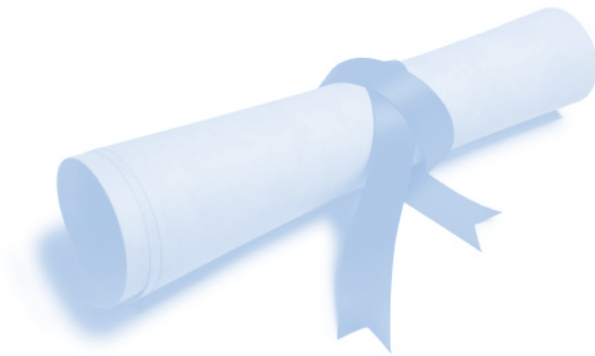


**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY.

Commencement

DECEMBER 15, 2018



The Star-Spangled Banner

Lyrics by Francis Scott Key

Music by John Stafford Smith

C Am E Am D G C



O say, can you see by the dawn's early light what so proud - ly we

7 G C Am E



hailed at the twi-light's last gleam - ing? Whose broad stripes and bright stars thro' the

12 Am D G C G C



per - il - ous fight o'er the ram - parts we watched were so gal - lant - ly

17 G7



stream-ing? And the rock - ets' red glare, the bombs burst-ing in air, gave

22 C G C D G C F A7



proof thro' the night that our flag was still there. O say, does that star - spang - l'd

28 Dm G C Am D C G7 C



ban - ner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Fall Commencement

107th ACADEMIC YEAR

Saturday, December 15, 2018

9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Murphy Athletic Center, Middle Tennessee State University

Murfreesboro, Tennessee



Middle Tennessee State University has graduated 140,375 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, 1,878 Educational Specialist degrees, 302 Doctor of Philosophy degrees, and 18 Doctor of Education degrees awarded.



Program

Processional: "Pomp and Circumstance" by Edward Elgar

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

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

Presentation of Colors (morning and afternoon) ROTC Cadet Color Guard

National Anthem

Moment of Silence

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

Morning Address..... Ms. Wanda Lyle
*Managing Director, UBS AG
General Manager, UBS Business Solutions Center, Nashville*

Afternoon Address Ms. Holly Thompson
News Anchor/Journalist, WSMV-TV Channel 4

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees Dr. Mark Byrnes
University Provost

Conferring of Degrees Dr. Sidney A. McPhee
Morning Recipientslisting begins on page 13
Afternoon Recipients.....listing begins on page 26

Alma Mater (morning).....Dr. Jamila McWhirter
Professor, School of Music

Alma Mater (afternoon).....Ms. Giuliana Chavez
Ms. Mary Vaughan
Graduates, School of Music

Retirement of Colors (morning and afternoon) ROTC Cadet Color Guard

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

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

Program

Middle Tennessee State University Brass Ensemble

Morning Ceremony

Dr. David Loucky, Conductor

Ben Rattanavong and Bryan Sanders, trumpets; Henry Hoffman, horn;
Jack Marlow, trombone; Anthony Anderson, tuba

Afternoon Ceremony

Dr. David Loucky, Conductor

Wesley Robinson and Abby Strayer, trumpets;
Holly Smith, horn; Michael Triplett, trombone;
Grant Keel, bass trombone

Organist.....Mr. Windell Little

Announcing the Graduates (morning and afternoon) Dr. Heather Hundley
Professor and Department Chair, Communication Studies

Mr. H. Stephen Smith
Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts

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, Dr. Tyler Henson,
Ms. Sherry Preston, Ms. Pat Thomas

Interpreter

Jaelyn Kollar

Bridges for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

***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.***

Board of Trustees

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

Ms. Christine Karbowskiak
*Chief Administrative Officer, Chief Risk
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Professor, School of Agriculture*

Mr. Joey A. Jacobs
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Peyton J. 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

Morning Speaker

Ms. Wanda Lyle
Managing Director, UBS AG
General Manager, UBS Business Solutions Center, Nashville



Ms. Wanda Lyle is a managing director of UBS AG and the general manager of the UBS Business Solutions Center in Nashville. She is responsible for overseeing the Business Solution Center's operating model and associated service delivery. Lyle leads and manages oversight for functions such as information technology, operations, human resources, finance, legal, and risk. She is also the president of UBS Business Solutions US, the corporate service company supporting UBS's U.S. operating entities.

Lyle joined UBS in 2010 as the head of employee compliance for the Americas, overseeing employee conduct, registration and licensing, and compliance training and education for the entire region. In 2011, she assumed responsibility for global employee compliance and was ultimately named co-head of Americas compliance prior to assuming leadership of the firm's Nashville operations in 2014. Lyle began her career at Merrill Lynch, where she spent 29 years in a range of positions in the Wealth Management Americas division.

Lyle is an active leader in the greater Nashville community, with a particular focus on supporting public education and the city's economic competitiveness. She is chair of both the Nashville Public Education Foundation and the Greater Nashville YWCA. Additionally, Lyle is a member of the Tennessee Business Leaders Council and serves as secretary of the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce board. Her additional board service includes NashvilleHealth, Saint Thomas Health, and the Tennessee College Access and Success Network. Lyle is a member of the Mayor's Music City Music Council, Tennessee Women's Forum, Downtown Nashville Rotary, and the 2017–18 Leadership Nashville class, where she serves as program co-chair for the 2018–19 class.

