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141st Commencement
May 14, 2015



141st Commencement

May 14, 2015

The Commencement Ceremony

The audience is requested to stand during the Academic Procession, the singing of the National Anthem, and the Benediction, and to remain in place until the Recessional has left the Arena.

The Academic Procession

Chief Marshal.....Michael Levitzky, Ph.D.
Professor of Physiology
Director of Basic Science Curriculum, School of Medicine

MusicBienville Brass
Under the direction of Joseph Skillen

Bearer of the Mace.....Joseph M. Moerschbaeher, III, Ph.D.
Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Dean, School of Graduate Studies

Procession of the Platform Party

Faculty MarshalsAndrew Pellett, Ph.D.
Department Head
Associate Professor of Cardiopulmonary Science
John Zamjahn, Ph.D., R.R.T.
Associate Professor of Clinical Cardiopulmonary Sciences

Procession of the Faculty

Student MarshalsWilliam P. Newman, III, M.D.
Professor of Pathology
Betsy Giaimo
Instructor of Physiology

Procession of the Students

Procession of the Candidates in Allied Health Professions

Gonfalonier.....Tarin Anne Doubt
Master of Physician Assistant Studies Candidate

Procession of the Candidates in Nursing

Gonfalonier.....Darrian DeWayne Harris
Bachelor of Science in Nursing Candidate

Procession of the Candidates in Public Health

Gonfalonier.....Sean Quinlan Cleary
Master of Public Health Candidate

Procession of the Candidates in Graduate Studies

Gonfalonier.....Felix Joseph Nau, Jr.
Doctor of Philosophy Candidate

Procession of the Candidates in Dentistry

Gonfalonier.....Brent Joseph Benoit
Doctor of Dental Surgery Candidate

Procession of the Candidates in Medicine

Gonfalonier.....Vilija Jo Vaitis
Doctor of Medicine Candidate

The Commencement Ceremony

Opening Proclamation	Joseph M. Moerschbaecher, III, Ph.D. <i>Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dean, School of Graduate Studies</i>
National Anthem	Whitney Olivia Allen <i>Master of Public Health Candidate</i>
Invocation	Samantha Joann Baker <i>Doctor of Medicine Candidate</i>
Welcome and Opening Remarks	Larry H. Hollier, M.D. <i>Chancellor</i>
Introduction of Commencement Speaker	J.M. Cairo, Ph.D. <i>Dean, School of Allied Health Professions</i>
Commencement Address	David L. Callender, M.D., M.B.A., F.A.C.S. <i>President of the University of Texas Medical Branch</i>
Presentation of the Honorary Degree to: C. Ronald Kahn, M.D.....	Larry H. Hollier, M.D. <i>Chancellor</i>
Conferring of Degrees	Ms. Ann D. Duplessis <i>Chair, LSU Board of Supervisors</i> Mr. Lee Mallett <i>Member, LSU Board of Supervisors</i>
Benediction	Dr. Elaine Carol Maggi <i>Doctor of Philosophy</i>
Closing Proclamation	Joseph M. Moerschbaecher, III, Ph.D. <i>Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dean, School of Graduate Studies</i>
The Recessional	

National Anthem

O say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming

Whose broad stripes and bright stars
Through the perilous fight

O'er the ramparts we watched
Were so gallantly streaming

And the rocket's red glare
The bombs bursting in air

Gave proof through the night
That our flag was still there

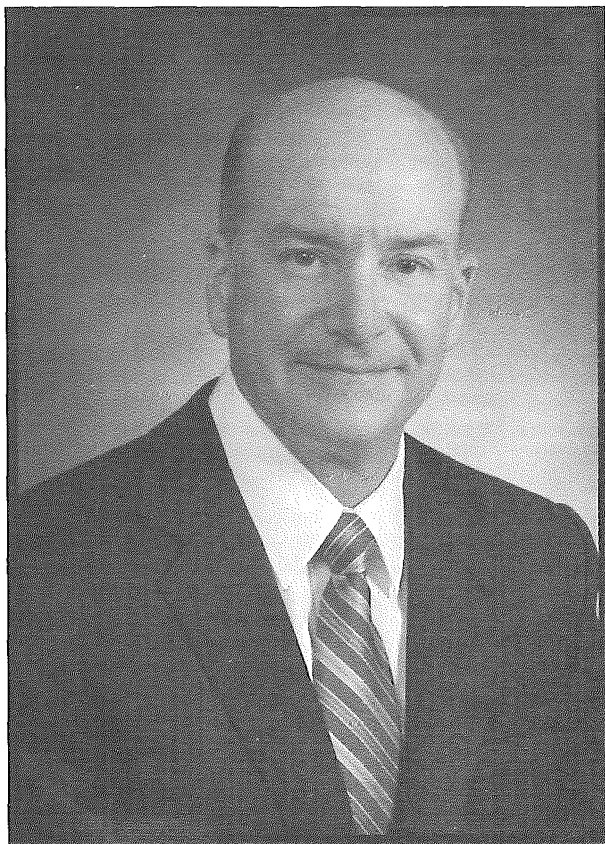
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

Francis Scott Key

Appearance of a name in the Commencement program is presumptive evidence of graduation, but is not regarded as conclusive. The official Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans transcript, sealed and signed by the Registrar, is conclusive testimony of the student's academic record and possession of degree(s) awarded by this institution.

Professional photographers will record each graduate as the diploma is presented and color portraits will be available for purchase, if desired.

Commencement Speaker



David L. Callender, M.D., M.B.A., F.A.C.S.

*President of the University of Texas Medical Branch
Galveston, Texas*

Commencement Speaker

Dr. David L. Callender has served as President of the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB Health) since 2007. He is a head and neck surgeon with expertise in head and neck cancers.

Under his leadership, UTMB Health is advancing significantly in all three of its mission areas: education, research and health care. Enrollment in UTMB Health's Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Health Professions and Graduate Biomedical Sciences has increased about 40 percent since 2008.

UTMB Health's clinical enterprise is growing dynamically to meet regional health care needs, with the acquisition of a 64-bed community hospital in Angleton, Texas in 2014, the addition of a new 39-bed inpatient facility in League City, Texas in 2015, and the opening of a new \$438 million hospital on the Galveston campus in early 2016.

UTMB Health's research component continues to emerge as a nationally- and internationally-recognized contributor to investigative breakthroughs and therapeutic developments. In 2014, the university's expertise in infectious diseases prominently positioned UTMB Health in the world-wide response to the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in West Africa.

UTMB Health has experienced growing financial stability since 2009, despite \$1 billion in damage caused by Hurricane Ike in late 2008. Dr. Callender oversaw UTMB Health's recovery from Hurricane Ike, directing an unparalleled effort to harden and improve facilities and infrastructure to support the university's ambitious plans for the future.

Before assuming the presidency of UTMB Health, Dr. Callender served as Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer for the UCLA Hospital System from 2004 to 2007. He had previously served in several leadership roles at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, culminating in his position as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer from 2001 to 2004.

A native of Wichita Falls, Texas, Dr. Callender received his medical degree from and completed his residency at Baylor College of Medicine. He subsequently completed a fellowship in head and neck surgical oncology at M.D. Anderson. He also completed an MBA at the University of Houston. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Callender and his wife, Tonya, reside in Galveston. They have three children.

