



COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

December 9, 2017

College of Arts and Humanities

College of Business and Social Sciences

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

College of Professional Studies



Anthony L. Jenkins, Ph.D.
President

D. Stephen & Diane H. Walker Convocation Center Institute, 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 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, West Virginia State College, 1932

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY



West Virginia State University was founded under the provisions of the Second Morrill Act of 1890 to provide education to black citizens in agriculture and the mechanical arts. Like many other states at that time, West Virginia maintained a segregated education system. On March 17, 1891, the Legislature passed a bill creating the West Virginia Colored Institute to be located in the Kanawha Valley. Federal funds provided \$3,000 for faculty salaries and the West Virginia Legislature appropriated \$10,000 to purchase land and to construct a building. We now celebrate that as the official "Founders Day" of West Virginia State University.

In 1915, the West Virginia Collegiate Institute began offering college degrees. Under the leadership of President John W. Davis, academic programs were expanded and new buildings were constructed. In 1927, the Institute received accreditation from the North Central Association and in 1929 it became West Virginia State College.

After the 1954 United States Supreme Court historic decision outlawing school segregation, West Virginia State College became an integrated institution serving a predominately white, adult, commuter student population. At that time, land-grant status was lost due to a decision of the West Virginia Board of Education; West Virginia State College was the only 1890 land-grant institution to lose that status. The College regained land-grant status in 2001, by an act of Congress.

With reinstatement of its 1890 land-grant status, and accompanying federal funding, West Virginia State College strengthened its mission of teaching, research and service to the community. The first graduate degree programs began in fall 2003. With the passage of Senate Bill 448 during the 2004 legislative session, the Institution became West Virginia State University.

From a modest beginning, West Virginia State University has emerged into a multipurpose institution serving a diverse student body. From a small tract of land and one building, the University has developed into a multimillion-dollar education system.



COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

December 9, 2017 10:00 a.m.

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WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT ORDER OF EXERCISES



PRELUDE
PROCESSIONAL Pomp and Circumstance
MARCHING ORDER Grand Marshal President and Deans Platform Party College Flag Bearers Faculty and Administrators Flags of the Nations Candidates for Degrees
POSTING OF THE COLORS
NATIONAL ANTHEM West Virginia State University Concert Choir Piano Accompaniment by Associate Professor Brenda Vanderford
INVOCATION
GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS Leon Vincent Williams, Esquire Chair, West Virginia State University Board of Governors
INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
MUSICAL SELECTION



CONFERMENT OF DEGREES AND PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Candidates for the Degree of Master of Arts, Public Administration, and Sciences Dr. J. Paige Carney
Dean, College of Professional Studies

Dr. Kumara Jayasuriya Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

> Dr. Anthony L. Jenkins President

> Dr. Kumara Jayasuriya Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

> > Dr. Anthony L. Jenkins President

The Director of Registration and Records, Ms. Donna L. Hunter, announces the names of the graduates, during the conferring of degrees by President Jenkins.

U.S. ARMY COMMISSIONING	CEREMONY LTC Joshua Germann
	Military Science Department
REMARKS	Dr. Anthony L. Jenkins President
ALUMNI PLEDGE	Mrs. Camille Shipman-McQueen Vice President, WVSU National Alumni Association
ALMA MATER	
CLOSING REMARKS	Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
BENEDICTION	
RECESSIONAL	Grand March

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER DR. MORRIS S. CLARK



Dr. Morris Shandell Clark was born and raised in Princeton, W.Va. He graduated from what was then West Virginia State College with a bachelor's degree in zoology in 1967. After a year in a graduate school at West Virginia University, he returned to Institute to work with Dr. Harrison Ferrell in the Upward Bound program. Dr. Clark then moved to the University of California San Francisco Medical Center and received his Doctorate of Science in Dental Surgery in 1973. Dr. Clark then accepted an internship and residency in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Columbia University in New York City.

