GREETINGS / FROM PRESIDENT MALONEY

On behalf of the trustees, faculty, and staff of Worcester State University, I would like to congratulate you on your outstanding accomplishment. This virtual commencement is not how we planned to celebrate with you today. However, the coronavirus pandemic has strengthened your resolve to persevere in the face of uncertainty. You are here today as a result of hard work and commitment to your studies, but also, for many of you, because of the support of your family, friends, and our dedicated educators. We are confident that you will use your remarkable talents wherever your path may take you.

We are also proud to recognize you as alumni of Worcester State University, a distinction that dates back to 1874 with our first incarnation as the Worcester Normal School for teachers. Though we have made significant and historical changes to our institution since the late 1800s, we anticipate that you, like the first graduating class, will maintain our time-honored traditions of rigorous academics and giving back to your community and the world.

As president of Worcester State University, I am honored to celebrate this milestone with you, and I sincerely hope that you will stay connected with us. We look forward to becoming a partner in your continuing professional and personal development, and we will always be here if you need us.

With warmest best wishes for your future,

Barry M. Maloney
President
GREETINGS
From President Maloney.................................i

WELCOME
From the Class Committee..............................1

ORDER OF COMMENCEMENT ........................2-3

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER
Brian Skerry ’84............................................5

ACADEMIC TRADITIONS................................6

ACADEMIC ATTIRE.......................................8

DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS,
HONORIS CAUSA
Brian Skerry ’84..........................................9

BACHELOR’S DEGREES
Baccalaureate Degree Recipients......................10

HONORS AND AWARDS
Massachusetts Commonwealth
   Honors Scholars ......................................19
The Lt. Col. James F. Sheehan ’55,
   USMC Ret. Award Recipient ......................19
John F. Eager Continuing Education
   Excellence Award Recipient ......................19
Ellen J. Meyers M.Ed. ’88 Memorial
   Academic Merit Award Recipient ..............19
Ella M. Whitney Award Recipient ..................19

GEORGE I. ALDEN EXCELLENCE IN
TEACHING RECIPIENTS ..............................20

SPECIAL RECOGNITION
Members of the Board of Trustees,
   Worcester State University ......................21
Class of 2021 Committee Members..................21
Class of 2021 Advisors.................................21
Senior Class Marshals ................................21
Armed Services Commission ........................21
Members of the Board of Higher Education
   Commonwealth of Massachusetts ............21
Members of the Board of
   Worcester State Foundation .....................21
Alumni Association’s Advisory
   Board Members ......................................21
   Academic Ceremonies Committee .............21

HISTORY.....................................................22

ALMA MATER..............................Inside Back Cover
Welcome Class of 2021 graduates, family, and friends,

Today we get to applaud ourselves as graduates of the Class of 2021. We get to applaud all of our hard work during our years here at Worcester State University and can now refer to ourselves as college graduates. Congratulations Woo family and welcome to the 2021 Undergraduate Commencement.

A journey cannot be called a journey without experiences. Throughout our time at Worcester State, we went from being young adults to adults ready to take on the next experience in our journey. This could not have been possible without the motivation and upliftment from our family, friends, faculty, and staff. From the times we shed our tears because of the stress we endured, to the times we jumped with excitement because of a grade that meant the world to us. You all have been there for us and we all want to thank you for that. Now we are together once more celebrating this academic achievement.

College is about mainly preparing a person for success in life, but it was more than that at Lancer Nation. Coming from different backgrounds, cultures, and lifestyles helped us learn how to work together no matter what situation is brought forth. As we go out there and face the real world, we will forever take that with us. Now we can say loud and clear that our mission has been accomplished even through a pandemic that affected many. We fought together as Lancer Nation and made it through successfully. As we leave Woo State, we carry the experience with us forever in the future ahead.

The Class Committee for the Class of 2021 wants to congratulate all graduates and wish you luck in your future endeavors. Always remember, there is no limit to what you can achieve.
Order of Commencement

WELCOME REMARKS
Lois A. Wims, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

REMARKS
Barry M. Maloney
President

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REMARKS
Theodora Pappoe ’21
Class Committee Chair

FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE REMARKS
Meghna Dilip, Ph.D.

