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West Virginia State University

Hazo William Carter, Jr.

President



**West Virginia State Community
and Technical College**

Joseph L. Badgley

President

“Making Higher Education A Part of Your Future”

December
Commencement

Sunday, December the Twenty-First
Two Thousand and Eight
Two O’Clock in the Afternoon

Charleston Civic Center
Charleston, West Virginia

What is West Virginia State College

What is West Virginia State College? It is all of us who believe in it – who absent or present, work in it and wish it well. Its constituency is the living and dead, and from them the college enjoys an unrestrained loyalty and willing service. It is an exponent of trust which sweeps aside the petty jealousies of men and all propagandic proposals which would minimize or depreciate personality. It is an institution containing faults and defects which challenge the constructive efforts of students, teachers, officers, and graduates. It is incomplete and desires to remain so, to be in an advantageous position for changing life situations.

What is West Virginia State College? It is spirit; it cannot be touched by hand; it is based upon communions between the living and those who though dead yet live in an immortality made practical through enlistment in the college program, which of necessity requires eternity for completion. **What is the college?** You and those graduates ahead of you are the college.

John W. Davis
Fifth President, WVSC—1932

Historical Sketch of West Virginia State University

The second Morrill Act of 1890 was intended to make training in agriculture and mechanical arts available to black citizens. Like other states that maintained segregated educational systems, West Virginia responded on March 17, 1891 by enacting legislation to create a special land-grant institution for blacks. To this end, federal funds provided \$3,000 for faculty salaries, and the West Virginia Legislature appropriated \$10,000 to purchase a farm and build a school building upon it. The institution was founded as the West Virginia Colored Institute. In 1915, the name was changed to the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, and changed again to West Virginia State College in 1929.

From its beginnings until 1915, the institution offered the equivalent of a high school education, with a curriculum devoted primarily to agriculture, trades, and teacher education. In 1915, the school was given the authority to award college degrees that included instruction in mathematics, chemistry, French, and English. The first college degrees were awarded in 1919.

In 1919, the College turned increasingly to the development of a strong academic curriculum, with emphasis upon academic excellence. First of America's Negro land-grant colleges to earn accreditation, it has the distinction of having the longest continuous accreditation in the North Central Association of the public four-year institutions in West Virginia.

The 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* United States Supreme Court decision had an immediate and dramatic impact on West Virginia State. Within two years, the institution was transformed from a small black college to a racially integrated one. Since that time, program offerings have expanded and new ones developed as the College keeps pace with the demands of students and the needs of the larger community.

With reinstatement of its 1890 land-grant status, which was transferred in 1955, and accompanying Federal funding, WVSU strengthened its mission of teaching research and service to the community. The first masters degree programs began in the Fall 2003 semester. With the passage of Senate Bill 448 during the 2004 legislative session, the name was changed to West Virginia State University.

From a modest beginning with forty students, West Virginia State University has emerged into a multipurpose institution serving a diverse student body. From a small tract of land and a building, the University has developed into a multimillion dollar educational complex.

Brief History

West Virginia State

Community and Technical College

West Virginia State Community and Technical College (WVSCTC) is imbedded in the history of West Virginia State College (WVSC, now University). Historical records indicate that the Community College was developed in 1953 by the sixth president, William J. L. Wallace. Clermoth E. Prewitt was appointed Dean of the Community College and charged with developing community college programs in southern West Virginia counties. The land-grant mission was the impetus for this outreach to these heavily populated minority mining communities.

WVSC listed an Associate of Arts Degree in Commerce in the 1952-53 catalogue, with the first degrees awarded in 1957. The community college concept of developing academic programs and services in response to the needs of business and industry in the service region continued unabated. Associate Degree programs in various career technical areas and a variety of training programs were instituted for those who wanted training in specific areas of expertise but not a degree.

The community college component of WVSC became operational in January 1978, with the first regular courses offered in the fall of 1978. The origin of the community college component can be traced to the West Virginia Legislature, which in March 1971 directed the Board of Regents to develop a state plan for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of a state system of comprehensive community colleges.

Senate Bill 653, passed in March of 2000 by the West Virginia Legislature, mandated that all community colleges (including components) had to meet the essential conditions for community college education to address the academic and workforce needs of the state. This mandate included an independent accreditation, which was achieved in October 2004, by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

West Virginia State Community and Technical College is a member of the Advantage Valley Community College Network and has a primary service region of Kanawha, Putnam, and Clay Counties. Through its “open door” policy for community and technical education, the institution continually strives to meet the expressed needs of its service area through innovative academic and workforce training programs.

The Academic Procession

The Academic Procession is composed of administrators, honored guests, faculty, graduates, and the University Board of Governors. This procession is led by a marshal, a graduate of West Virginia State University, who seats the graduates, faculty, and platform guests. The faculty enter by academic rank, wearing costumes that had their origin in the Medieval English University system. The costumes were devised to distinguish academic persons from lay persons, since everyone wore robes or gowns to ward off the cold. The recession, then, is in reverse order, with the platform guests leaving the dais first, followed by the graduates and the faculty.

The colors of the academic dress have a significance deeply rooted in the tradition of academic life and are specified by a uniformed code maintained by the American Council on Education. Caps are black and are usually mortar boards with tassels. Doctors of Philosophy wear gold tassels, usually of metallic thread; other degrees wear black or discipline colors.

