

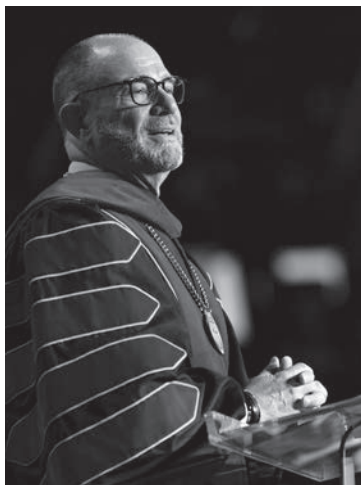


COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



May 8, 2026

Dear CCU Graduates,

Congratulations on this momentous achievement! Today, you join the growing legacy of Colorado Christian University alumni – men and women called to lead and serve with grace and truth.

This is a day of celebration as we honor the completion of your academic journey and anticipate the future God has prepared for you. Your perseverance, faithfulness, and dedication have brought you to this milestone, and I applaud your hard work.

For many of you, these years have been shaped by deep friendships and the vibrant CCU community. For others, your path has been marked by balancing studies with work and family. No matter your journey, you are – and always will be – an integral part of the CCU family.

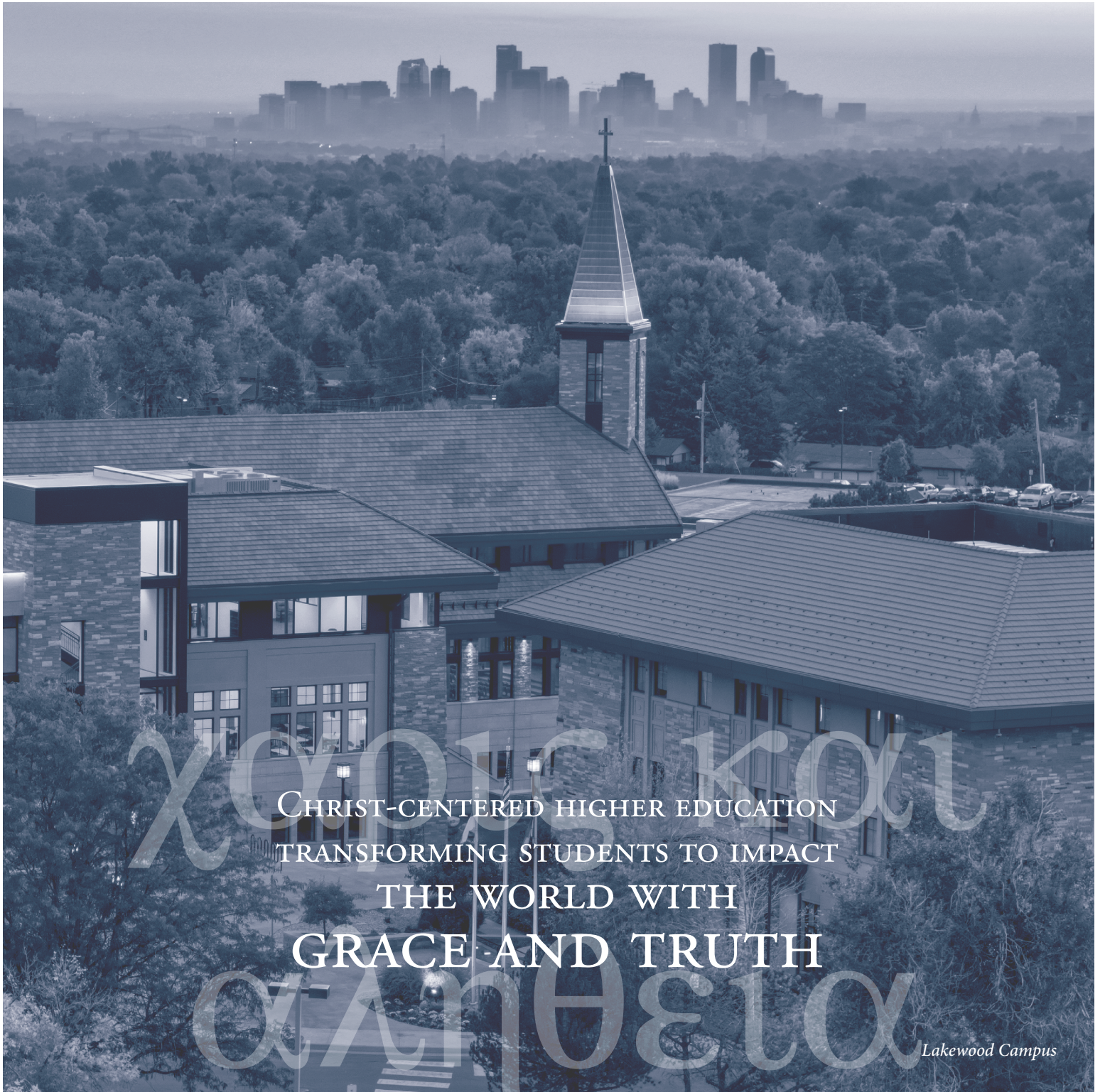
At Colorado Christian University, our mission is to provide Christ-centered higher education that transforms students to impact the world with grace and truth. As you step forward, I encourage you to walk boldly in your calling. Romans 12:2 reminds us to “be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

My prayer is that you remain steadfast in faith, unwavering in truth, and courageous in service. May the Lord bless and guide you as you shine His light in the world.

Soli Deo Gloria,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric K. Hogue". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large initial "E" and "H".

Eric K. Hogue, M.Th.
President
Colorado Christian University



ΧΡΟΝΟΣ ΚΑΙ
ΧΑΡΙΣ ΚΑΙ
ΑΛΗΘΕΙΑ

CHRIST-CENTERED HIGHER EDUCATION
TRANSFORMING STUDENTS TO IMPACT
THE WORLD WITH
GRACE AND TRUTH

Lakewood Campus

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Commencement Speaker and Honorary Doctorate Recipients	p. 4
Order of the Program: College of Adult and Graduate Studies	p. 6
Degree Candidates: College of Adult and Graduate Studies, Doctoral Degrees	p. 8
Degree Candidates: College of Adult and Graduate Studies, Graduate Degrees	p. 9
Degree Candidates: College of Adult and Graduate Studies, Undergraduate Degrees	p. 13
Order of the Program: College of Undergraduate Studies	p. 20
Degree Candidates: CCU Academy	p. 22
Degree Candidates: College of Undergraduate Studies	p. 22
CCU Leadership Award	p. 26
University Honors	p. 27
Academic Regalia	p. 28
Traditions of CCU	p. 29
About the University	p. 30
University History	p. 31
University Distinctives	p. 32
University Leadership	p. 34
Board of Trustees and Advisory Council, President's Cabinet	
Deans	
College of Adult and Graduate Studies	p. 35
College of Undergraduate Studies	p. 35

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

AND HONORARY DOCTORATE RECIPIENT

Betsy DeVos



Betsy DeVos is a nationally recognized leader in education, philanthropy, and public service, known for her steadfast commitment to expanding opportunity and advancing principled leadership. She served as the 11th U.S. Secretary of Education, where she championed policies focused on innovation, parental choice, and increased access to high-quality education. Throughout her career, DeVos has been a leading advocate for educational freedom, firmly believing that every student is uniquely created by God and deserving of the opportunity to develop their God-given gifts and talents.

Guided by her Christian faith, DeVos has devoted decades to philanthropic and civic efforts that strengthen families, support faith-based initiatives, and encourage entrepreneurship and personal responsibility. She is a passionate advocate for Christ-centered higher education, believing that institutions grounded in a biblical worldview equip students not only with knowledge and skills, but also with wisdom, character, and a deep sense of calling to serve God and neighbor. Through her leadership and public voice, she affirms the transformative power of integrating faith and learning, inspiring graduates to pursue excellence and impact their communities for Christ.

HONORARY DOCTORATE RECIPIENT

Jack Carroll Phillips



Jack Carroll Phillips opened Masterpiece Cakeshop in 1993 and has served the Lakewood, Colorado, community for more than 25 years. A skilled artisan and small business owner, Phillips is known for his commitment to excellence in his craft and to serving his customers with care and respect.

As a creative professional, Phillips has sought to operate his business in a manner consistent with his deeply held Christian beliefs, declining certain custom design requests that he felt he could not personally endorse, while continuing to serve customers in other ways.

His commitment to living and working according to his convictions led to a widely publicized legal case that ultimately reached the United States Supreme Court. In 2018, the Court ruled in his favor, affirming important constitutional protections related to religious freedom and freedom of expression.

Throughout years of legal proceedings, Phillips has remained dedicated to his faith, his family, his craft, and his community.

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

2026 CEREMONY

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

9 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING



BLUE ARENA
LOVELAND, COLORADO

ORDER OF THE PROGRAM

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Steven T. Taylor
Dean, School of Music

Processional March

University Symphonic Band and University Choir
Mr. Mark S. Dorn
Coordinator of Instrumental Studies and Professor
School of Music
Dr. David McNeil
Director of Choral Studies and Associate Professor
School of Music
"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"
by Ludwig van Beethoven, melody from *Symphony No. 9*,
text by Henry van Dyke, setting by Taras Nahirniak

Marshals

Mr. Michael Voris
Senior Director of Retention
Mrs. Kathy Wolfe
Director of Retention

National Anthem †

University Symphonic Band and University Choir
"The Star-Spangled Banner"
by Francis Scott Key, arranged by Russell Robinson

Introductory Remarks

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

Invocation*

Mr. Wil Armstrong
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Student Address

Sarah Ryan
School of Biblical and Theological Studies

Presentation of Honors

Dr. Earl Waggoner
Supervising Dean, College of Adult and Graduate Studies

Outstanding Doctoral Student

Duchana Gille
School of Counseling

Outstanding Graduate Students

Samori Williams
School of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Natalie Monk
School of Biblical and Theological Studies
Rebecca Miller
School of Business and Technology
Crystal Santos
School of Counseling
John Byrne
School of Education Professions
Laura Riehl
School of Nursing and Health Professions

Outstanding Undergraduate Students

Pualani Nguyen-Grantham
School of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Sarah Ryan
School of Biblical and Theological Studies
Kimberly Bird
School of Business and Technology
Kerry Viney
School of Education Professions

† Ladies and gentlemen, please stand. Gentlemen, remove your caps. * Gentlemen, please remove your caps.