GREETINGS AND HONORARY DEGREE CONFERRAL
Stephen Madaus
Chair, Board of Trustees
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Brian Skerry ’84

CLOSING REMARKS
Lois A. Wims, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

WELL WISHES
Brought by alumni, trustees, elected officials, faculty, staff, and friends of the University

TURNING OF THE TASSEL
Hailie Lemieux ’21
Hulda Boateng ’21
Twishi Puri ’21
Imahni Bruno-Reeves ’21
Jaymi-Lyn Souza ’21
Senior Class Marshals
So many things we’re still learning.
It’s so exciting.
Every day is a new experience.

—Elaine Pusateri Cowan ‘91
Brian Skerry ’84 was born in Milford, Massachusetts, and grew up in Uxbridge, Massachusetts. He attended Quinsigamond Community College before transferring to Worcester State University, where he graduated with a bachelor of science in media. Brian turned his avocation for photography into his professional passion and, since 1998, has been a contract photographer for National Geographic Magazine (NGM) covering a wide range of subjects and stories—from the harp seal’s struggle to survive in frozen waters and the alarming decrease in the world’s fisheries, to dolphin intelligence, all of which were cover stories. Brian’s story about predatory sharks was published in NGM as a three-part consecutive feature story.

In 2014, he was one of five photographers named as a National Geographic Photography Fellow. His cover story in the February 2017 issue of NGM focusing on protecting special underwater ecosystems in U.S. waters also included the first images of a U.S. president underwater. In 2017, Brian was named a National Geographic Society Storytelling Fellow and in June of that year, he was awarded the title of Rolex National Geographic Explorer of the Year.

Brian’s work has also been featured in publications such as *Sports Illustrated, The New York Times, BBC Wildlife, Parks Match, GEO, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, Smithsonian, Esquire, Audubon* and *Men’s Journal*. He is the author of 11 books including the acclaimed monographs *Ocean Soul* and *Shark*.

Brian is an 11-time award winner in the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition. He has also been recognized with awards from Pictures of the Year International, Nature’s Best, and Communication Arts. He is the only photographer to win the coveted Peter Benchley Award for Excellence in Media.

In 2010, *National Geographic Magazine* named one of Brian’s images among their 50 Greatest Photographs of All Time and he was awarded the 2016 National Geographic Photographer’s Photographer Award, an honor bestowed by his colleagues.

He has had solo photographer exhibits at Visa Pour l’Image in Perpignan, France, as well as in cities such as Geneva, Barcelona, Lisbon, and Shanghai, and at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

Brian frequently lectures on photography, exploration, and conservation issues, presenting at venues such as the United Nations General Assembly, The World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, TED Talks, The National Press Club in Washington, D.C., The Royal Geographical Society in London, and the Sydney Opera House in Australia. He has appeared as a guest on television programs including NBC’s *TODAY* show and *CBS This Morning* and on radio stations across the United States.

He is currently at work on his 28th story for NGM.

ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

The academic procession begins with a trumpet fanfare. The Bearer of the Mace, our Faculty Marshal, leads the procession, beginning with students, then faculty and staff. Next, the Master of Ceremonies follows ahead of the President, the Commencement speaker, vice presidents, deans, and other University officials. The Mace is presented at the center of the stage, while those processing enter and take their places. Once the Mace is placed on the stand, the ceremony begins.

The official seal is present on the center stage podium and on the face of the Mace. It is representative of the following:

- The Palladian window links the past and the future. A distinguishing feature of the Helen G. Shaughnessy Administration Building, the oldest building on campus, the window symbolizes the educational ideals on which the University was founded.

- The globe represents the wide world beyond the campus, as well as the global impact of a Worcester State education.

- The rays of sunlight shining over the world reflect knowledge, enlightenment, hope, and the promise of new horizons.

The Presidential Medallion, worn by the President, was designed by Mr. Dominic DiPasquale and symbolizes the union between the President and the University. This hand-tooled medallion of the original seal is passed on to succeeding presidents.