She was named among the *Nashville Business Journal's* Power 100 for 2017 and 2018, as well as the publication's list of Power Leaders in Finance in 2018. Lyle also was named to the *Nashville Post's* annual "In Charge—Banking and Finance" list of industry leaders in 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Lyle earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Mississippi. She and her husband Jerry have two grown daughters, a granddaughter, and a grandson.

Afternoon Speaker

Ms. Holly Thompson
News Anchor/Journalist, WSMV-TV Channel 4



Ms. Holly Thompson is a nine-time Emmy and multiple Associated Press award-winning journalist who co-anchors the WSMV-TV Channel 4 morning show *News4 Today* and hosts *News4 at Noon* in Nashville.

Accolades include her coverage of Operation Tennessee Waltz, political corruption among Tennessee public officials; middle Tennessee's 1,000-year flood, which killed 26 people and left nearly 11,000 properties damaged or destroyed; the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center explosion; Tennessee tornado outbreaks; and mid-state flash flooding.

Thompson graduated with Distinction of University Honors from Middle Tennessee State University with a degree in Mass Communication and served as a Student Ambassador during her years at MTSU. She has received the University's Young Alumni Achievement Award. Thompson also attended the Institute on

Political Journalism at Georgetown University while in Washington, D.C.

Throughout the year, she speaks to dozens of organizations and is a motivational speaker for various business groups and Christian events, often sharing her "Sisterhood—We Need Each Other" program.

Additionally, Thompson is the spokesperson for the Tennessee Breast Cancer Coalition and works with Begin Anew of Middle Tennessee. She and her husband teach Sunday school in Hendersonville and are often on the road with their two sons for travel soccer state and regional games.

Platform Party

Dr. Sidney A. McPhee
President

Mr. Darrell Freeman Sr., Vice Chair
Founder, Zycron Inc.

Dr. Mark Byrnes
University Provost

Ms. Wanda Lyle (morning)
*Managing Director, UBS AG
General Manager, UBS Business
Solutions Center, Nashville*

Ms. Holly Thompson (afternoon)
*News Anchor/Journalist,
WSMV-TV Channel 4*

Mr. Alan Thomas
Vice President, 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, 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 J. Urban
*Dean, Jennings A. 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

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, representing the University as part of the Tennessee higher education system.

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 Bearers

Morning

Dr. Brian W. Frank joined the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Middle Tennessee State University in 2011. Prior to MTSU, he earned his doctoral degree in Physics from the University of Maryland and worked as a post-doctoral researcher in the Center for Research in STEM Education at the University of Maine. As an education researcher, Frank is interested in studying the development of deep engagement in science and how instruction can support students in seeing and making use of science in their everyday lives. As an educator, he is dedicated to the preparation and professional development of physics teachers.

Afternoon

Noël Lorson, an associate professor of Graphic Design in the Department of Art and Design, joined the MTSU community in 2004. She started her career in advertising before earning her M.F.A. from Temple University's Tyler School of Art in Pennsylvania.

During her 14 years at MTSU, Lorson has been immersed in growing the Graphic Design program. Her students' works have been consistently recognized on local, regional, and national levels in annual competitions, such as the American Advertising Awards. In an effort to give back to the community, Lorson and her students have completed designs for many events and organizations, including MTSU's Constitution Day, the University Advising Committee, Dwight's Mini Mart, Blue Raiders football recruitment, ACE Learning Center, Special Kids of Tennessee, AIGA Nashville, Nashville Advertising Federation, Kids Arts Festival of Tennessee, Department of Art and Design recruitment, and the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere.

Lorson served as the advisor to the AIGA/MTSU student group during 2004–11 and resumed the position in Fall 2015. She was president of the Nashville Chapter of AIGA in 2005–07 and has served as vice president of education and on the Advisory Board. At MTSU, Lorson also is involved with the award-winning *Collage: A Journal of Creative Expression* produced by the Honors College, serving both on the Advisory Board and as the graphic design advisor since 2004. Each spring semester, she organizes the MTSU Professional Portfolio Review.

In 2006 and 2015, Lorson received an Advisor of the Year Award for the College of Liberal Arts. She has been awarded various MTSU grants and annually works on an external grant from the Tennessee Historical Commission promoting Archeology Awareness Month. This fall, Lorson received a 2017–18 MTSU Outstanding Teacher Award and an MTSU Public Service Award.

Academic Regalia

The black gowns and colorful hoods traditionally worn in 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 the 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 conferred 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 regalia 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 honor 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. Honor 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 the Faculty Senate. Art Professor Janet Higgins, her student Kristi Baughman, and Darrell Callis Burks, designer in Creative and Visual Services and 2000 B.F.A. graduate, designed and executed the banners. 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. Earl Pearson grew up on a small tobacco farm in rural Allen County, Kentucky, and attended a two-room elementary school about a mile from his home. For as long as he can remember, he wanted to teach. This year, he will complete his 48th year of college teaching. Pearson received a small scholarship to attend Western Kentucky University, where he finished the B.S. and M.S. degrees, with majors in Chemistry, Mathematics, and Education. He won a NASA Traineeship to attend Vanderbilt and earned a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry (molecular spectroscopy) with a minor in Physics. Pearson has done postdoctoral research at the University of Southern California and at the State University of New York at Binghamton. Pearson briefly was a research chemist for Shell Oil Co. in San Francisco before getting the opportunity to teach chemistry at WKU, where he retired after 28 years.