ORDER OF THE PROGRAM

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Introduction of Speaker

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

Commencement Address

Mrs. Betsy DeVos

Honorary Doctorate Degree

Mrs. Betsy DeVos

Commissioning, Alumni Association Induction

Presentation of Doctoral Degree Candidates

Dr. Ryan Burkhart
Dean, School of Counseling
Dr. Christine Lepianka
Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions

Presentation of Master's Degree Candidates

Dr. David Murphy
Dean, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Dr. Earl Waggoner
Dean, School of Biblical and Theological Studies
Dr. Letta Campbell
Interim Dean, School of Business and Technology
Dr. Ryan Burkhart
Dean, School of Counseling
Dr. Jeff Renfrow
Dean, School of Education Professions
Dr. Christine Lepianka
Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions

Presentation of Associate and Bachelor's Degree Candidates

Dr. David Murphy
Dean, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Dr. Earl Waggoner
Dean, School of Biblical and Theological Studies

Dr. Letta Campbell
Interim Dean, School of Business and Technology

Dr. Jeff Renfrow
Dean, School of Education Professions

Dr. Christine Lepianka
Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions

Special Music

University Symphonic Band and University Choir
Vocals by Dr. Biff Gore, Member, Board of Trustees

"Holy Forever"

by Chris Tomlin, arranged by Taras Nahirniak

Conferring of Degrees

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

*Dedicatory Prayer and Benediction**

Mr. Wil Armstrong
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Closing Comments

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

Recessional

University Symphonic Band and University Choir

"Battle Hymn of the Republic"
arranged by Peter Wilhousky

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
by Thomas Chisholm and William Runyan,
arranged by Taras Nahirniak

* Gentlemen, please remove your caps.

DEGREE CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES



Participation in the Commencement ceremony and inclusion in the Commencement program do not confer a degree upon a student, do not certify that a student has fulfilled all graduation requirements, and may not be used as proof of completion of the degree requirements. Participation indicates that an individual is a candidate for graduation. All eligible degree candidates at the time of printing were confirmed by the Office of the Registrar and are included in the program.

¹ University Honors ² *Cum Laude* ³ *Magna Cum Laude* ⁴ *Summa Cum Laude* ⁵ High Distinction

Laude, University, and Graduate Honors published here are based on the student's cumulative GPA at the time of printing. Final honors designations will be posted on transcripts and diplomas and may be subject to change based on the student's final cumulative GPA.

School of Counseling

Doctor of Philosophy in Counselor Education and Supervision

Duchana Gille
M.A., Colorado Christian University
B.S., Montclair State University

Dissertation Title:
*The Lived Experiences of Black
Women with Depression in Mental
Health Treatment*

Amy Weber
M.A., Colorado Christian University
B.A., Ashford University

Dissertation Title:
*Counseling Students' Attitudes on
Borderline Personality Disorder and
the Influence of Attachment-Based
Training*

School of Nursing and Health Professions

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Jemimah Clay
MSN, North Park University
BSN, Saint Francis Medical Center
College of Nursing

Evidence-based Practice Project:
*Use of a Christian, Faith-based Mobile
Application to Augment Cognitive
Behavioral Therapy with Postpartum
Depression Patients in the Clinic
Setting*

Malinda Lebrun
MSN, Western Governors University
BSN, Chamberlain University

Evidence-based Practice Project:
*Building Confidence and Comfort
for Healthcare Providers and Staff
Addressing Childhood Physical
Punishment: Creating a Safe Place for
Everyone*

Peter F. Molina
MSN, Grand Canyon University
BSN, Grand Canyon University

Evidence-based Practice Project:
*The Impact of Implementing Stress
Relieving Techniques to Reduce Stress
Amongst Junior Level Students in a
BSN Program*

Matthew Pendergrass
MSN, University of Colorado-
Colorado Springs
BSN, Auburn University

Evidence-based Practice Project:
*The Impact of a Mobile Application
Style Mindfulness Program on Anxiety
Symptoms in Adults with Elevated
GAD-7 Scores*

Brittney L. Reagan
MSN, University of Colorado-
Denver
BSN, Tennessee Technological
University

Evidence-based Practice Project:
*Flexible Work Schedules vs.
Standard 12-Hour Shifts: A Quality
Improvement Project to Enhance
Emergency Nurse Satisfaction*

Sharon Lorraine Wells
MSN, Rutgers University
BSN, New Jersey City University

Evidence-based Practice Project:
*Nurse-led Nutritional and Cultural
Tailored Education Program for
African American Adults with
Hypertension in a Faith-Based
Medical Clinic*

DEGREE CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

GRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES



School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Master of Science in Criminal Justice

Michael M. Bailey
Sasha L. Barella
Briston James Bruce
Krystal Carder
Michael Czerwinski
Micah Shane Diffendal⁵
Gelen Hernandez
Tyler Reynolds⁵
Tamatha Lorraine Stinson⁵

Master of Science in Psychology

Joyce M. Auma Ombere Abur
Brittany Victoria Bertagna
Holly Elon Bishop⁵
Cassandra Brickens
Joy Curbow⁵
Annabel Eaton-Forsythe⁵
Darlene Edwards
Charonica Fondren-Oliver
Travis P. Fowler⁵
Jordon Louise Heckert
Carolyn Yvonne Johnson
Alesha Merry Kelly
Maria Soledad Koo
Christi M. Langius⁵
Stephanie Kay Lewis
Chester L. Mallory III
Rediat T. Mamo
Ashley Elise Mars
Melanie Lynn Mills
Alexis Monique Oaks
Celeste Michelle Peña
Nancy Lynne Robinson
Brianna R. Roe
Priscilla Sharon Sifuentes⁵
Mary E. Taylor-Nash
Samori M'boya Edward Williams Jr.

School of Biblical and Theological Studies

Master of Arts in Applied Apologetics

Christopher Aaron Knauper⁵
Cassidy Michelle Lebsack Martinez
Michael Robert Smith
Rodney W. Turk⁵

Master of Arts in Biblical Studies

Ruth Isiomokhome Ajibogun
Joselito Ting Baluyot⁵
Cassandra Denise Betts
Kelly L. Bever
Matthew Ciapha
Stanley James Conklin
Daniel Cortes
Jerrid Albert Cortez⁵
Carmela Cosner⁵
Kayla Marie Cothran⁵
Berald Dominique
Jaimie Flores-Trevino
Brianna Nicole Garnes⁵
Kenyetta M. Grayer⁵
Linda G. Griffin
Georgiann L. Humphrey-
Grant
Jimmy Jimenez⁵
Albert J. Krauzza Jr.⁵
Rochelle Laura
Crystal M. Leonard
Cynthia L. Lotshaw⁵
Kayla Mae Lucas⁵
Ivory D. Marshall
Abigail Parker
Patrick W.S. Rakes⁵
Sabree A. Rashid⁵
Laida B. Soto
Minani Theoneste

Rebecca Ann Threadgill
Peter P. Wiza IV⁵

Master of Arts in Executive Leadership in Christian Ministry

Katherine Grace Bergford⁵
Kyle David Evans⁵
Norma Dominguez Gomez
Mike Hazelrigg⁵
Geansli Joseph

Master of Arts in Theology

Mark Roy Brownlee
Aaron K. Faulkner⁵
Raquel Hamm
William Ray Laugherty
Mark Thomas McConnell⁵
Natalie Christine Monk⁵
Keven Anthony Shaw
Jennifer F. Sterling
Luke Thigpen⁵
Glenn S. Thomas
Gregory Vannatta⁵

School of Business and Technology

Master of Business Administration

William Christopher Brassil
Gracy Buller⁵
Abdelaziz Ahmat Charfadine⁵
Malisha Charlery-Brathwaite⁵
Lindsey Marie Chavez
Jennifer Freeland Eskridge
Mary Frailey⁵
Mario A. French⁵
Mirian Giraldo Garcia
Greg Guzman
James Dwayne Hall⁵
Eric Michael Johnson⁵

Joshua Riley Kraus
Connor Ryan Laeng⁵
Larissa Larraga⁵
Emily Pace
Diana Kay Previlus⁵
Nekia Antoinette Ricks
Matthew David Storer II⁵
Maureen Mawuli Tachie
Calantha Blair Thompson
Nathaniel Villarreal
Megan Ashley Wurth

Master of Organizational Leadership

Jennifer R. Barnard⁵
Leana Keana Davis
Ozi B. Gbabwe⁵
Kareisha Lashun Hartsfield
Jose Antonio Ibarra Castro
Candice Morris⁵
Jacqueline M. Rondoni⁵
Tyshon T. Wallace

Master of Science in Accounting

Rebecca Lynn Miller⁵
Brandon Timothy Murray
Lori Murray
Abrielle Sadusky

Master of Science in Cyber Security

Natalie Johnson
Blessing Odudu Ogunmade-
Olabode
Jerry L. Treadwell⁵

Master of Science in Human Resource Management

LaTasha Lashawn Baker⁵
Mikayla Ann Denk⁵
Abigail Marie Hathaway⁵

DEGREE CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

GRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES



Jennifer Ann Lane
Heather Morgan⁵
Jannet Fatmata Pessima⁵
DeAnna Jana Pete⁵
Shantell D. Rolfe⁵
Anita Faye Stolberg⁵
Kathryn Wiley

