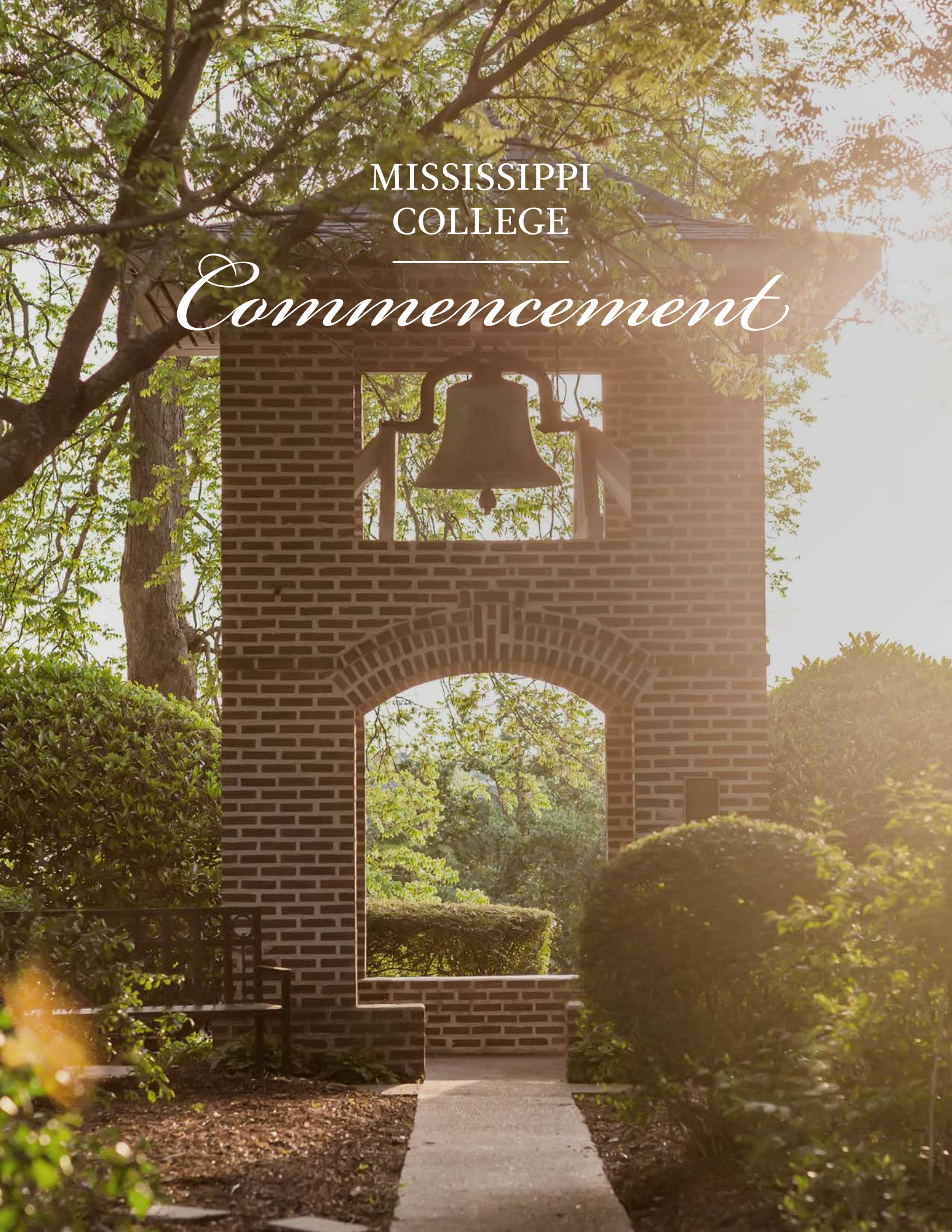


MISSISSIPPI  
COLLEGE

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*Commencement*





*The moving sculpture "Servant Savior" depicts Jesus Christ washing the feet of His disciples just prior to The Lord's Supper. Created in 2004 by the late master sculptor Samuel Gore, "Servant Savior" was given to Mississippi College by the children of Robert and Sara Hederman.*

# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE GRADUATION ETIQUETTE

OUT OF RESPECT FOR  
OTHER FAMILIES PRESENT:



SILENCE ALL DEVICES



HOLD YOUR APPLAUSE  
UNTIL PROMPTED



NO AIR HORNS  
OR NOISEMAKERS



PLEASE TAKE ALL PICTURES  
WITH YOUR GRADUATE  
BEFORE THE CEREMONY



# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHEDULE OF COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025

STUDENT EXPERIENCE AWARDS GALA  
Mississippi College, Anderson Hall  
B.C. Rogers Student Center, 6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2025

HONORS CONVOCATION  
First Baptist Church Clinton  
Sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES AND THE ARTS  
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
Mississippi College, A.E. Wood Coliseum, 10:00 a.m.

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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
SCHOOL OF NURSING  
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS  
Mississippi College, A.E. Wood Coliseum, 2:00 p.m.

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*There is only one official graduation date each semester, no matter when the commencement exercise is held. University policy has set the date which coincides with the undergraduate commencement as the official date, and it is considered the date degrees were awarded. This date appears on all diplomas. For Spring 2025, the official date is May 9, 2025.*

The inclusion of student names in this commencement program is not an indicator that the student completed degree requirements and earned a degree from Mississippi College.



MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE  
SPRING COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE  
SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES AND THE ARTS  
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

A.E. WOOD COLISEUM, CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

10:00 A.M.

\*PROCESSIONAL  
“Veritas March”  
by Ben Williams  
Dr. Ben Williams  
*Professor and Chair,  
Department of Music*

Dr. Cindy Melton  
*Dean, School of Education*

Dr. Mike Highfield

Dr. Blake Thompson

\*MC MEMORIES and INVOCATION  
Xavian Rojun Branch  
*Hall of Fame 2025*

ALUMNI CHARGE  
Jake Donald  
*Director of Alumni  
and Family Engagement*

Conner Roderick Dyess  
*Hall of Fame 2025*

\*ALMA MATER  
by George Mackie  
Dr. Viola Dacus

*Associate Professor, Department of Music*  
Dr. Ben Williams

WELCOME and  
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER  
Dr. Blake Thompson  
*President, Mississippi College*

ARMY OFFICER OATH OF OFFICE  
Lt. Col. Oliver L. North, USMC (Ret.)  
Jason Ray

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS  
Lt. Col. Oliver L. North, USMC (Ret.)

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS  
Dr. Mike Highfield  
*Provost, Executive Vice President, Graduate Dean*

\*CLOSING STATEMENT  
Dr. Mike Highfield

CONFERRING OF DEGREES  
Dr. Stephanie Busbea  
*Interim Dean, School of  
Christian Studies and the Arts*

\*BENEDICTION  
Dr. Cindy Melton

Dr. Jonathan Randle  
*Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences*

\*RECESSIONAL  
“Stately Processional”  
by James S. Sclater  
Dr. Ben Williams

\*The audience will please stand.



## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES SPRING 2025 COMMENCEMENT

### SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES AND THE ARTS

DR. STEPHANIE BUSBEA, INTERIM DEAN

#### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Colby Dillon Chadwick, *Amite, LA*  
Eli Heath Cooper, *Forest, MS*  
Emma Kay Ellard, *Madison, MS*  
Martha Elizabeth Farnham, *Flowood, MS*  
Samuel Charles Fontenoy, *Covington, LA*  
Oliver Price Gibbs, *Pontotoc, MS*  
Tyler Patrick Heard, *Madison, MS*  
Austin Blake Lane, *Trussville, AL*  
Ruby Grace Scott Lanford, *Raymond, MS*  
Layton Hayes Levingston, *Brandon, MS*  
John Clayton Mathis, *Richland, MS*  
Joshua James Plunkett, *Arab, AL*  
Elijah Reid Rank, *Collinsville, MS*  
Katrina Jillian Sepuesca Sanchez, *Clinton, MS*  
Braden Gage Smith, *Crystal Springs, MS*  
Lincoln Warren Terry, *Brandon, MS*  
Mary Margaret Walker, *Benton, MS*

#### BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Eleanor Rose Acton, *Heidelberg, MS*  
Mylee Cronin, *Fort Worth, TX*  
Caroline Grace Dooling, *Huntsville, AL*  
Morgan Elizabeth Evans, *Carthage, MS*  
Elaine H. Hill, *Brandon, MS*  
Emma Kay Knowles, *Trafford, AL*  
Whitney Grace Lewis, *Ocean Springs, MS*  
Chandler Rafael Martin, *Jacksonville, FL*  
Katelynn Elizabeth Page, *Madison, AL*  
Maria Paula Rodriguez, *Cucuta Norte de Santander,  
Colombia*  
Sabrina Ashleigh Seibert, *Arlington, TN*  
Rebekah Chrystal Mae Whitten, *Pearl, MS*  
Jeanna Carol Winborne, *Brandon, MS*  
Lauren Elise Yendle, *Auburn, AL*

#### BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Caitlin Barnes Vickery, *Jackson, MS*

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Alex Truong Berrios, *Brandon, MS*  
Xavian Rojun Branch, *Jackson, MS*  
Evan Thomas Brown, *Douglasville, GA*  
Olivia Kaitlyn Brown, *Brandon, MS*  
William Cray Cairncross, *Kosciusko, MS*  
Conner Roderick Dyess, *Brandon, MS*  
Frances Kate Gammill, *Brandon, MS*  
Orry Clark Hodges, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Nathan Owen Jarnagin, Jr., *Clinton, MS*  
Robert Steven Lewis, *Hoover, AL*  
Elijah Dustin Mangum, *Florence, MS*  
Chloe Nicole Newton, *Oklahoma City, OK*  
Logan Alton Orman, *Senatobia, MS*  
Landon Dean Rutland, *Brandon, MS*  
Elizabeth St. Claire Simmons, *Berryville, VA*  
Jaylin David Thompson, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Mary Seabrook White, *Madison, MS*  
Spencer Jason Winans, *Vance, MS*

#### HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

Xavian Rojun Branch

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Anna Copelan Gibbs, *Jackson, MS*  
Robert James Teddy McNamee, *Clinton, MS*

#### MASTER OF EDUCATION

William Douglas Jenkins, *Fulton, MS*  
Major: Art Education

Anna Joy Powell, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Art Education

#### MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Madeline Sarah Brown, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Graphic Design

Cameron Elizabeth Huey, *Florence, MS*  
Major: Visual Arts - Two Dimensional



Nicole Lee Lancaster, *Hattiesburg, MS*  
Major: Visual Arts – Two Dimensional  
Thesis: *The Historical and Psychological Relevance of Risk-Taking in Art*  
Thesis Committee:  
Dr. Randy Miley, Chair  
Dr. Rachel Lantz  
Dr. Chase Quarterman

## MASTER OF MUSIC

Cez Anne Castillo Cariño, *Quezon City Metro Manila, Phillipines*  
Major: Voice Performance and Pedagogy

Garrett Ryan Lindsey, *Birmingham, AL*  
Major: Music Education  
Thesis: *Motivation and Engagement in the Secondary Choral Classroom*  
Thesis Committee:  
Dr. Renee Wilson, Chair  
Dr. Ben Williams  
Dr. Beth Everett

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

Cole Paul Benoit, *Carriere, MS*  
Major: Strategic Communication

Bretton Christopher Crosby, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Strategic Communication

Amanda Daniels, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Strategic Communication

Meagan Grace Eubanks, *Birmingham, AL*  
Major: Strategic Communication

Isakiel Jacob Griffin, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Graphic Design

Lauren Elizabeth Warwick, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Strategic Communication

## SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DR. JONATHAN RANDLE, DEAN

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

Jonathan Edward Dacus, *Clinton, MS*  
Ann Mabry Dean, *Flora, MS*

Abigail Duggar, *Montgomery, AL*  
Rachel Grace Duncan, *Milton, FL*  
Emma Kay Ellard, *Madison, MS*  
Lauren Isabella Grewatz, *Brandon, MS*  
Betsy Carol Hart, *Oxford, MS*  
Carson Kendall Hughes, *Vestavia, AL*  
Jake Kai Jesiolowski, *Brandon, MS*  
Emma Caroline McCorkle, *Baton Rouge, LA*  
Merrin O'Connell Meyer, *Brandon, MS*  
Elliot Price Nixon, *Clinton, MS*  
Robert Winston Pennell, *Wiggins, MS*  
Elena Ruth Roberts, *Jackson, MS*  
Sydney Aleah Shaw, *Jackson, MS*

## JUNIOR AND SENIOR HONORS PROGRAM

Callie Elizabeth Martin  
“My foolish, blemished muse so sings.” *The Complexities of Puritan Women as Demonstrated in the Poetry of Anne Bradstreet, 1630-1690*  
Dr. Christian Pinnen

## HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARS

### WITH HIGH HONORS

Carson Kendall Hughes  
*The Language of Loneliness: An Investigation of Loneliness and Isolation Among Gen-Z*  
Dr. Daniel J. White

### WITH HIGH HONORS

Robert Winston Pennell  
*Places are People Too: Examining Depictions of Place across Genre in Jesmyn Ward’s where the Line Bleeds And Men We Reaped*  
Dr. Kristi R. Melancon

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Bryson Jerome Baker, *Lake Providence, LA*  
Christian Alex Broadhead, *Mendenhall, MS*  
Emma Grace Evans, *Carriere, MS*  
Nakerricka J. Ewing, *West Point, MS*  
Gracie Angelina Fagan, *Pearl, MS*  
Hugh Gordon Greer, *Bogue Chitto, MS*  
Jackson Gabriel Hatfield, *Melbourne, FL*  
Kathryn Leigh Johnson, *Ruth, MS*  
Zully Dayan Lopez, *Forest, MS*



Ashlyn Grace Lucas, *Brandon, MS*  
Riley Jean Manibog, *Katy, TX*  
Callie Elizabeth Martin, *Florence, MS*  
Ashley Michele McCollum, *Terry, MS*  
Duncan Lachlan McLendon, *Brandon, MS*  
Hope Elizabeth Pownall, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Jason Kilpatrick Ray, *Huntsville, AL*  
Elena Ruth Roberts, *Jackson, MS*  
Steven Reed Robinson, *Jackson, MS*  
Keiwon Quantrel Rodgers, *Jackson, MS*  
Jacob Henry Stephens, *Princeton, LA*  
Hilary Chidiraa Udechukwu, *Mortsel Antwerp, Belgium*  
Cameron Nathaniel Young, *Jackson, MS*