The Mace is used at all academic ceremonies. In medieval times, Maces were weapons of warfare, but today the Mace represents the President’s authority as the chief academic and administrative officer and is present at all academic ceremonies of the University.
"Whatever dream it is that you have, someone is going to live it. Why not you?"

—Kara Emily Krantz ’05

Alumna Kara Emily Krantz ’05, reflecting on her challenges and accomplishments at Worcester State University.
ACADEMIC ATTIRE

Ceremonial garments worn at academic functions take their meaning from the Church of the Middle Ages, the original center of Western learning. Distinctive markings on the gown and hood indicate the level and subject area of the degree earned as well as the institution granting the degree.

The hood offers the most information about its owner. The inner lining identifies the institution at which the degree was earned; the velvet trim indicates the major field of study. A final feature concerns the length and width of the hood. The length of the hood for the bachelor’s degree is three feet and the velvet border is two inches; the master’s is three and one-half feet in length with a three-inch-wide border; the certificate of advanced graduate study shield is three feet with a graduated border from three inches wide to six and one-half inches wide; and the doctoral level hood is four feet in length with a five-inch border.

The gown’s cut signifies the level of degree attained, ranging from the relative simplicity of the bachelor’s gown to the velvet panels and bell-shaped sleeves of the doctorate gown.

The cap or mortarboard has been adopted by institutions throughout the United States. It is black with black tassels for holders of bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Gold tassels are reserved for those with doctorate degrees and for governing officers of educational institutions.

At this ceremony, the colors of many universities and colleges may be seen. The designated colors for academic disciplines are as follows:

- Agriculture ........................................ Maize
- Arts, Letters, Humanities .................. White
- Business, Commerce, Accountancy .... Drab
- Criminal Justice ......................... Midnight Blue
- Economics ....................................... Copper
- Education ...................................... Light Blue
- Engineering ................................. Orange
- Fine Arts, Architecture .................... Brown
- Forestry ........................................... Russet
- Journalism .................................... Crimson
- Law .................................................. Purple
- Library Science ............................... Lemon
- Medicine ........................................ Green
- Music ............................................. Pink
- Nursing .......................................... Apricot
- Philosophy ................................. Dark Blue
- Physical Education ....................... Sage Green
- Public Administration ................ Peacock
- Public Health ............................... Salmon Pink
- Science ........................................ Golden Yellow
- Social Science ............................... Cream
- Social Work .................................. Citron
- Veterinary Science ....................... Gray

Maureen to approve
Brian J. Skerry is an award-winning photojournalist who specializes in marine wildlife and underwater environments. A 1984 graduate of Worcester State University, he had his first underwater photograph of a shipwreck in Boston Harbor published in the Boston Globe that same year.

Mr. Skerry wrote for several scuba diving magazines in the 1990s that featured many of his photos. In 1996, his image of the first-ever living oarfish – the longest known species of bony fish which inspired the legend of sea serpents – was published.

Mr. Skerry’s career with National Geographic Magazine (NGM) began in 1998. Since then, he has published nearly two dozen feature articles and contributed to several others. His feature stories for NGM include harp seals, squid, right whales, leatherback sea turtles, bluefin tuna, dolphins, and coral reefs. His story on the life of predatory sharks appeared in a three-part consecutive feature spread in 2016. During that same year, while on a different assignment, he captured the first photo of a U.S. president (Barack Obama) snorkeling in the Pacific Ocean.

Mr. Skerry was one of five photographers named as a National Geographic Photography Fellow in 2014, was named a Nikon Ambassador in 2015, and in 2017 was named the National Geographic Society Storytelling Fellow and awarded the title of Rolex National Geographic Explorer of the Year.

Mr. Skerry has won many awards, including the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year 11 times. He is the explorer in residence and a trustee at the New England Aquarium, a founding member of the International League of Conservation Photographers, director of The New England Ocean Odyssey for The Conservation Law Foundation, and a Fellow National of The Explorers Club. He also serves as a Marine Fellow with Conservation International, serves on the World Wildlife Fund’s National Council and the WWF’s Marine Leadership Council, and is on the board of directors of the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy.

Mr. Skerry has held exhibitions of his photography at Visa Pour l’Image in Perpignan, France, and the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., and is a sought-after lecturer and expert on photography, conservation, and exploration. He has presented to the United Nations General Assembly, The World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, TED Talks, The National Press Club in Washington, D.C., The Royal Geographical Society in London, and the Sydney Opera House in Australia. He has appeared on NBC’s TODAY show, CBS This Morning, and countless radio shows and podcasts throughout the nation.

Mr. Skerry is the author of 11 books including the acclaimed monographs Ocean Soul and Shark.

Therefore, in recognition of your outstanding career as a photojournalist and lifetime commitment to conservation and sharing your knowledge of underwater life and ecosystems, Worcester State University confers upon you, Brian J. Skerry, the degree of doctor of humane letters, honoris causa.
Baccalaureate Degree Recipients

School of Education, Health, and Natural Sciences

**Biology**
Kelvin A. Acquah-Marfo
Madisyn R. Angelo
Ryan Asante
Victoria J. Babcock
Genevive Baddoo†††
Tasneem K. Baker
Elizabeth Annette Blackburn†
Hulda Elia Boateng
Judy C. Bosch
Alannah A. Casello
Oresti Celaj
Stephanie M. Cofske
Jorge L. Concepcion-Cruz†
Madisyn N. Constantine
Maegan Nicole Daly
Vincent J. Demattia
Navita Dhanjal
Casey L. Dion†
Brian V. Dos
Julia Lynn Fitzpatrick†††
Olivia L. Flanagan
Cortney Manning Fratoni
Eric R. Fyrberg†††
Ashley Guerin
Victoria S. Hallas†
Jennifer L. Hanson
Brandon R. Hardial
Amanda Harris
Kyle B. Hayter†
Lucas Paul Horan
Sydney K. Howlett††
Michael L. Jameson†††
Yaw O. Kanin†††
Daniel M. Keller†††
Sarmad Khalid
Christopher H. Lam
Natalia Melissa
Lamourt Reyes
Candace M. Laura
Ashley Ann Lavoie††
Krysta Luz Lopez
Donald R. Mahan, III
Isabel M. Mazzarella†
Alexis N. Melton†
Bernice K.A. Mensah†††
Aileen M. Merzoian†††
Fatima Nadeem†††
Kassandra R. Nazzaro
Amy B. Nouriel
Lydia I. Osuagwu
Theodora A. Pappoe†
Erin G. Parker†
Whitney L. Perry
Emmy Pham
Thy X. Pham
Laura L. Piccirillo
Boadu A. Prempeh
Twishi Purit
Krishnamurthy K. Raghavendra
Tyler Marie Rano
Emelyn C. Rivera
Gianluca Romeo
Amanda Nicole Roux††
Gabriela Santana
Jose M. Santiago
Lauren Santos
Richard T. Scales
Juliana Serko
Victoria L. Simonian
Sandra S. Soliman
Sophie L. Staryos
Mohamad K. Tanta†
Maral Taoukdjian
Amanda Lauren Turner
Nyeilla Danielle Veale
Hoang D. Vo††
Eric T. Vorrasi
Julianne E. Welsh††
Michael R. Wheeler
Benjamin R. White
Michael J. Willett
Gladys Yeboah
Mario Zguro

**Biotechnology**
Maeda I. Allqadoori
Tallia E. Annese
Baffour Asare
Tyler J. Davis
Joshua M. Enright
Seth A. Fitzgerald††
Emma K. Greenberg††
Ondine Grosser
Heidi Mae Jackson
Erica C. John
Zivar Khaligi
Zachary J. Marcinkiewicz
Vanessa L. Nina
Brian Cuong Phan††
Xuliana Picari††
Joseph L. Pryor
Louisa Noelle Tannous†††
Meghan P. Thornquist

**Chemistry**
Adam N. Bengtson
Emily M. Doran††
Christopher C. Frabotta
Juliet L. Helock†
Geanna Sonjai Landrum†††
Amanda Lane
Judy Let††
Osama Mahmoud
Han Phan Quyhn Nguyen†
Communication Sciences and Disorders
Anna P. Bachman
Madelyn N. Cinelli
Kaleigh E. Cole
Sabrina E. Das†††
Stacy B. Francis††
Jenna R. Goodreau†
Julia A. Graziano
Kelley A. Hall††
Nora D. LeBlanc†
Casey S. Lee†
Sydney G. LeVasseur††