Upon completion of his residency, Dr. Clark joined the University of Colorado Health Science Center in Denver, where he opened a private practice and also became a full-time academician. He became Director of Anesthesia and performed the original clinical trials for the Hoffman-LaRoche Pharmaceutical Co. to bring the drug Versed to market.

Dr. Clark has authored over 200 refereed manuscripts and six books of medical and dental literature. He recently retired as a tenured professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Colorado.

He has received an honorary doctorate degree from lasi University in Romania. A wing of lasi University bears the name The Morris S. Clark Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinic in his honor. Dr. Clark is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi and Sigma Pi Phi fraternities.

U.S. ARMY COMMISSIONING CEREMONY



During the commencement service, a member of the West Virginia State University Reserve Officers' Training Corps. (ROTC) program will be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant. West Virginia State's ROTC Program has commissioned over 900 officers into the United States Army. Fifteen of these officers have achieved the General Officer ranks. Cadet Enya Williams is commissioning into the West Virginia Army National Guard as a Quartermaster Officer. Cadet Williams will attend the Quartermaster Basic Officer Leadership Course at Fort Lee, Va.

WVSU ALUMNI PLEDGE



To 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 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 who seats the graduates, faculty and platform guests. Faculty members wear 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 is in reverse order, with the platform guests leaving the dais first, followed by the faculty and the graduates.

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 bachelor's gown is simple and black with long, pointed sleeves. Master's 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. Doctor's 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 bachelor's smallest, master's larger and doctor's quite large and of a different shape. West Virginia State University does not award hoods for bachelors' degrees. 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 bachelor's 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:

- · Bachelor of Arts White
- Bachelor of Fine Arts Brown
- 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 Biotechnology Yellow
- Master of Public Administration Peacock Blue
- Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration Midnight Royal

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

MASTER OF ARTS IN MEDIA STUDIES

Katrina A. Slone James Henson Taylor*

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Dionne Beverly-Hairston* Jeffery Scott Billings* Jason Elijah Huffman* William David Lanham, II Stephen Rhon Starks

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY

Bandana Ghimire Mickey Z. King-Fowler Vadesse LhiLhi Noundou Ifeoma Rosemary Ugwuanyi

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION

David Alan Cadle, II Sharon Lynn Deal Sarah E. Loftus* Ella Morgan Messinger* Reginald Patterson* Dorse Denzil Dewayne Sears Dina Renee Williams

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ART

Joanna Marie Asbury Casey Sierra Brotherton Allison Jane McComas Adam Christopher Tawney

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

Angela Cathleen Bosley Garrett Wil Mayes Portia G. Smith

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Maxwell Cole Snodgrass

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Arin Brooke Higginbotham* Casey Taylor Sharp

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS

Kelli Renea Bell Jordan M. Brock* James Roy Hamilton, III Sara J. Hays Stephen Christopher Johnston Trinity Lee Altano Mullins

REGENTS BACHELOR OF ARTS

Douglas C. Brown
Robert E. Brown
Jeffery Lynn Dean
Jacklyn Elaine Dyer
Adrianna Joyce Epps*
Justin Matthew Fisher*
Gerald Woodrow Fitzwater
Charlton Jeffrey Gandee
Heath Edward Huffman
Raven LaShay Jeffers*
Julie M. Johnson*
Zachary Alan King*
Jade Sierra Magoun

Michael Darren Oakley Kiersten Leigh Sanders* James Estel Singleton, III* Cheryl Ann Taylor Jordan Abriana Wallace James Axel Widen

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ECONOMICS

Timothy James Duff Sandra Jean King

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY

Kaylen Marie Barker Joseph Alexander Given Seth Jordan Lilly* Alexander Hamilton Long Matthew Dylan Miller Andrea Lee Shuff Maxwell Cole Snodgrass

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Jeffrey Dale Hall* Douglas Eugene Smith, II