During eight summers while at WKU, he worked at the Redstone Arsenal and NASA, in Huntsville, Alabama. His research centered on determining why solid rocket motors become unstable and on projects involving the interaction of light from lasers with various substances. Pearson came to MTSU in 1998 as chair of the Chemistry Department, then returned to full-time teaching as a professor in August 2012. He has published numerous papers in journals devoted to teaching and regularly serves as a peer reviewer for them.

College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Dr. Vickie Harden is an assistant professor in the Social Work Department of Middle Tennessee State University. An alumna of MTSU's undergraduate Psychology program, she holds a Master of Science in Social Work from the University of Tennessee and a Ph.D. in Health and Human Performance from MTSU. Harden has over 30 years of experience in social work practice, primarily working with children and adults who have experienced trauma and abuse. Her current community-based research encompasses addressing health disparities and improving access to behavioral health care in rural communities. Harden is a grant writer, helping communities and agencies address barriers to care. She holds positions on numerous state and regional boards and coalitions, and works closely with nonprofit organizations specializing in developing behavioral health services to address gaps in care. Harden conducts state and national trainings and workshops related to rural health, mental health, and addictions, as well as the impact of trauma on health outcomes.

Jennings A. Jones College of Business

Dr. Raholanda White is a professor in the Department of Marketing in the Jennings A. Jones College of Business. She earned her Ph.D. in Business Education with a support area in Higher and Adult Education and an external focus in Management from the University of Missouri. At MTSU, White teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of business communication, technology, and women and minorities in business. She presented “Teaching Students from China and the United States Business Communication with a Special Emphasis on Intercultural Communication” at the 2018 National Business Education Association Conference in Baltimore.

White served on the United Nations Association Board–Nashville Cordell Hull Chapter for five years and is currently a member of Sister Cities Nashville. She also serves on the Multicultural Fellowship Team for her church. In 2014, White was recognized by the Non Traditional Organization (adult learners) at MTSU. She was also a recipient of the 2010 National Delta Pi Epsilon Conference Outstanding Innovative Instructional Practices Paper Award. In 2012, White studied identity, race, and culture in the Afro-Brazilian heartland in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. Additionally, she has taught business communication at Guangxi University in Nanning, China, during the summers of 2015 and 2016. Recently, White was selected as a member of the 2018–19 Global Perspectives Faculty Learning Community at MTSU. Her research interests include teaching business communication/intercultural communication to Chinese and American students.

College of Education

Ms. Holly Hebert earned a B.S. degree in Sociology from Abilene Christian University, a Master of Library and Information Science from Wayne State University, and an M.S. in Education with a concentration in Online Teaching and Learning from California State University–East Bay. Since joining the faculty of MTSU in 2017 as an assistant professor, she has taught a variety of courses in the Master of Library Science program. Hebert advises students through the process of creating and building their ePortfolio, the capstone project in the Library Science program. Her previous experience in academic and public libraries gives her special insight into those types of libraries. In addition, Hebert spent several years working for a library vendor, which gave her a broad knowledge of the publishing industry and how librarians select materials to build their collections. She maintains memberships in both statewide and national library associations and has presented several times at the Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference. Hebert also has reviewed books for *Library Journal* since 2009.

College of Graduate Studies

Dr. V. Nikki Jones is an assistant professor of Social Work. She received a B.S. and an M.P.A. from the University of Tennessee–Chattanooga, an M.S. in Social Work from the University of Louisville, and a doctorate in Social Work from the University of Tennessee. Jones teaches undergraduate and graduate students and is the faculty advisor for the Theta Kappa Chapter of Phi Alpha Honor Society. A licensed clinical social worker and licensed couple and family therapist, Jones worked in private practice in Louisville, Kentucky, before coming to MTSU. Areas of specialization include social (minority) stress, sleep disparity, and attachment and codependency. She has published and presented work on LGBT youth, intersectionality and microaggressions, and minority stress. Her research interests are social determinants of sleep disparity among non-majority groups and culturally aware practice. This year, Jones was an honoree for the UT College of Social Work Grand Challenges.

College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Aliou Ly earned his Ph.D. in History from the University of California–Davis, completed his M.A. in History from California State University–Fullerton, and joined MTSU in 2012. He is from Senegal in West Africa and received a B.A. in History from Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal. Ly teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses such as World Civilizations I, US History Survey II, African Slave Trade, Women and Politics in Africa, Colonial Africa, and Nationalism and Decolonization in Africa. He also is leading an MTSU Education Abroad program to Senegal in 2019.

Ly specializes in the political history of West Africa, in particular Guinea Bissau, with a focus on the meaning of women’s participation in national liberation struggles and politics. His current research explores the ways in which a focus on the perspective of women fighters leads to rewriting current historical narratives of the Guinea Bissau national liberation war. Ly’s research also has methodological implications for historical research on national liberation struggles more broadly. His research examines the ambiguous relations between African national liberation movements and movements for women’s rights and emancipation within those movements. For many years, Ly also had a research interest in the Haitian Revolution of 1791–1803 and the dissemination of the idea of this revolution throughout African political and intellectual circles in the 19th and 20th centuries. He has authored several publications, including “Amilcar Cabral and the PAIGC Exile in Guinea, 1959–1962: Women and the Salvation of the Nationalist Organization” in *African In Exile: Mobility, Law, and Identity from Atlantic Slave Trade to Counterterrorism*.