Honorary Degree Recipient

C. Ronald Kahn, M.D.

Mary K. Iacocca Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and
Chief Academic Officer at Joslin Diabetes Center



Dr. C. Ronald Kahn was born and educated in Louisville, KY. After training in internal medicine at Washington University, he moved to the National Institutes of Health as a Clinical Associate (fellow) in the Endocrinology Branch. Over the next 11 years, Kahn rose to become the Head of the Section on Cellular and Molecular Physiology of the Diabetes Branch in NIDDK. In 1981, Kahn moved to Boston to become Research Director of the Joslin Diabetes Center and Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. In 1984, he became Professor of Medicine at Harvard and in 1986 was awarded the Mary K. Iacocca Professorship. From 2000 to 2007 Kahn served as President and Director of the Joslin Diabetes Center and is currently its Chief Academic Officer. Under his leadership, Joslin research grew more than 20-fold and clinical and educational activity tripled.

In addition to his research activity and leadership roles at Joslin, Kahn served as President of the American Society of Clinical Investigation, chaired multiple Keystone Symposia and the Hormone Action Gordon Conference, and served as member of the Medical Science Advisory Boards of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and American Diabetes Association. At the national level, he co-chaired the National Diabetes Advisory Board, was a member of the NIDDK Board of Scientific Counselors, and chaired of the Congressionally-mandated Diabetes Research Working Group (DRWG), which developed a diabetes research plan for the entire U.S.A. He also served as Chair of Class IV of the National Academy of Sciences (Medical Sciences) and has been on numerous editorial Boards, including a founding editor of *Cell Metabolism*. During this entire time and continuing to the present, Kahn's laboratory remains at the cutting edge of diabetes research.

In recognition of his research accomplishments, Dr. Kahn has received many honors. He is the recipient of the highest scientific honors of the American Diabetes Association (Eli Lilly Award and Banting Medal for Distinguished Scientific Achievement), the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (David Rumbough Award), the Endocrine Society (Astwood Lecture and Conrad Koch Award for Distinguished Research); the International Diabetes Federation (Cristobal Diaz Award); the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (the Claude Bernard Medal); the British Society for Endocrinology (Dale Medal); Pediatric Endocrine Society (Lawson Wilkins Award); the Bristol Myers Squibb Award for Distinguished Achievement in Metabolic Research; the Rolf Luft Award of the Karolinska Institute; the Jacobaeus Prize, Novo Nordisk Foundation; as well as awards given broadly in the field of biomedical research including the Allyn B. Taylor International Prize in Medicine of Canada; the Steven C. Beering Award for Advancement of Biomedical Science from Indiana University; the Outstanding Young Investigator Award of American Federation for Clinical Research; and the Hamdan Award for Medical Research Excellence from the United Arab Emirates. Most recently, Dr. Kahn was named the first recipient of the Manpei Suzuki International Prize for Diabetes, a prize which recognizes a single individual as the leading researcher in the field of diabetes worldwide.

Kahn has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine; the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and is an Honorary Member of the British Society for Endocrinology. Kahn has been identified as one of the Most-Cited Scientists site and "most highly influential scientists and scholars" by *The Scientist* magazine and ISI. He has given many prestigious honorary lectureships and has been awarded honorary degrees from the the Université de Paris Pierre et Marie Curie, the University of Geneva, Washington University in St. Louis, Beijing University, the University of Copenhagen, and the University of Louisville. In addition, Dr. Kahn has trained over 150 fellows and doctoral students, many of whom are now leading researchers and academicians at institutions throughout the world.

School of Allied Health Professions

Presented by J.M. Cairo, Ph.D., Dean

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

CARDIOPULMONARY SCIENCE

Kyle Richard Arriaga

Albert Chee

Michelle Lynn Garza

Jami Lee Hensley

Kari Lynn Hunt

Alexandra Elizabeth Igleharte

Hristina Koleva

Mavis Evelyn Larrimer

April Michelle Little

Anh Que Ngo

Quynh Thi Ngoc Nguyen

Blanca Alicia Ortiz

Christine Marie Pellissier

Caitlin Cherise Simon

Catherine Camille Sistrunk

Dionne Stewart

Allyson Joy Thomas

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

Alexandra Mikail Alberes

Benjamin Dean Anderson

Brooke Lynne Bourgeois

Andrew Michael Bulot

Joyce Muller Burt

Danny Hoang Cao

Luke Jarred Caruso

Geoffrey Leyden Chapman

Phillip Desmond Coates

Riche Bernabe Dayot

Angela Marie de la Rocha

Kari Ellen Estep

Falynn Gabrielle Florane

Natalie Martin Gill

Elizabeth Louise Kroll

Paul Thanh Le

Queen Kim Le

Darrell Lawrence Lucas

Pedro Luis Mancilla

Glenn Elliott Martin, Jr.

Kelly Erin Mashburn

Britton Jennifer Sims

Melody Dianne Tarro

Rachel Joaen Tauzier

Josie René Thomas

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

MASTER OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

Gabrielle Renée Becnel
Aynsley Camille Brian
Carol Ann Bryant
Callan Jane Burzynski*††
Ashley Marie Degelos
Olivia Lynn Eusea
Brittany Kaleher Garay
Victoria Ann Gilberti
Melissa Lorena Gutierrez
Bianca Lana Havel
Brittani Lynn Holland††
Rachel LeCompte McDonald††

Natalie Anne Moneit*††
Michelle Marie Neumann
Molly Elizabeth O'Dowd
Laura Ann Rabito
Blair Ann Ridgley
Haley Elizabeth Schmitt
Caitlin Aptaker Scott*††
Adair Mary Vulevich††
Blaire Alexis Whitaker
Sarah Sturdivant Williams

MASTER OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Meredith Elaine Allen
Stephanie Jacquelyn Allen
Adrienne Chapman Borchardt*
John Wesley Brogdon, III
Courtney Elizabeth Cavalier
Katherine Anita Cooper
Heidi Danielle Daigle
Mary Elizabeth Donovan
Jamie Long Estess
Erin Alyce Gandy
Stephanie de la Concepción Hartel
Timothy Atwood Hayden
Kelly Callaway Hooks
Elizabeth Loker Hughs

Nancy Love
Troy Michael Mire
Brandy Marie Monnin
Amy Lynn Mouledous
Kristen Nicole Myers
Ashley Alzaria Perry
John Michael Porter
Rachel Claire Rivet
Anita Caitlin Rogers
Rebecca Ann Russo
Amy Lawrence Scott
Alexa Renee Thibodeaux
Kayla Elizabeth Tibaldo
Daniel Paul Waller

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

MASTER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Logan Locke Bownds
Casie Marie Courregge
Amber Lyn Delamore
Marissa Helen Diaz
Tarin Anne Doubt
Victoria Mary Katherine English
Megan Lee Forest
Sarah Elizabeth Freiberg
Lindsey Anne Guercio
Melissa Graci Hammerli
Erica Lynne Hargis
Lauren Catherine Johns
Jamie Lynn Juckett
Christina Leonard Landreneau
Chip Joseph Landry

Felicia Danielle Lindsey
Heidi Ann Luke
Michelle Christine Malzahn
Justin Russell Mercer
Heena Mohammed Patel
Randi Nicole Rasberry
Brooke Elizabeth Richard
Kristina Marie Salassi
Caroline Rebecca Smith
Bridget Lois Sullivan
Nichole Ann Tayeh
Lien Bich Trinh
Katherine Anne Tucker
Katherine Elizabeth Ward

MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Vanessa Starr Batiste-Leal
Jordan Alexander Frankel
Chloe' Nicole Freeman
Jessica Lauren Kirkland
Jessica Louise Maxwell
Alex Catherine Kain Prince
Annie Anne Simon

Clinical Rehabilitation and Counseling
Clinical Rehabilitation and Counseling
Clinical Rehabilitation and Counseling
Clinical Rehabilitation and Counseling
Clinical Rehabilitation and Counseling
Clinical Rehabilitation and Counseling
Clinical Rehabilitation and Counseling

* In Absentia

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Candidates for Degrees

DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY

Katharine Lynn Buckley
Meredith Poynot Budgeon
Lauren Stiles Cassara
Allison Elizabeth Clark
Jaclyn Kaye Craft
Brandi Leigh Greenhouse

Meredith Anne Hobgood
Gregory Alan Kettelhake
Brandi Lee McGraw
Danielle Dionne Mercer
Jennifer Paige Montgomery

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Sarah Jean Valley Allen*†
Ryan Anthony Bermudez
Ashlen Brianne Bissell
Joshua Patrick Bryant
Emily Renee Buras
Caroline Merritt Crawford
Adam James Ducoing
Kaitlin Mary Foley
Tyler John Folse
Joel Samuel Gonzalez
Alan Guillermo Gutierrez
Brett Michael Hernandez
Lynleigh Alyce Hughes
Stephen Whitney Jackson
Camille Victoria Kennedy
Erin Margaret Kennedy
Amy Sydboten Kidd

Lisa Anne Knecht
Brian Vincent Labruzzo
Jessica Chaffie Jenkins Launey
Casey Lane LeJeune
Maci Andrea Mortillaro
Caitlin Jane Naquin
Stefan James Norris
Brody McFerrin Patton
Kelly Altemus Quebedeaux
Katie Lynn Reboul
Nicholas Leslie Roger
Lauren Ainsworth Stone
Jennifer Whatley Vaughn
Stephanie Marie Veade
Maryann Marie Vicari
Ashlee Fritscher York

* In Absentia

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School of Nursing

Presented by Demetrius Porche, D.N.S., Dean

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Lisa Kristin Abad*†	Lauren Clark Chutz
Jennifer Ann Abbrecht	Katelyn Marie Clark
Heather Brooke Adams*††	Shamica Monique Clark-Solivan*††
Alyssa Marie Alexander	Katie Amelie Clement*††
Alysia Ann Ali*††	Sarah Jean Clement*††
Marissa Elizabeth Alvero*††	Ana Lourdes Coutin
Abigail Beth Armstrong	Jonathan Lee Cox*††
Dzifa Mona Avotri*††	Annette Hindman Coyle*†
Allison Lee Ayers*††	Monica Ruby Cross
Tessa Demola Ayime*††	Raven Symone Culpepper
Gordon Charles Bahan	Emily Kate Daigrepont
Sarah Elizabeth Baillie	Elizabeth Ngoc Han Dao
Hannah Kathryn Bancroft*††	Michael Emile Darmas
Gina Pierrie Baron-Hyppolite	Marissa Claire Darr*††
Brittany Nicole Barousse*††	Ciara Renee Deaton
Anna Polachova Bates	Amy Elizabeth Delahoussaye
Kanwaldeep Kaur Bennett*††	Alexis Christine DeLaneuville*††
Danielle Faith Bentrup*†	Devyn Ann DeLaney
Brianne Elizabeth Bergeron*††	Kayla Marie Veron DeLaughter
Ander Michelle Boggs	Jessica Dupont Deshotel*†
Paul Michael Boring	Rachel Grace deVlugt
Brett Hughes Bourque	Amy Elizabeth Donegan
Alexandra Kathryn Breland	Brittney Marie Donovan*††
Kathleen Elizabeth Brown*†	Erica Marie Dorsey
Kathleen Elizabeth Brown	Katherine Amanda Doucet*††
Richard Ronald Bryant	Heather Jean Dow
Britney Alicia Buggage*††	Amber Nicole Doyle
Megan Welch Bunch*††	Kelsey Marie Driscoll*††
Brennan Anthony Butler	Madeline Baay Dubas*††
Emily Claire Caillet*†	Madeleine Aimee Ducoing
Casey Lynn Calante*††	Wanda Pierce Ducre*††
Emily Lauren Callegari	Britney Marie Duplechain*††
Raven Camp*††	Juanita Maria Early
Gabriella Maria Cane	John Byrd Easterly*††
Christina Marie Carollo*††	Erica Nicole Edwards*†
Thimeka RaShelle Carr	Leland Michelle Emery*††
Angeline Ines Carrillo	Sharee Victoria Encalade*††
Irving Jude Cartagena	Morgan Victoria Englert
Anne Marie Cerniglia*††	Adam Tyler Estopinal

* In Absentia

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Candidates for Degrees

Michelle Harris Fabre*††
 Jon Harmon Fager
 Bridget Lynn Fauchaux*††
 Kristen Joy Feller
 Andrea White Ferrage
 Courtney Danielle Finnegan*††
 Candice Brown Garrison
 Britney Lynn Gauthreaux*†
 Brandi Lynn Gill*††
 Mattie Jones Girod*††
 Aaron Jeffrey Gloth*
 Kerri Ann Glover*†
 Jessica Lynn Granier*††
 Brittany Lynn Guerra*†
 Lori Ann Guidry*††
 Kayla Layne Hahn
 Priscilla Terrase Halloran
 Jennifer Leah Harding*††
 William Benton Harper
 Darrian DeWayne Harris
 Jena Elizabeth Hartley*††
 Stephanie Marie Hatcher*†
 Brittany Marie Hebert*††
 Chelsea Regan Heffker
 Noelle Christine Henderson*††
 Samantha Jean Howard*††
 Sarah Elizabeth Hunsucker*††
 Kelsey Sara Irion
 Brittany Lynn Jacobs
 Qin Jiang*††
 Alexandra Lea Johnson
 Allison Hall Johnson
 JoAnn Alexander Johnson*††
 Arin Michelle Jones*††
 Kellie Elizabeth Jones
 Kalicia Fields Joseph*†
 Cami Lyn Julien
 Sarah Renee Kelly
 Amanda Joy Knight
 Natasha Antionette Knight*††
 Tyler Robert Koelling
 Katherine Elizabeth Kuntz*†
 Jennifer Lynn Laine*††

Kirby Caroline Lake
 Heather Nicole Lamb*†
 Casey Rene' Lambert*††
 Tesslyn Brittney Land
 Demi Gabrielle Landry*††
 Mary Anne Landry
 Mary Hannah Latham*††
 Pamela Anne Lazas*†
 Jennifer Le*†
 Allison Adams LeCoq*†
 Chandler Victoria Lee*††
 Jessica Kim Lee*††
 Lauren Elizabeth Leiva
 Wai Hong Lem
 Akeisha Annette Lewis*†
 Madalyn Maria Loetzerich
 Brittany Nicole Loupe
 Kaylee Ann Lowery
 Christina Russell Loyd*††
 Kristy Lynn Macklin*
 Meghan Marie Maestri
 Nicolette Maria Magallanes
 Lacey Nicole Manning*††
 Kaylyn Kay Mansfield*††
 Kevin Alan Marcus
 Chloe Elizabeth Martin*††
 Kyra De'onna Martin
 Madeleine Marie Martinez
 Maria Christine Maskas
 Rachel Ryals Maxwell
 Mary Catherine Mayronne*††
 Jason Michael McAlister*††
 Jennifer Kent McCoy*†
 Cristin Elise McCurley*††
 Caitlin Clare McGinness
 Landis Niernberger McMahon
 Amanda Sutton Meche*††
 Jill Darnell Miller*††
 Lindsay Renee' Monroe*††
 Whitney Lynn Monroe*††
 Courtney Elaine Morgan
 Kaitlyn Elizabeth Moser*††
 Norma Katherine Mourra