The bachelors' gown is simple and black with long, pointed sleeves. Masters' gowns, also black, are longer than bachelors. Older gowns have sleeves that terminate at the elbow, while those since 1960 have sleeves extended to the wrist. Doctors' gowns are full, with bell-like sleeves. The front is marked by velvet panels, and the sleeves are marked by three velvet bars. While most gowns are black with black velvet, one variation is to replace black velvet with velvet in the discipline color. A second variation is a colored gown, usually of the university's colors.

All hoods specify the level of degree, the discipline studied, and the awarding institution. First, degree level is signified by the size of the hood with bachelors' smallest, masters' larger, and doctors' quite large and of a different shape. West Virginia State University does not award hoods to bachelors. The width of the velvet trim also conveys the degree. Secondly, the discipline is indicated by the color of the trim edging the hood to form the throat over the gown. Finally, the color of the hood's lining specifies the awarding institution. The colors are displayed in combinations that are drawn from heraldry.

The colors of the tassels worn by candidates for baccalaureate degrees represent the fields of study in which the degrees will be conferred. At West Virginia State University, the following colors are used to designate the various degrees.

Associate Degree	White
Bachelor of Arts.....	White
Bachelor of Science	Yellow
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.....	Drab
Bachelor of Science in Communications.....	Yellow
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.....	Royal Blue
Bachelor of Science in Education.....	Light Blue
Bachelor of Science in Recreation Service.....	Yellow
Bachelor of Science in Social Work	Citron
Master of Arts in Media Studies	White
Master of Arts/Science in Biotechnonology	Yellow

The Mace

The Academic Mace precedes the entire procession. The Grand Marshal carries in his hand this ceremonial staff that is used as a symbol of authority. Its placement and removal from a place of honor signifies the opening and closing of ceremonial sessions. The mace had its origin in the Middle Ages, being used first as a weapon by royal bodyguards to protect their monarchs in processions. Today, the mace is primarily used in academic processions, particularly in English speaking countries.

The original mace used by West Virginia State University had historical significance in that it was created from a spindle used in the staircase of West Hall, the second building erected on the campus in 1895. This mace was restored by James Huffman when he was the Assistant Director of Admissions at the University.

The mace we use today was designed by former Art Faculty member, Dr. Cubert Smith. This circular ring design in its center symbolizes the five schools of the University: Arts and Humanities, Business and Economics, Natural Science and Mathematics, Professional Studies, and Social Sciences.

The Academic Mace for West Virginia State Community and Technical College was designed by Terrance Stuart, Instructor in Computer Science, and Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr., President of the College. The circular design of laurel signifies the link to West Virginia State University. The center of the design includes symbols for Knowledge, Opportunity, and Success which embody the overall mission and purpose of the Community College.

Order of Exercises

R. Charles Byers, Ph.D., Presiding
Vice President for Academic Affairs
West Virginia State University

THE PRELUDES—

Unfinished Symphony in B-minor, D. 759 Franz Schubert
Allegro Moderato
Slavic Dances, Op 8 Dvorak-Longfield
West Virginia State University Concert Band
Scott Woodard, M.A. Director

THE PROCESSIONAL—

Fanfare –Pomp and Circumstance Edward Elgar
arr. James Ployhar
The Marshals
The Candidates for Degrees
The Faculty
The Platform Party

THE POSTING OF THE COLORS Color Guard
Yellow Jacket Battalion
United States Army Reserve Officers Training Corps

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM..... arr. James McKelvey

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thru the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

(The audience will remain standing until after the Invocation)

Order of Exercises

THE INVOCATION..... The Reverend Frederick Hightower, Pastor
All Nations Church
Institute, West Virginia

THE GREETINGS James W. Rowley, Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State University Foundation

THE INTRODUCTION OF
THE SPEAKER..... Hazo W. Carter, Jr., Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State University

THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS B. Keith Fulton, J.D.
President, Verizon West Virginia

THE MUSICAL SELECTION
Look at The World John Rutter
West Virginia State University Concert Choir
Branita Holbrook, M. M., Director

THE EMPLOYEE OF
THE YEAR AWARD Joseph L. Badgley, Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State Community and Technical College

Judith Ann Whipkey – Faculty

THE CONFERMENT OF SPECIAL HONORS

Teachers of the Year

Boone County	Caspia Sheppard	Vocational School
Clay County	Randy White	Big Otter Elementary
Kanawha County	Bob Scott	Capitol High School
Putnam County	Judy Berry	George Washington Elementary

Order of Exercises

THE AWARD OF HONORSEdith Worrells, M.B.A.

Vice President for Academic Affairs
West Virginia State Community and Technical College
and

John Teeuwissen, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs
West Virginia State University

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

HONORS

James Lee Bloxton

Sandra J. Dobbs

Zachary David Dye*

Chrissy Michelle Hashman

Erin Beth Huey

Shannon Elaine Joubert

John E. King*

James Frederick Mitchell

Spencer A. Reynolds*

Lisa Michelle Ronk

Debra Gay Sams

Vanessa Nicole Stansbury

Mary L. Whetsel*

HIGH HONORS

Steven Amos Burk*

Dolly May Campbell

Ross Franklin Hayes

Amelia Hope Jones

Ashleigh Anne Kinsolving

Tracy Lea McDonald

Leslie Morgan McKinney

Justin Nobel Moore

Delta Faye Murray

Brian Z. Patton*

James Warren Pauley*

Aaron Christopher Taylor

Cody Justin Tinsley

HIGHEST HONORS

Dorothy Chapman*

Tabitha Dawn Craft

Adrienne Edmonds

Gloria Faye Gibbs

Elizabeth R. Haught*

Lora S. Kirk

Bryan Roberts

Victoria Lynn Robinson

Richard Allen Smith*

John Bradley Thompson

Paula Nicole Turley

*Denotes August 2008 Graduate

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

CUM LAUDE

Hope Rena Bencho
Krystal Ann Bevino*
Mariko So'wana Blacknall
Kevin T. Chikombero
Ashley Marie Cline
Adam Ryan Coon
Niki Nichole Davis
Christen Michael Dillon
Sean Stephen Endres
Jessica Dale Hager

