

# Commencement

SPRING SEMESTER 2020



**PENN STATE SCRANTON**

May 9, 2020





## **National Anthem**

*by Francis Scott Key*

O 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, thro' 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 thro' the night that our flag was still there.  
O say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

## **Alma Mater**

*by Fred Lewis Pattee*

For the glory of old State,  
For her founders, strong and great,  
For the future that we wait,  
Raise the song, raise the song,

Sing our love and loyalty,  
Sing our hopes that, bright and free,  
Rest, O Mother dear, with thee.  
All with thee, all with thee.

When we stood at childhood's gate,  
Shapeless in the hands of fate,  
Thou didst mold us, dear old State,  
Dear old State, dear old State.

May no act of ours bring shame  
To one heart that loves thy name,  
May our lives but swell thy fame,  
Dear old State, dear old State!



**PennState**  
**Scranton**

# COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 9, 2020

*Baccalaureate and Associate Degree Candidates*

\*Subject to completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein, and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

Graduates: If you have a question about your name, degree or distinction listed in this program, please reach out to our registrar, Allison Burns at [alb140@psu.edu](mailto:alb140@psu.edu) Congratulations on your achievements!

# Scranton Chancellor Marwan A. Wafa, Ph.D.



Today, we mark a momentous occasion in your lives -- your graduation from college.

Unfortunately, for the Class of 2020, things are much different on this day than they traditionally are for our graduates and their families. The COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic created a very unique set of circumstances for you as you completed your senior year, and now celebrate your graduation.

But, regardless of the outside circumstances affecting all of our daily lives, I encourage you all to take time to celebrate today for all that you have accomplished.

You have spent the past few years working hard to get to this point, and it is that hard work and commitment to your studies and to your futures that we celebrate.

As chancellor of Penn State Scranton, I want you to know that while the activities we are taking part in today are different, they are still significant and are being done in order to commemorate this special time in your lives.

While we cannot be together in person, we can still be together virtually. We are united by our memories, our accomplishments, our challenges and the shared experiences we have had together on our campus over the past few years.

There are plans being discussed at this time to host a special on-campus, in-person celebration when this pandemic ends and we can safely get together. We hope that when that time comes, you can all return to campus to experience and enjoy the personal send-off you would have enjoyed today.

Until that time, we want you to stay safe and celebrate at home, while taking advantage of the virtual activities that have been created to help you commemorate this day.

Remember, we are, all of us, Penn Staters, and that is something that cannot be taken away from us -- as it is now, and always will be, part of who you are. Who WE ARE.

WE ARE greater than the circumstances currently keeping us apart. WE ARE RESILIENT. We will get through this, because WE ARE...PENN STATE!

# Spring 2020 Commencement

## **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Amina Faye '20, Musical Theatre, College of Arts and Architecture

## **PRESIDING**

Eric J. Barron, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.

President of The Pennsylvania State University

## **SPECIAL REMARKS**

President Barron

## **REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Nicholas P. Jones, B.E., M.S., Ph.D.

Executive Vice President and Provost of the University

## **AUTHORIZATION TO CONFER DEGREES**

Mark H. Dambly, B.S.

Chair, Board of Trustees

## **RECOGNITION OF MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT**

Penn State Students

## **CONFERRAL OF DEGREES**

Presiding: Provost Jones

Conferring: President Barron

## **INDUCTION INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Randolph B. Houston, Jr., B.A., J.D.

President, Penn State Alumni Association

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

Penn State Students

## **PENN STATE ALMA MATER**

Penn State Students

Penn State Blue Band

# Recognition of Academic Honor

Distinction at graduation is awarded to baccalaureate and associate degree candidates who are in the top 12% of a college's graduating class and have achieved a minimum of 3.50 grade point average (GPA), based on at least 60 credits (for baccalaureate degrees) or 30 credits (for associate degrees) at the University as of February 20, 2020.

Candidates who are graduating Summa Cum Laude are given a blue and white cord; candidates graduating Magna Cum Laude are given a blue cord; and candidates who are graduating Cum Laude are given a white cord.

## Graduating with Summa Cum Laude

Belle Bonczkiewicz  
Jason Chaffardet  
Thomas Gonzales  
Shanie Mohamed  
Kimberly Stout Kramer  
Kyle Wind

## Graduating with Magna Cum Laude

Samantha Evanina  
Hang Nguyen  
Maria Rosa Nicolosi

## Graduating Cum Laude

Hilary Blake  
Taylor Bronson  
George Houck  
Noah Kline  
Robert Murphy Jr.  
Nicholas Skierkowski

# Recognition of Military Service

Students who have honorably served, are serving, or are commissioned to serve in the U.S. military are given red, white, and blue cords in recognition of their duty and sacrifice. The cords are given to eligible graduating students in the following groups: active duty, reserve and National Guard service members; veterans; and graduates receiving a commission through Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) and official U.S. Armed Forces recruiting programs.

## Military Honor Cord Recipients

Thomas Kraser    Shannon Talarico    Ryan Vance

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
BIOLOGY**

Brandy Hernandez  
Robert Murphy Jr.\*

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
BUSINESS**

Eilyas Abdul Latif  
Hector Andujar Rojas  
Vidal Baez  
Malachi Bobo  
Amanda Bray  
Daniel Burke  
Ryan Burke  
Tressa Calachino  
Kelliann Carey  
Racheal Carter  
Jason Chaffardet  
Morgan Collins  
Jennifer Diehl  
Maria Dombrowski  
Stephane Duteste  
Samantha Evanina  
Ryan Fisher  
Cory Frick  
Bryan Gallagher  
Jonathan Gillen  
Patrick Hagan  
Monique Hicks  
Alan Hilenski  
Taylor Hobbs  
Casey Holman  
George Houck  
David Jobs Jr.

