



*2026 Commencement Exercises*



“ENTER HERE TO INCREASE IN STATURE, KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM.  
DEPART TO SHARE YOUR CULTURE WITH ALL MANKIND.”

# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

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MAY 2026



*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

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# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHEDULE OF COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026

HONORS CONVOCATION  
Swor Auditorium, Nelson Hall  
12:30 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026

STUDENT EXPERIENCE AWARDS GALA  
Anderson Hall, B.C. Rogers Student Center  
6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES, HUMANITIES AND THE ARTS  
INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES  
SCHOOL OF NURSING  
A.E. Wood Coliseum, 10:00 a.m.

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SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES  
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 2026, the official date is May 8, 2026.*

This 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.

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# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SPRING COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES, HUMANITIES AND THE ARTS  
INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES  
SCHOOL OF NURSING

A.E. WOOD COLISEUM, CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI  
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026  
10:00 A.M.

\*PROCESSIONAL

“Veritas March”

by Benjamin Williams

Dr. Bob Knupp

*Professor of Music, School of  
Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts*

Dr. Stephanie Carmicle-Davis  
*Vice Provost, Interdisciplinary Studies*

Dr. Kelly Harden  
*Dean, School of Nursing*

Dr. Mike Highfield

\*INVOCATION

Ellis Liddell

*Co-Chair, Mississippi College  
Bicentennial Celebration Committee*

Dr. Blake Thompson

ALUMNI CHARGE

Jake Donald

*Director of Alumni and Family Engagement*

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Dr. Blake Thompson

*President*

\*ALMA MATER

by George Mackie

Dr. Viola Dacus

*Professor of Music, School of  
Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts*

Dr. Bob Knupp

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS  
Dr. Joe Hamilton  
*Mississippi College Class of 1954  
Ret. Professor, Landon C. Garland Distinguished  
Professor of Physics, Vanderbilt University*

\*CLOSING STATEMENT

Dr. Mike Highfield

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS  
Dr. Mike Highfield  
*Provost and Executive Vice President*

\*BENEDICTION

Grey Thompson

*President, Student Government Association*

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Marcelo Eduardo  
*Dean, School of Business*

\*RECESSIONAL

“Stately Processional”

by James S. Sclater

Dr. Bob Knupp

Dr. Stephanie Busbea  
*Dean, School of Christian Studies,  
Humanities and the Arts*

\*All who are able are asked to stand.

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# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES MAY 2026 COMMENCEMENT

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

DR. MARCELO EDUARDO, DEAN

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Colwin Nathanael Allan, *Dallas, TX*  
Ethan Christopher Archie, *Jackson, MS*  
Camryn Elizabeth Bailey, *Helena, AL*  
Brianna Sydney Bodkins, *Brandon, MS*  
Thomas Andrew Boggs, Jr., *Lacombe, LA*  
Kaden Nicholas Collado, *Brandon, MS*  
Steven Chancellor Conrad, *Memphis, TN*  
Isabelle Mikaela Craddock, *Brandon, MS*  
James Oliver Creel, *Hattiesburg, MS*  
Carson Louise Dinkelacker, *Canton, MS*  
Kedric Tremaine Dixon, Jr., *Raymond, MS*  
Santiago Dominguez, *Clinton, MS*  
Linus Gustav Doverfors, *Borensberg Ostergotland, Sweden*  
Mary Frances Duncan, *Tuscaloosa, AL*  
Jonathan David Elbourne, *Ethel, LA*  
Austin Scott Etheridge, *McComb, MS*  
Leanna Beverley Fletcher, *Collierville, TN*  
Baxter Bolton Friedman, *Fairhope, AL*  
William Cade Gadman, *Clinton, MS*  
Alana Pilar Green, *Tuscaloosa, AL*  
Ainsley Morgan Griffin, *Meadville, MS*  
Brooklyn Claire Griffin, *Meadville, MS*  
Celine Grothe, *Lübeck, Germany*  
Carter Manning Hale, *Eads, TN*  
Michael McCormick Hederman, *Jackson, MS*  
Ellie Katherine Henderson, *Fultondale, AL*  
Anna Morgan Hill, *Brandon, MS*  
Derek Grant Holmes, *Clinton, MS*  
James Louis Honeycutt, II, *Terry, MS*  
Dorian Samuel Hurd, *New Albany, MS*  
Harper Jacob Hutton, *Pearl, MS*  
Bradley Joseph Keenan, *Brandon, MS*  
Grace Lael Knight, *Gore Springs, MS*

Brooklyn Nicole Laird, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Judah Thomas Land, *Chanhassen, MN*  
Victor Layne Landreneau, *Clinton, MS*  
Karsyn Mae Marchand, *Gonzales, LA*  
Seth Alan Mason, *Surprise, AZ*  
Chloe Page Mathias, *New Orleans, LA*  
Lewis Kurt Matton, *Clinton, MS*  
Salvador Augusto Melgar, *Columbus, OH*  
Jacob Allen Myers, *Coila, MS*  
Samuel Jeffrey Richards, *Clinton, LA*  
Madysen Reg'Anne Adale Robison, *Jackson, MS*  
Jeffrey H. Sanders, *Cordova, TN*  
David A. Schmid, *Calera, AL*  
Danny Tommy Shumaker, III, *Clinton, MS*  
Hope Caroline Skellie, *Hoover, AL*  
Roan Lillie Smith, *Austin, TX*  
Josiah Harrison Spinks, *Raymond, MS*  
Destin Kade Stephenson, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Elijah Jesse Todd, *Marble Falls, TX*  
Reed Montgomery Travelstead, *Jackson, MS*  
Lydia Raye Trillet, *Horn Lake, MS*  
Garrett Michael Viator, *Madison, MS*  
Jacob Lane Walters, *Bolton, MS*  
Travis Ford Whitson, *Vestavia Hills, AL*

### HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

David A. Schmid

### MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY

Frankie Nicole Bush, *Cartersville, GA*  
Major: Master of Accountancy  
Cayden Drake Clarkson, *Olive Branch, MS*  
Major: Master of Accountancy  
Brian Dang, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Master of Accountancy  
Tony Curtis Duckworth, Jr., *Alexandria, VA*  
Major: Master of Accountancy  
Chelsea Elyse Rice, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Master of Accountancy

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## MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Haddon Lanier Anthony, *Blue Mountain, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Amy Grace Atwood, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Tashawna Lenea Catchings, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Walker Harvey Ellis, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Allen H. England, *Shreveport, LA*  
Major: Business Administration

Ethan Dupree Estis, *Gautier, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Lakelynn Brooke Fancher, *Kosciusko, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Faith Danielle Hall, *Moss Point, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Chiquentia Marie Jenkins, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Business Administration

Ryan Edward Krueger, *Fowlerville, MI*  
Major: Business Administration

Jeffrey J. Liddell, *Mississauga, Ontario, Canada*  
Major: Business Administration

Xiaojin Lin, *Guangzhou, People's Republic of China*  
Major: Business Administration

Garrett Benjamin Mitchell, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Accounting Concentration

Asa M. Poche, *Prairieville, LA*  
Major: Business Administration

Emily Rebekah Scott, *Birmingham, AL*  
Major: Business Administration

Alicia Renee Washington, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Accounting Concentration

## SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES, HUMANITIES AND THE ARTS

DR. STEPHANIE BUSBEA, DEAN

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Ruth Abigail Merck Anslinger, *Clinton, MS*

Cecelia Peaches Ballentine, *Clinton, MS*

Elijah Paul Black, *Grenada, MS*

Anna Elise Crout, *Madison, MS*

Hunter Michael Everett, *Richland, MS*

Christopher Jace Fleming, *Senatobia, MS*

Emily DeAnna Gambill, *Jackson, MS*

Hallie Grace Goodsell, *Alabaster, AL*

Lydia Mendheim Guy, *Folsom, LA*

Cole Zhou Lei Matthews Hatch, *Florence, MS*

Hannah Grace Hinckley, *Summit, MS*

Alyson Leigh Jadzinski, *Meridian, MS*

Khalea Kioja Johnson, *Jackson, MS*

Emelia Hui Kimball, *Poplarville, MS*

Trenton James Kirkland, *Philadelphia, MS*

Joseph Richard Lindsay, *Clinton, MS*

Evan James Llewelyn, *Louisville, MS*

Ethan Joseph Lott, *Olive Branch, MS*

Rachel Tess Mallord, *Brandon, MS*

James Benjamin Mathews, *Lafayette, LA*

Emily Rebekah McNemar, *Brandon, MS*

Noah Christian Herley Melton, *Clinton, MS*

James David Miller, *Downsville, LA*

Ella Lin Murphree, *Cullman, AL*

Gracia Elizabeth Oden, *Madison, MS*

Connor A. Pittman, *Ellisville, MS*

India Eve Rice, *Clinton, MS*

Anna Lane Robbins, *Birmingham, AL*

Coley Grace Stout, *Clinton, MS*

Madyson Machel Williams, *Clinton, MS*

Nettie Elizabeth Schulte Williams, *Clinton, MS*

Margaret Rachel Wingo, *Pelahatchie, MS*

Hannah Sarai Winston, *Jarrell, TX*

Brent Mitchell Wood, Jr., *Bogart, GA*

### HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

#### WITH HIGH HONORS

Anna Lane Robbins

*Assimilation of Spanish Loanwords into Tz'utujil:  
A Phonological Perspective*

Dr. Beth Stapleton

### HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARS

Margaret Rachel Wingo

Hannah Sarai Winston

### BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Lora Cathryn Arnold, *Brandon, MS*

Madelyn Elise Bell, *Sumrall, MS*

Kaylie Michelle Garrett, *West Monroe, LA*

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Faith Marie Henderson, *Fayetteville, AR*  
Addison Mabry Johnson, *Brandon, MS*  
Julia Ann Jordan, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Savanna Marie McCafferty, *Terry, MS*  
Natalie Monichan Mienphilom, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Avery Samantha Pool, *Pearl, MS*  
Emily Caroline Rhea, *Jackson, MS*  
Ann Cabot Stockett, *Madison, MS*  
Jacob Nathaniel Tatum, *Clinton, MS*  
Noah Lee Williamson, *Hoover, AL*

## BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Ainsley Hope Marler, *Crystal Springs, MS*  
Peyton James Parker, *Heidelberg, MS*  
Anna McKaime Patrick, *Hoover, AL*

## BACHELOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Zachary Scott Templeton, *Brandon, MS*

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Alden Richbourg Alfonso, *Ocean Springs, MS*  
Allyson Angel Anaya, *Fresno, TX*  
Chloe Elizabeth Artz, *Columbus, MS*  
Caroline Jane Baker, *Memphis, TN*  
Brady Edward Brown, *Tickfaw, LA*  
Matthew Steven Brown, *Clinton, MS*  
Deriyelle Jon'te Buie, *Jackson, MS*  
Matthew Kevin Byars, *Flowood, MS*  
Emerson Grace Carmean, *Clinton, MS*  
Angela Marra Cruz-Diaz, *Florence, MS*  
Emily Rae Doyle, *Clinton, MS*  
Laith Xavier El-Rai, *Ruth, MS*  
Anna Grace Ellard, *Madison, MS*  
Madelyn Leigh England, *Lake Charles, LA*  
Jacob Patrick Haley, *Mandeville, LA*  
George Thomas Heydens, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Logan Conly Hux, *Bogue Chitto, MS*  
Analise Marie Johnson, *Brandon, MS*  
Devin Trumane Kency, *Bolton, MS*  
Gabrielle Olivia Knighten, *Diberville, MS*  
Hayley Victoria Lambert, *Brandon, MS*  
Macy Lee McWilliams, *Raymond, MS*  
Kyla Lilliana Meadows, *McCalla, AL*  
Paul Benjamin Michaelis, *Dothan, AL*

Gracie Riley Michard, *Hoover, AL*  
Renecia Catassia Mosley, *Summit, MS*  
Jacob Hayden Perkins, *Brandon, MS*  
Garrett David Ramsey, *Brandon, MS*  
Charlie James Rook, *Naperville, IL*  
Emily Marie Rowell, *Shawnee, OK*  
Sarah Katherine Spires, *Clinton, MS*  
James Greyson Thompson, *Clinton, MS*  
James Daniel Walker, *Flora, MS*  
Jessica Lee Wallace, *Mendenhall, MS*  
Sarah Elizabeth Grace Whitten, *Pearl, MS*  
Emily Lynn Worthy, *Vicksburg, MS*

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Megan Elyse Davis, *Guntown, MS*  
Joel Thaxton Gibson, *Madison, MS*  
Kyle Reshee Hawkins, *Madison, MS*  
Alexander Nathaniel Johnson, *Verbena, AL*  
Kathryn Anne Knupp, *Clinton, MS*

## MASTER OF ARTS

Jonathan Edward Dacus, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: English

## MASTER OF EDUCATION

Erin Joyce Crockett, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Art Education  
Jaylon Taylor, *Memphis, TN*  
Major: Music Education

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

Haley Cheyanne Bowen, *Magee, MS*  
Major: Administration of Justice  
Ángel Cárceles Martínez, *Murcia Murcia Region, Spain*  
Major: Administration of Justice  
Kiara Denise Fleming, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Integrated Communication  
Angela Marcela Velasquez McRae, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Graphic Design  
Mary Yvonne Outland-Rollins, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Administration of Justice  
Hamidreza Sadeghnejad Tabrizi, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Homeland Security  
Wilson David Williams, *Fayetteville, NC*  
Major: Integrated Communication

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## MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Kelli Perrin Breland, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Social Science - History

## INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

DR. STEPHANIE CARMICLE-DAVIS, VICE PROVOST

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Aimar Banuls Calomarde, *La Vall d Uixó, Spain*  
Andrew Clayton Bryant, *Clinton, MS*  
Ashton Grace Byrd, *Clinton, MS*  
Anthony Jathan Clark, *Collins, MS*  
Sarah Moknea Houtar, *Brandon, MS*  
Stephanie Randi Jarnagin, *Clinton, MS*  
Jacob Earl Johnson, *Terry, MS*  
Mariam Olamide Olawoyin, *Nottingham, United Kingdom*  
Errol Andrew Rideau, *Clinton, MS*  
Shrena Lynn Seals, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Lily Gayle Skipworth, *LaGrange, GA*  
Kylee Noelle Wilson, *Madison, MS*

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

DR. KELLY HARDEN, DEAN

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

William D. Bostic, *Germantown, TN*  
Gabriel Emmanuel Hodge, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Anna Katharine Hudson, *Ocean Springs, MS*  
Amber Grace Smith, *Flora, MS*

## HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

### WITH HIGH HONORS

William D. Bostic  
*Association of Healthcare Coverage and  
Utilization of Healthcare Among Young Adults*  
Dr. Valerie Bailey

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Grace A. Archer, *Woodstock, GA*  
Landon Blake Banes, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Anne Elizabeth Bigley, *Richardson, TX*  
Isabella Hope Bissell, *Flora, MS*  
Jonathan Thomas Booker, *Clinton, MS*  
Madelyn Ruth Brunson, *Rainbow City, AL*  
Caroline Paige Cook, *New Albany, MS*  
Makenna Linsey Cronin, *Athens, AL*  
Taylor Laine Drzycimski, *Madison, MS*  
Lillian Mary Eidson, *Gulfport, MS*  
Danielle G. Floyd, R.N., *Byram, MS*  
Marybeth Marie Griffin, *Olive Branch, MS*  
Katie Grace Hartzog, *Brandon, MS*  
Eva Grace Henderson, *Northport, AL*  
Anna Kate Hester, *Madison, AL*  
Clara Lynn Hickerson, *Byhalia, MS*  
Olivia Grace Hill, *Brandon, MS*  
Emily Marie Hood, *Utica, MS*  
Keshuna Keshay Hunter, R.N., *Terry, MS*  
Yolanda Yvette Jones, R.N., *Canton, MS*  
Chasity Dena King, R.N., *Yazoo City, MS*  
Garrett Jonah LaFollette, *Hattiesburg, MS*  
Madison Brooke McCord, *Millport, AL*  
Haley Lynn McCullough, *Wesson, MS*  
Addison Faith Moore, *Crystal Springs, MS*  
Emma Katherine Moore, *Brandon, MS*  
Mason Glenn Morgan, *Jackson, MS*  
Scarlett L. Murphy, *Canton, GA*  
Julia Ryann Myers, *Vicksburg, MS*  
William Jerome Poe, Jr., *Richland, MS*  
Jennifer Ann Prine, R.N., *Leakesville, MS*  
Rachel Caroline Regan, *Pearl, MS*  
Scarlette Rose Roberts, *Lake Cormorant, MS*  
Kelly Ann Scarberry, R.N., *Pelahatchie, MS*  
Abigail Katherine Sermons, *Pearl, MS*  
Jessica Ruth Smith, R.N., *Fulton, MS*  
Kaylee Faith Tebo, *Pearl, MS*  
Kaci Lynn Tomlinson, *Florence, MS*  
Leanna Hope Walker, R.N., *Florence, MS*  
Katina Denise Washington, R.N., *Jackson, MS*