Steven James Hager
Amber Dawn Harding
Kristen Michelle Hastings
David Jennings
Amanda Sue Kennedy
Stephanie Diane MacDonald
James Frederick Mitchell
Rhonda A. O'Daniels
Aaron C. Ray

Marie Ann Rinick
Nicole A. Rose-Taylor
Cheryl D. Salisbury
Julie Machele Savilla
Stephen Daniel Shannon
Shannon Leah Stewart
Mark Allen Stolle, Jr.
Brandon Antione Truesdale
Jaime Lynne Urban*
Kathryn Leigh White
Karen Sue Williams

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Kelly Lynn Bryant
Pamelon C. Coleman
Leah Catherine Eskins
Pamela Jean Ferrell*
Candace Dawn Hill

Laura Jean Jensen
Crystal Dawn Lowe
Tammy Andrea Mason
James Ross Murray, Jr.
Michael H. Smith

Ashley Elizabeth Thompson
Cody Justin Tinsley
Lesley Gail Vickers
Ashley Renee White

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Michelle Lynn Burk
Kristi Marie Childress
Allison Kate Endicott
Kimberly Marie Fowler
Della Freshour

Brittany Alyss Goode
Jennifer Marie Hall-Massey
Donnie Eugene Kessell*
Kathryn D. Kessell*
Caroline Barkley Lyles

Jennifer Lynn Massie
Leslie Ann Rowe
April Deanna Stagg
Rebekah Ashley Stowers

WITH DISTINCTION

April Dawn Fields

John Joseph Hill

Christy Lea Schwartz

THE PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES

WEST VIRGINIA STATE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE OF ARTS,
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE,
BOARD OF GOVERNORS ASSOCIATE OF

APPLIED SCIENCE Vicki Stephens, M.S.N.
Dean, Allied Health

Edith Worrells, M.B.A.
Academic Affairs

Joseph L. Badgley, Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State Community and Technical College

WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF ARTS

David Wohl, Ph.D.
Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE.....

Katherine Harper, Ph.D.
Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Hazo William Carter, Jr., Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State University

WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE PROGRAMS

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY Katherine Harper, Ph.D.
Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

R. Charles Byers, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Hazo William Carter, Jr., Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State University

After the conferring of degrees by Presidents Carter and Badgley, the names of the candidates will be announced by the Director of Registration and Records, Donna L. Hunter, M.A.

THE PRESENTATION OF
GRADUATING OFFICER Steve D. Thomas, M.A.
Lieutenant Colonel, United States Army – Professor of Military Science
Cody J. Tinsley, Second Lieutenant, Gloucester, Virginia

THE STUDENT ADDRESS..... Cody J. Tinsley

THE ALUMNI PLEDGE Philip A. Bright, '71

Director West Virginia State University Alumni Relations

Join hands with other alumni in perpetuating the ideals of West Virginia State University, nurturing its growth and promoting its programs, to serve with honor in my chosen profession, and to make myself a symbol of the best traditions of West Virginia State University—This is my commission and my challenge.

THE ALMA MATER *Martha Spencer/Ernest Wade*

Led by Chris Dillon, '08

THE CLOSING REMARKS R. Charles Byers, Ph.D.

Vice President for Academic Affairs

THE BENEDICTION..... The Reverend Susan Latimer, Rector

Saint Johns Episcopal Church

Charleston, West Virginia

THE RECESSIONAL

The Raider's March..... Williams/Vinson

West Virginia State University Concert Band

The audience is requested to remain seated until the graduates have recessed.