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Cameron Magee Melton, *Jackson, MS*  
Hudson Kavanaugh Shotts, *Pelahatchie, MS*  
Carson Dexter Smith, *Tulsa, OK*

## BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Katharine Anabelle Cobb, *Brandon, MS*  
Isabella Camile Danczyk, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Susanna Caroline Hough, *Montgomery, AL*  
Anya Sophia Mentch, *Waldo, WI*  
Sarah Jane Pierce, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Matthew Gage Spell, *Madison, MS*  
Sarah Beth Stambaugh, *Clinton, MS*  
Rebecca Leigh Stennett, *Point, TX*  
Kambry Brooke Williamson, *Hattiesburg, MS*

## MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Owen Francis Connelly, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Social Science - History

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

DR. CINDY MELTON, DEAN

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

Sydney Aleah Shaw, *Jackson, MS*

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Tiara Laquiria Abron, *Senatobia, MS*  
Christian Tanner Balcer, *Moss Point, MS*  
Julia Claire Ball, *Flora, MS*

December Raveen'Symone Banks, *Shaw, MS*  
Frank MyKendric Bean, *West Point, MS*  
Rreanna Ramya Bobo, *Belden, MS*  
Amelia Grace Boskovich, *Ocean Springs, MS*  
Noah Quinn Bottrell, *Clinton, MS*  
Bethany Leanna Bradshaw, *Dothan, AL*  
Derek Blaise Breerwood, *Poplarville, MS*  
Maurice Lashon Brown, Jr., *Cleveland, MS*  
Lindsey Grace Buie, *Canton, MS*  
Abygayle Rossie Carter, *Meridian, MS*  
Brandon Grey Craft, *Clinton, MS*  
Cara Susann Culpepper, *Montgomery, AL*  
Ana Julissa De Mata, *Meridian, MS*  
Zachary Edward Dickey, *Terry, MS*  
Nikolas Alexander Elenkov, *Madison, MS*  
Cody Alexander Ellis, *Clinton, MS*  
Brady Jayson Eutzler, *Brandon, MS*  
Joseph Corvis Fairley, II, *Jackson, MS*  
Luke Thomas Fanstone, *Oxfordshire England, United Kingdom*  
Emily Grace Fedorenko, *Coldwater, MS*  
Emma Marie Floyd, *Mendenhall, MS*  
Jackson Earl Fortenberry, *McComb, MS*  
William Edward Fritts, *Madison, MS*  
Bennett Wells Gibson, *Hattiesburg, MS*  
Brian Garrett Hammond, *Brentwood, TN*  
Addison Brooke Hardy, *Courtland, MS*  
Nia Monae Harvin, *Jackson, MS*  
Brynn Elaine Holbrook, *Huntsville, AL*  
Alexa Alayne Hyde, *Hoover, AL*  
Kimberly Madison Jenkins, *Cleveland, MS*  
Afton Miko-Bryton Johnson, *Conehatta, MS*  
Keith Derry Johnson, *Libby, MT*  
Mason Allen Kendall, *Mobile, AL*  
Olivia Kraft, *Hernando, MS*  
Bryce Joseph LaRocca, *Lake Charles, LA*  
Emily M. Latham, *Madison, MS*  
Molly G. Latham, *Madison, MS*  
Madison Kindall Leber, *Wilmington, NC*  
Ashley E. Lightcap, *Lafayette, LA*  
Chadwick Rodrique Martin, *Jacksonville, FL*  
Shay Danielle Matrick, *Crystal Springs, MS*  
Caitlynn Rylei Joy May, *Pearl, MS*  
Daughtry Hayes McGhee, *Bay Minette, AL*  
Andra'e Donovan McMillian, *Castleberry, AL*  
Bryce Brian Miller, *Greenwood, MS*  
Aidan Maxwell Mulligan, *Jayess, MS*  
Ava Corin Mury, *Lafayette, LA*  
Lily Clare Parrett, *Kosciusko, MS*  
Lydia M. Paulette, *Tuscaloosa, AL*  
William Quitman Peeler, *Yazoo City, MS*  
Brady Paul Permenter, *Madison, MS*  
Taylor Ann Phillips, *Brandon, MS*





Jairrice Markel Pryor, *Athens, AL*  
Anna Fleming Quaka, *Tupelo, MS*  
Jeremy Wayne Rakestraw, *Blue Springs, MS*  
Austin William Ridgway, *Brandon, MS*  
Ann Elise Rounsaville, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Emily Elizabeth Sanders, *Florence, MS*  
Logan Mitchel Shurden, *West Monroe, LA*  
Kristopher Lane Sides, *Hernando, MS*  
Godfrey William Greaves Sutherland, *Flora, MS*  
Megan Eva Tarver, *Southaven, MS*  
Josiah Haggai Tompkins, *Lula, MS*  
Christian Andrew Trejo, *Clinton, MS*  
Skylyn Dakota Vaughn, *Pontotoc, MS*  
Lauren Nicole Vermillion, *Cecil, AL*  
Kaylee Marie Walker, *Brandon, MS*  
Melvin Blake Walker, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Brenna Nicole Walley, *Madison, MS*  
John Henry White, *Amite, LA*  
Cassidey Lynn Wiggins, *Natchez, MS*  
Brittany Alexis Williford, *Richton, MS*  
Tralicia Annreell Willingham, *Jackson, MS*  
Anna Caroline Wilson, *Madison, MS*  
Mary Elizabeth Winstead, *Senatobia, MS*  
Carolyn Anne Young, *Nacogdoches, TX*

## HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARS

Amelia Grace Boskovich  
Brynn Elaine Holbrook  
Brady Paul Permenter

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Grace Alexandra Araya, *The Woodlands, TX*  
Haley Elizabeth Beasley, *Clinton, MS*  
Paula Suzan Duplessis, *Florence, MS*  
Janie Nicole Gray, *Montevallo, AL*  
Areeba Khan, *Clinton, MS*  
Caroline Elizabeth Naman, *Clinton, MS*  
Natalie Thanh Thao Nguyen, *Boaz, AL*  
Rachel Joanne Ogle, *Tuscumbia, AL*  
Lillian Elizabeth Pillow, *Yazoo City, MS*  
Emma Katherine Pounders, *Hamilton, MS*  
Brady Rayne Smith, *Clinton, MS*  
Leah Anne Strawderman, *Woodstown, NJ*  
Lauren Elizabeth Wallace, *Hoover, AL*  
Megan Pearl Wells, *Pearl, MS*  
Abigail Elizabeth Zetterholm, *Clinton, MS*

## MASTER OF EDUCATION

Meghan Nicole Aday, *Tishomingo, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Judy Marie Adkisson, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Elementary Education

Kaiti Nichole Skains Adomyetz, *Florence, AL*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Audra Russell Banks, *Canton, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Andress Grace Barber, *Baldwyn, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Kathryn Marie Barnett, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Elementary Education

Amy Stamm Beasley, *Ruston, LA*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Sarrah Fern Bell, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Brianna Lacie Billhofer, *Cleveland, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Kaitlan Ann Stockman Brady, *Laurel, MS*  
Major: Elementary Education