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Candidates for Degrees

Evah Wangari Mulamula*††
 Elena Marie Naylor*††
 Donyille Ashley Newberry*††
 Hannah Ngoc Ngo
 Anthony Minh Nguyen*††
 Peter Dang Khoa Nguyen*††
 Shelby Michelle Nunez
 Caitlin Elizabeth Ordoyne*††
 Angela Gonzales Orr*†
 Nathalie Dianne Orrego
 Richard Gallmann Orser*††
 Joseph Scott Paradis
 Jacquelyn Marie Pecquet*††
 Serena Francine Pentney*††
 Rachel Etilma Perdomo-Washington
 Fallon Donique Perriera*††
 Kailey Sueretta Persson
 Giselle Marie Peterson*††
 Amber Lynn Picou
 Alexis Christina Pineda
 Leigh Anna Pollet
 Brandi Alasha Ramagos*††
 John Ross Ramirez*††
 Merlin Anthony Ramsey, Sr.
 Amy Irene Randazzo
 Sharel Dianna Randolph
 Wendy Redmond Rasmussen*†
 Michelle Elizabeth Rau
 Lauren Caroline Rawdon
 Dionne Janiece Raymond*††
 Matthew Perry Reese
 Lauren Michelle Rettig
 Robyn Raquel Ricciotti
 Kelli Marie Richard
 Shantell Christian Richardson*††
 Anne Shannon Rivas*††
 Lauren Earles Rogers*††
 Jason Vaughn Roland*††
 Nicholas Quenton Ross*††
 Darnell DeCou Rousell*†
 Jinger Anne Roy
 Katelyn Jude Ryan*††
 Megan Elizabeth Ryan*††
 William Joseph Schahn

Allison Paige Scheinuk
 Lauren Elise Schell*††
 Joni Lynn Schexnaydre
 Bonnie Ethelyn Schiffman
 Caroline Julia Schmidt
 Christina Elizabeth Schneider
 Kathleen Virginia Scott*††
 Tiffany Nicole Seals*†
 Yezenia Ivette Serrano*††
 Sarah Elizabeth Sheasby
 Sophie Barrett Shepherd*††
 Korie Mendoza Sims*†
 Cantrice Shanell Smith*††
 Julianne Marie Soileau
 Nicole Marie St. Romain
 Coriena Maria Staples*††
 Caroline Ann Stewart
 Jennifer Hargrove Taylor*†
 Nicole DeJean Taylor*††
 Holly Lucille Tomasello*††
 Kristina Elizabeth Trahan
 Lindsey Amanda Truax
 Elizabeth Steele Tye
 Monique Vargas*††
 Cheleisa Hynard Vicks*†
 Gabriella Helen Vince
 Julie Van Vo
 Kim Thuy Vu
 Trinh Jamie Vu*††
 Marta Sandoval Wallace*††
 Angela Marie Washington*†
 Megan Elise Washington*††
 Melissa Baughman Welch*††
 Gabrielle Marie Weyer
 Lauren Elizabeth Whipple*††
 Allison Howson Willem
 Shae Antoinette Williams
 Stephanie Elizabeth Wolff*††
 Celeste Kay Woodard*††
 Melissa JoJean Woolridge*††
 Anne Elizabeth Wright
 Eve Helen Youngberg
 Gemma Maria-Lourdes Yumul*††
 Hannah Elise Zeringue*††

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Candidates for Degrees

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Karen Wiley Humphrey*†
Dawn McQuilliam McKeown*††

Nurse Educator
Nurse Educator

MASTER OF NURSING

Cynthia Ravencraft Armstrong*††
Brittany Navo Badinger
Judith Marie Baker
Jessica Mayer Baudier
Christine Rodriguez Bialas
Shanna Alayne Black
Catherine Knoll Blouin
Kayley Kalil Bodine
Nicole Courouleau Bordelon*††
Lisa Marie Brewer
Amanda Tindell Britton
Robin Rhinehart Brodnax
Brandon Chase Brown
Meghan Lynn Burns
Jessica Whitney Butts
Kimberly Lynne Camp
Nathaly Kaye Carrion
Richard Celestine, Jr.
Chase Mathew Chiasson
Kendall Jakob Connick
Epris Pittman Cooper
Ashley Jakob Cusimano
Erin Dianne Diamond*††
Ramee Michelle Dickerson
Joseph Lucas DiLeo, III
Trishana Marie Ducros
Florescia Moreno Espinal
Callie Michele Estes
Taylor Mark Faul
Stephani Marie Frost
Sequilla Crawford Gant*††
Shivas Prabhaker Gilotra

Nursing Administration
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Anesthesia
Nurse Anesthesia
Nurse Anesthesia
Nursing Administration
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Anesthesia
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Anesthesia
Nurse Anesthesia
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Anesthesia
Nurse Anesthesia
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Anesthesia
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Anesthesia
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Anesthesia
Nurse Anesthesia
Nursing Administration
Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner

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Candidates for Degrees

Adrienne Adams Goodwin
 Kelly Marie Green
 Mitchell Clayt Handrich
 Margaret Elizabeth Hoppenstedt
 Christy Crippin Huerstel
 Terran Hale Johnson
 Alyce Puderer Johnston
 Katherine Greer Krail
 Lori Lynn Lampard
 Beau James Leonard
 Lori Pharr Lewis
 Barrett Jay Littell
 Eleanor Barker Lomzenski
 Corey Garrod Luke
 Janis Lea Malaki
 Mia Ann Manguno
 Bryce Bahry Mansfield
 Matthew Gerard Martin
 Alyssa Mary Matherne
 Megan Diane McNemar**††
 Stephanie Kelly Miller
 Virginia Maria Mistretta
 Jesse Spann Naquin
 Brooke Quillens Naranjo
 Amy Maria Navas
 Karen Fortenberry Nunnery
 Nicquollette Sanders Parker*††
 Richard Lee Payne
 Amber Randazzo Peskin*††
 Patricia Carimi Poolson*††
 Rachel Leigh Poolson
 Therese Talbot Reckert
 Elise Christine Reeves
 Derek Alan Sadler
 Cori Evans Schuler
 Erin Leigh Shriner
 Elise Marie Simonian
 Kara Suhrke Simpson
 Donny Thomas Small, Jr.
 Dustin Dale Spell
 Nichole Crowell Staab

Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nursing Administration
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
 Nursing Administration
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
 Nursing Administration
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia

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Candidates for Degrees

Blake Thomas Stagni
 Jennifer Lauren Stapleton
 Kelly Smith Thibodeaux
 Cheryl Andras Thomas
 Toby Wilkinson Tournillon*††
 Olivia Haddad Walker
 Jonathan Easton White
 Sandra Ann Wilder*††
 Michael David Zemke, Jr.