GRAND MARSHAL

Professor R. Charles Byers '68

COLLEGE MARSHAL

Professor Mark Rucker '90

ASSISTANT MARSHALS

Professor Debra M. Anderson-Conliffe '76

Professor Rita Brown '75

Professor Bryce Casto '81

Professor Daton Dean '99

Professor Charlotte L. Finney '61

Professor Patricia King '85

Professor Sandra LaVoie '82

Professor Mehdi Seyedmonir '92

Professor Patricia Shafer '71

Professor Charles E. Smith '87

Professor Craig Spaniol '66

Professor Walter Stroupe '78

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Tonya Sue Adkins	Kelly Marie Foster	Harold Franklin Mynes*
Mekdes Dereje Aychiluhim	Antoine Beugre Gbedje	Tracy Lynne Oliver
Jerry Steven Ayersman	Lindsey Nicole Good	Brian Zane Patton*
Todd Mason Bailey	Sherry Annette Hairston	James Warren Pauley*
James Lee Bloxton	Rhonda M. Hamilton	Kelly Renae Pauley
John Eric Brumfield*	Chrissy Michele Hashman	Jana Lynn Perry
Edward Darrell Burdette	Ross Franklin Hayes	Barbara Ann Pierson
Joseph Henry Burgess*	Lisa Kay Hedrick	Candace Danielle Rader
Steven Amos Burk*	Brian Lee Higginbotham*	Spencer A. Reynolds*
Brian K. Busby	Ashley Nicole Hodges	Brittany Nicole Richardson
Dolly May Campbell	Erin Beth Huey	Michael A. Richardson
Marcia Ann Campbell	Clarence Richard Jarrett	Bryan Lee Roberts
Erica Lynn Canada	Ira R. Jeffers, II	Victoria Lynn Robinson
Evelyn Caro	Amelia Hope Jones	Debra Gay Sams
Tracy Lynn Carter	Shannon Elaine Joubert	Christopher Lynn Scarbrough
Erin Nicole Casto*	Dennis William Kaups	Dustin Mathew Shapero*
Ty Emery Clark*	Amanda Sue Kennedy	Jake Jeffrey Siders*
Kevin Brian Clendenin	Rebecca Sue Kessler	Andrew Morgan Smith
Jessica Lynn Cobb*	Stephanie Lanay Killingsworth	Richard Allen Smith*
Ingeborg C. Collier*	John Eric King*	Rosario Spaulding
Anthony George Cook	Ashleigh Anne Kinsolving	Ashley Elizabeth Standish
Gary Bruce Cottrill	Lora Sue Kirk	Vanessa Nicole Stansbury
Tabitha Dawn Craft	Charles L. Landers	Aaron Christopher Taylor
Dana Lamar Cunningham	Tracy Lea McDonald	Carrie Lynn Thaxton
Jessica Elizabeth Dailey	Leslie Morgan McKinney	John Bradley Thompson
Natasha Renee Derrick	Joshua Michael Marcum	Paula Nicole Turley
Ethan Joshua Dimitroff	Joshua A. Middleton	Joseph Eugene Warner*
Sandra J. Dobbs	Chasidy Jo Minor	Mary Lou Whetsel*
Zachary David Dye*	James Frederick Mitchell	Eric Douglas Whitlock
Peggy June Eagan	Justin Noble Moore	David M. Wojciechowicz
Adrienne Campbell Edmonds	LaRuth Venita Morgan	Stacy Dawn Wright
Brittany Renee Edwards	Delta Faye Murray	Asfaw Markos Zerihun
Stella JoAnn Forest		

*Denotes August 2008 Graduate

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

Douglas Shane Deel*	Amanda Sue Kennedy	Stacy Nicole Scott
Michele Lynn Garrett	William Moss	Cody Justin Tinsley
Tina Lynn Hardman	Lisa Michelle Ronk	Kristen Lea Wilfong

FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS

George E. Scoulas

FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Amanda Leigh Barnes	Elizabeth Renee Haught*	Antanina Gail Shumaker
Dorothy Chapman*	Kimberly Lynn Light	Joshua Daniel Thaxton*
Gloria Faye Gibbs	Chasity D. Runion*	

FOR THE DEGREE OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Chad Edward Benson	Tony Darnell Green	Jacqueline Louise Moles
Justin L. Dickerson*	Christopher Adrian Guevara*	Rachel Elizabeth Parsons
Siobhan LaShee Dorcas*	Cory Andrew Holley	Hilary M. Peal
Jill Robin Garrison	Jacqueline Marie Jones	Dorethea L. Taylor
Richard D. Green*	Kelli Stover Kennedy	Belinda A. Wilkerson*

FOR THE ASSOCIATE CERTIFICATE DEGREE PROGRAM

Mekdes Derete Aychiluhim ¹	Gloria Gibbs* ³	Justin D. Lutsy* ²
Robert E. Bauer ²	Thomas W. Hubbard* ²	Vanessa Nichole Stansbury ¹
Dorothy Chapman* ³	Jeffery F. Kessler* ²	Christopher A. Underwood* ²
Natasha Renee Derrick ¹	Matthew T. Kessler* ²	Erika Lynn Waggoner ¹
Adam T. Draham* ²		

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

Mariko So'wana Blacknall	Caroline Barkley Lyles	Morgan Courtney Perrine
Evelyn Caro	Andrea Nicole McNeely*	Suzette Marie Raines
Francesca Nichole Chestnut	Jennifer Lynn Massie	Brian Ray Scott
David Alan Frye*	Jennifer Noel Mays	Michael H. Smith
Jessica Dale Hager	Stasi Stachell Mills	Mark Allen Stolle, Jr.
Jessica Sue Hinkle	James Frederick Mitchell	Jacquelyn Rhonda Stone
Todd David Jarrett	Megan Amber Mitchell	Cody Justin Tinsley
Jonathan Scott Kuhn*	Christian Olaf Ovrebo-Welker	Ashley Renee White

*Denotes August 2008 Graduate

¹ Community Behavioral Health Technology

² Paramedic Technology

³ Paraprofessional Educator

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF REGENTS BACHELOR OF ARTS

Krystal Ann Bevino*	Candace Dawn Hill	David M. Poe, III*
Justin Kyle Bryant	Charles Morris Hunt	Patricia Kay Priddy
Deanna Lynn Clark	Richard Lloyd Jarrett	Mark Edward Rucker
Ashley Marie Cline	Christina Lynn Jernell-Shaffer	Jason Warren Slay
Andrew Brian Cooper	Phillipa Ann Lewin	Alecia Nache Streets*
Jennifer Lynn Davis	Octavia Manigault	Jovan J. VanPetten
Emily Morgan Dayfield	Tammy Andrea Mason	Jessica Renae Chambers Varney*
Larry Scott Deitz	Krista Beth Meadows	Jessica Nikole Vorholt*
Kathryn Elizabeth Fenimore	Arawana Louise Joyce Moody*	Nikera Ariele-Rennea White*
Pamela Jean Ferrell*	Keith Vishon Morris	Megan Kendra Wickert-Hayes*
John C. Fowler	William Moss	Karen Sue Williams
Della Freshour	Myra Kay Pauley*	Melissa Dawn Withrow
Tonya M. Harper-Faucett*	Jana Lynn Perry	