College of Media and Entertainment

Dr. Christine Eschenfelder began teaching at the MTSU School of Journalism and Strategic Media in Fall 2015. She brings to the classroom more than a dozen years of professional experience working in television news as a reporter, anchor, assignment manager, and producer. Eschenfelder has been honored with several industry awards, including the prestigious Edward R. Murrow Award. She earned her Ph.D. in Mass Communication from the University of Florida.

Eschenfelder is passionate about teaching the skills, theories, and ethics of the profession to young journalists. The courses she teaches at MTSU include Media Ethics, Electronic News Writing, Electronic News Reporting and Producing, and Broadcast Announcing and Performance. Eschenfelder is the recipient of the 2017 MTSU School of Journalism and Strategic Media Edward Kimbrell Teaching Excellence in Journalism faculty award and the 2018 Broadcast Education Association New Faculty Research Grant. Her research focuses on newsroom diversity, women in television news, work-life balance, and broadcast journalism education. Eschenfelder's work has been presented at academic conferences and published in the *Journal of Media Education*.

University College

Mr. Thomas Torku is a lecturer at Middle Tennessee State University, teaching mathematics courses in the University Studies Department. He completed his bachelor's degree in Mathematics with a Business minor at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, West Africa. Torku obtained his master's degree in Mathematical Sciences from East Tennessee State University and currently is a second-year doctoral candidate pursuing his Ph.D. in Computational Science at MTSU. He is passionate about student success and volunteered to tutor and help high schoolers with mathematics at Central Magnet School in Murfreesboro in Spring 2017. In Summer 2018, Torku helped with MTSU's Scholars Academy program for incoming freshmen.

University Honors College

Dr. Kristie Abston is an assistant professor in the Department of Management in the Jones College of Business. She earned a B.S. degree in Biology from East Tennessee State University, a M.S. in Human Resource Development from the University of Tennessee, and a Ph.D. in Business Administration also from UT. Prior to joining academia, Abston held human resource generalist and training/development positions, and she has consulted in banking, health care, hospitality, manufacturing, and nonprofit organizations. Abston teaches human resource management and general management courses. Her research interests include employee branding and patronage, human resource management in small

businesses, high-impact teaching practices, and turnover. Abston's work has appeared in such publications as the *Journal of Business Research*, *Journal of Management*, and *Performance Improvement Quarterly*. She currently serves as past-president for the Association for Business Simulation and Experiential Learning and as president for the Southeast Case Research Association.

James E. Walker Library

Ms. Suzanne Mangrum received her B.A. from Harding University and her M.L.I.S. from the University of Southern Mississippi. She has 12 years of experience at MTSU and previously worked as the acquisitions librarian at Christian Brothers University in Memphis. Mangrum is the head of the Acquisitions Unit at Walker Library and is serving as the interim chair for Collection Development and Management.

Faculty Senate

Dr. Pippa E. Holloway is a professor of History at MTSU and the 2018–19 president of the Faculty Senate. 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 joining MTSU in 1999, Holloway has taught graduate classes in 19th-century history, LGBT history, and historical research methods. She also teaches U.S. History II as part of the General Education program. Holloway 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 also is 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 was editor of *Other Souths: Diversity and Difference in the U.S. South, Reconstruction to Present* (University of Georgia Press, 2008). Holloway's 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.

Morning Ceremony

THE COLLEGE OF *Graduate Studies*

Doctor of Education

Emily Hausner Astor

M.A.T., National Louis University
B.A., Pomona College
Dissertation: "Teachers 'Talk Back': Exploring the Dynamics Between Practice and Value-Added Evaluation Policy"
Hooded by: Kevin Krahenbuhl

Melicent Lovray Homan

M.A., University of Cincinnati
B.S., SUNY Empire State College
Dissertation: "Engagement in Professional Practice: How Perceived Educator Engagement Affects Student Learning"
Hooded by: Kevin Krahenbuhl

Jonathan Jason Simmons

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "Music Specialist Attitudes Toward Music Integration of Core Curriculum Areas"
Hooded by: Kevin Krahenbuhl

Joseph Mitchell Tilley

M.P.A., University of Memphis
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "Educator Perceptions of Social and Emotional Learning Supports and Interventions"
Hooded by: Nancy Caukin

Doctor of Philosophy

Zachary Tyler Barnes

M.A., Ball State University
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "Cognitive Flexibility and Working Memory's Longitudinal Prediction of Reading Achievement"
Hooded by: Amy Elleman

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M.A., University of Tennessee
B.S., University of Tennessee
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M.S., University of Garyounis
B.S., University of Garyounis
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Hooded by: Amy Sayward

Jennifer Ann Kelton-Huff

M.S., Middle Tennessee State University
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "Examining Intention among Future Physicians to Practice in High-Need Health Profession Shortage Areas in Tennessee"
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B.A., Western Kentucky University
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Matthew Yu-Wei Wang

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Dissertation: "The Application of Genetic Algorithms For Density Functional Optimization and Development"
Hooded by: Jing Kong

Specialist in Education

Roseanna Michelle Commini

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

Master's Degrees

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B.B.A., Tennessee State University