Nurse Anesthesia
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
 Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner
 Nurse Anesthesia
 Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
 Nurse Anesthesia

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Henry Ying Au*††
 Raymond James Devlin III*††
 Paula Ann Kensler*††
 Colleen Brahney Lemoine*††

Clair Petit Millet*††
 Nancy Morris Minyard*††
 Derrick Bernard O'Neal*††

DOCTOR OF NURSING SCIENCE

Jolie Estopinal Harris
 Major Professor: Dr. Denise Danna
 Dissertation: *The Constructs of Culture Change: A Secondary Data Analysis and Comparison in a Sample of Louisiana Nursing Homes*

Jennifer Moody Manning*††
 Major Professor: Dr. Denise Danna
 Dissertation: *The Influence of Nurse Manager Leadership Style on the Perception of Staff Nurse Structural Empowerment, Work Engagement and Intent to Stay in Acute care Hospitals*

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

School of Public Health

Presented by Richard A. Culbertson, Ph.D., Interim Dean

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Sonika Sharma

Rui Wang*†

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Whitney Allen††

Kristen Andrus*††

Christine Marie Breland

Komal Camille Brown

Tap Thanh Bui

Amanda Reilly Carruth*††

Sean Quinlan Cleary

Precious Comeaux†

Megan Jill Dupuis*††

Mary Elise Fox

Lauren Amber Griffiths

Kaitlin Elizabeth Hanken

Meaghan Nicole Hendricks††

Katherine Leigh Howe

Krista Nicole Hubschman*

Blair Frances Huth

Eric Joel Knott

Ayotunde Olaoluwa Kuku

Ashley Landry*††

Erin Elizabeth Meeks Leonard*††

Yiyao Li*

Charlotte Metzger

Daniel Ryan Miller*†

Max James Miller*

Le-Hane Michelle Nunez

Nicholas Howard Payne

Christina Marie Pitre

Anthony Christopher Ray*

Nabil Rayeed*††

Anna Lynn Dunne Reilly*

Lindsey Savanna Rudov

Elfreda Samman††

Sarita Sharma*†

Rabina Shrestha

Meg Katharine Skizim

William Hanson St. Martin

Lindsay Kay Sween

Kendal Jamal Thomas

Quinette Marie Thomas

Nneka Janet Uwaemelu

Sara Elizabeth Winkler

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Lauren Elizabeth Cole

Department: Epidemiology

Major Professor: Dr. Edward Peters

Dissertation: *The Role of Environmental and Genetic Factors on Alcohol use Disorders*

Claudia Leonardi†

Department: Biostatistics

Major Professor: Dr. Evrim Oral

Dissertation: *A Two-Stage Randomized Response Technique for Surveying Sensitive Topics*

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Elizabeth Gouaux Levitzky

Department: Epidemiology

Major Professor: Dr. Edward Trapido

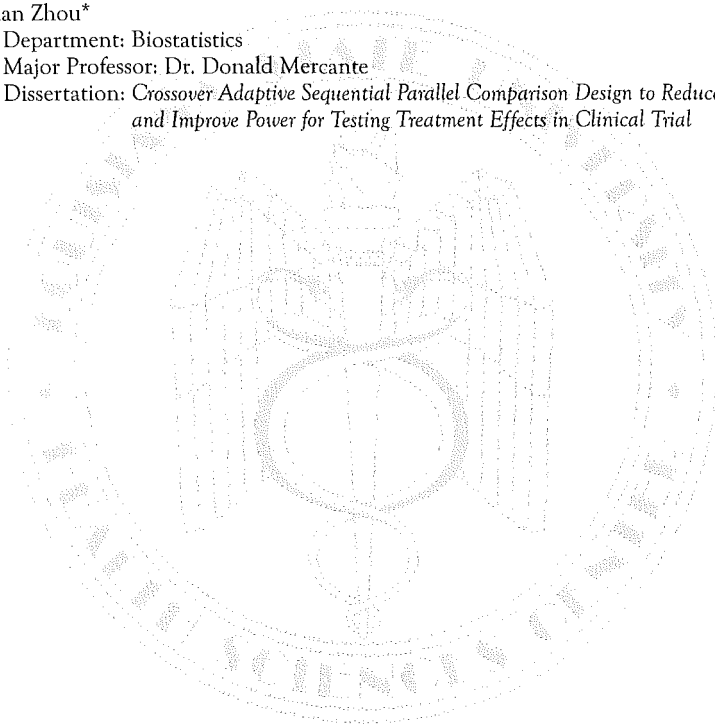
Dissertation: *Patterns of Malignant Mesothelioma in the United States*

Yuan Zhou*

Department: Biostatistics

Major Professor: Dr. Donald Mercante

Dissertation: *Crossover Adaptive Sequential Parallel Comparison Design to Reduce Bias and Improve Power for Testing Treatment Effects in Clinical Trial*



* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

School of Graduate Studies

Presented by Joseph M. Moerschbaeher, III, Ph.D., Dean

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Brittni Bella Baynes*††

Department: Biomedical Sciences

Major Professor: Dr. Nicholas Gilpin

Elia Caesar El Hajj*

Department: Biomedical Sciences

Major Professor: Dr. Jason Gardner

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Surjyadipta Bhattacharjee

Department: Neuroscience

Major Professor: Dr. Walter Lukiw

Dissertation: *MicroRNA Mediated Disease Signaling in Neural and Retinal Degeneration*

Brendan Ross Burn

Department: Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics

Major Professor: Dr. Kurt Varner

Dissertation: *Cardiac Effects of Environmentally Persistent Free Radical Inhalation on Ischemic Heart Disease*

Neha Dalmia*†

Department: Microbiology, Immunology & Parasitology

Major Professor: Dr. Alistair Ramsay

Dissertation: *Evaluation of DNA-Launched Alphavirus Replicons as Immunogens against M. Tuberculosis Infection*

John Schweppe DePaolo

Department: Genetics

Major Professor: Dr. Wanguo Liu

Dissertation: *The Role of ARD1-Mediated AR Acetylation in Prostate Tumorigenesis*

Travis Matthew Doggett††

Department: Physiology

Major Professor: Dr. Jerome Breslin

Dissertation: *Molecular Mechanisms Involved in Acute Alcohol Intoxication-Induced Microvascular Hyperpermeability*

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

Sung-Ha Hong

Department: Neuroscience

Major Professor: Dr. Nicolas Bazan

Dissertation: *A Novel Therapeutic Strategy for Experimental Stroke with Docosahexaenoic Acid*

Fokhrul Md. Monowar Hossain

Department: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Major Professor: Dr. Augusto Ochoa

Dissertation: *Metabolism of Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells: A New Therapeutic Target for Cancer Treatment*

Myles Julian Ketchum

Department: Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics

Major Professor: Dr. Peter Winsauer

Dissertation: *Hippocampal Activity and Effects of Ethanol during the Acquisition and Performance Response Sequences*

Greg In Lee*†

Department: Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics

Major Professor: Dr. Stephania Cormier

Dissertation: *Environmentally Persistent Free Radicals and Influenza: A Double Whammy for Infants*

Jing Liu*†

Department: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Major Professor: Dr. David Worthylake

Dissertation: *Biophysical Studies of Human Scaffold IQGAP1 N-Terminus*

Elaine Carol Maggi

Department: Genetics

Major Professor: Dr. Judy Crabtree

Dissertation: *Role of Aberrant RBP2 Expression in Neuroendocrine Tumors*

Valarie Elaine McMurtry

Department: Microbiology, Immunology, & Parasitology

Major Professor: Dr. Michael Ferris

Dissertation: *The Effect of Necrotizing Enterocolitis on the Gut Microbiota of Premature Infants*

* In Absentia

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†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

Miguel Federico Molina*†

Department: Neuroscience

Major Professor: Dr. Nicolas Bazan

Dissertation: *Neurodegradation and Pathological Aging: Systemic Inflammation, Microglia, and Excitotoxicity: A Current Analysis*

Felix Joseph Nau, Jr.