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Niki Nichole Davis	Jonathan D. Hersman	Daniel James Palmer
Amber Dawn Harding		

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

David William Abraham	Joseph Matthew Gabehart	Jonathan Nathaniel Reavis*
Bryan Andrew Batten	Steven James Hager	Edward Joseph Shade, Jr.
Alexander Chiang*	Jennifer Marie Hall-Massey	Ashley Nicole Shurow
Kevin T. Chikombero	Adam Jason Hatter	Jennifer D. Smith
Kristi Marie Childress	David Charles Holston	Michael H. Smith
Pamelon C. Coleman	Larissa Marie Jackson	Bryan Keith Stover
Sean Stephen Endres	Crystal Dawn Lowe	Brandon Antione Truesdale
Joshua Wayne Fleming*	Jennifer Mae Massey	Tiffany Lorraine Upshaw
Jeremy Dale Foster	Michael Anthony Moore	Lesley Gail Vickers
Rebecca A. Frazier		

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS

Allison Lynn Akers	Patricia Jade Chappell	Crystal D. Good
Lauren Tiffany Brown*	Andrea Kristen Cordell*	Kaylee B. Guthrie-Bayes
Elena Marie Burton	Jeremy Johnscott Fallecker*	Natasha Nichole Harris
Bridgitt Regea Carpenter	Jennifer Dawn Fernandez	Bridgett Suzanne Jeffrey*

*Denotes August 2008 Graduate

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS

(continued)

Nakia Sharee Johnson	Stephen Daniel Shannon	Michelle Lynn Spencer*
Ryan Todd Lafferty*	Meredith Renee Shdeed*	Matthew Earl Stewart
Courtney Nicole Newbold*	Ashley Nicole Smith	Jaime Lynne Urban*
Jeffrey Anderson Plear	Michael Joe Smith	Rebekah Dawn Wheeler*
Carrie Alicia Ponder*	Stephen Javoil Smith*	Kathryn Leigh White

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Amy Marie Aucoin*	Eugene N. Chop	Carrie Lynn Gum
Misty Marie Bragg	Angela Dawn Cooper	Douglas Daniel Johnston
Stephanie Marie Campbell*	Karen Juanita Day	Leslie Ann Rowe

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Ashley Erin Blankenship	Brittany Alyss Goode	Marie Ann Rinick
Brandin Nicole Bryant	Kristen Michelle Hastings	Nicole A. Rose-Taylor
Kelly Lynn Bryant	John Joseph Hill	Cheryl D. Salisbury
Michelle Lynn Burk	David Jennings	Julie Machele Savilla
Adam Ryan Coon	Laura Jean Jensen	Christy Lea Schwartz
Christen Michael Dillon	Carla Jo Kessell	April Deanna Stagg
Andrew Lee Dotson	Stephanie Diane MacDonald	Rebekah Ashley Stowers
Allison Kate Endicott	James Ross Murray, Jr.	Ashley Elizabeth Thompson
Leah Catherine Eskins	Rhonda A. O'Daniels	Ashley Nicole Turley
April Dawn Fields	Camille Elizabeth Piccirillo	Cary Todd Wagner, Jr.
Kimberly Marie Fowler	Aaron C. Ray	

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCE

Hope Rena Bencho	Matthew Allen Hesson	Amanda Sue Kennedy
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*Denotes August 2008 Graduate

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RECREATION

Shelby Leann Pack

Sheena Marie Craft*

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK

Julie Fay Blair*

Donnie Eugene Kessell*

Andrea Nicole Ramsey*

Dustin N. Edgell

Kathryn Dawn Kessell*

Shannon Leah Stewart

FOR THE POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ACCOUNTING

Gina Victoria Grigoraci

FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY

Tandiwe Piwai Mpabanga

Thesis Title: "Identification of glucose-utilizing anaerobic bacteria in a thermophilic anaerobic digester using stable isotope probing (SIP)"

Mohammad Atikur Rahman

Thesis Title: "Mapping Quantitative Trait Loci in Tetraploid Watermelon"

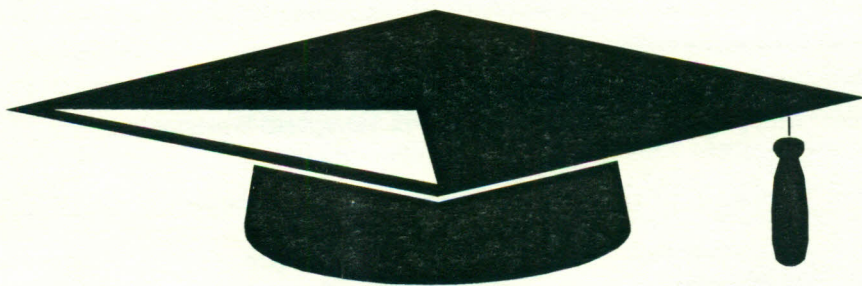
Venkatagopinath Vajja*

Thesis Title: "Dynamics of Genetic Diversity in Cotton as Revealed by the Methylation Profiles"

Velvet Lahoma Mae Worstell

Thesis Title: "Effects of Progesterone and 17 β -Estradiol on Proliferation and the Expression of *DLC1*, *CAVI*, and *JUN* in Meningioma Cells in Culture"

*Denotes August 2008 Graduate



Honor Societies

ELECTED TO ALPHA DELTA MU— NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN SOCIAL WORK

Shannon Leah Stewart

ELECTED TO ALPHA KAPPA MU— NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Leah Catherine Eskins

Shannon Leah Stewart

Leslie Ann Rowe

ELECTED TO ALPHA PHI SIGMA— NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Leslie Ann Rowe

ELECTED TO DELTA MU DELTA— NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN BUSINESS

Kristi Marie Childress

Jennifer Marie Hall-Massey

Pamelon C. Coleman

Michael H. Smith

ELECTED TO KAPPA DELTA PI— INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN EDUCATION

Kelly Lynn Bryant

Laura Jean Jensen

Michelle Lynn Burk

James Ross Murray, Jr.