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B.B.A., Austin Peay State University

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B.S., Tennessee Technological University

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B.S., University of Tennessee–Chattanooga

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B.S.W., University of Tennessee

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B.A., Sewanee—University of the South

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B.A., Ball State University

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B.S., Tennessee Technological University

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B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

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B.A., University of South Carolina

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Gabrielle Wassell Mummert
B.S., Cumberland University

Janet Hyunjeong Oh
B.S., University of Kentucky

Kyle Ortega
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Anna Brooks Partlow
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B.U.S., Middle Tennessee State University

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B.A., Eastern Illinois University

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B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

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B.S.Ed., University of Tennessee

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B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

John Franklin Sims-Jones
B.A., Vanderbilt University

Lindsey Smith
B.S., Tennessee Technological University

James S. Sparkman Jr.
B.A., Trevecca Nazarene University

Lauren Shelby Steele
B.S., Tennessee Technological University

Falon Christine Sullivan
B.B.A., Tennessee Technological University

Kasey Futrell Taylor
B.S., Mississippi State University

Robert Brock Marion Taylor III
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Sai S. Venkatraman
B.S.B.A., University of Tennessee

Samantha Kate Wacenske
B.S., Austin Peay State University

Meghan Christine Walker
B.S.Ed., University of Dayton

Holly M. West
B.A., Tennessee Technological University

Kaytlan Elizabeth Wilson
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Titus Robert Wright
B.A.E., Athens State University

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B.S., University of Tennessee—Chattanooga

Cynthia Joanne Duggan
B.S., University of Tennessee—Chattanooga

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Robin L. Winkowski
B.M., Middle Tennessee State University

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B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Wendy Mary Eddy
B.B.A., Eastern Michigan University

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B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

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B.S., Mississippi College

Kristen Rose Kleinfeld
B.A., University of New Orleans

Tonya C. Lewis
M.S., Augusta State University
B.S., Lander University

Lisa Michele Martin
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Isaac Adejo Onekutu
M.B.A., University of Calabar
B.A., University of Calabar

Blessing W. Palms
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Sheree A. Randle
B.A., Southern Illinois University

Jaimie Linette Riccitelli
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Jenny Katherine Ward Ritchey
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Ty J. Tabernik
Ph.D., Capella University
M.S., University of Tennessee
M.B.A., Trevecca Nazarene University
M.S., Purdue University
B.A., Trevecca Nazarene University

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Saidi Aremu Abdulramoni
B.T., Federal University of Technology, Minna

Eric Agyeman
B.S., University of Ghana

Whitney Kyle Alexander
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Mojeeb A. Alzahrani
B.S., King Abdulaziz Military Academy

Eric Ramido Asinas
B.S., Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Justin Ray Bailey
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Florence Trey Bautista
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Christopher Barry Bean
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Benjamin P. Belden
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Dakota W. Beverly
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

John Kevin Bibby
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Brandon M. Boshers
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Christopher Thomas Brooks
B.S., Auburn University

Blakley Marie Brunson Mathews
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Douglas E. Campbell
B.B.A., University of Memphis

David Corkern
B.S., Appalachian State University

Michael Ryan Dailey
B.S., Tennessee Technological University

Josh Troy Davenport
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

John Patrick Dennis III
B.S., University of South Carolina

Joshua R. Doolan
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Taylor Ellis Drury
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Roberto Facey
B.S., University of Tennessee

Connor J. Fite
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Olivia Nicole Fox
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Marselis Alonzo Francis
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Tandra Sharnell Gause
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Katrece Denee Holland
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Jezel Cipria Huston
B.A., Tennessee State University

Li Kang
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Rebecca Lynn Kelley
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Zachary Donald Kelley
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Kellie Lynn Kosar
B.S., University of Tennessee

Kerry Douglas Harris Lewis
B.S.Ed., University of Central Arkansas

Hongli Li
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Douglas Xavier Lipscomb
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Safiullah Lodhi
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Jonathan Stewart Lundberg
B.S., Eastern Kentucky University

Travis L. Lytle Jr.
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Namratha Nissi Madugula
B.T., Nagarjuna University

Elizabeth Anne Maples-Vaught
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Hugh Burrum Matlock
B.A., Dartmouth College

John Charles Maxwell
B.S., Indiana University–Bloomington
B.S., Indiana University Purdue University–Indianapolis

Cody L. Mullins
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Katherine D. Myers
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

The Cao Nguyen
B.A.D., National University–Ho Chi Minh City

Pooja Reddy Nomula
B.T., Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management

Shalane Nicole Overstake
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Ripole Po
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Willie Phanthkone Rajvong
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

George Allan Ramsey II
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Robert Riddle
B.S., University of Tennessee

William Daniel Rondeau
B.S.B.A., Nathaniel Hawthorne College

Hillary Kibiwott Rono
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Vishwajith Shivanandaih Matad
B.E., Visvesvaraya Technological University

John David Simpson
B.S., University of West Georgia

Srinivasa Srikar Singaraju
B.E., Osmania University

Shruti Singh
M.B.A., Ravi Shankar University
B.S., Ravi Shankar University

Michael Taylor Sturm
B.A., University of Tennessee

Lauren Marie Takacs
B.A., University of New Mexico

Pattie Ruth Taylor
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Joseph F. Trevathan
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Carolyn Beatrice Tumbleson
B.B.A., University of South Florida