Department: Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics

Major Professor: Dr. Charles Nichols

Dissertation: *Serotonin 5-HT₂ Receptor Agonism Represents a Novel Therapeutic Strategy for Inflammation and Asthma*

Ji Won Park

Department: Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics

Major Professor: Dr. Wayne Backes

Dissertation: *Microdomain Localization of Cytochrome P450 System Components in the Endoplasmic Reticulum*

Kun Qian†

Department: Neuroscience

Major Professor: Dr. Carmen Canavier

Dissertation: *Mathematical Analysis of Depolarization Block in Midbrain Dopaminergic Neurons*

Patrick Lane Raber*††

Department: Microbiology, Immunology & Parasitology

Major Professor: Dr. Paulo Rodriguez

Dissertation: *Differential Mechanisms of Suppression by Subsets of Tumor Infiltrating Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells and their Surprising Potential to Enhance T Cell Immunology*

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

Michael Joseph Ripple*†

Department: Genetics

Major Professor: Dr. Luis Del Valle

Dissertation: *Modulation of Wnt Pathway Target Gene Expression by JC Virus T-Antigen in Colon Cancer*

Jyothi Vijayaraghavan

Department: Genetics

Major Professor: Dr. Judy Crabtree

Dissertation: *MicroRNA-Mediated Regulation of Adaptive Beta Cell Mass Expansion*

Manqi Wang†

Department: Neuroscience

Major Professor: Dr. Matthew Whim

Dissertation: *The Role of Neuropeptide Y in Sympathoadrenal Plasticity and the Response to Stress*

Peter Fletcher Weed

Department: Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics

Major Professor: Dr. Peter Winsauer

Dissertation: *Effects of Chronic THC during Adolescence on Adult Repeated Acquisition and Performance Behavior, Tolerance, and CB1 Receptor Expression in Male and Female Rats*

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

School of Dentistry

Presented by Henry A. Gremillion, D.D.S., M.A.G.D., Dean

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

DENTAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

Lea Renee Boudreaux
Kelsey Laraine Creel
Dat Thinh Hoang
Huyen-Tram Selena Nguyen
Kenneth Dat Nguyen†

Paul Van Nguyen
William Collin Seale
Hong-Bich Thi Tran
Richard Heber Zwez, Jr.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

DENTAL HYGIENE

Liana Nicole Blanchard
Sierra Ashland Bonds
Kayla Elizabeth Bourgeois
Joanna Lea Sanders Boutwell
Lauren Ashley Breaux
Amber Cheri' Cardinale
Taylor Michelle Detillier
Lauren Elizabeth Dressel
Ashley Brett Frey
Molly Elizabeth Glennon
Jessica Gwin Guidry
Shelby Lynne Guidry
Rikki Lynn Marie Heitmeier
Allison Rachel Hood
Chelsea Lynette Hughes
Carly Denise Jordan
Alesha Nicole Kratzer
Leah Marie Lapoint
Megan Rae LeBlanc

Hillary Paige L'Hoste
Molly Rose Lonergan
Alexa Brooke MacLean
Alyssa Lynn Markham
Melanie Renae Martin
Rebecca Claire Mitchell
Hannah Xuan Nguyen
Jeanne Samantha Nobles
Katelyn Maria Ory
Catherine Ann Pedeaux
Courtney Elizabeth Quin
Jade Elaine Rushing
Yasmin Areli Sarmiento
Kelsie Marie Scheuermann
Keidra Deshawn Scott
Kashia Marie Vice
Haley Elizabeth Weaver
Danielle Elizabeth Woessner

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

Kathleen Margaret Adley
Kevin Charles Astugue
Ashley Moffett Azevedo
Ala Bassam Barakat
Benjamin Blake Bell
Yolanda Catrice Bell
Brent Joseph Benoit
Lauren Ann Berg
Geoffrey Matthew Bird
Maurice Marcus Bostick
Emeric Rene DeNux Boudreaux
Ariel Marie Brown
Charlene Rashan Brown
Wesley David Buchman
Ryan Jameson Buller
Brittaney Nicole Burke
Elizabeth Ann Crapanzano-Perez
Jacob Ryan Diebold
Kim Thuy Thi Dinh
Jason Ross Duke
Justin Derek Elfert*†
Christy Stasney Forsyth
Sarah Marie George
Shira Renee Glazer
Morgan Kathryn Habetz
Lauren Ruth Hayden
Lara Brooke Henderson
Deborah Pui Ho
Emily Ann Hodges
Erin Sauzer Hymel
Melissa Lyn Jackson
Marcela Liliana Jolivette

Zachary Leithman Karam
Andy Minh Le
Matthew Steven Leftwich
John Phillip Lewis, III
Christy Elizabeth Marcello
Julio Cesar Marin, Jr.
Andrew Philip Megison
Linh Thi Thuy Ngo
Michele Ly Nguyen
Jamie Jin-Kyung Park
Swati Anil Patel
Rebecca Mary Elizabeth Payne
Mary Webster Rachal
Adrienne Adele Reviere
Mindi Jeneé Roberson
Andrew Richard Robertson
Douglas Anthony Rodrigue
Katherine Lynn Rothermel
Thomas Walker Sammons
Christopher Bryan Savoy
Jeffrey Matthew Schott
Jacob Lawrence Seiter
Sumei Zhong Sharma
Caroline Rae Sikes
Megan Alyse Tanner
Duyen-Anh Tran
Jefferson Tyler Twomley
Rekha Gupta Wadhwa
Benjamin Clark White
Jessica Lynette Whiteside
Kathlene Jadlelyn Zuniga

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

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Candidates for Degrees

School of Medicine

Presented by Steve Nelson, M.D., Dean

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

Mason Gabriel Adams

Lauren Loretta Albert

Noor Basharat Ali

David Wheeler Allain

Timur Nuri Alptunaer

Matthew William Auten

Ross Anthony Avant

Mohamed-Aly Reda Bakeer

Samantha Joann Baker

James Gregg Barrios

Ronald Matthias Beaulieu

Marisa Bahia Belaidi

Baret Thomas Bercier

Drew Cody Bienvenu

Audrey Elizabeth Billeaud

Alexandra Maclean Blanche

Matthew John Bolton

Brittany Leigh Bond

Christopher Antoine Boustany

Allen Thanh Bui

Maggie Welman Butler

Brian Todd Callihan

Jeffrey Paul Cardinale

Kyle Francis Champagne

Michael James Collins

Conor Coogan

Bryan Andrew Cothren

Derrick Joseph Courville

Courtney Mumhrey Cox

Madeline Everett Cozad

Tyler Wayne Crosby

Luke George Cvitanovic*†

Chandni Dargan

Jon Scott Decuir, Jr.