School of Counseling

Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Amber Fikes Adams⁵
Tyler M. Adkins
Clair Ann Alaman⁵
Kimberley Marie Alger⁵
Kevin D. Alvis
Andrea Raschel Anderson⁵
Karley J. Andrus-Daniels⁵
Sydney Aragon⁵
Sally A. Armistead
Makenzie Leigh Arnold⁵
Oluwatosin Samuel Ayeni⁵
Antonio Demont Bagley
Sarai Baide⁵
Joshua Kenneth Barker⁵
Christina Bartlett⁵
Sarah Hellena Beckham
Madison Hope Bentley⁵
Richard Francis Bland⁵
Rachel Bliese⁵
Lee Wolfe Blum
Taylor Pearl Bolchoz⁵
Johnjalyn Bond Faulkner
Rebecca Laura Marie Boyd⁵
Brian Hal Bretton⁵
Amanda Sue Brown⁵
Bethany Ann Buchholz
Brenda Bundrick⁵
Christian Caradonna⁵
Caroline Nicole Caratini⁵

Elena A. Castillo⁵
Kathryn Ashleigh Caudell
Audrey Rose Cavazos⁵
Katherine Elizabeth Chapin⁵
Gunter Vance Chenoweth⁵
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Kara Clapp⁵
Kathy Ann Clow⁵
Ryann Bryant Creel⁵
Hannah G. Coleman⁵
Deeanna Lynn Van Leuven
Croasmun⁵
Caitlin Ashley Culpepper⁵
Robert E. Daugherty⁵
Stephanie Sue Davis⁵
Darren John Demaree⁵
Alexandria Maria Demco
Michele Loyd DesLattes⁵
Thomas Wayne DesLattes⁵
Katie Dizon⁵
Lindsey Doering⁵
Lori Sue Douglas⁵
Amber Drinkall⁵
Amy Cheryl DuBose⁵
Jason Warren Dunn⁵
Dawson Dupree⁵
Sarah E. Easton⁵
Kristin Elizabeth⁵
Genesis Escalera⁵
Julianna Katherine Lange Evans⁵
Karen Ruth Evans⁵
Elsa Wieboldt Fast⁵
Brianna Marie Favela
Danielle Federico-Valdez
Brittney Fetterman
Joshua Brian Fleming⁵
Meredith Lindsey Frewerd⁵
Katherine Funk
Amy Joanne Gambrell⁵
Robyn J. Gardner
Natalia Martins Gato
Lauryn Beth Gatschet⁵
Sarah McKinney Gauthier⁵
Melissa S. Geiger⁵
Briana Antionette Alissa Geter

Julie Anne Gonzales⁵
Tara R. Good⁵
Chloe Graham⁵
Celeste Grant⁵
Hunter James Hafer⁵
Aisha Coon Hanson⁵
Heather Gail Hawkins⁵
Michele Ann Heath⁵
J.J. Hedden⁵
Lori Renae Henry⁵
Desiree Herron
Anne Margaret Hersom⁵
Heidi Lynn Hiett⁵
Elisa Vizoso Hillberry⁵
Stephanie L. Howard⁵
Michelle Nichole Hoyer⁵
Ikechukwu Charles Ikeocha
Madeline Ingram⁵
Taylor Jackson
Jennifer Anne Jadlot⁵
Michelle L. Jeffrey
Miriam Nereida Jimenez
Cheryl Diane Johnson⁵
Glenda Joyce Johnson
Kaleb James Jones
Krista D. Juhl⁵
Nicole Diann Kalu⁵
Elizabeth Jeanne Keegan-Wind⁵
Ashley Kennedy⁵
Brock Anthony Knowles⁵
Faith Koehler
Valan Kornhaus⁵
Amy M. Kovacs⁵
Megan Crystal Kreitzberg⁵
Amanda Lawrence⁵
Debra Lee Lawrence⁵
Blake Andrew Lee
Carey Alice Lindblad McGrath
Rachel Lingle⁵
Amy Renee Long-Markakis⁵
Giovanna Yael Lopez
Talya Rose Lynette⁵
Jenna Grace Mahaffey
Jeffrey Marcel⁵
Stuart David Marshburn⁵

Brianna Emily Martinez⁵
Adaire Mason
Bobbie Jean May⁵
Evelyn A. Mazariegos⁵
Rebekah Fields McCloughan⁵
Eleanor S. McConnell⁵
Suzanne C. McCormack⁵
Bailey McFadden⁵
Isabelle Grayce McGuire
Fiona Lara McHugh⁵
Camille R. Meddings
Logan Menzies Journey⁵
Brooklyn Jade Mesward⁵
Daniel Meyer⁵
Angela Lynn Minnig⁵
Hannah Christine Miracle⁵
Elena Angelina Munguia Moore⁵
LaRon Moore⁵
Luke Thatcher Mounts⁵
Mollie Catherine Munn⁵
Melissa Diane Nelson⁵
Austin Michael Nichols⁵
Nicole A. Nyquest⁵
Angela S. Odom⁵
Keeva M. O'Mealey⁵
Cathryn R. Pacheco⁵
Luke Pahlau⁵
Sarah Parsons
Grace Leann Patton
Emily Ellen Pethel⁵
Corinne Pettyjohn
Payne M. Pleima⁵
Tamara Powers-Nickerson⁵
Armicia L. Pratt
Chessie Lee Price⁵
Ryan C. Priddy
Nicole A. Prince⁵
Danielle Rene Ramseier⁵
Ivy Marie Silvestre Regidor⁵
Leinni Rego
Naomi Marlene Reyes⁵
Hannah Nicole Rhodes⁵
Alfonso Rivera Jr.⁵
Casie Jean Rizza⁵
Lindsey Renae Roberts⁵

DEGREE CANDIDATES



COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

GRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Teirstynn Nicole Roberts⁵
Andrea Rodriguez⁵
Mindy M. Rodriguez⁵
Erin Feagins Rogers⁵
Samaria Lanette Roope
Christina Marie Roque⁵
Deaven LaRay Sais
Clarissa Torres Sanabria⁵
Phillip Paul Sandoval⁵
Kristine Santiago
Crystal Arri Santos⁵
Raychelle Dominique Santos⁵
Cameron Kumar Sarin⁵
Erica Schlender⁵
Louanna Schoon⁵
Stacey L. Searcy⁵
Jacob Seely⁵
Emma Elizabeth Sees⁵
Adriana Desiree Sevilla⁵
Melanie Goates Sharp⁵
Sophia Shawen⁵
Natalie Grace Shepard⁵
Henry F. Shuler⁵
Olivia J. Sidebotham⁵
Saundra Suzanne Siebersma⁵
Emily K. Simpson
Christine Elizabeth Smith⁵
Janet Elisabeth Smith⁵
Joseph M. Smith
Retta Smith⁵
Austin Michael Smithson⁵
Kimberly Anne Sperl
Sue Branon Stephens⁵
Angela Diane Stout⁵
Abigail Louise Ashley Sweeney⁵
Monica S. Szkorla⁵
Megan Christine Token⁵
Christina Veronica Tuning
Kayla Elizabeth-Margaret Utter
Lianne Crystal Vivanco⁵
Karissa Walhof⁵
Deshae Waller⁵
Valari Whatley⁵
Andrea Katherine Wiebe⁵
Madison Williamson Smith⁵

Marian Jane Wilson⁵
Jillian Rae Hutchison Workman⁵
Tiffani Nicole York⁵

Master of Arts in School Counseling

Charles Bondurant VI⁵
Angelika Beatriz Broussard
Amanda Sue Brown⁵
Jasmine-Rose Bryant⁵
Carolyn Stephanie Creek⁵
Katherine Funk
Desiree Herron
Carolsue Lo
Jeffrey Marcel⁵
Isabelle Grayce McGuire
Angela Lynn Minnig⁵
Danielle Rene Ramseier⁵
Kenzie Lauren Ray
Amanda K. Tagtow⁵
Heidi Ann Velas⁵
Ashleigh Nicole Westheider⁵
Keri Ellen White⁵

School of Education Professions

Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction

Jacob Abraham Albisurez⁵
Ashley Brianna Aldrich⁵
Jordan Celon Anderson
Corrie Anne Bailey
Brooke Schuyler Bartelson
Tamara Behrman
Virgal L. Bressner⁵
Roosevelt Cooper Jr.
Cassandra Elizabeth France⁵
Sarah R. Harper
Kaitlin Brooke Heaston
Britta Holmberg⁵
Peter Matthew Jeans⁵

Kirsten Jessica Muro⁵
Gabriela Marie Olander
Joeline D. Paterson⁵
Sonia Alondra Ramirez
Denise Sanchez
Sara Sanderman⁵
Amanda Jeanne Schleicher⁵
Jaida R. Searles
Kaleena Marie Thetford
Kathleen Jean Vance⁵
Maria Vidal-Ribas de Salas⁵

Master of Education in Educational Leadership

Rebecca Bentivegna⁵
John P. Byrne Jr.
Morgan Lee Cassel⁵
Ashley Marie Ely⁵
Mark Wallace Ford
Rashell Coleman McLennan
Kathleen Mary Miller-Mayer⁵
Megan Okita
Julie Ann Smith
Michael John Svendsen
Chloe Jean Whatley⁵

Master of Education in Special Education

Kimberly L. Arias
Meghan A. Bailey
Elizabeth D. Beel⁵
Katrina Jordan Hayden Elliott⁵
Samantha Sue Galloway
Mary Katherine Hughes
Ashley L. Lawson
LaNell R. Nelkin⁵
Journey M. Ralbovsky
Cydny Sanders Rogers⁵
Sheila Marie Sheets
Sherry Lynn Wexelberg⁵

Master of Education in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Lesli Hope McDonald
Julie Seeley

School of Nursing and Health Professions

Master of Science in Nursing

Chisom Azuogu
Jade Meadow Brock⁵
Patricia Gutierrez⁵
Nicholas Lossette Henderson
Rachel Beth Kotter⁵
Audrey Lynn Moore⁵
Laura Ashley Riehl⁵
Amanda Catherine Spahr