Christen Michael Dillon

Christy LeaSchwartz

Leah Catherine Eskins

April Deanna Stagg

Kimberly Marie Fowler

Rebekah Ashley Stowers

Brittany AlyssGoode

Ashley Elizabeth Thompson

ELECTED TO LAMBDA IOTA TAU— NATIONAL LITERARY HONOR SOCIETY

Jessica Dale Hager

ELECTED TO PHI ALPHA THETA— INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN HISTORY

Cody Justin Tinsley

**ELECTED TO PHI ETA SIGMA—
FRESHMAN NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

Michelle Lynn Burk

Kaylee B. Guthrie-Bayes

Michael H. Smith

Cody Justins Tinsley

**ELECTED TO PHI THETA KAPPA—
HONOR SOCIETY FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE STUDENTS**

Mekdes Dereje Aychiluhim

Chrissy Michele Hashman

Amelia Hope Jones

Victoria Lynn Robinson

Bryan Lee Roberts

**ELECTED TO PSI SIGMA ALPHA—
HONOR SOCIETY FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Austin C. Moore

Suzette Marie Raines

Brian Ray Scott

Mark Allen Stolle, Jr.

Jeannie M. Young

**ELECTED TO PINNACLE—
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOR NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS**

Tammy Andrea Mason

**ELECTED TO PSI CHI—
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOR PSYCHOLOGY**

Todd David Jarrett

James Frederick Mitchell

Ashley Renee Smith

**ELECTED TO SIGMA TAU DELTA—
INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY**

Jessica Dale Hager

Sandy Lyles

Jennifer Lynn Massey

Commencement Speakers

1898

Booker T. Washington

1909

William E. Glasscock
Governor, State of West Virginia

1919

Waitman Barbe
*Professor of Literature,
West Virginia University*

1923

Charles Victor Roman
Nashville, Tennessee

1925

Carter G. Woodson
Editor, Negro Life & History

1926

Eugene Kinckle Jones
*Executive Secretary,
National Urban League*

1927

James Adlai Cobb
*Judge, Municipal Court,
Washington, D.C.*

1928

Harry J. Capehart
*Associate District Attorney
of Southern WV*

1929

(May)
Charles Wesley
Professor of History, Howard University

(Summer)

Mark Miles Fisher
*Pastor, 16th Street Baptist Church,
Huntington, WV*

1930

(May)
Henry D. Hatfield
U.S. Senator, State of West Virginia

(Summer)

John W. Davis
*Fifth President,
West Virginia State College*

1931

(May)
W.W. Sanders
*Supervisor, Negro Schools,
State of West Virginia*

(Summer)

John W. Davis
*Fifth President,
West Virginia State College*

1932

(May)
Thomas Gillis Nutter
Attorney, Charleston, West Virginia

(Summer)

James C. Evans
*Professor, Mechanical Industries,
West Virginia State College*

1933

(May)
J.B. McLaughlin
*Commissioner of Agriculture,
State of West Virginia*

(Summer)

George D. Brock
*Professor of Education,
West Virginia State College*

1934

(May)
Homer A. Holt
West Virginia Attorney General

(Summer)

Daniel P. Lincoln
*Registrar and Professor of
History, West Virginia State College*

1935

(May)
Harry H. Pace
*President, Supreme Liberty Life
Insurance Co., Chicago*

(Summer)

Richard Hurst Hill
*Pastor, First Baptist Church,
Charleston, West Virginia*

1936

(May)
John Andrew Gregg
Bishop, AME Church, Kansas City

(Summer)

David Kirby
*Secretary, West Virginia Board of
Education*

1937

(May)
Julian H. Lewis
*Associate Professor Pathology, University
of Chicago*

(Summer)

David Alphonso Lane, Jr.
Dean, West Virginia State College

1938

(May)
Ambrose Caliver
*Senior Specialist in Education of Negroes,
U.S. Office of Education, D.C.*

(Summer)

Harry W. Greene
*Director, Teacher Training, West Virginia
State College*

1939

(May)
Frederick Douglas Patterson
President, Tuskegee Institute

(Summer)

William J.L. Wallace
Associate Professor of Chemistry, WVSC

1940

(May)
Mordecai Johnson
*President, Howard University, Washington,
D.C.*

(Summer)