Richard C. Johnson  
Ashley Kamla  
Noah Kline  
Alexander Kresock  
Nicholas Ksiazek  
Bansi Lalkiya  
Manshi Lalkiya  
Brandon Lamberton  
Gino Leccese  
Kyle Lucas  
Cory Lynch  
Trevor Markin  
Christopher Matute  
Milton Matybel  
Velcy Modi  
Shanie Mohamed  
David O'Neill  
Aneri Patel  
Deepkumar Patel  
Khushi Patel  
Nirav Patel  
Ryan Phillips  
Zachary Polito  
Julio Ramos  
Charles Rogers  
Vittorio Romano  
Michael Sebastian  
Nicholas Skierkowski  
Jordan Stranieri  
Zachary Sutter  
Joseph Vulpis  
Cassandra Wiggins  
Kyle Wind\*  
Jakob Ziminskas

\* Candidate with the highest grade point average in the academic discipline

**BACHELOR OF ARTS  
CORPORATE COMMUNICATION**

Dominique Jordan  
Kayla Mickavicz  
Jordan Peters  
Lucines Polanco\*  
Ahmed Rajab  
Erika Winklebleck

**BACHELOR OF ARTS  
ENGLISH**

Russell Filip  
Julie Maconeghy  
Nancy Richards\*  
Emily Schick

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT &  
FAMILY STUDIES**

Betty Capozzi  
Jordan Chiavacci  
Jasmine Dass  
Jinal Dave  
Robert DeMeck  
Sarah Hoger  
Melissa Ives  
Kalia Jefferson  
Damani Kizer  
Matthew Macart  
Shianne Michalowski  
Maria Rosa Nicolosi  
Lauren Pacheco

Kanan Patel  
Julie Pesavento  
Araceli Rios  
Morgan Silfies  
Kimberly Stout Kramer\*  
Jim Tuttle

**ASSOCIATE DEGREE  
INFORMATION SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY**

Thomas Kraser

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
INFORMATION SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY**

Roman Crisafulli  
Velcy Modi  
Harsh Patel  
Ronny Patterson  
Joshua Romance  
Todd Snee  
David Vanbuskirk Jr.  
Matthew Walsh\*

**ASSOCIATE IN ARTS  
LETTERS, ARTS & SCIENCES**

Jordan McCormack  
Ryan Thomas\*

**BACHELOR OF ARTS  
LETTERS, ARTS & SCIENCES**

Kayla Bebla\*  
Humberto Modesto

\* Candidate with the highest grade point average in the academic discipline



## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

### **Nursing (RN)**

Kelly Arnold  
Casia Burley  
Antonia Corma  
Kailey Gearhart  
Arienne Grilli  
Kalei Kowalchik\*  
Maren Lindemuth  
Melanie McAndrew  
Lisa Mickley  
Brenda Miele  
Elizabeth Olivares Martinez  
Nicholas Pieshefski  
Leah Rogan  
Andrew Saniski  
Shannon Talarico  
Brooke Tanana  
Becky Theobald

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING NURSING (RN TO BSN)**

Janelle Ledonne  
Elizabeth Martino  
Oksana Mazur\*  
Ryan Vance

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE PROJECT AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT**

Christopher LaRosa

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS**

### **PSYCHOLOGY**

Hilary Blake  
Daniel Chylak  
Serena Garnett  
Olivia Glogowski  
Shannon Henderson  
Amber Lomeo  
Hang Nguyen\*  
Rebecca Remsky  
Gina Romano

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Belle Bonczkiewicz\*  
Taylor Bronson  
Broderick Dial  
Zachary Lugiano  
Casidhe Menig  
Stephanie Merli  
Patrick Wall  
Taylor White  
Nicole Williams

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE SCIENCE**

Yael Chapo  
Thomas Gonzales\*  
Rajvi Kaneriya  
Sarah Skierkowski  
Dennis Vaughan

\* Candidate with the highest grade point average in the academic discipline

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Associate Professor, Mathematics



## WELCOME TO THE PRIDE!

**Congratulations** on your graduation, and welcome to the Penn State Alumni Association —the largest and most powerful alumni network in the world.

New graduates receive a **complimentary one-year membership** in the Penn State Alumni Association.

As you enter the pride, you'll join the ranks of alumni who keep their connection to Penn State strong through membership. We encourage you to stay connected and learn more about the 30+ benefits that are included with your membership.

Membership materials, including your membership card, will be mailed to you after graduation. Benefits are available to you immediately upon receiving your membership card.

### Exclusive Member Benefits

#### CAREER AND EDUCATION



- **Alumni Career Services:** Attend premium Alumni Career Service events for free or at a substantial discount.
- **Discounts on Kaplan Test Preparation Services**
- **Alumni Library Online:** Exclusive access to Penn State Libraries Digitized Collections and University library databases.

#### ALUMNI EMAIL



Members of the Alumni Association can sign up for a **personal Penn State email account** (@alumni.psu.edu). Accounts are hosted by Google for Education and also include **unlimited online storage** and a collection of digital tools.

#### DISCOUNTS



Members receive **access to discounts** including travel and merchandise at Penn State Bookstore campus locations. They also receive access to discounted health, auto, renters, home, life, long-term care, and pet insurance.

**Additional benefits include early invitations to Alumni Association events, access to the Alumni Directory, publications including the *Penn Stater* magazine, and much more!**

To access a full list of membership benefits and to find your local Penn State Alumni Association chapter, visit:

**[alumni.psu.edu/newalumni](http://alumni.psu.edu/newalumni)**