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HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARS

WITH HONORS

Taylor Layne Drzycimski

*The Use of Smartwatches in the Detection  
and Management of Cardiovascular Disease  
in Young Adults*

Dr. Jacob Crouch

WITH HONORS

Anna Kate Hester

*From Calvary to the Clinic: The Crucifixion of Jesus  
Christ and Its Relevance to Modern Emergency  
Medicine*

Dr. Jacob Crouch

HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

Eva Grace Henderson

MASTER OF HEALTH SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION

Emily Washington Gordon, *Pearl, MS*

Major: Health Services Administration

Jade Necole Hayes, *Clinton, MS*

Major: Health Services Administration

Tamaria Shunta Lucious, *Jackson, MS*

Major: Health Services Administration

Mary Morgan Williams, *Madison, MS*

Major: Health Services Administration

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# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SPRING COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE and MATHEMATICS  
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION and HUMAN SCIENCES

A.E. WOOD COLISEUM, CLINTON, MISSISSIPPI  
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026  
2:00 P.M.

\*PROCESSIONAL

“Veritas March”  
by Benjamin Williams  
Dr. Ben Williams

*Chair and Professor of Music, School of  
Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts*

Dr. Mike Highfield

Dr. Blake Thompson

ALUMNI CHARGE

Jake Donald  
*Director of Alumni and Family Engagement*

\*INVOCATION

Ellis Liddell  
*Co-Chair, Mississippi College  
Bicentennial Celebration Committee*

\*ALMA MATER

by George Mackie  
Dr. Renee Wilson  
*Associate Professor of Music, School of  
Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts*  
Dr. Ben Williams

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Dr. Blake Thompson  
*President*

\*CLOSING STATEMENT

Dr. Mike Highfield

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Dr. Joe Hamilton  
*Mississippi College Class of 1954  
Ret. Professor, Landon C. Garland Distinguished  
Professor of Physics, Vanderbilt University*

\*BENEDICTION

Dr. Martha D’Amico  
*Associate Professor of Teacher Education and Leadership,  
School of Education and Human Sciences,  
Co-Director of the QEP, Office of Institutional Effectiveness  
and Faculty Senate President*

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Dr. Mike Highfield  
*Provost and Executive Vice President*

\*RECESSIONAL

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

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Stan Baldwin  
*Dean, School of Science and Mathematics*

Dr. Chris Washam  
*Interim Dean, School of Education  
and Human Sciences*

\*All who are able are asked to stand.

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# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES MAY 2026 COMMENCEMENT

## SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

DR. STAN BALDWIN, DEAN

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Ward Guy Adams, *Toomsaba, MS*  
Ella Elizabeth Bailey, *Clinton, MS*  
Parker Jackson Bailey, *Tupelo, MS*  
Shelby Elizabeth Beshears, *Hernando, MS*  
Katherine Grace Browning, *French Camp, MS*  
Todd Owen Cox, *Rienzi, MS*  
Emma Leigh Daniel, *Clinton, MS*  
Austin Allen Day, *Brandon, MS*  
Sidney S. Dimmette, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Isaac Encinas, *Brandon, MS*  
Avery Claire Foret, *Purvis, MS*  
Hayden Bryce Gamblin, *Jackson, MS*  
Walker Reece Gibson, Jr., *Brandon, MS*  
Slade Ryan Haney, *Flowood, MS*  
Nicky Marie Hardacre, *Flora, MS*  
Anna Marie Herring, *Jayess, MS*  
Charles Donovan Hight, *Flowood, MS*  
Hannah Grace Hinckley, *Summit, MS*  
Emily Marie Huff, *Trussville, AL*  
Beth Ann Johnson, *Owens Cross Roads, AL*  
Aamani Kalluru, *Long Beach, MS*  
Aiden James Knudsen, *Cordova, TN*  
Tom Stewart Lee, III, *Madison, MS*  
Micah Thomas Lindley, *Millington, TN*  
Carlie Grace Masa, *Hueytown, AL*  
Landon Thomas Maughon, *Winnssboro, LA*  
Brayden Brent McKey, *Vancleave, MS*  
Mckenzie Donetra McWilliams, *Jackson, MS*  
Kennedy Sloane Mendoza, *Fallston, MD*  
Braedon James Methvin, *Thibodaux, LA*  
Coen Wade Mooney, *Madison, MS*  
Ally Kate Noone, *Raymond, MS*  
Adeola Melchizedek Ogundeji, *Houston, TX*

Benjamin James Pledger, *Jackson, TN*  
Christina Bui Raley, *Madison, MS*  
Anna Charlotte Redhead, *Centreville, MS*  
Nathan Lloyd Reed, *Brandon, MS*  
Austin Richard Riad, *McComb, MS*  
Joseph Samuel Salas-Ruiz, Sr., *Crystal Springs, MS*  
Caroline Grace Schumpert, *Prattville, AL*  
Ellie Christine Slay, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Hannah Elizabeth Spencer, *Ellisville, MS*  
Ansley Frazier Stewart, *Morgan City, MS*  
Brandon Tyler Welch, *Bogue Chitto, MS*  
Jacob Maddox Young, *Richland, MS*

### HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

#### WITH HIGH HONORS

Avery Claire Foret  
Thesis: *Computing Conventional Strain Energies of  
Small Heterocyclic Systems with Model Reactions*  
Thesis Committee:  
Dr. David H. Magers, Director  
Dr. Christopher Weeks  
Dr. Charles Ghany  
Dr. Drake Terry

### HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLARS

Charles Donovan Hight  
Aiden James Knudsen  
Micah Thomas Lindley  
Brandon Tyler Welch

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Nicholas Harding Bowers, *Crestview, FL*  
Walker Ulmer Bullock, *Clinton, MS*  
Jeremy Wayne Emerson, *Collinsville, MS*  
Frank John Kolski, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Kennedy Carol Maloney, *Madison, MS*  
Gabriella Grey Morgan, *Madison, MS*  
Haden Jenkins Stephens, *Brandon, MS*  
Cole Waters, *Monroeville, AL*

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## MASTER OF SCIENCE

Destyne Natour Bailey, *Fort Pierce, FL*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Caroline Crain Bonner, *Covington, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Ashley Nicole Carter, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Chemistry  
Thesis: *Assessing the Chemical Burden of Aquatic Species: A Comprehensive Screening of Persistent Pollutants and Heavy Metals*  
Thesis Committee:  
Dr. Scoty M. Hearst, Chair  
Dr. David H. Magers  
Dr. Trent D. Selby

Calvin Eugene Chapman, III, *Zachary, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Kaylin Elise Chauvin, *Baton Rouge, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Daylon Jerod Daniel, *Prairieville, LA*  
Major: Biology

Kylie Morgan Dorsey, *Hollandale, MS*  
Major: Biology

Swizel Fernandes, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Chemistry  
Thesis: *Calculating Enthalpies of Formation of Amino and Nitro Derivatives of Benzene and Toluene by Homodesmotic Reactions*  
Dr. David H. Magers, Chair  
Dr. Scoty M. Hearst  
Dr. Clinton Bailey

Abigail Paige Huffstatler, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Christian Louis Latino, *Covington, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Michael David Lawson, III, *Springfield, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Trebor Lane LeGros, *Lafayette, LA*  
Major: Biology

Landon L. Maloney, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Christian Steven McDermott, *Concord, NH*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Jessie Wayne Moore, *Houston, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Mafam Ifeanyi Okocha, *Frisco, TX*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Emma Claire Olsen, *St. Francisville, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Fernando Paz, *Saint Rose, LA*  
Major: Cybersecurity & Information Assurance

Nhung Hong Pham, *Philadelphia, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Karthik Meka Reddy, *San Antonio, TX*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Sarah Nicole Roberts, *Palm Harbor, FL*  
Major: Biology

Maria Fernanda Santiago, *Lafayette, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Kaitlyn Saulean Savoy, *Lake Charles, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Lail Hamilton Shaw, IV, *Baton Rouge, LA*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Marquisia Tanay Spear, *Charlotte, NC*  
Major: Biology

John Paul Swearingen, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Winston Quade Wheat, *Collins, MS*  
Major: Biology Medical Sciences

Taylor Raddell Merrick York, *Philadelphia, MS*  
Major: Cybersecurity & Information Assurance

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES

DR. CHRIS WASHAM, INTERIM DEAN

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Elizabeth Grace Kessel, *Brooksville, FL*  
Anne Bryan Taylor, *Pontotoc, MS*

### HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

#### WITH HIGH HONORS

Anne Bryan Taylor  
*Raising Dragon Slayers: A Quantitative and Qualitative Study of Children's Literature and Resilience in Early Adulthood*  
Dr. Drake Terry

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Ashton Riley Alderman, *Bay St. Louis, MS*  
Sadie Elisabeth Amato, *Metairie, LA*  
Allyson Angel Anaya, *Fresno, TX*  
Taylor Brooke Benoit, *Carthage, MS*  
Keller McGhee Bigham, *Warren, AR*  
Tajalea Rebecca Takita Bilbrew, *Brandon, MS*  
Brennan Lou Blake, *West Blocton, AL*

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Kelli Lane Brasher, *Madison, MS*  
Collin Neal Breedlove, *Decatur, AL*  
Kamryn Michelle Bridges, *Wesson, MS*  
Benjamin Peter Britton, *Clinton, MS*  
Karleigh Nicole Butler, *Brandon, MS*  
Kilee Elise Cheshire, *Prattville, AL*  
Ethan Dwayne Cormier, *Gonzales, LA*  
Samuel Elliot Daspit, *Jackson, MS*  
Drew Carrol Ferguson, *Brandon, MS*  
Garrett Chapman Fowler, *Flowood, MS*  
Emily DeAnna Gambill, *Jackson, MS*  
Lizbeth Tapia Garcia, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Latisha Gladigeous Hardy, *Gulfport, MS*  
Matthew Anthony Hicks, *Booneville, MS*  
Jalia Lashelle Holmes, *Clinton, MS*  
Abby Carroll Huff, *Jackson, MS*  
Marian L. Jenkins, *Madison, MS*  
Darcy A. Jones, *Shawnee, OK*  
Emma Grace Lacey, *Florence, MS*  
Morgan Michelle Lavergne, *Baton Rouge, LA*  
Jacob Glenn Lowrey, *Jackson, MS*  
Rocio Martinez Azcarraga, *Bétera (Valencia), Spain*  
Megan Faith Matheis, *Huntingburg, IN*  
Barbara Caroline McBride, *Brandon, MS*  
Campbell Davis Mccearley, *Madison, MS*  
Alli Grace McFarland, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Ethan Roy McNabb, *Madison, MS*  
Laura Kathryn Morris, *Canton, MS*  
Sydney Denise Moss, *Shreveport, LA*  
Evan John O'Doherty-Madden, *Galway Connacht, Ireland*  
Bianca Yoryani Ordonez, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Cooper D. Parmer, *Pontotoc, MS*  
Kendall Raley Phillips, *Olive Branch, MS*  
Jackson Royce Pittman, *Marion, IL*  
Addison Michelle Pletzke, *Clinton, MS*  
William Hutton Porter, *Clinton, MS*  
Demarcus L. Powe, *Meridian, MS*  
Riley Rayne Prewitt, *West Point, MS*  
Shelby Elizabeth Samples, *Benton, AR*  
Shana Elizabeth Sellers, *Pearl, MS*  
Matthew Ray Singletary, *Oxford, MS*  
Rylee Peyton Sizemore, *Sallis, MS*  
Chloe McKenna Smith, *Madison, MS*