Lorena E. Kemp
*Professor of English,
West Virginia State College*

- 1941**
(May)
Charles Hamilton Houston
Attorney, Washington, D.C.
- (Summer)
Herman G. Canady
*Professor of Psychiatry and Philosophy,
West Virginia State College*
- 1942**
(May)
Mary McLeod Bethune
*Director,
U.S. Department of Negro Affairs*
- (Summer)
Grace I. Woodson,
*Associate Professor of Education,
WVSC*
- 1943**
(May)
Channing H. Tobias
National Secretary, YMCA
- (Summer)
Henry Lake Dickason
President, Bluefield State College
- 1944**
(May)
Roland Hayes
Concert Singer
- (Summer)
Bertram L. Woodruff
Associate Professor of English, WVSC
- 1945**
(May)
Theodore F. Green
U.S. Senator, Rhode Island
- (Summer)
W.O. Armstrong
*Principal, Dunbar High School,
Fairmont, WV*
- 1946**
(May)
Anne Eleanor Roosevelt
*U.S. Representative,
New United Nations*
- (Summer)
D.T. Murray
*President,
Negro State Board of Education*
- 1947**
(May)
Ethel J. Alpenfels
*Anthropologist, U.S. Bureau
Intercultural Education*
- (Summer)
Moses Newsome
*First Baptist Church,
Charleston, West Virginia*
- 1948**
(May)
Percy Julian
*Division of Research & Manager of Fine
Chemicals, The Glidden Company*
- (Summer)
H.D. Hazelwood
*Principal, Douglas High, Huntington,
West Virginia*
- 1949**
(May)
Harley M. Kilgore
U.S. Senator, West Virginia
- (Summer)
Vernon Johns
*College Minister, West Virginia State
College*
- 1950**
(May)
Walter Philip Reuther
*President,
United Auto Workers of America*
- (Summer)
Charles S. Johnson
*President,
Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee*
- 1951**
(May)
Ira De A. Reid
*Professor of Sociology,
Haverford College, Pennsylvania*
- (Summer)
Corma A. Mowrey
*Past President,
National Education Association*
- 1952**
(May)
Mordecai Johnson
*President, Howard University, Washington,
D.C.*
- (Summer)
James C. Evans
*Civilian Assistant,
Secretary of Defense*
- 1953**
(May)
Rufus B. Clement
*President, Atlanta University,
Atlanta, Georgia*
- (Summer)
James W. Robinson
*State Superintendent of Negro Schools,
West Virginia*
- 1954**
(May)
Edward Anderson Bolling
*Superintendent,
Institute School for Deaf & Blind*
- (Summer)
James H. Rowland
*Attorney, West Virginia
Department of Education*
- 1955**
(May)
Buell G. Gallagher
President, City College, NY
- (Summer)
Charles A. Williamson
President, Advertising Corporation
- 1956**
(May)
John Warren Davis
*Fifth President,
West Virginia State College*
- (Summer)
Moses Newsome
*Pastor, First Baptist Church,
Charleston, West Virginia*

1957

(May)

Virgil L. Flynn

Assistant Superintendent in Charge of Research, Kanawha County Schools

(Summer)

Ruth C. Norman

*English Instructor,
Stonewall Jackson High School*

1958

(May)

Frank M. Snowden, Jr.

Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

(Summer)

S.J. Baskerville, DDS

West Virginia Board of Education

1959

Cecil Underwood

Governor, State of West Virginia

1960

Justice Wise Polier

Judge, Domestic Relations Court, NY

1961

William W. Barron

Governor, State of West Virginia

1962

A.J. Gibson

*Executive Secretary,
North Central Association*

1963

Pearl S. Buck

Anthropologist

1964

William Orville Douglas

*Associate Justice,
U.S. Supreme Court*

1965

P.K. Banerjee

Minister, Embassy of India

1966

Hulett C. Smith

Governor, State of West Virginia

1967

Miles Clark Stanley

*President, AFL/CIO, Charleston,
West Virginia*

1968

William W. Jellema

*Executive Associate, Association of
American Colleges*

1969

Mildred Mitchell Bateman

*Director, Department of Mental Health,
State of West Virginia*

1970

Richard Eugene Shearer

*President,
Alderson-Broaddus College*

1971

Arch A. Moore, Jr.

Governor, State of West Virginia

1972

Damon J. Keith

Judge, State of Michigan

1973

John W. Davis

*Fifth President,
West Virginia State College
and*

William J.L. Wallace

*Sixth President,
West Virginia State College*

1974

(May)

Jennings Randolph

U.S. Senator, State of West Virginia

(Mid Year)

Daniel B. Taylor

*Superintendent of Schools State of
West Virginia*

1975

(May)

James C. Malone

Vice President, Union Carbide

(Mid Year)

James R. McCartney

*Secretary of State,
State of West Virginia*

1976

(May)

Helvi Sipilä

*Associate Secretary General, Social
Development & Humanitarian Affairs,
United Nations*

(Mid Year)

Vincent E. Reed

*Superintendent of Schools
The District of Columbia*

1977

(May)

Ben L. Morton

*Chancellor,
West Virginia Board of Regents*

(Mid Year)

Henry B. Wehrle, Jr.

President, The McJunkin Corporation

1978

(May)

Robert C. Byrd

U.S. Senator, State of West Virginia

(Mid Year)

Harold Delaney

*Associate Executive Director
American Association of Colleges and
Universities*

1979

(May)

Harold L. Hodgkinson

*Executive Director, Professional
Institute of American Management
Association*

(Mid Year)

John D. Rockefeller, IV

Governor, State of West Virginia

1980

(May)

Donald M. Knox

(Mid Year)