Matthew John Delcambre

Darryl George DeMaris

Katie Ann Dennis

Anna Christine DiCarlo

Michael Paul Dicharry

Jon Christian Dietrich*††

Mary Ann Difranco

Julie Angela Doan

Brandi Renee Dautreuil Ducote

Brandi Boudreaux Duet

Daniel James Edwards

Ryan John Edwards

Celine McConville Elson

Monica Kenney Ertel

Flor Elizabeth Espinoza

John Leo Faciane

Jonathan Norwood Finney

Alexander Joseph Fontenot

Philip Benjamin Fontenot

Gerald Lee Foret

Corey Anne Fredericks*

Sarah Smart Gay Frischhertz

Katelyn Ann Fusilier

Joseph Delery Giaimo

Stephen Christopher Giepert

Ashley Devon Giglia

Stephanie Michele Graebert

Kristen Elizabeth Gurtner

Bennett Windham Hailey

Anasheh Halabi

Samuel Ralph Herman

Chad Anthony Hille

Mary Elizabeth Holzer

Catherine Tridico Hudson

Michael Kyle Hughes

Lewis Maceo Hunt-Irving

Lori Elizabeth Hutcherson

Ashley Gene Ingolia

Mohammed Said Ismail

Peter William Joslyn

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

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Candidates for Degrees

Sheena Marie Kaiser
Ronak Ramakant Kedia
Rachel Elizabeth Kelt
Bavana Ketha
Faiza Mukhtar Khan
Patrick Yong Kim
Lauren Waters Knapp
Ellis Paul Landreneau
Jace Philip Landry
Mateusz Andrzej Lapucha
Julieta Lasala
Christopher Albert Latour
Jennifer Lynn Lavie
Caroline Elizabeth Lee
Madeline Paige Lemoine
David Brian Lewis
Sarah Marian Lillis
Alden Drackett Cutrone Littlewood
Kevin Yichen Liu
Jeanne Abraham Lunz*††
Timothy John Machen
Holly Victoria Martin
Tasha Aileen Martin
Trae Steven Mayeux
Elizabeth Orr McCord
Noah Scott McGill
Michael Bryant McIver
Ebony Monique McKinnies
Tyson Alberto Meaux
Caleb Gray Melancon
Sesank Sai Mikkilineni
Christopher Scott Molligan
Shaden Yousef Murad
Charles Griffin Murphy
Derek Joseph Naccari
David Joel Navo
Kathryn Blair Neupert
Long Thanh Nguyen

Nina Thuha Nguyen
Chinonyelum Blessing Obih*†
Ugochi Laurel Obih*†
Chizoba Nicole Okechukwu
Erik Matthew Oltmann
Joseph Charles Oswald
Chidimma Michelle Osigwe
Nicholas Paul Otts
Marisa Margaret Pappas
Catherine Frances Parker
Nikita Ramesh Patel
Ronak Sandeep Patel
Bradley Todd Peet
Jordan Douglas Percle
Cacey William Peters
Rebecca Elizabeth Pistorius
Joshua David Plant
Madeleine Patrice Prat
Daniel Hock Punekey
Jarratt Daniel Pytell*
Laura Catherine Rachal
Alexander Bragg Ramos
Caitlyn Louviere Ranger
Sunil Himath Rathore
Hannah Michelle Ray
James Michael Robinson
Matthew Joseph Rolfson
Jessica Marie Rosselot
Hailey Frances Rouhana
Sara Ann Saad El-Dein
Daniel William Schlieder
Verna Lee Schuetter
Elliot Jude Scott
Amber Fauchaux Severio
Amir AbdulFatah Shahien
Cristina Elizabeth Shelton
Jessica Ann Shields
Oscar Leroy Shoenfelt

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

Candidates for Degrees

Mallory Susan Shurte
Mary Elizabeth Silverberg
Raeanna Poplus Simcoe
Jean Bing Simpson
Jason Min So
Jonathon David Sossamon*††
Casey Raymond Steen
Andrew William Suire
Brian Henry Sybo
Danielle Dow Taylor
Snigdha Toodi
Jake Trahan
Sean Patrick Turner
Vilija Jo Vaitaitis
Roxanne Boyd Varnell
Katie Elizabeth Veron

Luke Albert Verret
Jonathan Billy Vignes
Katherine Schluter Vignes
Jeffery Joseph Vinet
Meredith Leigh Walker
Jeffrey Wang
Madelyn Tunstall Weil
Tiffany Rachelle Wesley
Guy Cameron Williams
Elizabeth Aline Williamson
Ashlea Danielle Winfield-Dial
Ryan Christopher Wisler
Noah Michael Woolridge
Syed Ali Zamin
Amy Qian Zhang

* In Absentia

† Degree conferral August 9, 2014

†† Degree conferral December 11, 2014

The celebration of commencement is a rich tapestry of tradition. Each tradition adds to the pageantry and the majesty of one of the Health Sciences Center's most solemn, yet joyous occasions. The conferring of degrees is formal recognition that our graduates have attained mastery of the healing arts and sciences and are fully prepared to accept the sacred trust, which will soon be bestowed upon them by their patients and clients. This is a very special day for the entire LSU Health Sciences Center family, and so that the meaning of this ceremony will be deepened and the celebration more fitting the magnitude of accomplishment of our faculty and students, the Health Sciences Center has woven a number of time-honored traditions into our commencement tapestry.

Academic Regalia

The origins of academic regalia date back to the 12th and 13th centuries. The long robe and hood were borrowed from clerical dress with a nod toward practicality for the warmth the costume provided in unheated and drafty halls. While proper academic dress was defined for the first time during the reign of Henry VIII at Oxford and Cambridge, it was not until the 19th century and, then only in the United States, that it was standardized. Colors were assigned to signify the various areas of scholarly pursuit. Green, the color of medieval herbs, was chosen for medicine, and golden yellow, representing the wealth produced by scientific research, was selected for the sciences. In 1932, the American Council on Education approved an academic costume code which, with few changes, is still used today. The principle features of academic dress are three: the gown, the cap and the hood.

The Gown. The flowing black gown comes from the twelfth century. It has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers dress of rank or social standing beneath. Gowns with pointed sleeves designate the Associate and Bachelor's degree; long, closed sleeves are used for the Master's degree, with a slit for the arm; and round, open sleeves indicate the Doctor's degree. The gown worn for Associate, Bachelor's or Master's degree has no trimmings. The gown for the Doctor's degree is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves, in the color distinctive of the faculty or discipline to which the degree pertains. For certain institutions, the official colors of the college or university may appear on the gown or its decorations.

The Cap. The freed slave in Ancient Rome won the privilege of wearing a cap, and so the academic cap is a sign of the freedom of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as a square to symbolize the book, although some authorities claim the mortar board is a symbol of the masons, a privileged guild. The color of the tassel on the cap denotes the discipline, although a gold tassel may be worn with any Doctor's gown.

The Hood. Heraldically, the hood is an inverted shield with one or more chevrons of a secondary color on the ground of the primary color of the college or university. The color of the face of the hood denotes the discipline represented by the degree; the color of the lining of the hood designates the university or college from which the degree was granted.

The academic colors used in LSU Health Sciences Center's commencement ceremony are green for medicine, lilac for dentistry, apricot for nursing, gold for allied health professions, dark blue for graduate studies, and salmon for public health.