Cheng-Hao Tung
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Talha Umar
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

Luis F. Varela
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Valentin Vinca
B.M.En., Gheorghe Asachi Technological University of Iasi

Vinay Kumar Vushagoni
B.T., Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University

John Brandon Ward
B.A., University of Tennessee–Martin

Austin Christopher Whitt
B.A., University of Tennessee

Shanika Tishana Willis
M.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University
B.S., Northern Caribbean University

Xi Yuan
B.A., Wuhan Donghu University

Hanyuan Zhu
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Kelley Michelle Buell
B.S., Lincoln Memorial University

Rachel Katherine Cole
B.S., University of Wisconsin
B.S.N., University of South Alabama

Tonya Carlette Eubanks
B.S.N., Cumberland University

Karen L. Ferris
B.S., Clemson University

Brittney Rae Foster
B.S.N., Union University
B.S., James Madison University

Rachel Lauren Henegar
B.S.N., University of Tennessee–Chattanooga

Courtney Elaine Hix
B.S.N., Tennessee State University

Cameron Hummer Hosenfeld
B.S.N., Union University
B.A., University of Tennessee

Chelsea Diane Jones
B.S.N., Mississippi University for Women

Kaitlyn Anne Kelly
B.S.N., Middle Tennessee State University

Ashley M. Lovell
B.S.N., Aquinas College

Katie Lynn Moulder
B.S.N., Cumberland University

Katherine Elizabeth Mullen
B.S.N., Middle Tennessee State University

Rachel Elizabeth Ortiz
B.A., University of Tennessee

Amy Rebecca Schumacher
B.S.N., Auburn University

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B.S.N., Middle Tennessee State University

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Darryl G. Randolph
Sabrina Dawn Range
Amelia A. Rapiër
Kandace Mae Reed
Michael Patrick Rhoten
Kaytlin E. Rich
Von Roberts Richcreek
Brian Patrick Richmond
Samuel Isaiah Roley
McKala Shea Rollins
Nicole Erika Rosado
Barbara Elizabeth Roubik
Bret Eliot Salomon

Tavonn Antonio Salter
Jolene Ray Sanchez
Candace Annette Sanders-Arguello
Taryn Scherrod
Jennifer Dawn Schultz
Aya Abdulrahim Shanoun
Michael Paul Shertzer
Matthew Todd Shorter
Bria Simmons
Susan Rains Sistrunk
Stephanie Jayne Slayman
David P. Sloan II
Patrick J. Smith
Rebecca Joyel-Taylor Smith
Shannon Maureen Spehr
Randi Lynn Stanfill
Shelby Nicole Jasmine Steger
Taneisha L. Stephens
Gabriel J. Stokes
Cecily Madora Sullins
Anna Louise Sullivan
Gabrielle Alyssia Sutton
Traci Noel Tangney
Christina Tarpey
Emily Rebekah Taylor
Malachi K. West Taylor
Cheryl J. Teague
Brett M. Thompson
Kayla E. Thompson
Destiny H. Todd
Tia Renee Tomlinson
Melissa Anne Traeger
Tracy Dean Turley
Darrin Eugene Turner Jr.
Hallie Victoria Varossa
Alexis Z. Wafford
Logan S. Walmer
Michael Wayne White
Glenn Edward Whitefield
Denesha Nicole Whitley
Debora Anne Wilbanks
Lucas C. Wilhoite
Bruce Mandel Williams
Micah T. Wilson
Kyle Nicolas Wilton
Shelby Lynn Wright
Brooke E. Yates
Jasmine L. Zinnah

Honor Graduates

CUM LAUDE (3.50–3.74 GPA)

COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Ahmed N. Abdelghani
Meshal Saleh Alhenaki
Tariq Aati Aljahdali
Yohana Negassi Asgedom
Beshoy S. Aziz
Kimsey Isles Bell
Jake M. Blair
Steven Alec Burris
Jacob Allen Cabat
Danny J. Collins Jr.
Richard Michael Demann
Chance L. Ferguson
Anthony Wayne Griggs
Gabrielle T. Hampton
Austin Wayne Hargrove
Tyler James Iossi
Neil David Lambert
Abigail Kathryn Lewis
Kristan Hope McCrillis
David B. Piper
Robert R. Pitts IV
Sean Richard Pulley
Frederick Alton Richards
Brandon Alan Roy
Taylor Michele Schiefer
James M. Scruggs
Austin Bailey Stockhecke
Clayton Bennett Thomas
Aeriell Alyse Tidd
Britney Nicole Turner
Abby R. Underwood
Nathan Anders Whitesel

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Bandar Hamad Alfandi
Dikaysia M. Buchanan
Kaila Ann Carter
Brittany Taylor Dean
Crystal Eaton
Sabrina Nicole Elliott
Abigail Allison Feyka
Mathilde Dylan French
Catherine Marie Ann Gascoigne
Keely St. Holmes Grimm
Jennifer Lee Holmes
Morgan Nicole Jackson

Juvenal Nibafasha Patience Kabura
Madizon Chantel Lawless
Maria L. Manuel
Trudy E. McCabe
Kristen E. McGraw
Shirley J. Merlo
Jennifer Nicole Miranda
Linda Thi Nguyen
Paul Garrett Ortiz
Ivor Martin Owen
Sarah Elizabeth Patrick
Hannah Krystina Ramirez
Cameron A. Rhea
Garrett McLeod Spurlin
Sierra Jordan Sroka
Steven Reid Stedry
Emily S. Turner
Micaela Faith Van Wave
Jennifer M. Walker
Jasmine White