Ronald Eric Bridges, *Braxton, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Andria Cherie Fisher Brooks, *Canton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Morgan Elizabeth Campbell, *Baker, LA*  
Major: School Counseling

Emily Booth Chandler, *Pearl, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Alexis Marie Ciaccio, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: School Counseling

Candice Annette Clark, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Danyelle DeShaun Cooper, *Moss Point, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership



Angela Jean Cox, *Gluckstadt, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Bobbie Breland Dewberry, *Louisville, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Cody Tanner Donahue, *Oxford, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Larry Michael Duke, *Philadelphia, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Keyalah Alexis Fair, *Memphis, TN*  
Major: Elementary Education

Charles Justin Figgemeier, *Saucier, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Chadwick Tirrell Ford, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: School Counseling

Rebecca Ann Stokes Foster, *Noxapater, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Natalie Elizabeth Frye, *Natchez, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Erica Suzanne Gardner, *Baldwyn, MS*  
Major: Special Education

Sara Jane Garff, *San Antonio, TX*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Alexis B. Green, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Tristen Nakole Green, *Potts Camp, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Hannah Claire Hankins, *Salttillo, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Marissa Susan Harper, *Long Beach, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Simon Lamar Heyward, *Savannah, GA*  
Major: Special Education

Elizabeth Dianne Higgins, *Houston, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Kylie Browning Hill, *Hernando, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Jalesa Cierra Hobson, *Florence, MS*  
Major: Special Education

Amanda Corey Hover, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Lonetta Johnson Jackson, *Stone Mountain, GA*  
Major: Elementary Education

Sky Leigh Jackson, *Corinth, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Malik De'Quan James, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: School Counseling

Kara Alyse Jones, *Meridian, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Hope Meredith Kullman, *Flowood, MS*  
Major: Teaching Arts Elementary K-6

Jeanine Latonya Beard Lark, *Starkville, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Jordan Ann Lloyd, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Cody Nicholas Logan, *Flora, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Kaylee Grayce Parks Mason, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Kathleen Elizabeth McKinney, *Hernando, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Deann Michelle Melton, *Du Quoin, IL*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Shewonia La'Taunga Mercadel, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Heather Hall Nicholson, *Pope, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Caroline Chrestman Noe, *Lyon, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Christina Evans Oliver, *Union, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Allene Ruth Pannell, *Pontotoc, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Jodi Danielle Picou, *Belden, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Danielle Denise Poe, *Pearl, MS*  
Major: Teaching Arts Secondary 7-12



Tawana Chantel Neese Prejean, *Florence, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

John Bennett Price, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Shymirror Deshuna Elizabeth Pringle, *Richland, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Katharine Grace Quinn, *Baton Rouge, LA*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Lauren Kay Rathert, *Murphysboro, IL*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Julia Leigh Ratliff, *Belmont, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

John Stephen Rustin, *Ocean Springs, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Alexis Phillips Sanderson, *Bay Springs, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Brenda Kaye Scott, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Caitlyn Faith Smith, *West Point, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Melessa Renee South, *Hernando, MS*  
Major: Curriculum and Instruction

Susan Lorraine Stewart, *Walnut Grove, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Ashley Shea Talbert, *Horn Lake, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Galey Tatum Thomas, *Hattiesburg, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Teresa Elaine Thomas, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Savannah Rae Tresch, *Ocean Springs, MS*  
Major: Elementary Education

Hunter Stark Twitty, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Kalea Derrick White, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Avianna Gayle Whitfield, *Nesbit, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Deja Monet McNair Williams, *Hattiesburg, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Melanie Rae Williams, *Blue Springs, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Marneicha S. Wilson, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Blake Randall Windham, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Heather Ann Wood, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Brittany Nicole Woods, *Petal, MS*  
Major: Special Education

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

Wanas Sameeh Almajali, *Tabrbor Amman, Jordan*  
Major: Athletic Administration Interscholastic

Jason Ross Betz, *Meridianville, AL*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Carrington Nehemiah Davis, *Morton, MS*  
Major: Athletic Administration Intercollegiate

Dalton Anderson Davis, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Athletic Administration Intercollegiate

Prisita Kantibhai Gabani, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Balasravva Gandipalli, *Salur Andhra Pradesh, India*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Jennifer Elaine Griggers, *Lake Charles, LA*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Jalila D. Haynes, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Athletic Administration Intercollegiate

Carley Carroll Hudspeth, *Grenada, MS*  
Major: Marriage and Family Counseling

Hayden Stuart King, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Athletic Administration Intercollegiate

Jontrell L. Mack, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

Meredith Marie Mitchiner, *Spring, TX*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology



Sai Shravya Neerudu, *Hyderabad Telangana, India*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Chelsi Pankajkumar Patel, *Gandhinagar Gujarat, India*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

David Bishop Putnam, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Mental Health Counseling

Princess Niharika Raavi Paul, *Hyderabad Telangana, India*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Jarius R. Smith, *Utica, MS*  
Major: Athletic Administration Intercollegiate

Kyle K.H. So, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Kalyan Chaitanya Thadaka, *Nalgonda Telangana, India*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Varsha Valage, *Hyderabad Telangana, India*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Jonathan Alexander Youngblood, III, *Meridian, MS*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

## EDUCATION SPECIALIST

Chasidy Nicole Brewer, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

William E. Wise Buchanan, *Hattiesburg, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Krystal Justina Burton, *Picayune, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Sowjanya Chimma, *Greenwood, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Robert Barry Cook, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Tira L. Erwin, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Shanice Lenoir Vance Griffin, *Petal, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Jodi Smith Jackson, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Counseling

Pamela Janell Jones, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Tisithia L. Knotts, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Hollie Jordan Marjanovic, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Jeremy Richard Nix, *Ellisville, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Christina Lashay Rhodes-Fleming, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Major: Counseling

Erin Lindsee Smith, *Florence, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Lynzie Alexandria Smith, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Dionne M. Springfield, *Goodlettsville, TN*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Dorothy Jacklyn Straughter, *Byram, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Shandra La Shi Griffin Toaster, *Byram, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration  
K-12

Dawn Lashell Williams, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Major: Counseling

River Makenzie Woods, *Winona, MS*  
Major: Counseling



## DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Jackie Lynn Laird Martin, *Bogue Chitto, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *A Study of Equity and Access of Dual Enrollment Programs in Southwest Mississippi High Schools*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Jennifer Stafford, Chair  
Dr. Ruthie S. Stevenson  
Dr. Willie C. Johnson  
Dr. Shevonne L. McDuffy-Oatis

Melissa Nicole Roberts Tullos, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *Parental Perceptions of Kindergarten Readiness in Central Mississippi Schools*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Martha D'Amico, Chair  
Dr. Sydney Holbert  
Dr. Willie Johnson  
Dr. Jennifer Stafford

Taiyana Nicole Wooten, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *A Study of Middle and High School Teachers' Attitudes towards Inclusion*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Jennifer Stafford, Chair  
Dr. Audra Rester  
Dr. Ruthie Stevenson  
Dr. Stephanie Carmicle-Davis

Cindy Garrett Young, *Philadelphia, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *Teachers' Perceptions of School Culture at Elementary Schools in Mississippi*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Jennifer Stafford, Chair  
Dr. Willie C. Johnson  
Dr. Martha D'Amico  
Dr. James Norton