Beyonce Nicole Southern, *Camden, MS*  
Erin Katherine Stamatopoulos, *Melbourne, Victoria, Australia*  
Cooper Allen Stroud, *Flowood, MS*  
Brinley Nicole Sullivan, *Kimberly, AL*  
Irene Julissa Turcios, *Brandon, MS*  
John Michael Turner, *Clinton, MS*  
Mary Clare Van Loon, *Jackson, MS*  
Freddy Matias Vasquez Escobar, *Chino Hills, CA*  
Madelyn White, *Brandon, MS*  
Garrett Lee Wingard, *Dubach, LA*

## HONORS COLLEGE SCHOLAR

Brinley Nicole Sullivan

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Rebecca M. Archer, *Woodstock, GA*  
Lydia Elizabeth Barrow, *Prairieville, LA*  
Kathryn Nicole Betts, *Morton, MS*  
Ruth Ann Bischoff, *Wake Forest, NC*  
Kyleigh Elizabeth Boutwell, *Monticello, MS*  
TyChina Rozaharia Byrd, *Bogue Chitto, MS*  
Anna Elise Crout, *Madison, MS*  
Grace Marie Hawkins, *Covington, LA*  
Emma E. Hodges, *Slidell, LA*  
Caroline McKenzie Mardis, *Madison, MS*  
Kimberly Salazar, *Olive Branch, MS*  
Emilie Nicole Stoltz, *Covington, LA*  
Anna Madalyn Storey, *Meadville, MS*  
Ava Lillian Wardlaw, *Lenexa, KS*

## BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Ashleigh L. Barnaba, *Gulfport, MS*  
Madison Grace Brown, *Anniston, AL*  
Maurice Clifton, *Jackson, MS*  
Jena Lynn Hughes, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Jona Lea Hughes, *Brookhaven, MS*  
Cameron Elizabeth Russell, *Milton, FL*  
Emma Holladay Savell, *Germantown, TN*  
Sydney Frances Watkins, *Philadelphia, MS*

## MASTER OF EDUCATION

Rachel Leah Addison, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

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Leslie Bonham Atkins, *Roswell, GA*  
Major: Elementary Education

Dorothy Naomi Atkinson, *Waynesboro, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Jodi Haney Ballisty, *Cumming, GA*  
Major: Special Education

Caroline Cole Bird, *Franklinton, LA*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Karen Renee Blackburn, *Quitman, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Tiffany Shemeka Boone King, *Greenwood, MS*  
Major: Special Education

Katherine Ann Butler, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Bryan Keith Campbell, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Miriam Strong Carman, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Leigh Carter, *Greenwood, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Felita Wigfall Chester, *Olive Branch, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Shayna Lawrence Clayton, *Suwanee, GA*  
Major: Special Education

Nathan Thomas Cox, *Tupelo, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Kassandra Lee Davis, *Perkinston, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Lindsey Taylor Dillard, *Picayune, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Katie Bea Douglas, *Bogue Chitto, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Amy Katherine Ledbetter Ekis, *Huntsville, AL*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Kim Crocker Ellis, *Canton, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Courtney Barnes Fair, *Iuka, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Kristy Saunders Gandy, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Amanda Spivey Glover, *Belden, MS*  
Major: Special Education

Erica Shuntae Hurston Glover, *Moss Point, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Jacquelyn Alyss Godbold, *Purvis, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Jennifer A. Green, *Southaven, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Caitlin Holley Gregory, *Nettleton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Hannah Paige Phillips Gregory, *New Albany, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Sydney Dawn Harris, *Gulfport, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

William Thomas Harvey, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Olivia D. Havrilla, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Caitlin Brianna Yannone Hawkins, *Park Ridge, NJ*  
Major: Special Education

Robert Dillon Hayes, *Pearl, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

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

Kayla Pino Jenkins, *Crystal Springs, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Katelyn Danielle Jones, *Collins, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Margo Mizell Keene, *Clarksville, TN*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Colt Andrew Kilpatrick, *Collinsville, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Ebonee Nicole Kyles, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Jermey Keyshawn Lynn, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Kelsi Janeen May, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Erin Riley McCrory, *Kosciusko, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Angela Lashion Moore, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Business Education

Anna Kathryn Moorehead, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Taylor Sade Evelyn Neal, *Columbus, MS*  
Major: Special Education

Megan Elizabeth Whitlock Parsons, *Iuka, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Lisa Bennett Pollard, *Mathiston, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership

Antwonia C. Reeves, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Julie Riley Riemann, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Addie Grace Robbins, *New Albany, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

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Haley Tatum Runion, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: School Counseling