JENNINGS A. JONES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Asmaa Mowafak Al Saadiy
Yassir Al Shaikhly
Mustafa Salem Alsalem
Ashley Nicole Bishop
John Logan Black
Justin Lee Black
John Robert Braly
Jeremy D. Cardel
Jeremiah Edward Daniels
Steven F. Everhart
Danielle Emma Gibbons
Ehab Said Hanna
Makayla Nicole Henley
Lyndsey Hoffart
Megan S. Hollingsworth
Luke T. Huddleston
Chris Elliot Johnson
Ryan Tyler Khan
Patrick Byrne Lissner
Aymie Elizabeth Lydick
Kyle Parker McClanahan
Brandon S. Milliken
Rebecca F. Moore
Maiko Morgan
Robert Cameron Oakley
Nereida Ortega-Navarro
Ronak Prakash Patel

Brandon Logan Pierce
Cody R. Robbins
Tucker MaKevin Robertson
Ayub Safi
Nathan R. Seider
Alex R. Sherrod
Rachael K. Sires
Taylor N. Spence
Megan E. Swartz
Jehvon Nathaniel Walker
Benjamin Ryan Womack
Justin Caleb Woodard

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Ricki Nicole Anderson
Josie Elizabeth Claud
Laken M. Finley
Rachel B. Graves
Mary Kristin Green
Autumn Mae Newsom
Jessica L. Tittle

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Tanya I. Anderson
Ian Alastair Cooper
Noelle Cherie Dederer
Austin Michael Dickey
Celine K. French
Heath Drew Garner
Madeleine L. Gebacz
Hayden Robert Green
Lillian Clark Haddock
Lucindi Laura Johnston
Yoshimi K. Kajisa
Caitlyn Lovell
Kaila Marie Megibben
James Hunter Mollenkopf
Jay Denton Morgan
Erin R. Nobbman
Sophia Padgett
Kelsey N. Painter
Tanner James Pancake
Esther Norma Parson
Audrey V. Phipps
Hailey L. Randolph
Kathryn E. Rosa
Farah El Shapini
Haley B. Stark
Nathaniel Braxton Stone

Risa Jane Witherow
Brady Kenton Woodward

COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT

Blaire E. Anderson
James Connor Back
Micah Ryan Cantrell
Ad'lynn Jean Carroll
Morgan Danielle Carter
Katherine Elizabeth Danielsen
Harrison William Drew
Dylan Jackson Estes
Kristen O. Gallant
Anna Tennessee Hobbs

Matthew A. Holley
Gabrielle Loreen Jackson
Jasemine D. Jackson
Julian Kenneth Jennison
Paul E. Kaminski Jr.
Ashley Elizabeth Kennedy
Amy Christine Leu
Glenn Colin McKay
Margaret Kelly McPheeters
Kinslee Alexandria Melhorn
Priyanka Divya Modi
Cassandra Marie Newman
Alexander Turner Parham
Yazmeen Celena Rigaud
Laura Beth Rogers

Caleb Loss Rose
Jacob Michael Scarborough
Caroline Morgan Steele
Andrew Michael Stephens
Rebecca E. Waters
Sandra K. Watson
Sara J. Weathers
Bria Nicole Williams
Imani Arlice Williams

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Michelle Lee Boring
Mallory Christine Burysek
Christopher Clay Maddox
Brendan Michael Murphy
Michael Patrick Rhoten

MAGNA CUM LAUDE (3.75–3.89 GPA)

COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Jesse Roger Armstrong
Kevin Patrick Cavey
Jackson Lane Cole
Erika Y. Dean
Ryan James Florida
Max Dillon Gaines
Gigi Talaat Ghobrial
Edward Joseph Graves
Jeffrey Trent Hanton
Veronica Maria Hernandez Kendall
Madison Taylor Karrh
Gabriella Anne Lindsoug
Michelle Marie Phillips
Alexander Nicholas Reid
Abigail Ruth Rigsby
Lucas Scott Rogers
Michael Wesley Schmidt
Adriana Nicole Swatzell
Abbigail Ruth Thomson
Kevin Tisano
Sydney Danielle Vaught
Rayhope Brillantes Vennix
Samuel Wade West
Zefan Wu
Jiaxin Yang

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

William Keith Badger
Tangeria Shontell Barreto
Maeva Kelly Bleistein
Nicole Marie Elmore
Brittnie Danielle Hall
Tyler Donovan Hanson
Emily Marie Hardin
Josh A. King
Christine Kiser
Breanna R. Laux
Chandler W. Livingston
Bailee J. Murray
Ashley Taylor Randolph
Marlee E. Stephens
Katherine G. Tuverson
Zane G. Vonderwell
Kaitlyn Nicole Williford

JENNINGS A. JONES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Jessica L. Alberson
Robert H. Canterbury
Bradley Patrick Cronkhite
Allison Lindsey Gordon
Johnny C. Griggs
Grant W. Kairdolf
Elizabeth G. Kinser
Mitchell Fiske Lawrence
Hassan Mohamed Moalim
Selvia Adel Nakhla
Caroline J. Pankey
Dennielle Pineda
Elissa Tarabay
Michelle Cheong Whitson

