

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Jalyn Nicole Brooks
Savannah Marie Decker
Edie Elise Forte
Corey Leigh Lawson
Kaleb Daniel McKinnie
Richard Kenneth Muccione
Alicia D. Watkins

JENNINGS A. JONES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Timothy Dunivan
James Robert Gann III
Abigail M. Tucker
Jordan Ryan Vos

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Adedeji Toluwani Ademola
Alexander Chance Adkins
Rickie Le

COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT

Tanner Ellis Costello
Bradley James Knuckles
Erin Nicole Moore
Sydney L. Russom

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Whitney M. Cook
Lindsey Nicole Smith

SUMMA CUM LAUDE (3.90–4.00 GPA)

**COLLEGE OF BASIC
AND APPLIED SCIENCES**

Samantha Diane Addis
Mustafa Alwan
Morgan Lee Richardson

**COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL
AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

Samantha Kay Blankenship
Jacqueline Evans
Alyssa Brooke Farris
Elizabeth Marie Fite
Natalie Breanne Foulks
Mallory Elise Hardy
Tyler P. Holcombe
Janie Lyn Kullmar
Tiffany Kate Long
Summer F. Thompson

**JENNINGS A. JONES
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

Brittany Lee Dillman
Charles Patrick Gillen
Lindsay Ryan Horner
Hayley Elizabeth Schuster

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Hayley Elizabeth Schuster

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Brady A. Duncan
Rachel Hopkins
Sherri Anne Marquez
Agata A. Martin
Jacob Joseph Myhre

**COLLEGE OF MEDIA
AND ENTERTAINMENT**

Madisen Paige Minter
Abigail Joy Potter
Emma Klareece Williams

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Brian Beddoes Sr.
Shelby Elaine Herndon
Heidi Jane Nico Sprouse

University Honors College

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Nicholas Lembo
Crystal Yene Sivily

UNIVERSITY HONORS WITH DISTINCTION

Samantha Diane Addis
Emily Joanna Brackett
Janie Lyn Kullmar
Madeleine Joy Kurtz
Hermon Phuntling

ROTC Commissionees

Bianca D. Crawford
Phillip Daniel Parker