

**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY.

Commencement

AUGUST 10, 2019



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 ear-ly 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?

Summer Commencement

107th ACADEMIC YEAR

Saturday, August 10, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Murphy Athletic Center, Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



Middle Tennessee State University has graduated 145,219 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, 1,897 Educational Specialist degrees, 329 Doctor of Philosophy degrees, and 23 Doctor of Education degrees awarded.



Program

Saturday, August 10, 2019

10:00 a.m.

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

Presentation of Colors.....ROTC Cadet Color Guard

National Anthem

Moment of Silence

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

Commencement Address.....Dr. Pippa E. Holloway
2018–19 Faculty Senate President

Presentation of Candidates for DegreesDr. Mark Byrnes
University Provost

Conferring of Degrees.....Dr. Sidney A. McPhee
listing begins on page 12

Alma Mater.....Nathaniel C. Paul
2019 Graduate, School of Music

Retirement of Colors.....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.*

Organist.....Mr. Windell Little

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

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

Assisting with Diplomas.....Ms. Sherry Preston
Legal Assistant, Office of the University Counsel

Commencement Marshal

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

Heralds

Ms. Yvonne Elliott, Ms. Anne Ford, Dr. Tyler Henson,
Ms. Allison McGoffin, and Ms. Pat Thomas

Faculty Marshals

Ms. Darlene Fults and Ms. Tara Hollins

Interpreter

Ms. Jaclyn 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.

Platform Party

Saturday, August 10, 2019

Dr. Sidney A. McPhee
President

Dr. Mark Byrnes
University Provost

Dr. Pippa E. Holloway
2018–19 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

Dr. Zeny Panol
*Interim Dean, College of Media
and Entertainment*

Dr. John R. Vile
Dean, University Honors College

Dr. Jason Martin
Interim Dean, James E. Walker Library

Board of Trustees

Mr. J.B. Baker
Owner and CEO, Sprint Logistics

Mr. Thomas R. "Tom" Boyd
*Investment Advisor Representative,
Decker Wealth Management LLC*

Mr. Pete DeLay
Principal, Lynwood Ventures LLC

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

Mr. Joey A. Jacobs
Past Chair and CEO, Acadia Healthcare

Mr. Stephen B. Smith, Chair
*Chair of the Board, Haury and
Smith Contractors*

Ms. Pamela J. Wright
Founder, Wright Travel

Dr. Mary B. Martin
*Faculty Trustee
Professor, Mathematical Sciences*

Ms. Samantha Eisenberg
*Student Trustee
Master's Candidate, Clinical Psychology*

Ms. Christine Karbowskiak
*Chief Administrative Officer, Chief Risk
Officer, Executive Vice President, and
Vice Chair, Board of Directors of
Bridgestone Americas Inc.*

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.

Shawn Johnson ('93)
President, MTSU National Alumni Association Board, 2019–20

Commencement Speaker

Saturday, August 10, 2019

Dr. Pippa E. Holloway
2018–19 Faculty Senate President
Professor, Department of History



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. She also teaches U.S. History II as part of the General Education program. Holloway was president of the MTSU Faculty Senate for the 2018–19 academic year and is currently president of the Tennessee University Faculty Senates, which represents faculty senates across the state. She also serves on the Committee on College and University Governance for 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 by 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. Her work on the history of felon disfranchisement has been cited in numerous court cases and legal briefs. Holloway’s most recent article, “Testimonial Incapacity and Criminal Defendants in the South,” appeared in *Crime and Punishment in the Jim Crow South*, published by the University of Illinois Press (2019). She is currently writing a book on the history of barriers to witness testimony in American courts.

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 BEARER

Dr. Deanna Little has served since 2001 as professor in the School of Music, where she teaches applied flute, flute pedagogy, and chamber music. She received the MTSU Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award in 2017–18. She holds D.M. and M.M. degrees from Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music and a B.M.E. from the University of Northern Iowa.