## DOCTOR OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

Norbi Alexandra Forero, *Shawnee, KS*  
Major: Professional Counseling  
Project Demonstrating Excellence: *Treating Borderline Personality Disorder with Co-occurring Binge Eating Disorder and Cannabis Use Disorder using Dialectical Behavior Therapy from a Psychodynamic Theoretical Orientation*  
Project Demonstrating Excellence Committee:  
Dr. Amy Vlach, Chair  
Dr. Lisa Thomas  
Dr. Jennifer Giambrone

Kaliyah Shakelsey Hughes, *Cedarbluff, MS*  
Major: Professional Counseling  
Project Demonstrating Excellence: *Implementing Mental Health Services in Homeless Shelters: A Program Developmental Approach*  
Project Demonstrating Excellence Committee:  
Dr. Lisa Thomas, Chair  
Dr. Amy Vlach  
Dr. Jennifer Giambrone

Kimberly Katina Newsome, *Magee, MS*  
Major: Professional Counseling  
Project Demonstrating Excellence: *Using Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Behavior Therapy (MBCT) to Treat Symptoms of Autism Spectrum Disorder in an Individual with a Moderate Intellectual Disability: A Clinical Case Study*  
Project Demonstrating Excellence Committee:  
Dr. Lisa Thomas, Chair  
Dr. Amy Vlach  
Dr. Jennifer Giambrone

Priscilla Shin Hui, *Singapore North West, Singapore*  
Major: Professional Counseling  
Project Demonstrating Excellence: *A Clinical Case Study on the Efficacy of Emotionally-Focused Therapy Combined with Mindfulness in Couples Counseling*  
Project Demonstrating Excellence Committee:  
Dr. Lisa Thomas, Chair  
Dr. Amy Vlach  
Dr. Jennifer Giambrone



MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE  
SPRING COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
SCHOOL OF NURSING  
SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

A.E. WOOD COLISEUM, CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

2:00 P.M.

\*PROCESSIONAL

“Veritas March”

by Ben Williams

Dr. Michael Rushing

*Professor and Director of the Taylor Music School,  
Department of Music*

\*MC MEMORY

and INVOCATION

Ashley Grace Bassett

*Hall of Fame 2025*

WELCOME and  
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Dr. Blake Thompson

*President, Mississippi College*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Lt. Col. Oliver L. North, USMC (Ret.)

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Dr. Mike Highfield

*Provost, Executive Vice President, Graduate Dean*

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Marcelo Eduardo

*Dean, School of Business*

Dr. Kelly Harden

*Dean, School of Nursing*

Dr. Stan Baldwin

*Dean, School of Science and Mathematics*

Dr. Mike Highfield

Dr. Blake Thompson

ALUMNI CHARGE

Jake Donald

*Director of Alumni  
and Family Engagement*

\*ALMA MATER

by George Mackie

Dr. Beth Everett

*Assistant Professor and Director of Choral Activities,  
Department of Music*

Dr. Michael Rushing

\*CLOSING STATEMENT

Dr. Mike Highfield

\*BENEDICTION

Dr. David Magers

*Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Physics,  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry*

\*RECESSIONAL

“Stately Processional”

by James S. Sclater

Dr. Michael Rushing

\*The audience will please stand.



## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES SPRING 2025 COMMENCEMENT

### SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

DR. MARCELO EDUARDO, DEAN

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Parker Scott Albright, *Florence, MS*  
Haddon Lanier Anthony, *Blue Mountain, MS*  
Javier Shamaar Batiste, *White Castle, LA*  
Amelia Rose Bell, *O'Fallon, IL*  
Avery E. Boggs, *Lacombe, LA*  
Rashad Darnell Bolden, *Jackson, MS*  
Meleah Lynn Brunson, *Rainbow City, AL*  
Kendall Marie Calloway, *Madison, MS*  
Kayleigh Elizabeth Canoy, *Flowood, MS*  
Anna Kathryn Charbonnet, *Lafayette, LA*  
Kyle James Collet, *Belle Chasse, LA*  
Brooke Copley, *Pearl, MS*  
Jonathan James Crump, *Baton Rouge, LA*  
Walker Harvey Ellis, *Madison, MS*  
Christopher Migel Garcia-Cloud, *Maryville, IL*  
Richard Gabriel Garner, *Madison, MS*  
Dominic Paul Guidry, *Tylertown, MS*  
Kaitlyn Marie Hamilton, *Clinton, MS*  
George Reece Hindt, *Canton, GA*  
David Michael Horn, *Biloxi, MS*  
Simon Todd Hulshizer, *Clinton, MS*  
Owen Park Jackson, *Germantown, TN*  
Coleman Michael Jansa, *Clinton, MS*  
Malia Jean Kossina, *Columbia, IL*  
Haley Elizabeth Kretz, *Owens Cross Roads, AL*  
Sang-Yoon Sang-Ha Jeffrey Lee, *Madison, MS*  
Jeffrey James Liddell, *Clinton, MS*  
Erica Faith Luckie, *Ramer, AL*  
Sabrina Mahbub, *Clinton, MS*  
Abigail Joyce Moak, *Florence, MS*  
Samuel Qiao Moeller, *Tupelo, MS*  
Brooke Lynn Renee Neal, *Estill Springs, TN*  
Emily Katherine Omerza, *Clinton, MS*

Sydney Karoline Pace, *Oxford, MS*  
Loren Grace Pate, *Hoover, AL*  
Joshua Robert Peters, *Birmingham, AL*  
Jonathan David Pyburn, *Eads, TN*  
Reese Antrim Rayburn, *Clinton, MS*  
Haleigh Elizabeth Roberts, *Southaven, MS*  
Marlee Marie Rogers, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Aidan Elias Rummells, *Brandon, MS*  
Alvaro Saint Martin, *Clinton, MS*  
Bella Marie Salvo, *Brandon, MS*  
Tyler B. Sclafani, *Brandon, MS*  
Emily Rebekah Scott, *Birmingham, AL*  
Johnathon Edwyn Scott, *Drew, MS*  
William David Shea, *Hernando, MS*  
Mary Jane Sigur, *Clinton, MS*  
Preston Armstrong Speed, *Jackson, MS*  
Rashanna Shonte Thorne, *Clinton, MS*  
Alexander Birk Topgaard, *Copenhagen, Denmark*  
James Thomas Vance, *Union, MS*  
Joshua Wright Wilkes, *Memphis, TN*  
Colin Lawrence Williams, *Buford, GA*  
Shan Xu, *Madison, MS*

#### HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

Kayleigh Elizabeth Canoy

#### MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY

Regina Renee Carter Jobe, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Accountancy

Scott Tyrese Keys, V, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Accountancy

#### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Jamielee Davis Causey, *Liberty, MS*  
Major: Business Administration



Huichen Cheng, *Hsinchu Hsinchu, Taiwan*  
Major: Business Administration

David Russell Coody, *Yazoo City, MS*  
Major: Finance Concentration

Santiago Sampedro Diosa, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Justin Ebiyemi Efebera, *Dublin, OH*  
Major: Business Administration

Margherita Giubilato, *Martellago Veneto, Italy*  
Major: Business Administration