Lakewood Campus

DEGREE CANDIDATES



COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

Associate of Arts in Communication Studies

Sarah Akey
Rashad Grant
Charlotte Kindrick
Vincent Matthew Lopez

Associate of Arts in General Studies

Edna KV Blake
Xavier Burks
Lydia R. Figueroa
Ashley Paige Gundlach
Jennifer Lynn Medeiros
Alexander Thomas Cruz Medina
Nicholas Khang Nguyen
Nicole Stiff

Associate of Science in Criminal Justice

Michael Robert Coss
Brittany Morgan Dillard
Demetrie Savannah Sepeda
Sandra L. Sharp
Manuel DeJesus Soto

Associate of Science in Psychology

Awilda Batista Batista
Heather A. Beal
Valesha Belser
Tenisha Bullock
Angela L. Daniels
Feline Oshun Demesmin
Felourde Demesmin
Tayna Lynn Detillion
Angela Christine Dumka
Jose M. Estevez Espinal

Ebony Latoya Fair
Irmadina McGraw Gallardo
Jade J. Hanks
Alyssa Harman
Corine Rebecca Herring
Christina Denise Hunt
Nairitsi Jiménez Rijo
Zephennia Jones
Kellie Renee Kelso
Jessica M. Lane
Anabella Mendez
Andrea Olivares
Judy Rene Overturf
Rosa Pardo
Casandra Isabel Rivera Ayala
Tracy Ann Rodriguez
Rebecca Alane Ryba
Maria Teresa Sanchez
Leslie Schwartz
Dave V. Simpson
Miyona Ann Sturdivant-Perez
Trinidad
Abigail I. Thompson
Angelisa Thompson
Darryl C. Thompson Jr.
Tracy Anne Thurmond
Montana L. Trinh
Sierra Ashton Williams
Tonisha Williams
Samantha Lynn Wilson

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies

Briante Brown¹
Gabrielle Alyssa Jenkins³
Shaconya N. Mack³
Susan L. McNew
Brandi Michele Specht²
Katelyn M. Van Hofwegen¹

Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing

Candace Brooke Behrmann¹
Taylor A. Bumpus
Kathryn Cure¹
Caitlin Demers⁴
Ashley Danielle Earnis
Karis Caitlyn Hand⁴
Amanda Corene Hodges³
Zachary Walden Johnston
Ian Augustine Kellems³
Ellie Kuroda¹
Brandi Michele Specht²
Caitlyn M. Springer³

Bachelor of Science in Applied Psychology

Sonia Akumu¹
Laurie Diane Baxter⁴
Adriana Cecilia Beasley¹
Jared A. Bergford⁴
Cheann P. Bopp³
Amy M. Bright⁴
Canise S. Brooks
Nelida Brown¹
Sherri Bushard³
Darlene Heidi Cabral
Tala Maxine Canby
Amanda Kathleen Carey¹
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Sabrina Toronto Carswell¹
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Laura Guzman
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Joe Hearty⁴
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Samantha Nicole Irwin¹
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Demisty Kaliman¹
Alicia Kober⁴
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Dustin Andrew Moss
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Virginia Marie Noble¹
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COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

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Bailey Shea Williams
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Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

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School of Biblical and Theological Studies

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Raneisha D. Dowdley

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Jenny Mae Greeno
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James A. Kellas
Mackton Leit
Joseph Michael Long
Terrance Lamar Mckinney
Almeda Cheryal McLeod
Latifa Moore
Teresa Lynn Nash
Courtney Schae Nelson
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Carmen Selena Paris
Elizabeth Grace Parish
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Vraymah McCoy Stepp Jr.
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Amoretta Delane Stevons
Piper Laurie Taylor
Donna Lynn Tucker
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Annisia Washington
Amber Lee Weikert
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Bachelor of Arts in Applied Apologetics

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Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies

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Shane D. Wright¹

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School of Business and Technology

*Associate of Science in
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Rebecca Jean Handerhan
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Dawn M. Mays
Kacie Alia Parker
Shayna Renee Tucker
Jeffrey Allen Williams Jr.

*Associate of Science in Computer
Information Technology*

Darin Rucker

*Associate of Science in
Computer Science*

Rodger Sargent

*Associate of Science in
Cyber Security*

James Lee Jr.

*Associate of Science in
Healthcare Administration*

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Latoya Lavallais
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Diane Bonner
Samantha Jo Byers
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Sophia Llewellyn-Bradford

*Associate of Science in Logistics
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*Associate of Science in
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*Associate of Science in
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Ronald William Scadden⁴
Haley Smith³

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Grany Eliam Mariane Ette¹
Reston E. Stanton⁴

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Alma Angelica Cordova
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Aidan Charles Welsh¹

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Pamela Lynn Medina
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Seth Burton Setzler⁴
Sherry L. Wettschreck⁴

*Bachelor of Science in
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Thomas Scott Gallegos¹

*Bachelor of Science in
Information Systems
Management*

Adebimpe Ewesor²

*Bachelor of Science in Logistics
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COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES



Matthew Ryan Geving
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*Bachelor of Science in
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Shanda Miller¹
Garfield S. Murden³
Collins Poole
Tyler W. Zeller³

*Bachelor of Science in
Organizational Management
in Christian Leadership*

Errin Hogan²

*Bachelor of Science in
Organizational Management
in Project Management*

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Landar Brandt Fangsrud¹
Andrew T. Fargo⁴
Kellen Grant Ferguson
Baylie Elisabeth Ann Lindell¹
Lucinda Marie Runyon
Hilary L. Sanford²
Steven Smith¹
Jackson Casey Stahl¹
Kandace Nichole Wren⁴

School of Education Professions

*Bachelor of Arts in Early
Childhood Education (Licensure)*

Crystal K. Alvarado³
Hannah Christine Keller¹
Balize L. Sims⁴
Alexa Kay Smith⁴
Sarah Anne Tompkins⁴
Lashandria Ieshia Vereen²

*Bachelor of Arts in Early
Childhood Education
(Non-Licensure)*

Brianna R. Castaldo

*Bachelor of Arts in Elementary
Education (Licensure)*

Jessica Lynne Barrett⁴
Jennifer R. Buell⁴
Meranda Sky Daniels
Kacey Deroche¹
Gabriella Michelle-Paige Harris¹
Emma Sonya Kearse³
Melissa Jane McDaniel³
Anastasia Nakama⁴
Jessica Puranaputra⁴
Alicia Christine Rausch²
Hannah Grace Snow¹
Vanessa Wiczorek⁴

*Bachelor of Arts in Elementary
Education (Non-Licensure)*

Christa Ann Byrne⁴
Derek A. Skellchock¹

*Bachelor of Arts in Special
Education, K-12 (Licensure)*

Yajaira Armendariz²
Katrina Ann Coggins⁴
Rebekah M. Duzan⁴
Cody W. Ogle
Jennifer Lynn Sam
Taurey Nanette Souza⁴
Kerry Matthew Viney⁴

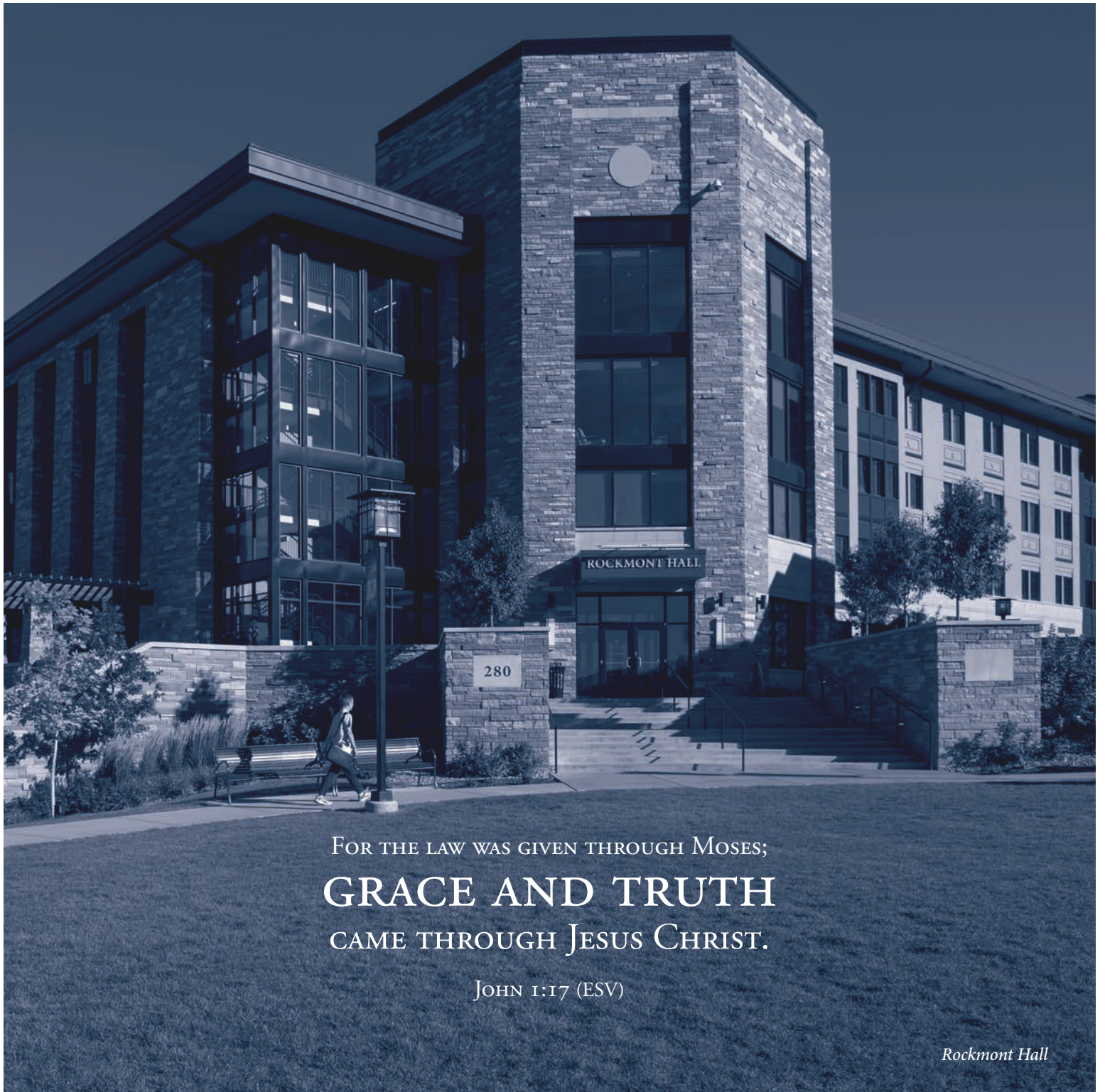
*Bachelor of Arts in Special
Education, K-12
(Non-Licensure)*

Makayla Molina
Sadie Anne Yoder⁴

School of Nursing and Health Professions

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

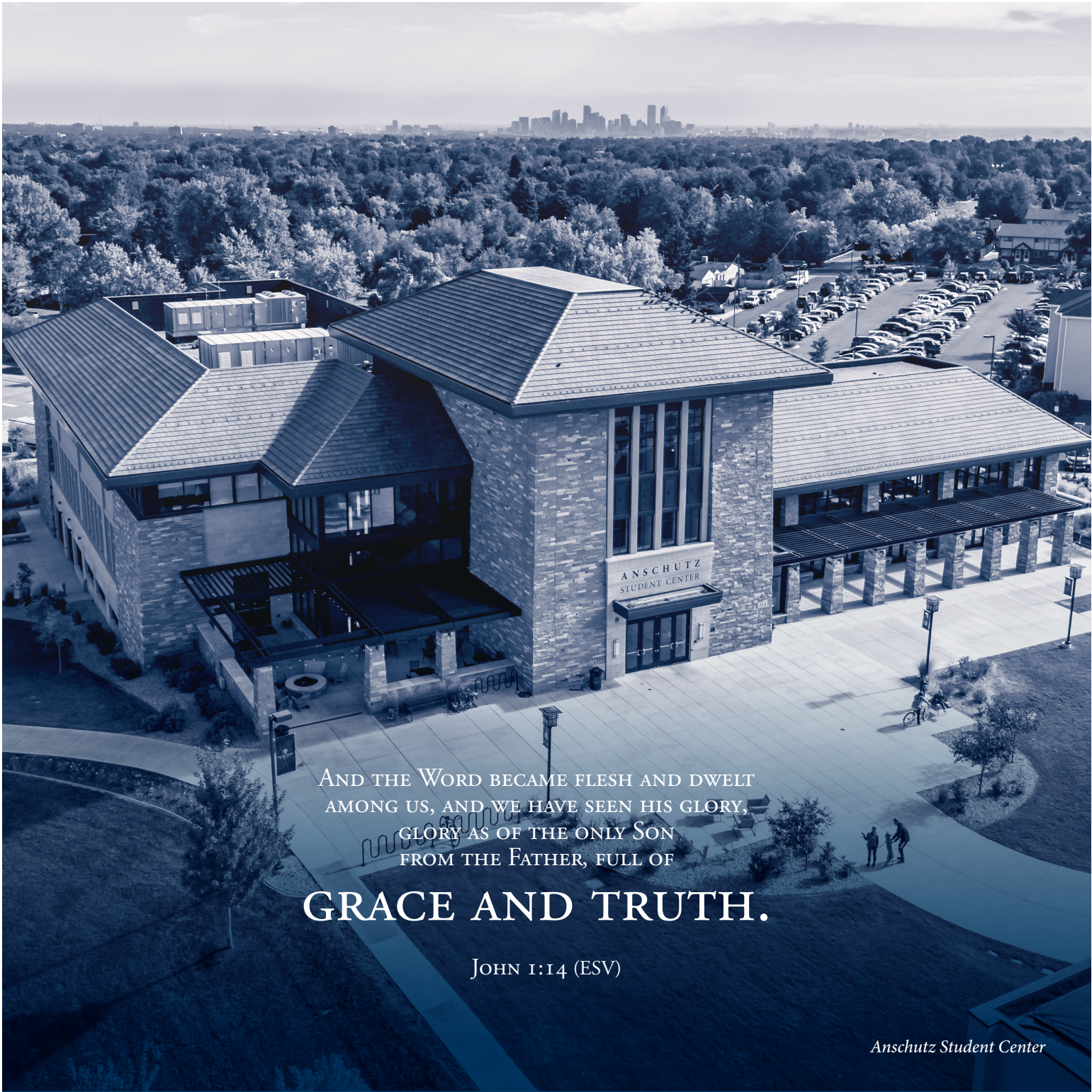
Carlie Faith Alsup
Nadia Estefania Arias²
Charley Rae Benjamin
Alice Daisy Gardea Nunez
Christine Leigh Lankford
Noseline Lindor Dasny¹
Nicole Marie Medina¹
Rahwa Negasi Tesfai¹
Tuwuonidiary D. Wachuku¹



FOR THE LAW WAS GIVEN THROUGH MOSES;
GRACE AND TRUTH
CAME THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.

JOHN 1:17 (ESV)

Rockmont Hall



AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND DWELT
AMONG US, AND WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY,
GLORY AS OF THE ONLY SON
FROM THE FATHER, FULL OF

GRACE AND TRUTH.

JOHN 1:14 (ESV)

Anschutz Student Center

COLLEGE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

2026 CEREMONY

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

3:30 IN THE AFTERNOON



BLUE ARENA
LOVELAND, COLORADO

ORDER OF THE PROGRAM

COLLEGE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Steven T. Taylor
Dean, School of Music

Processional March

University Symphonic Band and University Choir
Mr. Mark S. Dorn
Coordinator of Instrumental Studies and Professor
School of Music
Dr. David McNeil
Director of Choral Studies and Associate Professor
School of Music

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”
by Ludwig van Beethoven, melody from *Symphony No. 9*,
text by Henry van Dyke, setting by Taras Nahirniak

Marshals

Mr. Paul Faust
Director of Spiritual Formation and Campus Pastor
Mrs. Sharon Felker
Dean of Students
Mr. M. Kevin Miller
Distinguished Professor, School of Business and Leadership
Dr. Diane Badzinski
Professor, School of Humanities and Social Sciences

National Anthem †

University Symphonic Band and University Choir
“The Star-Spangled Banner”
by Francis Scott Key, arranged by Russell Robinson

Introductory Remarks

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

*Invocation**

Mr. Wil Armstrong
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Student Address

Lindsay K. Cochran
School of Business and Leadership

Presentation of Honors

Dr. Janet M. Black
Vice President of Academic Affairs

Valedictorian

Eliana N. Darr
School of Business and Leadership and
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Outstanding Seniors

Kwasi D. Boadi-Amponing
School of Business and Leadership
Kristina A. House
School of Education
Klay W. Grant
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Colgan C. Berard
School of Music
Lindsey R. Duff
School of Nursing and Health Professions
Levi J. Santoro
School of Science and Engineering
Aiden B. Chandler
School of Theology

ORDER OF THE PROGRAM

COLLEGE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

ROTC Officer Candidate Recognition

Captain David Hermerding, U.S. Army
Rachel Densmore, Peter Junker, Landen Scott

Introduction of Speaker

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

Commencement Address

Mrs. Betsy DeVos

Honorary Doctorate Degree

Mr. Jack Carroll Phillips

Leadership Award Presentation

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

Commissioning, Alumni Association Induction

Presentation of Associate and Bachelor's Degree Candidates

Ms. Britt Snyder
Dean, CCU Academy

Dr. Peter A. Kerr
Dean, School of Business and Leadership

Dr. Debora L. Scheffel
Dean, School of Education

Dr. Gary Steward
Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Mr. Steven T. Taylor
Dean, School of Music

Dr. Christine Lepianka
Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions

Dr. Mark A. Parker
Dean, School of Science and Engineering

Dr. David S. Kotter
Dean, School of Theology

Special Music

University Symphonic Band and University Choir

Vocals by Dr. Biff Gore, Member, Board of Trustees

"Holy Forever"

by Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Phil Wickham, Brian Johnson, Jenn Johnson, arranged by Taras Nahirniak

Conferring of Degrees

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

*Dedicatory Prayer and Benediction**

Mr. Wil Armstrong
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Closing Comments

Mr. Eric K. Hogue
President

Recessional

University Symphonic Band and University Choir

"Battle Hymn of the Republic"
arranged by Peter Wilhousky

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
by Thomas Chisholm, text by William M. Runyan, setting by Taras Nahirniak

DEGREE CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



Participation in the Commencement ceremony and inclusion in the Commencement program do not confer a degree upon a student, do not certify that a student has fulfilled all graduation requirements, and may not be used as proof of completion of the degree requirements. Participation indicates that an individual is a candidate for graduation. All eligible degree candidates at the time of printing were confirmed by the Office of the Registrar and are included in the program.

¹ University Honors ² *Cum Laude* ³ *Magna Cum Laude* ⁴ *Summa Cum Laude*

Laude and University Honors published here are based on the student's cumulative GPA at the time of printing. Final honors designations will be posted on transcripts and diplomas and may be subject to change based on the student's final cumulative GPA.

CCU Academy

Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts

Lilly Jean Abrams
Matias Amado
Mollie Anderson
Loveth Anyakpor
Allison Grace Apgar
Juliane Laurice Tumamao Asuncion
Amos Jieyi Auz
Madeline Aziz
Jonah Babikan
Savannah Banke
Emory Barczak
Elias Quinn Bellizzi
Megan Bisque
Ty L. Brasuell
Cameron Garrett Brown
Rachel Marie Bucknell
Chloe Michelle Bye
Patrick Martin Cherry
Kiera Grace Clinkscapes
Hannah Marie Cruz-Salvadores
Lamitta Rose Darrouj
Caleb Davis
Maya Gloria Denison
Avery Dennehy
Kaelee Elliott
Katherine Jo Fillmore
Elizabeth Joy Foger
Andrew Fowler
Nathaniel Christian Gabert
Jayden Roxas Gallego Ortal

Vivian Renee Garcia
Anthony Parcarey Gendrano
Mikena Kailani Gillis
Jade Renee Glenchur
Sophia Camille Glenn
Evan Edward Gramm
Jessica Marie Gudea
Michael Jamal Haddad
Violet Ellen Harris
Dylan Jaxon Hazuka
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Chase Kostjuk
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Lois Lee
Abigail Lemmen
Bryson Lewis
Abigail Marian Lohmann
Allyson Kate London
Angela Maille
Scarlett Lily Malkasyan
Naia Marasciullo
Ava Lynn Martinez
Sarah Issa Maymoun

Klara Katherine Mertz
Clara Metro
Sophia Louise Mettillie
Oscar Manuel Meza
Gregory Robert Michlin
Magdalena Jane Michlin
Noah Preston Moran
Joshua J. Morton
Natalie Moser
Amber Musick
Peter Noeth
Nylah Faith Norris
Caleb J. Noska
Tatiana Ojeda
Egan M. Osborne
Sophia A. Pena
Mikayla Lynn Pifer
Jedidiah Austin Plew
Aubrey Morgann Poe
Lindsey Alice A. Pohl
Kayla Rae Potts
Sarah Haani Quayyum
Luke Daniel Radke
Grace Rainey
Ellen Rose Ramsberger
Gavin Hawke Richardson
Rebekah Grace Rimack
John Michael Joseph Ryan
Lindsey Ryu
Hailee Viviana Salas
Janessa Samaniego
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Caleb Andrew Shaffer
Avery Shannon
Addison Lauren Shierts

Isabel Siffring
Alyssa Grace Sommers
Micah Benjamin Spring
Cherissa Stanton
Rachel Ann Stanton
Zoie Grace Starkey
Zane Stauffer
Bryce David Stimson
Eli Silas Strawbridge
Morgan Grace Stults
Anabella Grace Talamantes
Evelyn Amelie Thompson
Jacob Trospen
Brooklynn Wick
Levi Willis
Rebekah Wilson
Orion Avery Yeung
EliAnna Lauryn Young

School of Business and Leadership

Bachelor of Science in Accounting

Kendal R. Baxmeyer
Micah T. Bissell³
Aidan Bollinger³
Kaden Goostree⁴
Elizabeth Grace Houlihan
Jolie B. Lippert²
Jayden Little
Renee Joilynn Phillips³
Dylan Clifford Shearer³
Nora Thompson³
Caden Rockey Warner²
Alexander Wolterstorff⁴

DEGREE CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

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Caleb Coston²
Ben Cox²
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Kailey Rose Desmarreau
Holly Eckstrom
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Alayna Wallace²
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Caden Rockey Warner²
Cameron David Whaley²
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Emma Grace Bailey³
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Andrew Bosch²
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Evelyn C. Engle²
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Daniel Josiah Van Kooten³

Alexander Wolterstorff⁴

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Carson Griggs
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Mateo Luna
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Sierra Warden³

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Kale Keath Edmonds⁴
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Bachelor of Arts in K-12 Special Education

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Caleb Hershey³
Gillian Victoria Hillyard³
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Joanna Lindstrom³
Emma Nicole Lloyd³
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Ava Powell
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Lauren Schulz⁴
Raya Emily Schulz
Clara Shireman⁴
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Hannah J. Keeler
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Jacob Wesley Mauk⁴
Elias Lanier Moore²

Maren Nadine Prince⁴
Kenzie Jean Tenpas⁴
Prudence Joy Trueman³
Kiersten Leighanne Wanner²

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Kathryn Ringer

Bachelor of Arts in History

Tarryn Gianna DeBenedetto³
Haley Kathleen Duke
Jeffery Mason Ganzs
Jill Brienz Keagle³
Jackson Robert Mauk⁴
Ethan Olufson³
Isabel Mae Scadden³
Caleb A. Scott²
Emily S. Wiles³

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts

Anna Steward³
Andrew Warden²
Clara Anne Danielle Wind Michel⁴

Bachelor of Arts in Politics

Mollie Marie Klein
Collin Grant Larson³
Madison Paige Patton³
Jonathan Luke Radcliffe
Brian Michael Wencel⁴

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Rachel Ainsworth³
Micaiah Camille Anderson²
Ella Buschbom²
Eliana Nicole Darr⁴
Eliza Louise Diller⁴

Ava Marie Dinverno
Nicole S. Emami³
Kayle G. Fisher
Sophia Elizabeth Franko³
Caroline Frye³
Sophia Gokh-Sanchez
Rylee Gooch³
Jewel Gray³
Katrina Jo Greenmun²
Isabella Grace Henkle⁴
Isabelle Higgins²
Allison Grace Hoover³
Grace Elizabeth Hoyle³
Andrew David Ignarra
Hunter Jackson
Peter Junker
Maya Kathleen King
Nathan Scott Kucinski
Zoeyahna Lindahl
Savannah Emmy Majeski
Abigail Marcolesco⁴
Gracie Lynn Ortmann⁴
Elizabeth Leigh Raine
Savannah Grace Rainey⁴
Hanna Rantala
Sydney Nicole Ribich
Noah Rice¹
Kathryn Ringer
Chloe L. Robison
Monica Shuman
Taija L. Smith
Anthony John Thomas
Emma Louise Troyer²
Kaylee Suzanna Uhles
Haley Vanek¹
Elieday Wall
Olivia Grace Wilson³

Bachelor of Arts in Social Science

Regan Alexandra Sack
Anya Ruth Tuggy⁴
Makenzie Kate Wanebo

DEGREE CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



Bachelor of Arts in Strategic Communication and Digital Media

Isabella Hanna Canfield³
Ashlyn Brooke Chapman²
Tyler Matthew Corbo
Katrina Davis
Allison Hope Forney⁴
Dean Kathan Francis
Sarah Elaine Howe
Chase Keller³
Amelia Macy⁴
Brennan Matthew Martch¹
Michaela Kristine Harmony Powell³
Margaret Karleen Sattler³
Drew Murray Stilson
Dorielle M. Switzer⁴
Acacia Tiner²
Eleanor G. Trantham⁴
Magdalene Lee Webster
Madisson Rose Woods²
Zachary David Yamaguchi

School of Music

Bachelor of Arts in Music

Colgan Berard⁴
Savannah Burdett³
Simon Crust³
Annelise Noelle Fox
Zachariah Ray Gardner³
Hayley Gillett²
Dawson Hancock³
Isabella McCollough³
John Jantzen Meredith²
Collin Naslund³
Virginia F. Payne⁴
Kayla M. Rowland
Anna M. Thye³
Nathanael Klare Vander Kooi³
Angelica H. Welker³

Bachelor of Arts in Dance

Ashley R. Fruchey

Bachelor of Arts in Music Theatre and Dance

Bethany Taullie

School of Nursing and Health Professions

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Aubrey Louise Baldwin³
Kaitlyn Storm Beskur
Aleksandra Clayton³
Grace DeCoste²
Lindsey Rachele Duff⁴
Emily Lyn Duren³
Hannah Fletcher
Tate Fletcher
Brooke Gourley
Natalie Joy Johnson⁴
Elizabeth Kaschmitter³
Saige Kitzmiller²
Abigail Grace Lloyd
Sabrina Priscilla Theodora Miklos
Darla Nelson³
Delaney Neville
Katelyn Norris
Kathryn Pennington²
Anna Pontius⁴
Everett L. Robison
Mackenzie Rumphol³
Kira Louise Scoma³
Anna Solovjev
Kaylie Teetsel
Hailey Wick²

School of Science and Engineering

Associate of Science in Pre-Engineering

Samuel Elzy

Bachelor of Science in Biological Basis of Behavior

Isabella Ruth Maria VonGrey⁴

Bachelor of Science in Biology

Jenna Beard⁴
Joshua Burton Fuller³
Aaron Scott Melton²
Teaghan Jayde Ortega
Isabella Ruth Maria VonGrey⁴

Bachelor of Science in Engineering Project Management

Levi Santoro⁴

Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

Leah Garcia
Daniel Jr. Garciacano Rodriguez
Anna Hudgens
Yasmin Abigail Jaloub
Logan Frank Edward Lunka
Ella Kate Pedersen²

Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering

Dylan Hall⁴
Braydn Nimeth²

Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and Exercise Science

Laura Gwendolyn Blythe³

Holly Eckstrom
Nicole S. Emami³
Ianna Elizabeth Harrison¹
David Aaron Jaquez
Kavan Johnson²
Elizabeth Kissler
Jamie Scott Kuest
Molly Marksbury³
Greta Katherine Maxwell²
Kaiya McClanahan
Ella Kate Pedersen²
Anna Catherine Peterson
Anneliese Rae Staub³
Caitlyn Grace Velazco³
Hope Kathleen Weeda⁴

Bachelor of Science in Pre-Medical Profession

Daniel Aletheuo³
Beverly Araujo³
Rachel Noelle Densmore³
Isaac Hall⁴
Josiah W. Kautz
Clara May Quay⁴
Schafer James Reichart
Nathan I. Roewer²
Hazlen Fox Skogen
Christina Van De Weert
Joella Aleeza Whiting³

Bachelor of Science in Pre-Physical Therapy

Emily Mae Bohn⁴
Carina Bovi
Brooke Katherine Connolly
Janelle Deboer³
Kevin Haggerty⁴
Avery Hipps³
Zachary A. Moser
Amber Obbink⁴
Brady Ritzmann

*Bachelor of Science in
Pre-Physician Assistant*

Haley Tsuyako Ann Bakey⁴
Kaitlynn Ashleigh Derani²
James Leigh Dimock
Julia Grace Primak⁴
Mackenzie Vee White

*Bachelor of Science in
Sports Management*

MacKenzie McCullah

School of Theology

*Bachelor of Arts in Apologetics
and Evangelism*

Emmanuelle Camp³
Daniel James Roulette

*Bachelor of Arts in Biblical
Exegesis and Linguistics*

Margaret Farrell²

*Bachelor of Arts in Biblical
Studies with Languages*

Isaac Compton Carter²
Quinn Joseph Cunningham⁴
Adam Ryan Doyle
Emma Grace Eng
Gabriel Anton Faust
Asher Kai Goldberg⁴
Collin Grant Larson³

Andrew Lovato
Kendall Rylin Meyer
Samantha Vallon⁴
Letty Grace Weimer
Kendall Wood³

*Bachelor of Arts in Biblical
and Theological Studies*

Pierce Newman Bazil¹

*Bachelor of Arts in
Ministry Management*

Ryan Geoffrey Green
Hannah Renae Jones

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

Abigail Marcolesco⁴
Kiersten Leighanne Wanner²
Clara Anne Danielle Wind Michel⁴

Bachelor of Arts in Theology

Isaac Compton Carter²
Aiden Chandler³
Stephanie Heil²
Aiden Phelps⁴

Chloe Reid³
Marin Elizabeth Roelofs³
Daniel James Roulette
Brodan Luke Woolard²

Bachelor of Arts in Youth Ministry

Tyler James Coulter³
Ian Patrick Crail
Stacey Akouavi Muriel Degbevi
Aubrey Engelken²
Nora Mae Lynch⁴
Marissa Lorae Montoya
Emma G. Sprinkle²
Luke Talkington

CCU LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Colorado Christian University Leadership Award is a prestigious annual honor recognizing a junior or senior in the College of Undergraduate Studies who exemplifies exceptional Christian leadership, character, and service. This award represents the highest distinction for Christ-centered leadership on CCU's campus.

Recipients are selected through a rigorous process that includes nominations from each academic school within the College of Undergraduate Studies, as well as the Athletic Department and Student Life, followed by review from a final selection committee.

The honoree receives a \$25,000 cash award as a transformational investment in Christ-centered leadership, reflecting CCU's commitment to equipping students to impact the world with grace and truth. Each recipient's name is engraved on a granite pedestal on campus, symbolizing a lasting legacy of faith-driven leadership, and is presented with an 8-inch replica as a personal keepsake.

This award is made possible through a \$1 million endowment established by entrepreneur and longtime CCU trustee Hal Krause, along with additional generous donors. The 2026 recipient will be announced at today's Commencement Ceremony.



UNIVERSITY HONORS

GRADUATE HONORS

Candidates for the master's degree wearing a gold medallion with blue ribbon have earned Graduate with High Distinction Honors. These students have achieved a 3.9-4.0 cumulative grade point average and have completed 30 or more semester hours of graduate credit while attending Colorado Christian University.

LAUDE HONORS

Candidates for the bachelor's degree wearing the white honor cord have earned the honor of *cum laude* (with honor), holding a 3.5-3.69 cumulative grade point average. Those wearing the silver honor cord have earned the honor of *magna cum laude* (with high honor), holding a 3.7-3.89 cumulative grade point average. Finally, those wearing the gold honor cord have earned the honor of *summa cum laude* (with highest honor), holding a 3.9-4.0 cumulative grade point average. Students receiving these distinctions have attended CCU for at least 60 semester hours.

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Candidates for a bachelor's degree wearing a mauve honor cord have earned University Honors. These students have achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher and have completed a maximum of 59 semester hours while attending Colorado Christian University.

UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES RECOGNITION

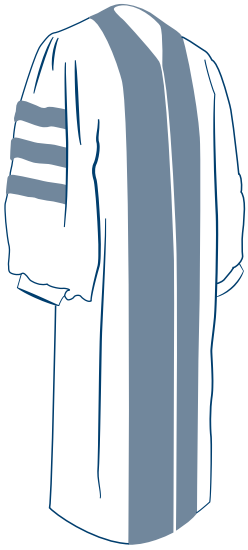
Candidates who have served or who are currently serving in any of the five branches of the United States Armed Forces (including National Guard or Reserves) are entitled to wear a red, white, and blue recognition cord.

HONOR SOCIETIES

Candidates wearing the following honor distinctions are part of one or more of the following honor societies:

- ***Alpha Sigma Lambda:***
a society honoring adult undergraduate students – white stoles imprinted in gold and burgundy with the ASL script and shield
- ***Augustine:***
a community of scholars exploring the works of leading thinkers from antiquity to the present – a twisted cord with two colors, scarlet and grey, expressing Augustine's heart and intellectual stature
- ***Chi Sigma Iota:***
an international honor society for professional counselors – a double strand of royal blue and white cords
- ***Kappa Delta Pi:***
a national honor society in education – purple, light blue, and gold
- ***Lambda Pi Eta:***
an international honor society in communication – red and white cords
- ***Omicron Delta Kappa:***
national leadership honor society – light blue, black, and white cords
- ***Pi Kappa Lambda:***
a national music honor society – gold and white cords
- ***Pi Lambda Theta:***
a national honor society in education – gold cords
- ***Sigma Nu Tau:***
a national entrepreneurship honor society – gold and hunter green
- ***Sigma Tau Delta:***
an international English honor society – red and black cords
- ***Sigma Theta Tau:***
an international honor society in nursing – purple and white cords
- ***Sigma Zeta:***
a national science and mathematics honor society – gold and bright blue honor cords

ACADEMIC REGALIA



University officers, faculty members, and graduating students wear gowns, mortarboards, hoods, tams, and tassels that are traditional at the world's oldest universities.

Academic regalia dates back to European universities in the Middle Ages, when hoods and gowns were required for warmth in unheated buildings. In American universities of the late 19th century, these medieval costumes were revived to lend color to academic functions, with gowns of master's and doctorate degrees distinct from each other and from bachelor's degrees. Gowns are normally black, although some universities have designed their own to bear the color of the institution.

The master's gown has pointed sleeves slit at the elbows; the doctor's gown has wide lapels of velvet, either black or the color of the scholar's academic specialization. The hood drapes over the components of the academic costume. The master's hood is pointed; the doctor's hood is bell-shaped. The color of the border of the hood indicates the scholar's major field of study; the lining color or colors identify the institution that conferred the wearer's degree. The customary head covering is the Oxford cap or mortarboard, with a tassel of gold metallic threads.

Academic specializations present in the Commencement ceremony today are indicated by the following colors:

- Accounting – Drab
- Applied Apologetics – Scarlet
- Arts, Letters, and Humanities – White
- Business – Drab
- Business and Leadership – Drab
- Communication – Crimson
- Counseling and Guidance – Light Blue
- Criminal Justice – Navy Blue
- Cyber Security – Golden Yellow
- Divinity – Scarlet
- Divinity and Biblical Studies – Scarlet
- Economics – Copper
- Education – Light Blue
- Engineering – Orange
- Executive Christian Leadership – Scarlet
- Fine Arts – Brown
- Human Resources – Drab
- Law – Purple
- Library Science – Lemon
- Mathematics – Gold
- Music – Pink
- Nursing – Apricot
- Philosophy – Dark Blue
- Physical Science – Sage Green
- Physics – Gold
- Political Science – Dark Blue
- Psychology – Gold
- Public Administration – Peacock Blue
- Science – Golden Yellow
- Social Science – Citron
- Theology – Scarlet

TRADITIONS OF CCU

UNIVERSITY SEAL



The Colorado Christian University seal depicts our institution's core identity. The Word of God in the center is placed upon the Cross of Christ, which is laid upon the Shield of Faith. This Shield of Faith is surrounded by three Greek words which are translated "grace and truth," the University motto. The outer rings surrounding the Word, the Cross, and the Shield contain two elements:

the year 1914, when our oldest parent institution was founded, and our name, Colorado Christian University. The uppermost word on the seal is "Christian," which in one word captures all that we strive to be through God's power working in us.

UNIVERSITY MEDALLION



The University medallion is worn by the president at Commencement and other academic ceremonies as part of his academic regalia, symbolizing the authority and responsibilities incumbent with the office. The brass medallion is of simple linked construction, with the University seal forming the medallion. Linking the chain above the seal is an ornament inscribed with the Latin words, *Soli Deo Gloria*, which means Glory To God Alone. The phrase reminds us of the biblical truth that all glory belongs to the Creator, not the created.

UNIVERSITY HYMN

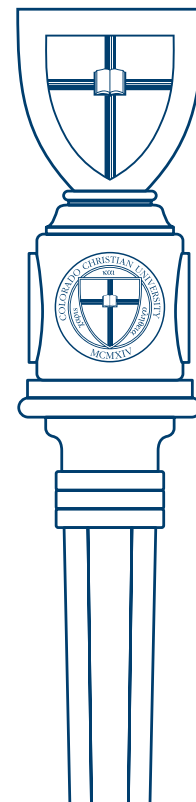
"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" is the official hymn of Colorado Christian University. This jubilant melody, composed by Ludwig van Beethoven for his Ninth Symphony, together with the text by Henry van Dyke, is one of the most celebratory worship hymns in the church. The 2006 Commencement Ceremony marked the premiere performance of this setting for Wind Ensemble and Choir, commissioned especially for CCU and written by Taras Nahirniak, respected educator and composer.

UNIVERSITY MACE

The Colorado Christian University mace is a ceremonial staff used as a symbol of the authority granted to the University to issue degrees. As an academic symbol, the mace dates back to 16th century England when, in 1589, Queen Elizabeth I presented a replica of her own royal mace to the University of Oxford to be used in all ceremonies to represent the royal presence and the authority granted to the University to issue degrees under the royal insignia.

Since that time, it has become customary for European and American colleges and universities to use ceremonial maces during academic exercises. The CCU mace is seen only at Convocation, Commencement, and honorary degree ceremonies. Protocol for using the mace requires that it be carried into the ceremony by the chief academic officer or another person selected for special recognition. During the ceremony, the mace is placed in a stand on the platform to indicate the ceremony is in formal session. At the conclusion, the mace is carried out to mark the completion of the ceremony.