Taylor Grace Schepers, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Rebecca Lynne Seale, *Terry, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Kerbi Alexandria Sewell, *Kennesaw, GA*  
Major: Elementary Education

Jessica Lynn Smith, *New Albany, MS*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

Kendashia Darnia Smith, *Starkville, MS*  
Major: Special Education

Kaylee Ann Tankersley, *Booneville, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Julie Ann Valenzuela, *Bumpus Mills, TN*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Lauren Elizabeth Wallace, *Hoover, AL*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Myesha Chante'l Wallace, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Curriculum & Instruction

Merill Jane Wilson, *Fairfield, AL*  
Major: Dyslexia Therapy

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

Hope Dianne Adams, *Braxton, MS*  
Major: Mental Health Counseling

Isaiah Emanuel Austin, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Athletic Administration Intercollegiate

Alexis Mackenzie Barnett, *Poplarville, MS*  
Major: Mental Health Counseling

Tyler Devon Bolar, *Carriere, MS*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

Mary Frances Brace, *Flowood, MS*  
Major: Marriage and Family Counseling

Elizabeth Reagan Bright, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Mental Health Counseling

Ishmon Dre'Vaughn Foster, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

Skyellar C. Harris, *Ridgeland, MS*  
Major: Athletic Administration Interscholastic

Jamaric Dyrall Hill, *Houston, TX*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

Sara Braswell Hooks, *Flowood, MS*  
Major: Marriage and Family Counseling

Christin Patrice Jimmerson, *Bolton, MS*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Joselynn Rose Kennedy, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Athletic Administration Intercollegiate

Kathryn Alana Knuth, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Applied Exercise Physiology

Anna Porter Maddox, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

Shirlean M. McEwen-Law, *League City, TX*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

Imogen Kieran Nicholas, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Mental Health Counseling

Anna Jessica Perez, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

Elizabeth Grace Redd, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Marriage and Family Counseling

Elena Christina Rodriguez, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Mental Health Counseling

Lauren Rayne Snowden, *Collinsville, MS*  
Major: Mental Health Counseling

Adam David Wade, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Organizational Leadership

Travis Wiley White, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Mental Health Counseling

Ali Marie Wiggins, *Samson, AL*  
Major: Athletic Administration Intercollegiate

## EDUCATION SPECIALIST

Whitney Brady Austein, *Hernando, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

Anna Christine Belk, *Biloxi, MS*  
Major: Counseling

Kimeka Lashay Corley, *Brandon, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

Andrew Michael Cromer, *Odenville, AL*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

Kristan Burson Cromer, *Odenville, AL*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

Diamond Ashley Dortch, *Chicago, IL*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

Retangia Calronecia Epps, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Major: Counseling

LaJada Janea' Goodloe, *Prentiss, MS*  
Major: Counseling

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

Glenn D. Robinson, *Clinton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

Joel Fitzpatrick Sinclair, *Hammond, LA*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

Tilur Smith, *Richton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

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Kimberly Darcel Vaughn, *Vicksburg, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Administration K-12

Kimberly Renee Watson, *Raymond, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership Curriculum and Instruction K-12

Kaylan Sanders Wilson, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Counseling

## DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Gracie Thompson Adcock, *Morton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *The Power of Words: Investigating the Impact of Non-Fiction Read-Alouds on Literacy Development for Early Childhood Classrooms at Title I Schools in a Rural Mississippi School District*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Katherine Horlock, Chair  
Dr. Willie C. Johnson  
Dr. Martha D'Amico  
Dr. Tommye C. Henderson

April Denise Anderson, *Byram, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *A Comparative Study of Teacher Job Satisfaction in Rural Traditional Public and Charter Schools in Mississippi*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Ruthie S. Stevenson, Chair  
Dr. Willie C. Johnson  
Dr. Shevonne L. McDuffy-Oatis  
Dr. Cindy R. Gipson

Camita Marche' Dillon, *McComb, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *A Study of Student Achievement at Certified Reach MS Positive Behavior Intervention Support Elementary Schools*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Michael Pope, Chair  
Dr. Willie Johnson  
Dr. Demetria Funchess  
Dr. Jana Chao

Stephanie Ann Harper, *Madison, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *The Impact of Dual Credit Programs on Academic Achievement: A Comparative Analysis of Dual Credit and Non-Dual Credit High School Students in a Mississippi Urban School District*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Katherine Horlock, Chair  
Dr. Brittany Ricker  
Dr. Kadijah Kinds

Melissa Marie White Jordan, *Columbia, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *Policy and Practice: Mississippi's Plan to Increase Graduation Rates with Dropout Prevention Plans*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Teresa Duke, Chair  
Dr. Wesley Wilson  
Dr. Willie C. Johnson  
Dr. Rachel Peeples

Laketia Monique Marshall-Thomas, *Bolton, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *The Impact of Chronic Absences in Grades 1-3 as an Early Predictor or Indicator of High School Literacy Proficiency as Evidenced by the MAAP English II End-of-Course Exam in an Urban School District in Jackson, Mississippi*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Ruthie S. Stevenson, Chair  
Dr. Willie C. Johnson  
Dr. Ivory B. Gray  
Dr. Michael Pope

Alexis Reza Reed, *Belzoni, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *Examining Perceptions of Career and Technical Education Among Educators in the Mississippi Delta*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Brittany Ricker, Chair  
Dr. Katherine Horlock  
Dr. Jay Levy  
Dr. Wesley Wilson

Carmella Cassandra Scott, *Natchez, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *Examining the Impact of a Computer-Based Intervention Program on Students' Success in Middle School End-of-the Year Math Assessments*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Willie Johnson, Chair  
Dr. Sydney Holbert  
Dr. Teresa Duke  
Dr. Georgina Ingram