Academic Traditions

The University Mace

The academic mace comes from a heritage imbued with tradition and symbolism. Long held as a symbol of strength and authority, there are a number of theories about its origin. Although some say the word mace is derived from the French word *masse*, meaning club, one of the earliest references to a mace was an ebony-black effigy discovered in King Tut's tomb of "a King, gold-sandalled, bearing staff and mace." During medieval times, the mace of arms was cast as a weapon – a heavy staff or club often made of iron with a spiked end used by knights to penetrate and break armor. Bodyguards carried maces to protect their royals in processions.

But by the 14th century, the use of maces was becoming more ceremonial, sometimes carried in processions of civil ceremonies with mayors and other dignitaries. The mace began to lose its warlike appearance, instead being adorned with jewels and precious metals. Maces were not used as weapons after the 16th century. The first dated record of the mace's transition to academics was in 1385 when a mace was carried at the University of Vienna.

Today, the British Parliament, the Congress of the United States, and many other governmental bodies use stationary ceremonial maces. Increasingly more universities are embracing the enduring tradition of heralding their academic processions with a ceremonial mace, carried before the university leadership as an ensign of authority, dignity, succession, and the rich symbolism unique to each university.

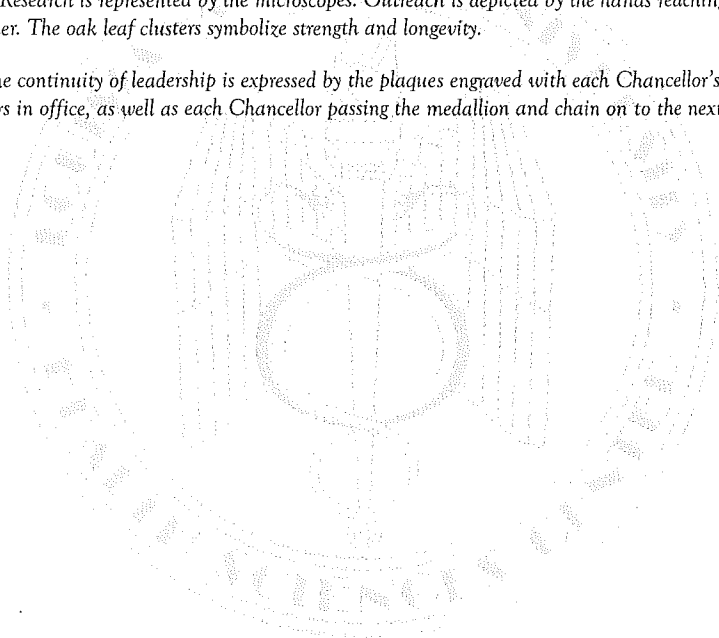
The mace of the LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans was designed to define the Center and to reflect its missions and its heritage. The mace is topped with the mother pelican feeding her young taken from the Louisiana State Seal. The nest rests atop a custom-made purple glass globe, engraved with the names of the six professional schools of LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans. The neck of the solid mahogany staff is finished in gold, adorned with the symbols depicting the four missions of the health sciences center—education, patient care, research, and outreach, as well as a representation of Hygieia, the daughter of Aesculapius and the Goddess of Health. The base is finished with the founding year, 1931, and decorated with a fleur-de-lis, to recognize the founding of the Health Sciences Center at New Orleans.

The Chain of Office

A symbol of authority whose origins may lie in chains bearing portraits of monarchs given to scholars as signs of honor and favor, or in the badge of office said to date back to the age of chivalry when officials were more readily identifiable by their badges of rank, the chain of office is steeped in ceremonial significance.

The Chain of Office of LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans, fashioned in bronze, represents the authority and great responsibility of the Chancellor as head of the university. A medallion encircling the seal of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center engraved with the year of its founding is suspended by a chain incorporating symbols of the Center's fourfold mission. Education is represented by the books upon which the names of the six schools of the center are engraved. Patient care is represented by the stethoscopes, used in clinical disciplines spanning our schools. Research is represented by the microscopes. Outreach is depicted by the hands reaching out to each other. The oak leaf clusters symbolize strength and longevity.

The continuity of leadership is expressed by the plaques engraved with each Chancellor's name and years in office, as well as each Chancellor passing the medallion and chain on to the next.



Academic Traditions

The University Gonfalons

A gonfalon is a flag that hangs from a crosspiece or frame. The first gonfalons were displayed in medieval Italy as an ensign of state or office as well as in ecclesiastical processions. From the Germanic compound *gund-fanon* (battle flag), gonfalons were also used as flags of battle. They are frequently seen at the heads of religious or military processions, always accompanied by "valets" or "honor guards". Many universities around the world have adopted them to lead academic processions as they comprise a unique and colorful ceremonial display. The gonfalons are made in the appropriate academic color for each school, and contain a visual element representing the academic discipline of the school, as well as the university seal.

Da Vinci's Vitruvian Man is the symbol on allied health's golden gonfalon. Vitruvius, a Roman engineer of the first century B.C. influenced da Vinci's drawings of the human body. The drawing is based upon a model of ideal proportions which Vitruvius established and is the symbol most frequently representative of the specialties of the allied health professions.

The nursing gonfalon is apricot and its symbol is the burning lamp of Florence Nightingale. Florence Nightingale was called "the lady with the lamp" because she used a lamp in her selfless duty in the Crimean War, although hers was a collapsible paper cylinder which protected the flame and diffused more light. The lamp has come to symbolize nursing to honor Florence Nightingale's enormous dedication and contributions to the nursing profession, as well as to represent the lamp of knowledge.

The dentistry gonfalon is lilac with the official emblem for dentistry adopted in 1965. The design uses as its central figure a serpent entwined about an ancient Arabian cautery. The Greek letter (delta), for dentistry, and (omicron) for odont (tooth) form the periphery of the design. In the background of the design are 32 leaves and 20 berries, representing the permanent and temporary teeth.

The graduate studies gonfalon is dark blue and its symbol is DNA, the building blocks of life. These building blocks are essential in the research done in the doctoral programs of Cell Biology and Anatomy, Biochemistry, Human Genetics, Microbiology, Neuroscience, Pathology, Pharmacology, and Physiology.

The medicine gonfalon is green, and its symbol is the caduceus, the staff with winding serpents topped by a pair of wings from Greek mythology that has come to represent the medical profession in the United States. In Greek and Roman mythology, the caduceus, like the staff of Aesculapius, was associated with healing and immortality. Both were used as printer's marks from the 16th century on, especially as frontispieces to pharmacopoeias in the 17th and 18th centuries. One theory postulates that as printers saw themselves as messengers of the printed word and thus disseminators of knowledge, they chose the symbol of the messenger of the ancient gods, Hermes. The United States Army adopted the caduceus as the official emblem of its medical department in 1902, cementing its use as such in this country.

Hygieia, the Greek goddess of health, adorns the public health gonfalon. The granddaughter of Apollo and the most important of Asclepius' five daughters, Hygieia personifies physical and psychic health. She was said to relieve illness in humans as well as animals through diet and medication. Often depicted feeding a snake wrapped around her body, Hygieia was sometimes called "The Health." Derived from the Greek word, *hygieinos*, meaning healthful, Hygieia survives today in the word hygiene—a basic preventive discipline in public health.