The Colorado Christian University mace is carved from Colorado cherry wood and adorned with the University colors of gold and blue. The triangular headpiece is inlaid with a gold and blue rendering of the University shield. Below, each of the four sides carries a finely wrought engraving of the University seal. The wooden staff is bound at the intervals with nine gold rings inscribed with the names of the heritage institutions of Colorado Christian University, dating back to the founding of Denver Bible Institute in 1914.



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

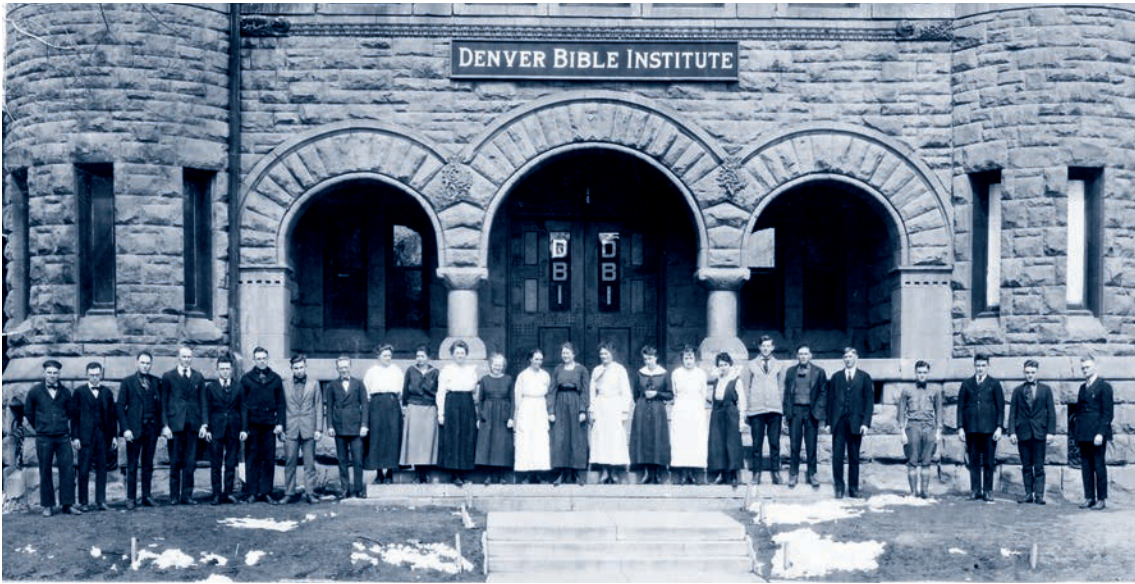


Colorado Christian University is located in Lakewood, Colorado, a suburb of Denver. Founded in 1914, CCU is the flagship Christian university in the Rocky Mountain region. A leader in higher education, the University is consistently ranked in the top 2% of colleges nationwide for its core curriculum by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni.

CCU offers undergraduate and graduate degrees for traditional and adult students through its College of Undergraduate Studies and College of Adult and Graduate Studies. More than 10,000 students attend the University on the main campus or online through CCU Online. In addition, over 7,000 high school students throughout the U.S. take dual credit and online dual enrollment courses through CCU Academy. CCU is an NCAA Division II university in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC).

Colorado Christian University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

UNIVERSITY HISTORY



In 1914, Denver Bible Institute was founded on two principles: grace and truth. The first classes were comprised of only two students and one teacher, but from those modest beginnings, Colorado Christian University was born.

In 1945, Denver Bible Institute became Denver Bible College, a four-year college with three academic schools: the College of Liberal Arts, the Theological School, and the Bible Institute. Four years later, the school was renamed Rockmont College — around the same time that Western Bible Institute was founded.

It wasn't until the 1980s that significant change occurred again. The two schools merged in 1985, forming Colorado Christian College. By 1989, however, the need for a flagship Christian institution in Colorado was evident. Colorado Baptist University joined Colorado Christian College to form the institution we know today.

Colorado Christian University has more than 24,000 living alumni spread throughout all 50 states and several countries — scholars dedicated to integrating high-level academics with timeless faith. Throughout our history, Colorado Christian University has seen God's hand orchestrating each step in the journey, and we look toward the future with great anticipation for where He will lead us as the journey continues.

UNIVERSITY DISTINCTIVES

MISSION

Christ-centered higher education transforming students to impact the world with grace and truth.

Colorado Christian University cultivates knowledge and love of God in a Christ-centered community of learners and scholars, with an enduring commitment to the integration of exemplary academics, spiritual formation, and engagement with the world. We envision graduates who think critically and creatively, lead with high ethical and professional standards, embody the character and compassion of Jesus Christ, treasure the gospel, and who thereby are prepared to impact the world in their callings.

Christ-centered community

Our community of interdependent students, faculty, and staff seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ, who is present in Spirit and speaks in Scripture, in order to advance God's purposes in the lives of every member.

Exemplary academics

Our undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral curriculum integrates faith and learning in a scholarly environment that fosters critical and creative thinking, academic excellence, and professional competence.

Spiritual formation

Our academic and student development programs cultivate a deep and enduring faith that affirms the authority of Scripture and embraces Christ as the authentic center of life.

Engagement with the world

Our students experience and engage the world in ways that prepare leaders to serve and transform their professions, churches, and communities.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Colorado Christian University unites with the broad, historic evangelical faith rather than affiliating with any specific denomination. In this commitment, the University embraces the following declarations of the National Association of Evangelicals:

- We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
- We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
- We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
- We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

These declarations do not comprise all that individual Christians may consider important elements of faith; rather, they establish the essential framework within which members of the University both unite in shared beliefs and explore differences.

UNIVERSITY DISTINCTIVES

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Colorado Christian University's Strategic Priorities were adopted by the CCU Board of Trustees to serve as a guiding compass for the University. They direct the implementation of CCU's long-established mission and provide context for our first priority — an enduring commitment to Jesus Christ and His kingdom. The Strategic Priorities provide a point of convergence for every member of the CCU community and for every aspect of life at CCU, from how we teach and learn in the classroom to how we live with and serve others.

Colorado Christian University shall:

- Honor Christ and share the love of Christ on campus and around the world.
- Teach students to trust the Bible, live holy lives, and be evangelists.
- Be a magnet for outstanding students and prepare them for positions of significant leadership in the church, business, government, and professions by offering an excellent education in strategic disciplines.
- Teach students how to learn.
- Teach students how to think for themselves.
- Teach students how to speak and write clearly and effectively.
- Give students significant opportunities to serve our Lord while they are at CCU and to help them develop a lifetime habit of such service.
- Impact our culture in support of traditional family values, sanctity of life, compassion for the poor, Biblical view of human nature, limited government, personal freedom, free markets, natural law, original intent of the Constitution, and Western civilization.
- Be seekers of truth.
- Debunk “spent ideas” and those who traffic in them.
- Ask God to multiply our time and ability to the glory of His great name.
- Be a servant of the Church.
- BE a GREAT Christian university.

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Chair

Brad Benson, J.D., LL.M.
Trustee

Jeffrey H. Coors, M.S.
Trustee

Biff Gore, Ph.D.
Trustee

Derek Hamilton, MBA
Trustee

Eric K. Hogue, M.Th.
President

Jerry B. Jenkins
Trustee

Fred R. Lautenbach, B.A. '82
Trustee

Hon. Kevin Lundberg, B.A. '74
Trustee

Doug McDonald, BBA
Trustee

Tim McTavish, MBA '13
Trustee

John Pittman, B.S.
Trustee

Susan Rutherford, B.A.
Trustee

Mark Sheehan, M.D.
Trustee

Robert E. Warren Jr., J.D.
Trustee

William J. "Bill" White, M.S.
Trustee

Trustee Emeritus

Kenell J. Touryan, Ph.D.

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

Eric K. Hogue, M.Th.

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Janet M. Black, Ph.D.
Vice President of Academic Affairs
College of Undergraduate Studies

Allison Burkhart, MBA '13
Vice President of University
Marketing, Enrollment, and
Student Success
College of Adult and
Graduate Studies

David Corbin, Ph.D.
Provost

Shannon Dreyfuss, MBA
Vice President of Operations

Daniel LaBry, B.S.
Vice President of Advancement

Neal Anderson, Ph.D.
Vice President of Student Life and
Traditional Enrollment
College of Undergraduate Studies

Thomas N. Scheffel, J.D., LL.M.
University Counsel

Earl Waggoner, Ph.D.
Supervising Dean
College of Adult and
Graduate Studies

Iain Wightman, M.S., FCCA
Vice President Finance
and Technology

DEANS

COLLEGE OF ADULT AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Ryan Burkhart, Ed.D., LPC
School of Counseling

David Murphy, Ph.D.
School of Behavioral Sciences

Letta Campbell, D.M.
School of Business and Technology

Jeff Renfrow, Ed.D.
School of Education Professions

Christine Lepianka, Ph.D., R.N.
School of Nursing and Health
Professions

Earl Waggoner, Ph.D.
School of Biblical and Theological
Studies

COLLEGE OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Peter A. Kerr, Ph.D.
School of Business and Leadership

Debora L. Scheffel, Ph.D.
School of Education

Steven T. Taylor, M.A.
School of Music

David S. Kotter, Ph.D.
School of Theology

Gary Steward, Ph.D.
School of Humanities and
Social Sciences

Matthew J. West, MLIS
Director, CCU Library

Mark A. Parker, Ph.D.
School of Science and Engineering

FACULTY

For a complete listing of Colorado Christian University's full-time faculty, please scan the QR code.





Congratulations!

*Earning your bachelor's degree is a huge accomplishment.
Why stop there?*

As a CCU alum, you may qualify for a

\$5,000 SCHOLARSHIP

We want to help you get a jump start on your master's degree
with this special scholarship offer for CCU alumni.



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Colorado Christian University

For more information, visit ccu.edu/alumnischolarship