---

DeBorah Keita Smith, *Magnolia, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *The Perceptions of Third-Grade Teachers and Their Self-Efficacy in Implementing Response to Intervention in the Classroom*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Jay Levy, Chair  
Dr. Erica Battle  
Dr. Willie C. Johnson  
Dr. Rachel Peebles

Angel Jeanetta White, *Jackson, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *A Study of The Relationship Between Computer-Assisted Instruction and Reducing the Second-Grade Reading Gap*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Ruthie S. Stevenson, Chair  
Dr. Willie C. Johnson  
Dr. Regina S. Fults-McMurtery  
Dr. Kadijah L. Kinds

Danielle Wheat-Whittington, *Columbia, MS*  
Major: Educational Leadership  
Dissertation: *Through the Lenses of Occupational Therapy Practitioners-Looking at the Impacts of Students' Vision in Education*  
Dissertation Committee:  
Dr. Wesley Wilson, Chair  
Dr. Sydney Holbert  
Dr. James C. Norton  
Dr. Teresa Duke

## DOCTOR OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

Joseph R Ombrello, *Warren, OH*  
Major: Professional Counseling  
Project Demonstrating Excellence: *An Integrative Program Employing Top-Down and Bottom-Up Methods for Addressing Co-Occurring Posttraumatic Stress and Substance Use Disorders*  
Project Demonstrating Excellence Committee:  
Dr. Jennifer Giambrone, Chair  
Dr. Amy Vlach  
Dr. Lisa Busby Thomas

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## 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, former professor of art and department chair, the late Dr. Kenneth Quinn, art instructor, and the late Dr. Archie Germany, professor emeritus of chemistry. Dr. Cliff Fortenberry, former professor of communication and 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 Province Chapel, Nelson Hall, a depiction of a Native American, 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 UNIVERSITY 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 University Seal is vested with the full authority of the University and its president. The Mississippi College University Seal mirrors the design of the Presidential Medallion.

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## 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.



## ABOUT 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 to the Union as the twentieth state. The state itself was an untamed frontier—a challenge to be met with hard work, diligence, and faith.

Applying these ideals to the academic setting, the institution began educating men and women to become leaders in both professional and spiritual arenas. Today, it stands as Mississippi's oldest institution of higher learning, the second-oldest Baptist university in the nation, and the first co-educational institution in the United States to grant a degree to a woman. Mississippi College's

relationship with the Mississippi Baptist Convention spans more than 175 consecutive years. Governed by a board of trustees, the University is supported through tuition, gifts from alumni and friends, foundations and corporations, and the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Now in its 200th year, Mississippi College celebrates its Bicentennial, and on June 1, 2026, the University's enduring identity will be more clearly reflected as it officially becomes Mississippi Christian University. This name reflects the foundation that has guided the institution for two centuries and carries that mission forward into its next 200 years.

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# 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 in Mississippi. 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.

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# 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 2026, the Faculty Senate recommended a revision to the process by which the Distinguished Professor is chosen. Faculty in the Schools of Business, Education & Human Sciences, Law, and Nursing nominate one (1) member of their respective faculties for this award. The faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences nominate two (2) members: one (1) from the School of Science and Mathematics and one (1) from the School of Christian Studies, Humanities and the Arts. 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 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.

## 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

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# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bill Sones, *Chairman*

Gregg Harper, *Vice Chairman*

Amanda Alexander-Taylor, *Secretary*

Chad Altmyer	Jane Hederman	Marjorie Lenoir	Percy Thornton
Barry Corbett	Wally Henry	Oscar Miskelly	Chris Tipton
Brian Crawford	Jeff Holland	Dwayne Pickett	Bob Waller
LaVerne Edney	Tony Huffman	Debbie Rice	Robert Watson
David Eldridge	Hal Kitchings	Ronnie Smith	Gary Watts
Susan Fortenberry	Amanda Langford	Art Stevens	Ken Weathersby
Tina Fulcher	Tom Lee	Chip Stevens	

## COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

David Miller, *Chairman*

Blake Thompson, *Ex-officio*

Jonathan Ambrose	Brandon Buxton	David Favre	Missa Turman
Stan Baldwin	Shelia Carpenter	Roe Grubbs	Reid Vance
Kenny Bizot	Alfred Daniels	Kelly Harden	Mike Warren
Lori Bobo	Madison Dean	Susan Musselwhite	Chris Washam
Tanya Bradley	Jake Donald	Amanda Price	Ben Williams
Stephanie Busbea	Marcelo Eduardo	Megan Pritchett	Michael Wright

## MACE BEARER

Martha D'Amico



*The bronze sculpture, "Jesus and the Children," created by the late internationally celebrated artist, Dr. Samuel Gore, is located on the Quad near Lowery Hall.*

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# ALMA MATER

GEORGE MACKIE

1927



Fair - est of all is our dear Mis-sis - sip - pi, Ris - ing in state as the  
M. C. we hail thee, our dear Mis-sis - sip - pi, Queen of our hearts, no



crest of a hill; Staunch as a rock is our dear Al - ma Ma - ter,  
foes shall a - larm; Faith - ful and loy - al, thy child - ren will ev - er



'Round her so no - ble our hopes — ev - er live.  
Cher - ish thy mem' - ry, ac - know - ledge thy charm.



When, in the fu - ture, our hearts may be yearn - ing For the bright



scenes of our dear col - lege youth, Back to thy por - tals our



me - mo - ries turn - ing, Clear gleams thy bea - con of vir - tue and truth.



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