Josiah Christopher Golden, *Mobile, AL*  
Major: MIS Concentration

Braxton Nathaniel Hall, *Hoover, AL*  
Major: Business Administration

Lindsey Moreland Harris, *Raymond, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Victor Brian Herrington, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Janice Yichen Lin, *Taipei City, Wunshan District, Taipei, Taiwan*  
Major: Business Administration

Anna Katherine Rita McCain, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Tavares Dieon Farecus McGilberry, *Richland, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

William Griffin McKnight, *Pearl, MS*  
Major: Finance Concentration

John Scott Milam, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Emily Markham Riley, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Emma Catherine Roberts, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Shanice Shantol Robinson, *Portmore, Saint Catherine, Jamaica, Jamaica*  
Major: Finance Concentration

Kenneth Reece Singleton, *Yazoo City, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Wesley Tanner Thurman, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Clint Mason Walker, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Nethanya Libertad Zapata, *Guatemala, Guatemala*  
Major: Business Administration

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

DR. KELLY HARDEN, DEAN

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Stella Ozols French, *New Orleans, LA*  
Birkie Ann Marie Hughes, *Ocean Springs, MS*  
Madison Lea Morgan, *Clinton, MS*  
Rosalissa Caroline Sanchez, *Petal, MS*  
Katherine West Strickland, *Spanish Fort, AL*

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Reilly Kaelin Abernathy, *Hoover, AL*  
Lily Ariel Bardwell, *Monticello, MS*  
Allison Hope Berry, *Hazlehurst, MS*  
Makhala Amiya Berry, *Pearl, MS*  
Laney Mae Bruce, *Mize, MS*  
Emily Grace Bullington, *Guntown, MS*  
Daniel Johnston Cangelosi, *Madison, MS*  
Saneé Janique Cates, *Colorado Springs, CO*  
Amberal La'Sha Covan, *Carthage, MS*  
Skylar Marie Creel, *Brandon, MS*  
Genevieve Claire Dart, *Ethel, LA*  
Isabella Louise Dart, *Ethel, LA*





Tiana Tamura Noel Everett, *Clinton, MS*  
Morgan Marie Gillis, *Brandon, MS*  
Cassidy Lauren Harris, *Kimberly, AL*  
Caroline P. Jackson, *Philadelphia, MS*  
Shelby Cheyenne Knighten, *Florence, MS*  
Danny Liu, *Laurel, MS*  
Sarah Anne Massey, *Morton, MS*  
Hazel Desserie Mejia, *Brandon, MS*  
Madeline Mullins, *Magee, MS*  
Kyndal Alexandria Nash, *Clinton, MS*  
Hollyn Grace Oswalt, *Clinton, MS*  
Emilee Grayce Parker, *Brandon, MS*  
Vickie Joan Parks, *Clinton, MS*  
Alexis Grace Pollard, *Brandon, MS*  
Kyndal Grace Porter, *Oakland, TN*  
Peyton Davis Raiford, *Saltillo, MS*  
Makenzie Allyson Rich, *Moss Point, MS*  
Madison Aleah Sheriff, *Jackson, MS*  
Destiny Lashay Smith, *Jackson, MS*  
Jessica Martha Smith, *Madison, MS*  
Emeline Rose Soileau, *Mandeville, LA*  
Elizabeth Brooke Steen, *Florence, MS*  
Kellie Olivia Strong, *Yazoo City, MS*  
Kimi Arie Webb, *Coldwater, MS*  
Lydia Karen Welborn, *Stamford, CT*  
Whitney Grace White, *Benton, MS*  
Bethany Hope Zauner, *Birmingham, AL*

## HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

### WITH HONORS

Emilee Grayce Parker

*Impact of Vitamin D Deficiency on  
Mood and Sleep Disorders in College  
Students: A Systematic Review*  
Dr. David Sharp

### ACCELERATED B.S.N.

Alexandria Nicole Harris, *Carthage, MS*  
Nathaniel Nowell Parker, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Mercy Chebet Wright, *Clinton, MS*

### R.N. to B.S.N.

Quincy Armond Brandon, Jr., R.N., *Columbus, MS*  
Zachary Patrick Finnegan, R.N., *Decatur, MS*  
Angelica Destiny Hardy, R.N., *Pearl, MS*  
Samuel Drake Harris, R.N., *Ridgeland, MS*  
Conner Lee Henderson, R.N., *Petal, MS*  
Brandon Alexander Hodge, R.N., *Mineral Wells, MS*  
Mariah Maranda McClendon, R.N., *Ellisville, MS*  
Clara Denise Williams, R.N., *Vicksburg, MS*

## MASTER OF HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Stanon Brewer Creel, *Florence, MS*  
Major: Health Services Administration

Emily Ann Ellis, *Florence, MS*  
Major: Health Services Administration

Ary Denise Gordon, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Health Services Administration

Chelsea Briuna Jones, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Health Services Administration

Mu'Nesha Gabrielle Min'YaKa Lott,  
*Jackson, MS*  
Major: Health Services Administration

Hertha Suzanne Marler, *Crystal Springs, MS*  
Major: Health Services Administration

Aaliyah Symone Newsome, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Health Services Administration

Daryn Araya Powell, *Yazoo City, MS*  
Major: Health Services Administration

## SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

DR. STAN BALDWIN, DEAN

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Faith Janae Anderson, *Jackson, MS*  
Ashley Grace Bassett, *Madison, MS*  
Breann Michelle Bell, *Lexington, MS*



Joshua Stevens Berry, *Jackson, MS*  
Madeleine Marie Brignac, *Clinton, MS*  
Hanna Katherine Bynum, *Brandon, MS*  
Ximena Carrillo, *Bartlett, TN*  
Claire Elizabeth Copeland, *Laurel, MS*  
Samuel Joseph Craig, *Brandon, MS*  
Makena Joy Dashiell, *Spokane, WA*  
Jalen Jacob Dear, *Bolton, MS*  
Bryan Malcolm Doan, *Hammond, LA*  
Peyton Chance Donaldson, *Gulfport, MS*  
Andrew D. Doubert, *Trophy Club, TX*  
Lillian Marie Edens, *Monroe, LA*  
Javian Ervin, *Clinton, MS*  
Nash Joseph Euto, *Huntsville, AL*  
Elliott McGinley Franklin, *Huntsville, AL*  
Jacob Wesley Garteiser, *Clinton, MS*  
Oakley David Gibbs, *Clinton, MS*  
Guy Jackson Gordon, *Richland, MS*  
Alexis Nicole Guthrie, *Brandon, MS*  
Logan Michael Hariel, *Brandon, MS*  
Andrew Blocker Harvison, *Jackson, MS*  
Carson Elizabeth Jones, *Madison, MS*  
Kaylee Mackenzie Jones, *Greenwood, MS*  
NyJha J. Keller, *Clinton, MS*  
Zarina Amara Lala, *Madison, MS*  
Alana Latorre, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Landon L. Maloney, *Madison, MS*  
Eden Marie Martin, *Madison, MS*  
Makayla Ann Martin, *Bogue Chitto, MS*  
Caroline Brooke McCaleb, *Fairhope, AL*  
Benjamin Wayne McRae, *Chelsea, AL*  
Kiersten Arlene Mengel, *Newark, DE*  
Eve Caroline Mixon, *Vance, MS*  
Noah Alexander Overstreet, *Magee, MS*  
Jacob Richard Parker, *Clinton, MS*  
Cole Anderson Parris, *New Braunfels, TX*  
Robert Winston Pennell, *Wiggins, MS*  
Ashley Nicole Pinon, *Meridian, MS*  
Grace Morgan Pitcock, *Pope, MS*  
Ahmad Shohab Qazi, *Srinagar Jammu and  
Kashmir, India*  
Selah Marymarie Roberts, *Madison, MS*  
Grace Ann Rogers, *Boyle, MS*  
Alya Marie Shanklin, *Thibodaux, LA*  
Causey Lane Simmons, *Tupelo, MS*