Computer Science
Afua A. Agyare††
Shams Al-Farees††
Faraaz M. Baig
William K. Chan
Matthew P. DePalo
Timothy E. Drevitch††
Nicholas Dudo
Austin J. Engel††
Marcos A. Felipe††
Derek M. Hebert
Timothy M. Herbst†
Arisha Jahan Khan
Alexander M. Le
Michael H. Mendes†††
Nicholas C. Mucci
Jezon R. Ortega
Liam C. Phan
Nicholas G. Ramsdell
Migena Shkurti
John S. Simolaris†
Harou Song†
Rainiery Tavares†††
Matthew P. Toomey

Early Childhood Education
Rosina Adongo
Kelsey K. Allen
Amanda Sage Alvest†
Rosemary Antoinette Blair
Alexis L. Booth†††
Brittany L. Cormier
Maeve C. Donovan
Kelci T. Dorr
Alexandra Espiritusanto-Vega
Alyssa Grace Herter
Victoria A. Hogan
Katelyn J. Holden
Lauren E. Jachimczyk
Erin E. Kelly
Sara Kowaleski
Jaclyn T. Loiseau
Rebecca Anne Londono†
Marisa L. Lortie
Katherine M. Lottes
Jordan R. Lyons†
Elizabeth Marie Motyka
Molly V. Mulhern
Erin C. Murphy
Maegan E. Pittsley†
Linette Ruiz†††
Shauna M. Rutter
Jordan P. Turgeon††
Samantha Valach

Elementary Education
Tayla N. Aleci
Ariana N. Blaisdell†††
Emerson R. Chapski†
Taylor Ann Coady
Elena G. Cormier
Kelsey A. Dilling††
Sarah N. Donermeyer†
Rachel M. Duda†
Meghan L. Foley
Paige D. Fullen
Taylor M. George
Amanda D. Gevry†
Riley K. Green
Ashley N. Healy
Alyssa-Anne M. Hicks†
Ashley L. Hogan†
Robyn S. Jones
Rachel A. Jorge††
Elise L. Leviton†
Holly L. Montgomery††

Environmental Science
Annelise Batista
Nicholas Bohigian
Katherine N. Burris
Bryce J. Cleveland
Colleen M. Cutting
Alex M. Dalellio
Christina M. Duplease
Deanna Elizabeth Elliott†
Elise M. Gallagher
Prince A. Gyau
Amy R. Kaiser†
Anthony M. Madonna†
Erin M. Sacharanski
Maria C. Savignano††
John R. Veneziano††

Geography
Joseph Edward Capps II
Cameron Julian Dietz
Lucas E. Ferreira
Kyle P. Gray
Maureen W. Kinyanjui
Sharoon D. Martinez
Melanie R. Meadors†††
Jessica A. Simons
## Baccalaureate Degree Recipients

### School of Education, Health, and Natural Sciences

#### Health Education
- Elizabeth Amoah
- Cameron J. Buckingham
- Hali Burke
- Lawrence F. Ciarletta
- Matthew R. Cummings
- Angel B. DeMaria
- Tyler J. Dion
- Jillian M. Dombroski†
- Holly J. Eplite
- Manuela Beth Francis
- Elizabeth V. Higgins†
- Kirby E. Impoinvil
- Dimitry L. Laforest
- Hailie E. Lemieux
- Lemis A. Melendez
- Ian J. Merry
- Sierra L. Molina
- Tayla M. O’Leary††
- Dante I. Ortiz
- Isaiah S. Ramirez†
- Lisa M. Russot†
- Gianna Marie Sasso
- Angela M. Steed
- Jenny S. Tarakengo
- Allison J. Woeller†††
- Christina M. Woods

#### Nursing
- Adesina A. Adegoke
- Antea V. Alexander
- Dominique Teresa Alves†
- Amanda Jane Babbitt††
- Sydney E. Beless†
- Catherine E. Blatchford†
- Haley R. Brown†
- Caitlin E. Cafarella†
- Christian Capoccia
- Rachel E. Case
- Elena A. Chechile†
- Caroline A. Cyr
- Hade Dabbagh†
- Ana Paula DeCarvalho
- Rachel E. Dixon†
- Katelyn R. Duca
- Sarah E. Duff†
- Jenna A. Eddy
- Ashley J. Eskett†
- Juan Espinal†
- Emily R. Finnegan††
- Morgan O. Fontana
- Jessica C. Fournier
- Katrina Marie Garbacik††
- Courtney E. Gaudette
- Emily A. George
- Stephen W. Healy†
- Vanessa C. Holmes
- Lyndsay R. Jansson
- Sheena Marie Johnson
- Kathryn L. Johnston†
- Rachel Kansakar
- Breana L. Keegan
- Lyan Khanji†
- Alexis K. King†
- Kelsey J. Konov†
- Sophia A. Kontoes
- Joseph Kojo Kum
- Madison N. Kuzio
- Kimberly A. Landry
- Melissa E. Landry
- Grace M. Lapan†
- André Filipe Ramos Lopes†
- Bruce Marchand
- Theresa E. McMahon†
- Tatiana Mesa
- Megan A. Miller††
- Pamela Osesenaga
- Osaighale††
- Kayden M. O’Sullivan
- Lori Patterson††
- Mackenzie Erin Pelletier††
- Madison R. Pelletier
- Sarah E. Pettine
- Jules Rezidor
- Jenise Louise Richard
- Adreanna Rodriguez
- Natalie J. Ross
- Kassandra Sanchez
- Emily Ann Shorey†
- Jennifer G. Steel
- Rachel E. Stelmach††
- Alyssa M. Strapponi
- Anita J. Swift††
- Caroline Colby Tuttle†
- Gladys E. Urzua††
- Michaela Vecchiarelli
- Lindsey Marie Walczak
- Claudia A. Webb

#### Mathematics
- Alexa M. Bobbin
- Matthew P. Carpenter
- Pasquale J. Doucimo†††
- Kylie J. Gilroy†††
- Ethan P. Miller†††
- Kaitlyn L. Olmstead†††
- Shaylee J. Puleo†††
- Kelsey G. Rustin†††
- Jason Thomas Truax†††

#### Natural Science
- Zachary J. Eilert
- Ross F. Collins-Wooley

#### Occupational Studies
- Camryn M. Barry†
- Alivia K. Burns†
- Devin E. Burns
- Madison Mae Cuozzi†
- Deanna A. Dalli
- Anna R. Dee†
- Lauren Marie Fleming
- Hannah E. Joynert†
- Courtney P. Lamothe†
- Victoria M. Lemire††
- Jessica E. Lutz††
- Brittany E. Marchetti
- Erika R. Markham††
- Erin M. McCormack†
- Amanda C. Meimaris††
- Mackenna E. Milton
- Elena Marie Mouradian††
- Jessica T. Muise†
- Rosemarie Murray†††
- Alexis V. Nyet†
- Rebecca L. Rigoli††
- Haley L. Sears†
- Monica K. Tran
- Julia M. Wolf
Public Health
Emmanuela Amateri
Stephen Kofi Ampofo
Sanyu Ashaba
Porcha P. Boateng†
Tabitha Afio Boiquaye
Marvens Bozil
Taylor Renee Brown
Doreen A. Buabeng
Mary Elizabeth Burgess†
Michael G. Butten
Megan Elsa Campagnone†††
Mina Lynn Carrabba
Brittany J. Cavarretta
Julia Michele Cohen†
Jennifer C. Coiscou
Emma K. Crowley
Samantha Czernicki
Fernanda C. DaSilva†
Myah C. Dawson†
Janneth M. De Leon
Lisa A. Donzo
Alishi Driscoll†
Claire T. Duong
Dennis-Owusu Eshia
Alyssa J. Espinosa
Chelsea Fargnoli
Hajah T. Fofana
Elyzabeth Frontaan
Megan F. Gatsogiannis†††
Isabelle Lena GianDomenico
Megan R. Greenough†
Yoliana E. Greis
Ellen Hang
Kylie R. Hill†
Aiyana J. Johnson
Mahlet Negewo Kelechat†††
Emily Julia Lanoie
Charissa H. Le††
Megan M. Matteo†
Emilia Monica Noyes
Celia C. O’Malley
Hannah D. Owusu
Elizabeth Marie Paiva††
Baccalaureate Degree Recipients

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Business Administration
Ahmed A. Abdeljaber
Vida C. Abrafi
Sarah R. Achi††
Clara Akuba Ackason
Janelis Alcantara
Neila Kangal Alexander
Abdullah Aliyu
Adam A. Amoah
Emmanuel Ankū
Bedros H. Aprahamian
Renald Attakora
Jefferson R. Auger
Caroline Leisel Bailey
Evangelia A. Bakoyiannis
Emmanuel B. Bangandozou
Kasey M. Barrett
William J. Barry
Earl Richard Bassett III
Graham Bateman†††
Jonathan F. Beaudoin
Collin James Bennett
Parker J. Bigelow††
Alexandra Martina Biro†††
Ashley E. Borkowski
Riley O. Brooks
Michael H. Bryne
Sara Budic
Matas V. Buivydas†
Adam J. Canty
Michael A. Capps
Christopher B. Cardoso
Nicholas M. Coleman
Emma M. Collings††
Aidan J. Conlon†
Callum D. Connacher
Justin Patrick Connor
Morgan E. Cooper
Richard E. Custodio
Mikala M. Davis†
Jake B. Dayata
Jeremiah Dayata
Ryan M. DelGizzi
Dominic A. DeMaria
Natasha M. Deschenes
Kelly T. Diep†††
Taylor A. Dion
Quynh Diem Doan††
Anthony M. Dobrante
Alexandre Dominique
Dylan Matthew Driscoll
Tanner R. Dumphy
David S. Echavaria††
Gaelle Edmond
Jacob E. Elbirt†††
Yinaury M. Espinal Pradot†
Melissa M. Fahey
Madelyn Fong†
William J. Fonner
Jack W. Fulginiti
Nathan Joseph Gagne††
Nicholas J. Gallo
Patrick J. Galvin†††
Biserka Gega†
Zachary P. Gili†
Daria A. Goryaynova†††
Andrew J. Gravina
Craig E. Hill
Lisa M. Hilton
Thinh P. Hot†
Kim B. Hoang
Ann J. Hoscilo
Vu T. Huynh††
Trendafile Ibrahim
Ryan C. James
Angela Maria Kaperonis
Rouzbeh Karkanon
Jennah M. Kellie
Drew M. Kelliher
Tommy Khuu
Alfred Koroma
Michael Krasowski
Kelsey J. Kunar
Jenna L. Lanciault
Mackenzie A. Lavin†
Emily R. Leary
Amber L. Lempke††
Shane Thomas LeRoy†
Javier Lizardo
Tucker D. Llewellyn††
Jeremy R. Lowell†††
Adam Scott Lyons†
Sean Michael Mahan
Richardson Maitre
Matthew Manning††
Danyel M. Mariano-Gonzalez
Laura C. Martinez
Amanda J. McKernan
Julia D. McNamara
Michelle J. Medeiros
Zachary Mehdi
Mohamed L. Meite
Lusanny Mojica
Jon J. Monge
Sarah N. Mott
Brian W. Mulhern
Patricia A. Mulligan†
Brendan Goodney Murphy
Kristi J. Nakollar
Cameron J. Neary††
Sandy K. Ngo
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Augustine R. Ramstrom
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Anum R. Rizvi
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††† Summa Cum Laude
3.9 – 4.00

†† Magna Cum Laude
3.7 – 3.89

† Cum Laude
3.5 – 3.69

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Gina Endres
Emma Greenberg
Ashley Hogan
Hannah Joyner
Judy Le
Alexis Melton
Phan Quynh Han Nguyen
Jaymi-Lyn Souza
Rachel Stelmach
Monica Tran
Hoang Vo

**The Lt. Col. James F. Sheehan ’55, USMC Ret. Award**
Jaymi-Lyn Souza

**John F. Eager Continuing Education Excellence Award**
Theofanis Klarakis Jr.

**Ella M. Whitney Award**
Gina M. Endres

**Ella M. Whitney Award Nominees**
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Nicole Blair
Moises Chauca
Issiac Christiansen
Megan Gage
Riley Harrington
Stephen Healy
Victoria Lemire
Laura Martinez
Samantha McGourty
Bernice Mensah
Kimarlis Ojeda
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Monica Tran
Hoang Vo

**Ellen J. Meyers M.Ed. ’88 Memorial Academic Merit Award**
Lauren McIntyre
GEORGE I. ALDEN EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

This, the University’s highest teaching honor, is given to two faculty members who exemplify excellence in teaching, advising, and mentoring.

The awardees serve as an inspiration to their students and enhance their lives by expanding their knowledge and by providing mentorship and guidance.

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School of Education, Health, and Natural Sciences

**Kathryn Frazier**  
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Worcester State University was founded as the Worcester Normal School in 1874, the fifth state-funded normal school in Massachusetts and one of dozens of teacher-training schools established during the 19th century.

In 1932, all the normal schools were renamed, and Worcester’s became Worcester State Teachers College. That same year, the College moved to its present location on Chandler Street. A large, colonial-style building was constructed on the site of Willow Farm, owned by Worcester inventor and philanthropist George I. Rockwood.

In 1942, Rockwood donated an additional 35 acres, paving the way for campus expansion. The College’s fifth president, Dr. Eugene A. Sullivan (1947-1970), oversaw a period of unprecedented growth, as enrollment grew from 150 students to nearly 2,800.

By 1963, the former teachers college had evolved into a liberal arts and sciences college, and thus the Board of Education renamed it Worcester State College. Under the leadership of Dr. Robert E. Leestamper (1970-1975), the College opened its first residence hall, Chandler Village, in 1973. Also during his tenure, bachelor of science degrees in business administration and nursing were added. In 1974, the graduate school was established.

The growth period continued under the administration of President Joseph J. Orze (1975-1982). In 1979, the College added its second residence hall, Dowden Hall, named for Mrs. Vera M. (Dowden) Baldwin ’34, M.Ed. ’53, the school’s first dean of students. Under the leadership of President Philip D. Vairo (1982-1991), the College expanded its programs to include the area’s first master of science in speech language pathology and the first bachelor’s degree in occupational therapy in the state college system.

During the presidency of Dr. Kalyan K. Ghosh (1992-2002), the College incorporated the widespread use of technology, from computer-based learning to a campus-wide network. In 2000, the College opened the 110,000-square-foot Kalyan K. Ghosh Center for Science and Technology, with instructional laboratories for 12 academic programs and a 196-seat multimedia lecture hall.

In 2002, the College welcomed its first female president, Dr. Janelle C. Ashley (2002-2011). Under her leadership, the student population grew as the campus undertook major renovations and building projects, including the construction of the award-winning residence hall named after philanthropist Phillip M. Wasylean II ’63, which opened in 2004.

In 2010, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts granted university status to all nine Massachusetts state colleges.

Barry M. Maloney became the 11th president of the University in July 2011. Under his leadership, Worcester State University has increased its full-time faculty, increased fundraising, and improved student measures of success. Student opportunities for civic engagement and service learning and for student exchange and study away have grown substantially. A 400-bed residence hall, named for Lt. Col. James F. Sheehan ’55, opened in the fall of 2014, and a 101,000-square-foot Wellness Center, a state-of-the-art athletic and recreation facility, opened in 2016.

HISTORY OF WORCESTER STATE UNIVERSITY
Worcester State, our noble college, we take pride in you,
As we gather gaining knowledge, we will e’er be true.
When we came to our dear campus, strangers all were we,
Forming bonds, we did with many, learning set us free.
Years do pass at Worcester State and as we travel on,
We’ll recall the joys we had, our hearts will ne’er be gone.

Chorus:
Worcester State, listen!
Raise each voice, as we now sing your praise!
Memories we all will cherish of our college days!
—Lyrics by Cynthia Talbert, ’57, ’76

Alma Mater