Little has performed as a soloist, master class clinician, chamber musician, and flute ensemble director throughout the United States, Canada, Central and South America, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, and the Netherlands. She is a member of the Stones River Chamber Players, performs with the Nashville Opera and Murfreesboro Symphony, and is a frequent substitute with the Nashville Symphony. Currently, she holds the position of Collegiate Flute Choir competition coordinator for the National Flute Association (NFA). Little is a past president of the Mid-South Flute Society and served as the local arrangements coordinator for the NFA Convention in Nashville in 2004.

Little has been successful in several competitions, such as the National Flute Association's Young Artist, Myrna Brown, New York Concert Artists Guild, and the Des Moines Symphony Young Artist events. Her first CD, *Diamonds Uncovered*, was released in 2009, and her new CD, *Inspirations from Tennessee: The Dolly Project*, was released in July. During the summer, Little teaches on the faculty of the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts. She was a student of Angeleita Floyd, Kate Lukas, Peter Lloyd, Trevor Wye, and Jim Scott. Little is an Altus Artist.

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 doctoral 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. 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 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.

MT Engage Scholars are distinguished by royal blue, white, and gold cords. These students completed MT Engage-designated courses that promote active learning and integrated their learning by reflecting on connections across disciplines and between their academic and cocurricular experiences. MT Engage students showcased their integrative learning in an

ePortfolio that documented their community and campus involvement as well as the academic knowledge and skills they gained during their time at MTSU.

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, with 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 Marketing Solutions 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. Medha Sarkar earned her B.S. degree in Computer Science and Master of Computer Applications (M.C.A) from Sardar Patel University, India, and her M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer Science from Queen's University, Canada. At MTSU, Sarkar teaches software engineering. Her research is primarily focused on the applications of software engineering for designing and developing human-computer interaction (HCI) systems. She collaborates with the School of Engineering at Vanderbilt University and the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Human Development on various projects concerning HCI systems for clinical applications. Some of these projects are

concerned with the design and development of novel robotic and virtual reality systems for human-robot and human-computer interactions. The application areas for this research are in autism, schizophrenia, and dementia interventions, although the overall goal is to improve our understanding in broad areas of human-robot and human-computer interactions.

College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Dr. Vaughn W. Barry is an associate professor in Exercise Science. He received his Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina in 2011, studying the health aspect of physical activity. In 2007, he earned his master's from Ball State University, focusing on Clinical Exercise Physiology. He earned his bachelor's degree in Exercise Science in 2005 from Brigham Young University. Barry's research focuses on maintaining and improving overall health by assessing and improving sedentary behaviors and physical activity levels in clinical, healthy adult, and older adult populations. Currently, he is working with local aging facilities to help maintain or improve functional ability and physical activity in older adults.

Jennings A. Jones College of Business

Dr. Greg Nagel is the recipient of the 2018 Bridgestone Americas Distinguished Lecturer Award and the Bob Womack Distinguished Faculty Award. He strives to create a classroom where every student enjoys learning

about the real world. His research has been cited by the Council of Institutional Investors, the Federal Reserve, *Harvard Business Review*, and the *New York Times*. Previously, Nagel led global teams at General Motors and was recognized for fundamental contributions to engineering by global engineering societies. His Ph.D. in Finance is from Florida State University. He teaches M.B.A. and undergraduate Finance classes. Nagel's research interests include CEO pay, firm performance, and corporate governance. Previously, he worked as a development engineer at General Motors.

College of Education

Dr. Frank 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. He earned his undergraduate (Honors B.A., History, and minor in Political Science) and graduate (master's and Ph.D. in Library and Information Science) degrees from the University of Western Ontario (UWO), 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 Information and Media Studies. He has published and presented his research in national and international scholarly journals and at conferences. His research foci include community informatics, information organization, information literacy, and informetrics (the study of the quantitative phenomena of information). Lambert teaches graduate courses in research methods and statistics at the master's and doctoral levels and information organization, community informatics, and information technology at the master's level. In addition to his service to MTSU through his work on various department and University committees, he serves his community as a trustee on the boards of both the Rutherford County Library Systems and the Stones River Regional Library. He also presents workshops on working with resource description and access for Tennessee cataloging librarians and library technicians across the state.