Robert R. Ramsey

*Chancellor,
West Virginia Board of Regents*

- 1981**
(May)
Allen Ostar
President, American Association of State Colleges and Universities
- (Mid Year)
Leon H. Ginsberg
Commissioner, West Virginia Department of Welfare
- 1982**
(May)
Thomas W. Cole, Jr.
Eighth President, West Virginia State College
- (Mid Year)
Margaret L. Workman
Judge, Circuit Court Charleston, West Virginia
- 1983**
(May)
Russell Lowell Isaacs
President, Hecks Inc., Charleston, West Virginia
- (Mid Year)
Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, IV
First Lady of West Virginia
- 1984**
(May)
Samuel Proctor
Pastor, Abyssian Baptist Church, NY
- (Mid Year)
John D. Rockefeller, IV
Governor, State of West Virginia
- 1985**
(May)
Julian Bond
Senator, Atlanta, Georgia
- (Mid Year)
D. Wayne Smith
President, Friendship Force
- 1986**
(May)
John F. McGee
President, Charleston Daily Mail
- (Mid Year)
Ken Hechler
Secretary of State West Virginia
- 1987**
(May)
Leon H. Sullivan
Chair, Board of OIC, Philadelphia, PA
- (Mid Year)
Thomas W. Cole, Jr.
Chancellor, West Virginia Board of Regents
- 1988**
(May)
Hazo W. Carter, Jr.
Ninth President, West Virginia State College
- (Mid Year)
Ralph E. Kirkman
Professor of Education, George Peabody College Vanderbilt University
- 1989**
(May)
Grover A. DuBose
Visiting Professor, Business, West Virginia State College
- (Mid Year)
Harrison B. Wilson
President, Norfolk State University
- 1990**
(May)
Mary Sarah Weddington
Senior Lecturer, History and Government, University of Texas
- (Mid Year)
Lauro F. Cavazos
Secretary, U.S. Department of Education
- 1991**
(May)
Gaston Caperton
Thirty-first Governor, State of West Virginia
- (Mid Year)
Laura Pederson
Financial Consultant
- 1992**
(May)
Paul B. Marion
Chancellor, State College System of West Virginia
- (Mid Year)
Phyllis Harden Carter
Director of State-Federal Relations, Governor's Office, State of West Virginia
- 1993**
(May)
Bettina Gregory
Senior General Assignment Correspondent, American Broadcasting Company
- (Mid Year)
Barbara Harmon-Schamberger
Secretary, Department of Education and the Arts State of West Virginia
- 1994**
(May)
Margaret L. Workman
Judge, Supreme Court of Appeals, State of West Virginia
- (Mid Year)
Booker T. Stephens
Chief Judge, Eighth Judicial District, Welch, West Virginia
- 1995**
(May)
James W. Monroe
Major General, United States Army
- (Mid Year)
Clifford M. Trump
Chancellor, State College System of West Virginia
- 1996**
(May)
Rodney E. Slater
Federal Highway Administration
- (Mid Year)
Robert E. Wise, Jr.
United States House of Representatives

- 1997**
(May)
Hazel R. O'Leary
Former Secretary of Energy
- (Mid Year)
James W. Rowley
President Emeritus, College of Graduate Studies
- 1998**
(May)
Shirley R. Watkins
Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- (Mid Year)
Gus R. Douglass
West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture
- 1999**
(May)
Christine M. Corey
Senior Program Officer, Office of International Education and Graduate Programs, United States Department of Education
- (Mid Year)
Hazo W. Carter, Jr.
Ninth President, West Virginia State College
- 2000**
(May)
Cecil H. Underwood
Governor, State of West Virginia
- (Mid Year)
David Stewart
State Superintendent of Schools, West Virginia Board of Education
- 2001**
(May)
Marie C. Johns
President, Verizon
- (Mid Year)
J. Michael Mullen
Chancellor, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
- 2002**
(May)
Miles C. Cary
President, West Virginia State College Advisory Board
- (Mid Year)
Kaye Goodwin
Secretary, Education and Arts
- 2003**
(May)
J. T. (Ted) Childs, Jr.
Vice President, Global Workforce Diversity IBM Corporation
- (Mid-Year)
Richard L. Ferguson
Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board ACT, Inc.
- 2004**
(May)
Boyce Courtney Williams
Vice President, National Council for Accreditation of Education
- (Mid-Year)
Hazo W. Carter, Jr., Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State University
- 2005**
(May)
Senator Jay Rockefeller
US Senator, State of West Virginia
- (Mid-Year)
Joseph Manchin III
Governor, State of West Virginia
- 2006**
(May)
Thomas Joyner, Sr.
Thomas Joyner Foundation and REACH Media
- (Mid-Year)
Thomas D. Boston
Georgia Institute of Technology
- 2007**
(May)
Constantine W. Curris, Ed. D.
President, American Association of Colleges and Universities
- (Mid-Year)
Brian Eugene Noland, Ph. D.
Chancellor, Higher Education Policy Commission
- 2008**
(May)
Judge Reggie B. Walton
United States District Judge, District of Columbia

Commencement programs are maintained in the University Archives of the Drain-Jordan Library. For many years, the University held graduation exercises three times a year—in May, August, and a mid-year commencement at the end of the first semester in January. Mid-year graduation exercises were dropped in 1954 and re-established in 1974, while summer exercises were discontinued after 1958.

Alma Mater

Ernest Wade '30

Martha Spencer '31

There is a place we love so dear—
Its name we'll ever praise and revere
'Tis West Virginia State we love—
Just one more step from there is Heav'n above.

REFRAIN

West Virginia's praise we'll sing—
Lift our voices 'til heavens ring—
As we gaily march along—
We'll sing a song—
For Alma Mater
How we love her
Pride of all our loyal hearts—
From her we will never part—
Thoughts of thee will ne'er be few
Alma Mater we love you.

We'll love her more as days go by,
And send her praises to the sky;
To place her over all the rest,
And keep her e'er the dearest and the best.

Shadowed 'neath a deep blue sky;
Is STATE for whom we'll live and we'll die—
Arise! O men of God and sing;
We're loyal, and to her we'll always cling.

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