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Leslie A. Berry
Jasmine Nicole Bowles
Cameron Marie Cox
Sarah Nicole Cushey
Jessica Danielle Fann
Amanda Gayle Talaga
Emma Lyn Wescott

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Brianna Elana Brescka
Madison Leanne Butler
Maia Lauren Council
Carlton Grace Gay
Alexis J. Glaser
Kanisa Tulia Hutchins
Tamara Leonna Milford
Talea Rahman
August Carter Saucier
Nicholas Schelah
Meghan J. Smith
Payton Jean Theriot
Mary Kailynn Vaughan
Jacob G. Walker

COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT

Wendy L. Anderson
Kevin Wayne Brewer
Courtney Marie Fleming
Adam Patrick Harvey
Sara Wylie Helton
Tyler Grey Hilliard
Lukas Brian Klingensmith
Joshua Jonathan Leedham
D. Victoria Leuang
John Caleb Revill
Joshua L. Selby
Jessica S. Srisourath
Melissa C. Summitt

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Katelyn Abernathy
Bernadette Mary Bartelt
Howard Leon Boyd
Bridgett L. Cottrill
Katelyn Mae Hendrickson
Kaytlin E. Rich
Susan Rains Sistrunk
Stephanie Jayne Slayman
Christina Tarpey
Tracy Dean Turley
Shelby Lynn Wright

SUMMA CUM LAUDE (3.90–4.00 GPA)

COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Abdullah Hussain Alshawaf
Harry Emanuel Arcamuzi II
Rimonda Khairy Aziz
Jessica Raeann Cripps
Ashley Brooke Gereben
Katelynn Danielle Horner
Marilyn A. Kelley
Ian A. Law
Jianming Li
Katherine Elizabeth Lovett
Abdulraouf Fareed A. Qumosani
Steven L. Richardson
Stephanie Lynn Sandusky
Martina Fayez Shenoda
Di Sun
Henry Tolbert Walker II
Rui Wang
Wanqi Wang

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Latika Rochelle Alexander
Nathaniel C. Allison
Kathryn Baumann
Kriston Troy Brannan
Rachel E. Edwards
Michayla Dawn Firlotte
Christina Ann Folger
Jeremy G. Fugerer
Hannah Michele Gay
Alexandra Gonzalez
Keegan Michael Hildner
Margaret Ann Morrison
Megan Brittany Norris
Myra Ann Pennington
Dawn Marie Prince
Lekera Deshay Taylor
Kelsie B. Wessels
Randy G. Willis
Ashlyn Lane Woods
Amy N. Young

JENNINGS A. JONES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Joshua Saige Beaty
Katelynn Danielle Horner
Anna Mae Hunigan
Christopher D. Walsh
Emily C. Young

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Kassandra King
Carrie Denise Neill
Elleana Jole Sissom

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Ashley Lauren Baillard
Whitney Renee Burford
Giuliana Andrea Chavez Rojas
Rebecca Ellen Clippard
Treasure F. Corley
Steven M. Glass
Emily C. Husbands
McKenna Siobhan Klein
Michael Eugene Klein
Monica Leanne Mckinny
Wesley Peter Merrill
James Mark Morton
Derek Thomas Peck
Jarod N. Sadler
Alayne Suzanne Saylor
Joshua Eric Simon
Sarah Elizabeth Wilfong Joblin

COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT

Briyana Damali Dyer
Billy Earl Farmer II
Lucas Paul Kautzky
Julianne France Marie Martin
Laura Hannah Morgan
Parker R. Morley
Abigail Joy Potter
Michael Adam Suhr
Christopher Joseph Tritt

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Brianna Catheryne Appert
Pamela Ann Browning
Vanessa Rebecca Cornelius
Alia K. Currey
Kizzy Hayes
Sarah Lynn Inch
Amy Jackson
Henry E. Jenkins
Sara Nicole Peeler

University Honors College

UNIVERSITY HONORS WITH DISTINCTION

Rebecca Ellen Clippard
Jackson Lane Cole
Maia Lauren Council

Katelynn Danielle Horner
Marilyn A. Kelley
Margaret Kelly McPheeters

Michael Wesley Schmidt

ROTC COMMISSIONEES

Joseph Chandler Decker
Cody B. Magee



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Alma Mater

words and music by Charles Douglas Williams (B.M. '54)

We sing thy prai - ses faith - ful guide of youth;

The first system of musical notation for the song 'Alma Mater'. It consists of a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: 'We sing thy prai - ses faith - ful guide of youth;'. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment.

Through all the a - ges af - firmed and strong in truth.

The second system of musical notation. The lyrics are: 'Through all the a - ges af - firmed and strong in truth.'. The musical structure continues with the same grand staff and accompaniment style as the first system.

Al - ma Ma - ter Mid - dle Ten - nes - see

The third system of musical notation. The lyrics are: 'Al - ma Ma - ter Mid - dle Ten - nes - see'. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the bass clef accompaniment remains consistent.

We proud - ly of - fer our hearts in loy - al - ty.

The fourth and final system of musical notation. The lyrics are: 'We proud - ly of - fer our hearts in loy - al - ty.'. The piece concludes with a final chord in the bass clef.

I AM *true*
BLUE™