Faculty Senate

Dr. Justin Gardner, who holds a Ph.D. in Agriculture and Consumer Economics from the University of Illinois, started his career at MTSU in 2007. In addition to serving as Faculty Senate president, he is currently an associate professor of Agribusiness in the School of Agriculture, where he teaches a wide variety of classes covering topics such as agricultural finance, policy, international trade, economics, commodity futures markets, cooperatives, agribusiness management, and value-added agriculture. His research interests include diverse

topics such as the economic and environmental impacts of genetically modified crops, and student success in online classes. Gardner serves as an ex-officio board member of the Tennessee Council of Cooperatives.

College of Graduate Studies

Dr. V. Nikki Jones is an assistant professor of Social Work and the B.S.W. program coordinator. 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 Doctor of 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. Jones, a licensed clinical social worker and licensed couple and family therapist, worked in private practice in Louisville, Kentucky. Areas of specialization include social (minority) stress, sleep disparity, and attachment and codependency. She has published and presented on sleep disparity, LGBT youth, intersectionality and microaggressions, and minority stress. Jones's research interests are social determinants of sleep disparity among non-majority groups and culturally aware practice.

College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Mary Beth Asbury is an associate professor of Communication Studies. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia (B.A., Speech Communication and Political Science), University of Tennessee (M.S., Communication Studies), and University of Kansas (Ph.D., Communication Studies). Her research focuses on communication processes in health and interpersonal communication, specifically in the areas of weight stigma and body image. Asbury has published research regarding family communication patterns and the development of weight stigma, as well as research regarding how and when weight stigma occurs in the context of dating. Currently, she is working on studies that involve 3-dimensional body scanning and its effects on communication. At MTSU, Asbury teaches classes in interpersonal communication, health communication, and organizational communication.

College of Media and Entertainment

Dr. Joseph Akins is a professor in the Department of Recording Industry and a member of the graduate faculty. He primarily teaches courses in the audio production area on topics such as MIDI, sound synthesis, sequencing, film scoring, and DIY promotion. Akins specializes in using analog synthesizers, piano, and virtual instruments to compose and record music. He performs and promotes his music and has written textbooks on MIDI production and synthesizer programming. He also has established partnerships with

synth manufacturers such as Moog Music and Dave Smith Instruments. Akins has been an active composer and keyboard player most of his life. Since 1997, he has released eight albums of original instrumental music. These albums have received favorable reviews, charting, awards and extensive airplay on Pandora (reaching 100 million streams), Music Choice, and Sirius/XM. Akins has performed with numerous bands and artists, including John Conlee, Lamont Dozier, David Lanz, Liz Story, and Seay. Akins earned two Bachelor of Music degrees from the University of Tennessee (Electronic Music Composition and Studio/Jazz Music), an M.A. in Music from Radford University, an Ed.S. in Curriculum and Instruction from Middle Tennessee State University, and an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Tennessee State University. As a faculty member at MTSU, he has been awarded an Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology Award and a Distinguished Creative Activity Award.

University Honors College

Dr. Robert B. Layne II is an assistant professor in the Department of Communication Studies. Having earned his Ph.D. in Communication from the University of Utah, Layne researches intersections of health and organizational communication impacting marginalized populations. Most recently, he has been studying the organizational and gender dynamics of the new female troops formed by Scouts BSA (formerly Boy Scouts of America). Layne has frequently been invited to give guest lectures related to patient-provider communication, genetic testing communication, methods in organizational analysis, and forensics theory. In May, he was awarded Top Paper in Organizational Communication from the International Communication Association for "Becoming an Organization: Ambiguity as a Catalyst to Communicative Constitution Flow Patterns." The paper examines a National Institutes of Health research organization and contributes to a discussion concerning the extension of the four-flows model of organizing. Since 2018, Layne has been a faculty member for the University Honors College, teaching fundamentals of communication to Honors students.

University College

Dr. Christina M. Cobb, an assistant professor of Mathematics in the University Studies Department, is starting her ninth year of service at MTSU. Previously, she taught middle school mathematics in Metro Nashville Public Schools for three years. Cobb works to give all of her students the tools needed to be successful in her mathematics courses. Cobb has made several state and national presentations about innovative ways to teach mathematics effectively. Her enthusiasm and passion for the students she serves motivated her to seek funding to provide a Math Fun Night, where students participated in math games outside of the classroom in a relaxed environment. Recognized for her ability to involve students in the classroom, she was invited to participate in the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' High Impact Practices Grant. Recently, Cobb was awarded a Student Engagement, Retention, and Success Grant, for which she will serve as co-principal investigator. Her contributions to the profession include serving as co-chair of the Mathematics Network for the National Organization for Student Success.

James E. Walker Library

Mr. Robert Wilson is an assistant professor and a first-generation college graduate and MTSU alumnus ('08, '11). He received his Library and Information Science terminal degree from Drexel University in 2015. Wilson joined the faculty of James E Walker Library's Collection Development and Management Department in August 2018. Prior to coming to MTSU, he was associate librarian and head of Emerging Technologies and Systems at Bridgewater State University's Maxwell Library in Massachusetts, as well as senior implementation program manager at OCLC, a global library software and research cooperative based in Dublin, Ohio. Wilson's research interest and past work concern electronic resource access, discovery, and ease of use; emerging metadata; digital library technologies; open source library systems; data analytics and visualization for collection assessment, outreach, and student success; and infrastructure as a service in libraries.

Saturday, August 10, 2019

THE COLLEGE OF *Graduate Studies*
Doctor of Education

Michael Maximilian Ford

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
B.A., Middle Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "Principal Impact on PLC as a 21st-Century School District Initiative"
Hooded by: Kevin Krahenbuhl and Christopher Marczak

Beverly Jane Miller

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
B.S., Belmont University
Dissertation: "The Impact of Principal Leadership on Student Learning in 1:1 Environments"
Hooded by: Kevin Krahenbuhl

Laurie Ann Offutt

Ed.S., Middle Tennessee State University
M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
B.A., Western Kentucky University
Dissertation: "The Utilization of Instructional Coaches on the Impact of Student Achievement and Teacher Instructional Practices in Reading and Math in Grades Three through Eight"
Hooded by: Donald Snead

Doctor of Philosophy

Zahya Fawzi Ahmed

M.A., University of Benghazi
B.A., University of Benghazi
Dissertation: "Impact of Gender and Linguistic Background on English Language Art Test: Differential Item Functioning"
Hooded by: Jwa Kim

Huda Khalid Al-Rammah

M.S., Middle Tennessee State University
B.A., King Faisal University
Dissertation: "Workflow Scheduling and Optimization for Big Data Sciences in Distributed Network Environments"
Hooded by: Yi Gu

Majed Alenezi

M.A., University of Sheffield
B.A., King Saud University
Dissertation: "Shifting Paradigms of Postcolonial Theory: Internal Concerns of Post-000 Anglophone Arab Fiction"
Hooded by: Laura White

Ali Reda Eid Ali

M.S., Benha University
B.S., Benha University
Dissertation: "Genome-Wide Analysis of Genes Affecting Muscle Growth, Fillet Quality, and Disease Resistance In Rainbow Trout"
Hooded by: Mohamed Salem

Penny Alison Carroll

B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "A Science Faculty Motivation Analysis to Adopt Evidence-Based Teaching"
Hooded by: Grant Gardner

Seokhee Cho

M.Ed., Middle Tennessee State University
M.A., Seoul National University
B.A., Duksung Women's University
Dissertation: "Carving Out a Place in Children's Literature: American Authors of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Descent"
Hooded by: Martha Hixon

Victoria Marie Gay

M.A., Middle Tennessee State University
B.A., Middle Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "Examining the Effectiveness of a Sentence-Combining Intervention on the Writing Quality of College Freshmen"
Hooded by: Eric L. Oslund

Rajarshi Ghosh

M.S., University of West Florida
B.T., West Bengal University of Technology
Dissertation: "Plant Polysaccharides as Potential Bioactive Therapeutics: Novel Approaches Towards Production, Structural Characterization, Immunomodulation and Quality Control"
Hooded by: Anthony Farone

Kathryn Marie McClurkin

M.A., Youngstown State University
B.A., Youngstown State University
Dissertation: "The Troubles and Beyond: Expanding the Narrative of Northern Ireland's Recent Past through Collecting, Interpretation, and Programming"
Hooded by: Mark Doyle

Karen Melissa McMahan

M.Ed., Mississippi College
B.S., Liberty University
Dissertation: "Measurement Validation and Exploratory Research: Measuring Teachers' Code Knowledge and Its Association with Dyslexia Therapy Clinical Hours and Confidence to Teach Literacy"
Hooded by: Jwa Kim

Kelton David Mehls

M.S., East Stroudsburg University
B.S., Robert Morris University
Dissertation: "Investigations of Optimal Loading during Resistance Training"
Hooded by: John Coons

Arpan Mukherjee Das

B.S., University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
Dissertation: "Three Essays on Immigration Policy and Labor Markets in the U.S."
Hooded by: Stuart J. Fowler

Estrella Ravaoarivolazafy Ndrrianasy

M.S., Middle Tennessee State University
M.A., Middle Tennessee State University
B.B.A., Lipscomb University
Dissertation: "Essays on the Opioid Crisis: Naloxone Access Laws, Transition to Heroin, and Rural-Urban Disparities"
Hooded by: Charles L. Baum II

Matthew Loyd Spencer

M.A., Eastern Kentucky University
B.A., University of Kentucky
Dissertation: "Without Borders: The Postnational Imagination in Contemporary Anglophone Literature and Culture"
Hooded by: Laura White

Sarah Hogstrom Standridge

M.S., Middle Tennessee State University
B.S., East Tennessee State University
Dissertation: "Widowhood and Leisure: The Role of Leisure in Personal Coping Strategies"
Hooded by: Rudy Dunlap

Olivia Lane Tillner

M.A., Middle Tennessee State University
B.A., Millsaps College
Dissertation: "Rinking Remixed: The Cultural Creation, Typology, and Preservation of Historic Roller Skating Rinks"
Hooded by: Carroll Van West

Lucy Anna Watson

M.Ed., Vanderbilt University
B.S., Belmont University
Dissertation: "Prospective Teachers' Conceptions about the Nature of Mathematics: An Explanatory Phenomenological Study"
Hooded by: Jeremy Strayer

Specialist in Education

Elliott Jacob Stocki

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

Tamara Alina Tucker

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

Master's Degrees

MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY

Rachel Elaine Eddings

B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Aaron Travis Headen

B.S., Appalachian State University

Blake Andrew Hise

B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Andrew Thornton Hughes

B.B.A., Belmont University

Ashley Anne Lesogor

B.B.A., Austin Peay State University

Macey E. Mckenzie

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

David Charles Stanek

B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

B.S., Wayland Baptist University

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B.S., Western Kentucky University

MASTER OF ARTS

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B.M., Belmont University

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B.S., University of Tennessee

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B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

Payton Tyler Langlois

B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University

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Lili Sun
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M.A., Nanjing Agricultural University
B.S., Shandong Agricultural University

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

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Shangshang Yang
B.A.D., Guangxi University

Xiangyun Yuan
B.A.D., Guangxi University

Xiaohua Zhang
B.A.D., Guangxi University

Xinyue Zhang
B.A.D., Guangxi University

Yizhen Zhang
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University

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B.S.N., Lipscomb University

Staci Lynne Garner

B.S.N., Middle Tennessee State University

Caroline Hartley

B.S., Franciscan University of Steubenville

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B.S.N., Middle Tennessee State University

Allison Renee Jenney

B.S.N., Indiana Wesleyan University
B.S., Michigan State University

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B.S.N., Western Kentucky University

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B.S.N., Murray State University

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M.S., Cumberland University
B.S., Tennessee State University

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B.A., Otterbein University

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B.S.W., Middle Tennessee State University

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B.S., University of Tennessee–Martin

Kaytlin Noel Killion

B.S.W., Trevecca Nazarene University

Stefanie Louise Roberts

B.A., University of North Alabama

Christal Keilana Wilson

B.S.W., Middle Tennessee State University

Ceremony

Saturday, August 10, 2019

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Abbas Al Zaindeen
Ahmed Muhawish Alanazi
Sohib M. Alateeq
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Abdulah AlFarhan
Reham Mohammed A. Aljawi
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Tetesia Lester
Jacob Lubbers
MacKenzie M. Mailander
Victoria Adell Manning
Shaina Renee Massey
Alison Christina Mathers
Kayla M. Maynard
Jalen Rose McCain
Mira V. McClanahan
Justin T. Mckinion
Lisa Messenger
Ashton Tiffany Milfort
David Logan Minor
Sara Marie Moncayo

Jackson Taylor Moore
La Tisha Marie Moore
Hailey Niccole Moreland
Nicole Moss
Caleb Joseph Muncie
Landon James Nichols
Sienna Marie Nielsen
Cheiyanne Rose Norton
Brandi Therese Odle
Kaitlynn Mackenzie Parnell
Charity N. Paul
Bethany Alisha Pavlisko
Ashley Howell Pearson
Nycole Joi Pearson
Tiphani A. Pitts
Deja S. Pope
Angie Simmons Powell
William Bryan Pursell
Nicole-Lynn I. Reil
Kristen P. Reisser
Crystal L. Richeson
Joshua Schmidt
Ashton Marie Slater
Jerod Louis Smith
Jonathan Todd Sparks
Rhonda Talbert
Donatienne Anne Tusseau-Ninot
Brooke Lashae Venkatraman
Kimberly Ashton Vernon
Nancy Arlene Waynick
Mary Rachel Wickman
Conner Wyatt Williams
Sydney Dawn Williams
Tamera M. Wright
Vanessa L. Yarbrough
Richard Brett Young

Honor Graduates

CUM LAUDE (3.50–3.74 GPA)

COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Reham Mohammed A. Aljawi
Maria A. Fontenot
Brian Edward Larsen
Olivia Marie Marlowe
Case Edward Parra
Jonathan Deeon Peay
Jake Ryan Piazza
William Marcus Roberts
Donald Thompson Thrower
Andrew Charles Todd
Julian S. Vilella
Sandy Yossef

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Jenifer L. Branham
Jasmine D. Carney
Mykiah Kari Clark
Terecita Arelly Cruz
Rachel Anne Nicole Dodrill
Lily Katherine Emerson
Ellen E. Engle
Fiji A. Frantzen
Kaitlyn Pearl Hardy
Brooke Taylor Haskins
Gabrielle Lynn Hatch
Akira Celeste Jones
Kelsey Lynn Martin
Haley Brook McCanless

Jeremy Logan Meeks
Jenna Ashlen Mynatt
Paige Nicole Pritchard
Felicia J. Pursley
Madilyn Roberts
Dana Keiko Scherr
Emily Ann Thompson
Marialuisa Zirilli

JENNINGS A. JONES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Saleh Mohammed M. Almutlaq
Kevin Larry Benderman Jr.
Alana M. Condon
Christy H. Fell
Megan Lynn Harris
Alan Joseph Kidd
Pavankumar S. Patel
Amanda Victoria Phillips
Bristol David Queen
Amy Lynne VanOrden
Justin Kyle Yocom
Nicholas Zini

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Jake Anthony Bruce
Shania Dyana DelCampo
Noah D. Fryman
Lauren N. Hamblin
Alexandra Renie Hamrick
Brooke Taylor Haskins

Ashley L. McMurry
Helin Fares Nagib
Nathaniel Chase Paul
Darrisha Ilena Triplett
Rachel J. Williamson

COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT

Isaac Sean Arthur
Charles W. Bartley III
Chad E. Carter
Austin A. Derryberry
Charles Johnson
Dakota Kelley Lavallee
Alexandria Frances Moncelli
Mikayla Brooke Pearlman
Jonathan Henry Sasser
Austin Neil Sawyer
James Levi Underwood

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Elizabeth Jane Alcala
Amber Raine Carter
Dawn N. Elza
Tyler Simone Evans
Melanie Chambers Fields
Shaina Renee Massey
Alison Christina Mathers
Rhonda Talbert

MAGNA CUM LAUDE (3.75–3.89 GPA)

COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Graydon Anthony Akawong
Michael Aaron Carlson
Daniel Garrett
William Winstead Lee III
Vincent Joseph LoTempio
Jacob Howard Robinson
Brett Joseph Turner

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Sarait Alejandra Balbuena
Jenny Lynn Franklin
Melina Gutierrez Trujillo
Bailey B. Hunt
Julia K. Kipker
Rebecca Morgan Luther

Kennedy M. Morgan
Savannah Kaye Oneal
Jacob McKinney Smith
Jennifer Lynn Smith
Cory Jacob Thacker
Diamond Showerlyn Zoe

JENNINGS A. JONES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Sarah Elizabeth Benderman
Shelby L. Follis
Jacob Graham Jones
Herschel Aubry Paulk

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Emma Rose Cryar
Brittany R. Hunter

Margaret Fincannon Plunkett
Olivia Diane Pugh

COLLEGE OF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT

Christina Skye Higgins
Anna Elizabeth Waggoner
Lindsay N. Wilson

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Brian Hurst
Lisa Messenger
Brandi Therese Odle
Nycole Joi Pearson
Brooke Lashae Venkatraman

SUMMA CUM LAUDE (3.90–4.00 GPA)

COLLEGE OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Garrett Thomas McHaney
Bradley Jacob Strickland
Thuylinh Thi Tran
Clinton R. Warren

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Mariah D. Biggs
Mckenzie Suzanne Buchman
Abigail Elizabeth Burton
Madison C. Dubbert
Zachary Lawrence Hutchinson
Kylie N. Jenkins
Elizabeth Catherine Lasser
Aryn Julia Mullins
Nathan Shepherd Pirtle
Emily Marie Townsend Hall
Stacey Yabko Misra

JENNINGS A. JONES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Cody Joe Bottoms
Craig Michael Cartwright
Jonathan David Chandler
Kateryna Radostieva Davis
Lily Renae Fischer
Charles Bundy Grantham III

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Rachael Ann Everett
Hannah N. Giles
Lauren A. Hennessee
Bailey Elaine Hilliard
Grace Elaine Hollowell
Holly Michelle Pearson
Richard G. Rojas

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Cymbre Gifford
Neely S. Haskin
Michael Paul Johnson
Dallas G. Jones
Cody Blaine Kessler
Bethany April Kitch
Marden DeYo Leonard III
Mira V. McClanahan
Bethany Alisha Pavlisko
Ashley Howell Pearson
Angie Simmons Powell
Richard Brett Young

University Honors College

UNIVERSITY HONORS WITH DISTINCTION

Hannah N. Giles
Clinton R. Warren

ROTC Commissionees

Kaitlyn M. Qualls
Bryce James Teague



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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;'.

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.'

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'.

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

The fourth system of musical notation. The lyrics are: 'We proud - ly of - fer our hearts in loy - al - ty.'

I AM *true*
BLUE™