Jasleen Singh, *Clinton, MS*  
Amy Nicole Snyder, *Diamondhead, MS*  
Jack Thomas Spears, *Laurel, MS*  
Ava Grace Stegall, *Madison, MS*  
Dawson Kade Stegall, *Pontotoc, MS*  
Brandon Parker Strain, *Madison, MS*  
Jackson Hayes Strong, *Madison, MS*  
William Cain Tharp, *French Camp, MS*  
Jaylen Elijah Vance, *Meridian, MS*  
Abigail Reese Veidmark, *Phoenix, AZ*  
Loren Abigail Wade, *Petal, MS*  
Hannah Nicole West, *Covington, LA*  
Mallory Rose Wilbanks, *Southaven, MS*  
Gabrielle Daisian Winters, *Kosciusko, MS*

## HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARS

### WITH HIGH HONORS

Carson Elizabeth Jones  
*Evaluating the Current Distribution of  
Salamanders in the Genus Desmognathus  
Throughout Mississippi*  
Dr. Frank R. Hensley

### WITH HIGH HONORS

Jack Thomas Spears  
*Helping Hands: The Mississippi Delta  
Food Community (A Documentary)*  
Dr. Christian Pinnen

## HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARS

Faith Janae Anderson  
Ashley Grace Bassett  
Makena Joy Dashiell  
Andrew D. Doubert  
Elliott McGinley Franklin  
Oakley David Gibbs

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Jack Tulley Bower, *Brookhaven, MS*  
James Ho, *Clinton, MS*  
Austin Dwayne Huggins, *Winona, MS*



Jonathan Alexander Jones, *Clinton, MS*  
Peyton Kyle Killebrew, *Sallis, MS*  
Miguel Pablo Quevedo, *Santa Cruz De Bezana*  
*Cantabria, Spain*

Ben Montgomery Spears, *Laurel, MS*  
Jon Hudson Stegall, *Madison, MS*  
Nicholas Alan Turner, *Tuscaloosa, AL*  
Josiah Andrew Zetterholm, *Clinton, MS*

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

Jennifer Michelle Bachez, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Biology

Harshitha Bollur, *Hyderabad, India*  
Major: Computer Science

Chadwick Jay Boyd, *Bossier City, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Jessica Carro Pedreira, *A Gándara, Narón,*  
*Galicia, Spain*  
Major: Chemistry

Mary Grace Cochran, *Sumrall, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Julia Helena Fulianty-Teasdale, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Chloe Olivia Glover, *Robert, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

William Ted Haydel, *Houma, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

TraveElle Elizabeth Tashun Knotts, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Cybersecurity and Information  
Assurance

Oliver Ryan Ollesch, *Eslohe North Rhine-*  
*Westphalia, Germany*  
Major: Computer Science

Jaydave Patel, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Son Ngoc Pham, *Marrero, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Parker Thomas Politz, *Baton Rouge, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Anuradha Ragila, *Suwanee, GA*  
Major: Chemistry  
*Analytical Analysis of Heirloom and*  
*Hybrid Tomatoes*  
Dr. Trent Selby, Chair  
Dr. Scoty Hearst  
Dr. David H. Magers

Dalron Jamal Robertson, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Biology

Robert H. Stevens, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Computer Science

Terrance Wilton Thomason, *Newnan, GA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Seth David Tyler, *Minden, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Foluke Ekwutos Uwaezuoke, *New Orleans, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Vary Vuth, *Phnom Penh Phnom Penh, Cambodia*  
Major: Computer Science



## PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

The medallion concept originated in Biblical days as a symbol for authority. The medallion was worn for adornment, and its likeness served as the official Seal. The Presidential Medallion, crafted for Dr. Blake Thompson, symbolizes the authority of the president's office as well as the president's responsibility to the Mississippi College

academic community. Fashioned in bronze and electroplated with gold, the Presidential Medallion depicts the Nelson Hall clock tower and is inscribed with the name and founding date of the University. The University's motto, "*Veritas et Virtus*" (truth and virtue) and the title "president," are included in the inscriptions.



## MACE AND SEAL

The Mississippi College Mace, carried by the faculty senate president who serves as grand marshal, is a symbol of the authority of the president of Mississippi College. Originating in the Middle Ages as a hand weapon used by the guards of kings, the mace has evolved into a ceremonial symbol in academic processions. The Mississippi College Mace is an original design by Dr. Ruth Glaze, professor of art, the late Dr. Kenneth Quinn, art instructor, and the late Dr. Archie Germany, professor emeritus of chemistry. Dr. Cliff Fortenberry, professor of communication and former department head, suggested the creation and use of the mace, which was first used during the inaugural

ceremony of Dr. Howell Todd on April 28, 1995. The mounts were designed and cast by the late Dr. Sam Gore, professor of art and department head, and Steve Cook, former professor of art. The four bronze Ormolu mounts represent Provine Chapel, Nelson Hall, a Choctaw Indian, and the Mississippi College motto within a circle placed over an open Bible and under the torch of truth. The mounts are attached to the four quadrants of the mace and the Mississippi College Presidential Seal is located in the crest of the mace.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL SEAL

The Seal, which originated in prehistoric periods, came to represent the authority of the king. When used with wax and attached to a document, the impression of the Seal carried with it the full weight of the king's authority. The University Seal symbolizes the academic authority

controlled by the University. Any document which bears the Seal is vested with the full authority of the University and its president. The Mississippi College Presidential Seal mirrors the design of the Presidential Medallion.



## ACADEMIC REGALIA

A time-honored tradition of great dignity, the wearing of academic apparel dates to the ecclesiastical garb of the late Middle Ages. The academic gown and hood were apparently first adopted in the 13th century at the University of Cambridge (1284). The University of Oxford was soon to follow. The custom was transplanted to this country in colonial times by Kings College in New York, now Columbia University.

In 1885, American universities and colleges standardized their academic styles and developed the intercollegiate code of academic costume. The characteristic elements of academic regalia are the gown, hood, and cap. The gown

is usually of black material (serge or worsted for bachelors, the same or silk for masters, and silk for doctors).

The hood, worn around the neck to hang down the back, is the principal emblem of the nature and source of the degree held. It is edged with velvet of the color of the degree; its silk lining bears the colors of the institution which granted the degree. Hoods may be worn only after the degree has been granted.

The cap bears a tassel which may be black for all ranks of degrees, or may be of gold thread for doctors and the color representing the degree for bachelors and masters.