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Ashley J. Bauer
Kelci LeeAna Browning
Mandie Elizabeth Clay*
Benjamin Maxwell Fertig
Kaitlynn Desiree Gilbert*
Alexis Elaine Gillenwater
Alyssa Hope Harrison
Katie Marie Hedrick*
Jennifer Blair Mize*
Kimberly Joyce Mooney
Deahanna Jienell Raynes
Katie Elizabeth Ryan

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Olga Y. Baranova Myers Christian Ty Baumgarner Melissa Michelle Belcher Charles Basil Bennett, III Theron Franklin Bittle, Jr. Krista-Beth Bradshaw James Ronald Broderick Allyson Lynn Burgess Morgan Rene Cole Patrick Eugene Crede* Rhiannon Nicole Dillon Camren Larry Duncan Joseph Clark Gregg Tyler Edward Hall* Isaac Daniel Hanshaw* Lucas Matundan Holsclaw Brett Matthew Kemerer Sandra Jean King Kassi Jo Scroggins Alexandria Reneé Shamblin Katrina Janea Shreves Latrice Lynette Thompson* Seth Adam Tuemler

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY

Roark Patrick Acord Daniel Wesley Barker Tonya Renee Edwards Taylor Joseph Farris Sara Raeann Ferguson Chelsey Dawn Parkins

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN

CHEMISTRY

Tigist Arefayne Geberehiwot

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE Roark Patrick Acord

Tesfahun T. Negash

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Cody Alexander Beckner Benjamin Ray Boggess Devon Montel Bollinger Erika Michelle Boxley Michael Travis Cain Mark Joseph Caple Love Jean Charles Will Jean Charles Bryan Christopher Crosier Jacob Scott Frantz Nicole Madeline Hallock Samuel Clayton Hanna Anthony Shawn Herrera David Benjamin Jones Molly Ryan Mitchell Coral Leann Queen Whitney Jenea Reid Aaron C. Sadler Caleb Michael Shawver Cortney Ann Smith Makayla Ann Stanley Danae Marie Wells Stephen James White Enya Kinski Williams Kara Renee Williamson Jerome Vincent Willis, Jr.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Courtney Danielle Bess
Joshua Wade Blackwell
Duncan James-Lee Breeden
Jenna Dawn Inman Bustle
Haley Brooke Byrd*
Jason Alan Carnes
Tawna Laura Clark
Jonathan James Cline
Jacqueline Annette Davis
Morgan Ashley Diehl
Diandra Lynn Gentilin
Cody Douglas Halstead
Holly Elizabeth Jarrett

Joshua David Keadle
Brittany Dawn Kinder
Sydney Nichole Legg
Madalyn Grace McGrew
Sarah Dawn Miller
Samuel John Neff
Caleb Elijah Parsons
Savannah Nicole Proctor
Stacie Nicole Spurlock
Katie Ann Thomas
Cassandra Jayne Totten
Bobbi J. Wiley
Trenton Tyler Williamson
Kaylee Brooke Wolfe
Baylee Danielle Young

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCE

Geoquasha Dalynn Brown Bureada Nicole Cline Cynthia Denise Hunt Kimberly Joyce Mooney Stephen Edward Murphy Bret Ryan Rorabaugh

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RECREATION Justin Michael Hunt

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK

Marissa René Counts-Hayslette Kenedie Brooke Oshel Anna Christine Ranson*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SPORTS STUDIES

Zachary Alvidrez*
Colby Matthew Brogan
Kevin Antonio Coffie
Brady Alexander Cox
Brandon Michael Dickerson
Brandon William Garcia
Phillip Evan Mandt*
Tyler Wayne Moore
Ryan James Vance

ACADEMIC HONORS



Cum Laude

Candidates who have attained cumulative grade point averages between 3.25 and 3.49

Magna Cum Laude

Candidates who have attained cumulative grade point averages between 3.50 and 3.74

Summa Cum Laude

Candidates who have attained cumulative grade point averages of 3.75 and above

With Distinction

Candidates, who are graduating with a second bachelor's degree, who have completed at least 30 hours beyond the first degree and have attained a grade point average of 3.5 and above in these additional hours.

Graduating Seniors in Honor Societies

To become a member in a University Honor Society, a student must have earned 30 hours toward his/her degree and must have met the society's specific requirements for eligibility.

Congratulations to the seniors listed for your commitment to academic excellence and thank you for the national and international recognition that you bring to West Virginia State University by your membership in these societies.

Alpha Delta Mu National Honor Society in Social Work Professor Rita Brown, advisor Kenedie Brooke Oshel

Alpha Kappa Mu
Junior and Senior National Honor Society
Dr. Sonya Armstrong, advisor
Roark Patrick Acord
Theron Franklin Bittle, Jr.
Molly Ryan Mitchell
Aaron C. Sadler

Alpha Phi Sigma
National Criminal Justice Honor Society
Dr. Cassandra B. Whyte, advisor
Erika Michelle Boxley
David Alan Cadle, II
Sharon Lynn Deal
Samuel Clayton Hanna

David Benjamin Jones Molly Ryan Mitchell Whitney Jenea Reid Aaron C. Sadler Caleb Michael Shawver Makayla Ann Stanley Danae Marie Wells Dina Renee Williams Enya Kinski Williams Kara Renee Williamson

Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society In Business Administration Professor John Hodges, advisor Theron Franklin Bittle, Jr.

Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education Professor Barbara Korn, advisor

Courtney Danielle Bess
Tawna Laura Clark
Morgan Ashley Diehl
Holly Elizabeth Jarrett
Joshua Keadle
Sydney Nichole Legg
Madalyn Grace McGrew
Sarah Dawn Miller
Samuel John Neff
Katie Ann Thomas
Cassandra Jayne Totten
Bobbi J. Wiley
Baylee Danielle Young

Omicron Delta Epsilon International Economics Honor Society Dr. Suvayan De, advisor Sandra Jean King

Phi Alpha Theta
National Honor Society for History
Dr. T. J. Park, advisor
Joseph Alexander Given
Matthew Dylan Miller
Andrea Lee Shuff

Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society Dr. Anne McConnell, advisor Bobbi J. Wiley

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 used today was designed by former Art faculty member Dr. Cubert Smith. The circular ring design in its center symbolizes the four colleges of the University: Arts and Humanities, Business and Social Sciences, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Professional Studies.

COLLEGE BANNERS



West Virginia State University students will proceed to their respective places behind gonfalons. Gonfalons are flags or banners hung from crosspieces on poles, used since medieval times in the republics of Italy as symbols of state or office. Universities and colleges around the world have adopted gonfalons to increase the ceremonial nature of commencement exercises.

This new tradition associated with commencement symbolizes the accomplishments of the graduates whom we honor on this occasion and the University's commitment to their success.

Four gonfalons of the old gold with black lettering will be carried by two faculty members from each College: the College of Arts and Humanities; the College of Business and Social Sciences; the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and the College of Professional Studies.

Banner Carriers

Arts and Humanities

Assoc. Prof. Thomas Kiddie

Asst. Prof. Lan Wang

Business Administration and Social Sciences

Assoc. Prof. Frehot Hailou Assoc. Prof. Ginta Palubinskas

Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Prof. Sonya Armstrong Assoc. Prof. Xiaohong Zhang

Professional Studies Asst. Prof. Mickey Blackwell Asst. Prof. Kerri Steele **Grand Marshal**

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Kumara Jayasuriya

Faculty Marshals

Asst. Prof. Matt Carroll Assoc. Prof. Patricia Wilson

Stage Marshals

Asst. Prof. Josh Martin Prof. Walter Stroupe

Student Marshals

Assoc. Prof. Debra Anderson-Conliffe Assoc. Prof. Patricia King

Sign Language Interpreters

Ashley Cobb Melanie Wilkerson

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Francis Scott Key

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, thru 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 through 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?

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.