## HISTORY OF MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

When Mississippi College opened its doors in 1826 as Hampstead Academy, much of the United States was still wilderness. A mere nine years earlier, Mississippi had been admitted into the Union as the twentieth state. Mississippi itself was still an untamed frontier – a challenge to be met by hard work, diligence, and faith. Applying these ideals to the academic setting, Mississippi College began educating men and women to become leaders in both professional and spiritual arenas.

Mississippi College is the oldest institution of higher learning in Mississippi and was the first co-educational

institution in the United States to grant a degree to a woman. In 1850, the Mississippi Baptist Convention obtained the University by lease and began operation through a board of trustees.

Now in its 199th year, Mississippi College is the oldest University in the state. The University is governed by a board of trustees elected by the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Support comes through tuition, donations from alumni and friends, foundations and corporate support, and the Mississippi Baptist Convention.



# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE VISION STATEMENT

Mississippi College seeks to be known as a University recognized for academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ.



# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Mississippi College, governed by a board of trustees elected by the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is a private, co-educational, comprehensive University of liberal arts and sciences and professional studies dedicated to the pursuit of academic excellence. Founded in 1826, Mississippi College is the oldest institution of higher learning. As a Christian institution, Mississippi College values the integration of faith and learning throughout the educational process.

Consistent with its Baptist heritage and relationship to the Convention, Mississippi College provides a Christian education for its student population. Students select the University because of the quality of its academic programs, Christian environment, and location. The University recruits students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, leadership, and church and community involvement. The majority of students come from Mississippi and other southern states.

Mississippi College stimulates the intellectual development of its students through the liberal arts and sciences and concentrated study in specialized fields, including preprofessional and professional programs. The University's environment promotes the spiritual, social,

emotional, and physical development of its students and encourages them to utilize their skills, talents, and abilities as they pursue meaningful careers, lifelong learning, and service to God and others. The University emphasizes those undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs that offer opportunities for service. The University reflects its responsibility of service to the community through a variety of learning opportunities and numerous cultural-enrichment experiences.

Mississippi College is committed to excellence and innovation in teaching and learning. The University seeks to employ and retain faculty who are dedicated to teaching, learning, and advising students; who support and engage in scholarship and creative activities that advance knowledge; and who seek to continue their own professional development. The University also seeks to employ and retain staff and administrators who are equally dedicated to supporting these efforts. Furthermore, the University selects employees who reflect Christian values and a commitment to service. Mississippi College is an equal opportunity employer in accordance with Title VII and applicable exemptions.



## DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR AWARD

Each year since 1978 Mississippi College has recognized a member of the faculty as Distinguished Professor of the Year. In the spring of 2000, the General Faculty voted to revise the process by which the Distinguished Professor is chosen. Currently, faculty in the schools of Business, Education, Law, and Nursing nominate one member of their respective faculties for this award. The faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences nominates three members, one each from the Humanities, the Sciences, Fine Arts, and Communication. Each May, a committee appointed by the President of the Faculty Senate and composed of faculty from all academic divisions of the University selects the Distinguished Professor of the Year based on criteria established by the General Faculty.

### AWARD RECIPIENTS

1977-78 Dr. Archie Germany	1993-94 Mrs. Mary Catherine Gentry	2009-10 Dr. Kerri Jordan
1978-79 Dr. Joe Cooper	1994-95 Dr. Billy Hicks	2010-11 Dr. James Everett
1979-80 Dr. George Pittman	1995-96 Dr. Becky Lynchard Clark	2011-12 Dr. Emily Fokeladeh
1980-81 Dr. William P. Stark	1996-97 Dr. James Sclater	2012-13 Dr. David G. Miller
1981-82 Dr. L. Craig Whitlock	1997-98 Dr. Debbie Pierce	2013-14 Dr. Patricia Bennett
1982-83 Dr. Ron Howard	1998-99 Dr. John Meadors	2014-15 Prof. Steve Cook
1983-84 Dr. Lloyd Roberts	1999-00 Dr. Shirley N. Jones	2015-16 Dr. Teresa Floyd
1984-85 Dr. Anne Meydrech	2000-01 Dr. Tom Williams	2016-17 Dr. Cindy Melton
1985-86 Dr. Ed Akin	2001-02 Dr. Gerald Lee	2017-18 Dr. John Travis
1986-87 Dr. Ralph Taylor	2002-03 Dr. Edward Valente	2018-19 Dr. John Anderson
1987-88 Dr. Joe M. Cooper	2003-04 Dr. William P. Stark	2019-20 Dr. Steven Price
1988-89 Dr. James Burnside	2004-05 Dr. David H. Magers	2020-21 Dr. Tommy Leavelle
1989-90 Dr. Bettye Coward	2005-06 Dr. Bill Wheeler, Jr.	2021-22 Dr. Sara Kimmel
1990-91 Dr. John McCall	2006-07 Dr. Mary Ann Henriques	2022-23 Dr. Melinda Gann
1991-92 Dr. Craig Turner	2007-08 Dr. Mark Modak-Truran	2023-24 Dr. Christian Pinnen
1992-93 Dr. Kirk Ford	2008-09 Dr. Michael Mann	2024-25 Dr. Ivan Parke

## VAN “DOC” QUICK DISTINGUISHED STAFF AWARD

Each year since 2005 Mississippi College has recognized an outstanding member of the staff as the recipient of the Distinguished Staff Award. In honor of Dr. Van Dyke Quick, Vice President for Student and Alumni Affairs, Emeritus, an outstanding alumnus and long-time member of the Mississippi College family, the award was renamed and presented in 2010 as the Van “Doc” Quick Distinguished Staff Award. Nominations for this award are received in April each year and may be received from students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Mississippi College. A nominee for this award must be a current Mississippi College staff employee who has had three consecutive years of service as a full-time staff member. The recipient of the award is selected by a committee composed of seven staff members and presented at the May commencement.

### AWARD RECIPIENTS

2004-05 Carolyn V. Hand	2011-12 Linda Taylor	2018-19 Shelia Carpenter
2005-06 Bettye Stewart	2012-13 Shirley Tipton	2019-20 Laura Ann Hoffman
2006-07 Cindy Hampton	2013-14 Ann Long	2020-21 Autumn Norman
2007-08 Sandy Reeves	2014-15 Susan Musselwhite	2021-22 Elizabeth Milner
2008-09 Ricky Russell	2015-16 Kathy Gibbs	2022-23 Greg Travis
2009-10 Cynda Golden	2016-17 Mary Beth Graves	2023-24 Chip Wilson
2010-11 Jeannie Lane	2017-18 Jo Sistrunk	2024-25 Donna Smith



# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Ronnie Falvey, *Chairman*  
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Eddie Donahoe	Wally Henry	Debbie Rice	Gary Watts
LaVerne Edney	Jeff Holland	Art Stevens	Ken Weathersby
David Eldridge	Tony Huffman	Chip Stevens	

## COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

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Blake Thompson, *Ex-officio*

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Kenny Bizot	Jake Donald	Megan Pritchett	Ben Williams
Lori Bobo	Marcelo Eduardo	Jonathan Randle	Michael Wright
Tanya Bradley	Roe Grubbs	Billy Thornton	

## MACE BEARER

Mignon Kucia





The bronze sculpture, "Jesus and the Children," created by the late internationally celebrated artist, Dr. Samuel Gore, is located in a spot on the Quad near the home of the School of Education.



A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY