

MERCER UNIVERSITY

Est. 1833

C O M M E N C E M E N T 2 0 2 5

CELEBRATING DR. D. SCOTT DAVIS

Mercer University Provost and Professor of Chemistry Dr. D. Scott Davis died unexpectedly from a heart attack on Feb. 10. He was 61.

ore than 1,000 faculty, staff, students, alumni, family and friends packed Willingham Hall's Toney Auditorium on Feb. 19 for a memorial service to remember the University's longest-serving provost, whose influence on Mercer's academic enterprise was profound and far-reaching.

Appointed as chief academic officer in 2012, Dr. Davis oversaw the University's 12 schools and colleges, Mercer Health Sciences Center, Division of Student Life, University libraries, research, institutional effectiveness, international programs, registrar, academic and advising services and Mercer University Press, among other units.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DR. DAVIS' TENURE AS PROVOST INCLUDE:

- Mercer was reclassified as a Doctoral University with High Research Activity (R2), the second-highest level in the Carnegie Classification.
- The University was admitted to the Georgia Research Alliance and approached \$50 million in annual research expenditures.
- Mercer was awarded a Phi Beta
 Kappa chapter, the nation's oldest
 and most prestigious honor society in the liberal arts.
- Enrollment surpassed 9,200 students.
- The Mercer Health Sciences Center and the University's 12th academic unit — the College of Health Professions were established.
- The School of Medicine expanded its Savannah campus, opened a new four-year campus in Columbus, and added a clinical campus in Valdosta.
- Mercer Medicine opened six rural clinics.

- The 143,000-square-foot Godsey Science Center opened on the Macon campus.
- Extensive renovations were completed on the Willet Science Center on the Macon campus.
- The 65,000-square-foot Moye Pharmacy and Health Sciences Center opened on the Atlanta campus.
- Hundreds of Mercer students earned nationally competitive awards, including Fulbright Scholarships, Goldwater Scholarships, Hollings Scholarships, Pickering Fellowships and Rangel Fellowships.
 - The University was recognized as a top producer of Gilman Scholars and Peace Corps Prep certificateissuing institutions.

Dr. Davis joined the Mercer faculty as assistant professor of chemistry in 1991, was promoted to associate professor in 1996, and served as chair of the department from 2000-2002, when he was named associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He served as associate executive vice president from 2003-2006, when he was named senior vice provost for research and dean of graduate studies. Dr. Davis held the rank of professor of chemistry.

Dr. Davis earned a Bachelor of Science from Erskine College and a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Emory University. He completed a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

A former captain of the Erskine golf team, Dr. Davis was an avid golfer and a strong supporter of Mercer athletics and student-athletes.

Dr. Davis is survived by his wife, Cathy, whom he met at Mercer, son Ryan, and their daughters, Miller Ann and recent Mercer graduate Layne, a Double Bear.



Message from the President



Dear Mercer Graduate:

On behalf of the entire Mercer University community, I congratulate you on the occasion of your graduation. You have achieved one of the most significant goals of your life, and you have added immeasurably to the intellectual and spiritual foundation on which you will stand in the years ahead.

You may be receiving your first Mercer degree, or perhaps your accomplishment represents your second or even third degree from the University. Whichever it may be, you share a common bond with all of the graduates today of having made real what was once an aspiration. As a graduate, you are entitled to feel a strong sense of fulfillment as you reflect on your hard work and personal commitment.

With each passing year, you will find that memories of your Mercer experiences will grow to mean more to you. As you reflect on the friendships, the learning experiences, the joys and the frustrations of the time you have spent at Mercer, you increasingly will come to realize that the University is a part of your life forever.

Commencement is a rewarding time for the faculty and staff as students move beyond the University to continue along their life's path. The measure of a university is not the accolades accumulated from popular college guides and national rankings. The true measure is the transformation our students' experience that prepares them to be intelligent, thoughtful and compassionate leaders who are committed to making a positive difference in their community and the world. We encourage you to stay in touch with the University in the years ahead.

We are grateful that you chose to pursue your educational goals here and that you always will be a part of Mercer University.

Sincerely,

William D. Underwood

President

MERCER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENTS

Approximately 2,644 students will participate in Mercer University's 2025 commencements.

To make graduation a special day for these students and their families, Mercer University will conduct four ceremonies in May.

Each ceremony will be unique and will reflect the schools and colleges represented.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 2 p.m. Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus

SCHOOL OF LAW

Friday, May 9, 2025 | 10 a.m. Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus

ATLANTA

Saturday, May 10, 2025 | 1 p.m. Gas South Arena, Duluth, Georgia

College of Pharmacy
School of Business
College of Education
School of Theology
College of Nursing
College of Professional Advancement
College of Health Professions

MACON

Monday, May 12, 2025 | 8 a.m. Five Star Stadium, Macon Campus

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
School of Business
School of Engineering
College of Education
College of Professional Advancement
School of Music
College of Health Professions

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MERCER TRADITIONS

Mercer University is one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the South and over 192 years has developed a number of cherished traditions.

Spires and Towers

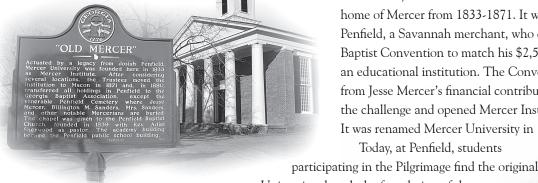
Each fall, part of new student orientation includes a trek up a combination of ladders, spiral staircases and wooden stairs in the Godsey Administration Building, the Macon campus's oldest structure, to reach the tower overlooking campus. Students write their names, graduating years and sometimes favorite messages anywhere from the first stairwell to the actual tower. In addition to the majestic spires adorning the Godsey Administration Building, the Macon campus skyline is also known for the spires of Willingham Hall and Newton Chapel.

PILGRIMAGE TO PENFIELD

Since the early 1900s, Mercer undergraduates have been making the trip from Macon to Penfield to celebrate the founding of Mercer University. The Pilgrimage to Penfield, as the tradition is now called, has evolved over the years from a celebration for graduating seniors to

an integral part of the Mercer first-year experience.

Penfield, which is located in rural Greene County, was the home of Mercer from 1833-1871. It was named after Josiah Penfield, a Savannah merchant, who challenged the Georgia Baptist Convention to match his \$2,500 contribution and support an educational institution. The Convention, fueled primarily from Jesse Mercer's financial contribution and leadership, met the challenge and opened Mercer Institute in 1833. It was renamed Mercer University in 1838.



Today, at Penfield, students

University chapel, the foundation of the

first University academic building, and a cemetery that includes the gravesites of Jesse Mercer, as well as a number of former University presidents, trustees and leaders.

JESSE MERCER PLAZA

Statues of Jesse Mercer sit casually on benches in the middle of Mercer's Macon and Atlanta campuses. The youthful-looking founder of Mercer is staged at a sideways angle, looking ready for a conversation with a passing student.

Occasionally, the statue's head is rubbed by a frantic or uneasy student, hoping the tradition of good luck will work on an upcoming exam. During finals, traffic past Mercer's respected namesake increases drastically.

The statues in Macon and Atlanta are encircled by quotes from Jesse Mercer, personally selected by Mercer's 17th president, Dr. R. Kirby Godsey.



Since the statue was installed on the Macon campus in 1995, this area in the main Quadrangle has become one of the most visited sites on campus by students and alumni. The statue, sculpted by Don Haugen of Marietta, was duplicated on the Atlanta campus in 2005. Beginning in 2009, first-year students, as part of Fall Convocation, and graduating seniors, as part of Baccalaureate, began processing past the Jesse Mercer statue on the Macon campus, rubbing his head at the beginning of their academic careers and at the conclusion of their Mercer tenures.

The statue was unveiled in conjunction with the reintroduction of the tradition of Founders' Day. The statue was paid for by a Student Government Association fund established specifically for constructing the Jesse Mercer statue.

FOUNDERS' DAY

For a university that is almost two centuries old, Founders' Day is bound to be special. While the annual celebration has a checkered history, the tradition is as strong as ever today. Founders' Day began in 1891, 20 years after the University moved from Penfield to Macon. At that time, Founders' Day was a celebration centered on Jesse Mercer's birthday. Mercer's two competing literary societies, Phi Delta and Ciceronian, each brought in a speaker to honor the heritage of Mercer and its founder.

Founders' Day remained a significant annual event for Mercer for the next 40 or 50 years, according to Dr. Doug Pearson, vice president and dean of students. The occasion had different formats during this period, ranging from political events attended by state governors to all-day historic celebrations.

While this tradition remained strong during the early- to mid-1900s, interest began to wane in the 1950s and 1960s. By the end of the 1960s,

the tradition had been completely removed from the University calendar. The absence of Founders' Day lasted until the mid-1990s. At that time, the Student Government Association brought the event back to the Macon campus.



RINGING THE TIFT BELL

When Tift College merged with Mercer in 1986, the alumnae of the Forsyth women's school were apprehensive about Mercer's commitment to honor the Tift heritage. Mercer had joined with the Tift College Alumnae Association to create a plan to honor the historic institution, but when Mercer closed the campus in 1987, that concern was heightened by many members of past classes.

Then-President Dr. R. Kirby Godsey acknowledged the challenges of merging Tift into Mercer, especially following the closing of the school. During that period of the late 1980s, he continued to stress Mercer's commitment to honoring the legacy and heritage of Tift.

That persistence paid off for Mercer and Tift alumnae, primarily through the partnership of past alumnae and current Mercer women participating in the Tift College Scholars Program. This program provides scholarships, leadership

development and, most importantly, mentoring from Tift alumnae to 125 women attending Mercer, which also named its College of Education for Tift in 2001.

The preservation of the Tift legacy is a combination of the heritage of Tift and the momentum of Mercer. Part of this history and tradition is the ringing of the Tift Bell, which was relocated to the Macon campus after the merger. Tift graduates began ringing the bell in 1959 as part of commencement festivities.

GRIFFIN B. BELL AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

In March 1999, Judge Griffin B. Bell was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in Trusteeship by the Association of Governing Boards and Universities. The longtime Mercer Trustee was one of two national honorees selected from the 50,000 board members who volunteer their time to higher education. The University, in Judge Bell's honor, was presented a \$10,000 unrestricted cash award. At its April 2000 meeting, the Mercer Board of Trustees voted to use the award to establish the Griffin B. Bell Award for Community Service. This award is presented annually to deserving graduating students from among Mercer's 12 schools and colleges.

THE HONORABLE GRIFFIN B. BELL



Originally from Americus, Griffin B. Bell graduated cum laude from Mercer University's School of Law with an LL.B. degree in 1948. He practiced law in Savannah and Rome before joining the law firm of King & Spalding in Atlanta as a partner in 1953.

In 1959, while a senior partner at King & Spalding, Judge Bell was appointed Chief of Staff by Georgia Gov. Ernest Vandiver. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy appointed him as a judge of the United States Court of

Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. After 15 years of service on the Court of Appeals,
Judge Bell returned to King & Spalding. He resigned from the firm to become the 72nd Attorney General of the United States on
Jan. 26, 1977, following his nomination by President Jimmy Carter.

He served as U.S. Attorney General until Aug. 16, 1979, when he returned to King & Spalding, serving as chair of its Policy Committee. An active counselor and advisor to leaders in Congress, the U.S. Attorney General's office and U.S. presidents, Judge Bell's influence was wide reaching. He is recognized as one of the country's great Americans. Judge Bell died Jan. 5, 2009, at the age of 90.



HANNAH HIGGINS

School of Engineering



Community service has been a cornerstone of Hannah Higgins' academic journey at Mercer. The biomedical engineering major is passionate about making a meaningful difference in the world, and that's been especially evident through her involvement in Mercer service projects honoring history and supporting underserved communities. By combining her engineering skills with her heart for service, Higgins has impacted the lives of many in the Mercer community and beyond.

Higgins has been a dedicated volunteer in the University's Go Baby Go program, in which battery-operated toy cars are modified to meet the needs of children with limited mobility. She served as a team leader for six Go Baby Go build events during her time at Mercer.

She has also been a leader in the School of Engineering's 3D yearbook project, through which custom yearbooks are created for graduating students at Georgia Academy for the Blind in Macon. In addition, she contributed to the creation of 3D plaques memorializing missing in action soldiers from the Korean War.

During the Mercer On Mission program in South Korea in 2023, Higgins led the team that taught 3D technology skills to North Korean refugees and their children. Through her empathy and leadership, she inspired and empowered all those she encountered.

With a strong moral character, Higgins has built a legacy of kindness, innovation and service during her time as a Mercer student. She has tackled each project and challenge with humility, sincerity, integrity and a collaborative spirit, establishing herself as a leader and a role model to her peers in the process. Through her actions and accomplishments, Higgins has shown that service is not only a part of her mindset but at the fiber of her very being.

To view past Griffin B. Bell Award for Community Service winners, visit studentaffairs.mercer.edu/awards/bell/.

WALLACE ODELL DUVALL EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Wallace Odell DuVall Excellence in Leadership Award at Mercer University recognizes the outstanding leadership of a graduating senior from one of the University's undergraduate schools and colleges. For award consideration, students must be recommended by a faculty or staff member and nominated by their respective dean. Eligible candidates must demonstrate the abilities to motivate and inspire the confidence and trust of others, while possessing vision, intelligence, integrity and common sense, and having a good academic record. The selected recipient receives a financial award.

Wallace Odell DuVall (1901-1993) was an Atlanta attorney who spent most of his career in the banking industry. He served as secretary and attorney of the Atlanta Building and Loan Association, which later became Georgia Federal Savings and Loan Association, of which DuVall became chair of the Board of Directors and chair of the Executive Committee. A generous benefactor and longtime friend of Mercer University, he was a founding trustee of Atlanta Baptist College, which merged with Mercer in 1972 and became the University's Atlanta campus. He served three terms on Mercer's Board of Trustees, 1972-77, 1978-83 and 1985-90. The Dean's Suite at the Law School is named for him, as well as an academic building on the Atlanta Campus, where his portrait hangs.

CARLELA GREEN

College of Health Professions



During her time at Mercer, Carlela Green has emerged as a student leader who is dedicated to service and population health advocacy. Her intelligence, diligence and kindness have shone through in her public health courses as well as her extracurricular pursuits.

Within the College of Health Professions, Green has offered valuable insights and solutions to improving health outcomes and proven herself to be a skilled communicator. She has been a dependable volunteer for college events and a valuable collaborator to her peers. Green has also demonstrated an impressive capacity for leadership, attention to detail and work ethic through several

She has acted as associate chief justice and chief justice for Mercer's Office of Student Conduct Resolution and investigating and voting justice and associate chief justice for the University's Honor Council. Green has also served as president of the Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Leadership Society and vice president and president of the Community Health and Promotions Scholars student organization, through which she spearheaded an HIV awareness event and mental health awareness day. In addition, Green has been inducted into the Delta Zeta Chapter of the Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health.

As a member of the Iota Eta chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Green has provided organizational leadership as the logistics chair and identified community environmental needs and planned service activities as chair of the Enhance the Environment Committee. She currently serves as a health intern for the Houston County Health Department's Health Education program, where she assists with Lifesaver courses, seminar-based events and community outreach.

With her integrity and steadfast determination, Green is destined to change the world as a servant-leader and an advocate in the public health sector.

> To view bast Wallace Odell DuVall Excellence in Leadership award winners. visit studentaffairs.mercer.edu/awards/duvall/.

THE JAMES T. McAFEE, JR. ENDOWED VISION AND LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The James T. McAfee, Jr. Endowed Vision and Leadership Scholarship Fund recognizes outstanding leadership abilities of a junior, senior or graduate student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, School of Business, College of Education, School of Engineering, School of Music, College of Pharmacy, College of Health Professions, College of Nursing, School of Medicine, School of Theology or College of Professional Advancement.

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James T. McAfee Jr. (1939-2004) provided strong leadership to Mercer University as chair and a member of the Board of Trustees. He was a generous benefactor of the University, and Mercer's School of Theology in Atlanta is named for him and his wife, Carolyn McAfee Bruner, a life member of the University's Board of Trustees. A nationally recognized leader in the health care industry, he served as chair of Hallmark Systems Inc., an Atlanta-based health care ownership and management firm. He also was chair of the board of Baptists Today. He was a graduate of Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, and Georgia State University in Atlanta. He received honorary doctorates from Union in 1990 and Mercer in 1999.

The James T. McAfee, Jr. Endowed Vision and Leadership Scholarship Fund was established in 2005 by his wife and son, J. Thomas McAfee III, a graduate of Mercer's School of Business and a member of the University's Board of Trustees.

SHAN KHAN

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



Since childhood, Shan Khan has believed that knowledge paired with compassion can create a positive, lasting impact. His interest in stopping the spread of infectious diseases in developing countries began when he shadowed his father in a hospital in India and has evolved into a passion for eradicating malaria.

Khan, a Class of 2027 biology and global health studies double-major, served as an undergraduate researcher on a team developing a new malaria vaccine in the School of Medicine. He was first author on a scientific article, and the team's months-long research project caught the attention of the National Institutes of Health, allowing the students to present their findings internationally at conferences.

Losing a high school friend to suicide during the COVID-19 pandemic affected Khan deeply and prompted him to create a student organization to educate teenagers about mental health. Mercer Y.O.U.T.H., which stands for Youth Organization for Understanding and Teaching Mental Health, aims to break mental health stigmas by equipping high school students with knowledge and coping strategies. The program delivers information through peer-to-peer sessions that include games, quizzes and prizes to make the content engaging and relatable.

Khan and two other Mercer students applied for and received seed grant funding to get their initiative off the ground. The team has brought the program to Tifton and Thomasville schools and received Macon-Bibb County Mayor Lester Miller's endorsement to begin working in Bibb County schools. Club leaders have also created versions of their presentation in Spanish, French and Hindi to make it accessible to more students.

Khan has a unique ability to transform challenges into opportunities. His vision, work ethic and genuine concern for others will undoubtedly help to improve the health outcomes of others, both physically and mentally, in the future.

> To view past James T. McAfee, Jr. Endowed Vision and Leadership Scholarship recipients, visit studentaffairs.mercer.edu/awards/mcafee/.

Louie D. Newton General Excellence Medal

The Louie D. Newton General Excellence Medal is presented to the graduating student who best exemplifies scholastic achievement, personal integrity and character, service to the campus community and a commitment to spiritual values. The award is named in honor of Newton, a Mercer alumnus, former Mercer professor, Christian journalist, distinguished pastor and renowned denominational leader.

JACKSON SHAW LONDON

School of Engineering



At Mercer, Jackson Shaw London has nurtured his passions for both the sciences and the arts and had the opportunity to share his talents and knowledge with others. He will graduate summa cum laude with 170 credit hours — 40 hours more than the degree requirement — and as the only biomedical engineering major to make the Mercer President's List every semester.

London worked in the lab of Dr. Peter Uchakin in the School of Medicine for the Mercer Undergraduate Research Scholars program in summer 2023 and completed internships at Southern Spine in Macon and Axogen in Tampa, Florida. Since 2024, he has taught and mentored engineering students in the circuits lab.

London is also a gifted singer who has studied voice privately with School of Music professor Dr. Richard Kosowski. He has performed at numerous events with the Mercer Singers and Mercer University Opera, and he is a member of Vineville United Methodist Church Chancel Choir.

In addition, London was inducted into the Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi and Tau Beta Pi national honor societies. He was selected for the Mercer Leadership Fellows program during his sophomore year; served as a Mercer Ambassador for the Office of Alumni Engagement; and has volunteered at Dodge County Hospital in Eastman since 2021.

London's love of learning has helped him accomplish a great many things during his four years at Mercer and set the stage for a successful future. This fall, he will begin a master's degree program in biomedical innovation and development at Georgia Institute of Technology, and afterward, he plans to enter the medical device industry before pursuing an M.D. degree.

> To view past Louie D. Newton General Excellence Medal winners, visit studentaffairs.mercer.edu/awards/newton/.

ALGERNON SYDNEY SULLIVAN MEDAL

The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Medal is presented to the graduating students who best exemplify excellence in character, leadership, service to the community and commitment to spiritual values. This medal was established by The New York Southern Society in 1925, and at Mercer University in 1926, in memory of Mr. Sullivan, a great humanitarian and philanthropist.

LARETHA SHAW

School of Business



Laretha "Bre" Shaw's personal journey has served as her motivation to support and uplift others in everything she does. After becoming pregnant early in her freshman year, the marketing major refused to let this challenge impede her academic goals. As she continued her college education, she became a devoted mother to her baby girl as well as a powerful advocate for student-parents.

With an unmatched level of empathy, understanding and commitment, Shaw has provided guidance and resources to help other student-parents navigate their higher education journeys. As a student-parent co-designer for the Education Design Lab in Washington, D.C., over the past year, she has created digital content, conducted research, led information sessions and assisted with community events for studentparent learners.

Whether on campus or in the community, Shaw tackles each of her responsibilities with compassion and a desire to make a difference. Last summer, she raised awareness about mental health issues as a social media marketing intern for Macon Mental Health Matters and promoted Macon businesses and tourism as a marketing intern for Visit Macon. She has also served as an after-school teacher at Montessori of Macon since fall 2023.

In addition, Shaw was an instrumental team member in a service-learning project for her marketing research and marketing management courses. Students market and sell bags hand-crafted by Rwandan entrepreneurs, who receive all of the proceeds, and Shaw continued to support the Rwandan families by serving as an intern for the project during her senior year.

As a Mercer student, Shaw has worked tirelessly to help others, and her calling to serve will no doubt continue as she embarks upon her career.

Myles Nicholas Duncan

School of Medicine



Myles Duncan has demonstrated a deep passion for and commitment to improving the lives of others locally, nationally and internationally. The Doctor of Medicine graduate is a leader who has displayed honesty, integrity, responsibility, determination and courage through his actions in the classroom and the community.

Mentorship and education have been key focus areas of Duncan's service work. He has tutored children through the New Foundations Home for Children Mentorship Program, mentored aspiring physicians in high school and college as the Fort Valley State University site director for the Young Physicians Initiative, and worked with middle and high school students at after-school program Streets to

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Success. He has also participated in multiple medical and educational mission trips to Haiti and the Dominican Republic with his church, which have given him better insight into the health care system and the impact doctors can have on their patients.

On campus, he has worked with prospective medical students as a School of Medicine ambassador. He also has led a weekly Bible study for Mercer's Christian Medical and Dental Association. He received the University's Distinction in Service to the Community for his project called MedRise, which supports and empowers underserved community members through representation in science and medicine and health education.

Duncan has already had a positive impact on the lives of countless individuals, and he is poised to continue changing the world in the next chapter of his life. He came to the School of Medicine as a recipient of the U.S. Army Medical and Dental Stipend Program and will serve as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserves for a minimum of eight years upon completing his residency in emergency medicine.

To view past Algernon Sydney Sullivan Medal winners, visit studentaffairs.mercer.edu/awards/sullivan/.

JOE AND JEAN HENDRICKS EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

The Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award is a University-wide award given at Commencement to an outstanding teacher at Mercer. Personal attention to students and a focus on superior teaching are distinguishing characteristics of a Mercer education, and this award elevates and honors these values. The award is named for two of Mercer's greatest teachers. Dr. Joseph "Joe" Hendricks and his older sister, Dr. Jean Hendricks, are both legendary at Mercer for their dedication to students and for their ability to engage students in transformative learning and discovery.

Dr. Jean Hendricks, a 1942 graduate of Tift College, earned her Ph.D. from Florida State University, served as chair of the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and was the beloved dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in Atlanta. Dr. Joseph Hendricks, a 1955 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, earned his Ph.D. from Emory University, taught in the First-Year Seminar program for 32 years (both siblings were instrumental in creating this longrunning program), founded the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and taught for years in the Department of Christianity in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Joe and Jean Hendricks Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes a full-time teacher in one of Mercer's 12 schools and colleges who best exemplifies the qualities that distinguished Joe and Jean Hendricks as teachers and mentors to generations of Mercer students:

- Challenging and inspiring teaching in and out of the classroom;
- Active engagement of students in the process of learning, discovery and leadership; and
- Caring mentoring to motivate students and junior faculty to achieve their highest aspirations.

The award carries with it a \$5,000 stipend.

JORDAN "JODY" BLANKE, J.D.

School of Business



Professor Jody Blanke's remarkable career at Mercer University is a testament to his unwavering dedication to teaching, student engagement and mentorship. He joined the School of Business in 1985 and is the Ernest L. Baskin Jr. Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Law. He holds a Master of Science in computer science from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and a law degree with distinction from Emory University School of Law.

In addition to his classes in the School of Business, Blanke has taught a wide variety of graduate and undergraduate courses in computer science, law and ethics across the University's schools and colleges over the past 40 years. To date, he has led 390 courses and had 6,800 students. Blanke's numerous accolades include being a three-time recipient of the School of Business's Outstanding Faculty Award and

a finalist for the 2022 Master Teacher Competition at the Academy of Legal Studies in Business Annual Conference.

Blanke embodies the core values of the Hendricks Award, as he consistently challenges and inspires students through his teaching. His teaching philosophy centers on student engagement, as evidenced by his dynamic classroom interactions, innovative teaching strategies and reputation for making even the most intricate subjects captivating and relevant. Students commend his ability to create a stimulating learning environment and his unwavering support for their academic and professional growth.

School of Medicine Commencement

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 2 p.m. | Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus

Presiding		
Call to Order	Paul C. McCommon, JD Trumpeter	
Academic Procession*		
Invocation*	James Charles Elder Jr., DMin Pastor, First Baptist Church, Columbus Trustee, Mercer University	
Welcome		
Greetings from the School	Jean Rawlings Sumner, MD, FACP Dean, School of Medicine	
Greetings from the Board of Governors	Jennifer Tarbutton, MD, FAAP Chair, School of Medicine Board of Governors Trustee, Mercer University	
Introduction of Speaker		
Commencement Address	John F. Kennedy, JD State Senator, Georgia's 18th Senate District	
University Honors		
Special Awards	Jean Rawlings Sumner, MD, FACP	
Conferring of the Degrees		
Master of Family Therapy Master of Science in Preclinical Sciences Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences Doctor of Philosophy in Rural Health Sciences Doctor of Medicine		
Awarding of Diplomas	Jean Rawlings Sumner, MD, FACP	
Hippocratic Oath	J. David Baxter, MD, FACP Senior Associate Dean, Savannah	
Special Programs Recognition	Edwin Walker Grimsley, MD, MACP Senior Associate Dean, Macon	
Military Recognition	Don K. Nakayama, MD, FACS Senior Associate Dean, Columbus	
Alumni Welcome	Lora Denton, MD, MACP Internal Medicine Residency, HCA Healthcare, Savannah	
Special Music, Here I Am Lord		
Benediction*	James Charles Elder Jr., DMin	
Academic Recession**	Jonathan Alan Poe, MMus Director of Music and Liturgy, Christ Church (Episcopal), Macon	
	Paul C. McCommon, JD	

^{*} The audience is requested to rise. ** The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession. Military Promotion Ceremony will be held in Hawkins Arena immediately following – Invitation only.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

Commencement Speaker Doctor of Laws



Sen. John F. Kennedy has served in the Georgia State Senate since 2015. His district includes Crawford, Monroe, Peach and Upson counties, along with portions of Bibb and Houston counties. In addition to his duties as current Senate President Pro Tempore, Kennedy serves as the chair of the Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs, secretary of the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions, secretary of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities and secretary of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. He is a member of the Appropriations, Ethics, and Reapportionment and Redistricting committees. He is also an ex officio member of the Senate committees on Finance, Health and Human Services, and Rules.

Kennedy earned a degree in economics from Mercer University in 1987. He completed his law degree at Mercer School of Law in 1990. He is a partner at the Macon-based law firm of James-Bates-Brannan-Groover LLP and practices in the area of civil litigation, trial work, business advice and fiduciary law. Kennedy currently serves on the Executive Board of Directors for the Central Georgia Council and Boy Scouts of America. He previously served as president of the Macon Bar Association and is a member of the Board of Governors for the State Bar of Georgia.

In addition, Kennedy is a 2000 graduate of Leadership Macon and a 2007 graduate of Leadership Georgia. He and his wife of 31 years, Susan, have two children, Katherine and Will. They reside in Bolingbroke in Monroe County and are members of Ingleside Baptist Church.

Kennedy's father, Dr. Donald Kennedy, was reared in the small town of Clarkesville in Northeast Georgia. After graduating from medical school and completing his residency in Houston, Texas, he established a family practice in Adrian. Dr. Kennedy treated and cared for the people of Adrian and the surrounding rural communities from 1957 until shortly before his death in 1984. He delivered most of the babies, performed needed surgeries, made house calls, staffed the local emergency room rotation with other doctors near Emanuel County Hospital and generally cared for the medical and general health needs of his patients and community.

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

FACULTY MARSHAL

STUDENT MARSHAL

Carolyn Klatt, MLIS

Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Development Professor and Associate Director, Library and Information Science

Alice House, MD, DABFM, FAAFP Senior Associate Dean, Admissions and Student Affairs Professor, Department of Family Medicine

READERS

Richard O. McCann, PhD

Associate Dean of Admissions Professor of Biochemistry

Adam Albrite, PhD, LMFT

Director, Master of Family Therapy Program Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

James E. Drummond, PhD

Director, Master of Science in Preclinical Sciences Program Associate Professor of Microbiology

Christy C. Bridges, PhD

Director, Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences Program Professor and Interim Chair. Department of Biomedical Sciences

Anne Montgomery, PhD

Director, Doctor of Philosophy in Rural Health Sciences Associate Professor, Department of Community Medicine

Don K. Nakayama, MD, FACS

Senior Associate Dean, Columbus Campus

J. David Baxter, MD, FACP Senior Associate Dean, Savannah Campus

Edwin Walker Grimsley, MD, MACP Senior Associate Dean, Macon Campus

ARNOLD P. GOLD FOUNDATION LEONARD TOW HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARDS

A key component of medical education is the compassionate and humanistic care of patients. In support of that premise, the Arnold P. Gold Foundation sponsors the Humanism in Medicine Awards to recognize and honor graduating students and faculty members who have demonstrated the highest standard of compassion and sensitivity in their interactions with patients. Mercer University School of Medicine graduating students and the faculty have, respectively, chosen a faculty member and a student who embody empathic, sensitive and respectful behavior in providing patient care.

2025 FACULTY HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD

Amethyst Wilder, MD Assistant Professor of Family Medicine

2025 STUDENT HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD

Allison Leann Dockus

Dr. Anna N. Walker Award FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The Dr. Anna N. Walker Award for Teaching Excellence was developed in 2018 upon Dr. Walker's retirement and is deemed the highest award bestowed on a School of Medicine faculty member. The award acknowledges Dr. Walker's exceptional contributions to the School of Medicine and annually recognizes a faculty member who is an outstanding teacher and mentor dedicated to Mercer's mission.

2025 Award for Teaching Excellence

Maryam Abdelghani, MD

Associate Professor of Pathology, Department of Pathology and Clinical Sciences Education

❖ Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society | ◆ Gold Humanism Honor Society | † Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

MASTER OF FAMILY THERAPY

Julianne Abboud Lawrenceville, Georgia

Kaley Elaine Estelle Barber † Gray, Georgia

Rita McCranie Boling Lizella, Georgia

Cheryl Andrea Jackson Tucker, Georgia

Rachel Breeden Duluth, Georaia

Christy L. Butler Newnan, Georgia

Sarah Asbury Causey † Macon, Georgia

Ajai Oladeji Craig Union City, Georgia

Isaiah Huston Crayton † Bridgewater, Massachusetts

Alan Leroy Deleon Warner Robins, Georgia

Marci J. Gallagher †

Anna Maria Gonzalez Marietta, Georgia

Khristie Natasha Jackson Suwanee, Georgia

Ariel Christina Jailett Hoschton, Georgia

Ma'Nesia Jacobi Jones-Lynch Atlanta. Georaia

Aditi Mitra Dunwoodv. Georaia

Vanessa Moore † Atlanta, Georgia Alison Nicole Muraski

Cumming, Georgia Mikayla Metts Nunnally †

Carrollton, Georgia Lakeshie Q. Robinson

Macon, Georaia Mitchell David Schumacher

Forsyth, Georgia Haley Michael Troup †

Forsyth, Georgia Dianysha Allyah Varfley

Haines City, Florida

Haley Madison Waters † Lizella, Georaia

Kavli Jennifer Whiting † Clarkston, Georgia

Kathryn O'Quinn Williams †

Macon, Georgia Brittany Ray Wise † Cumming, Georgia

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PRECLINICAL SCIENCES

Pauline Gradia Bemah Charlotte, North Carolina

Sarah Marie Bom-Crocker Marietta, Georgia

Kate Margaret Chapman Dunwoody, Georgia

Nicholas Munro Couch Suwanee, Georaia Katherine Milagros De

Los Santos Lawrenceville, Georgia

Sydney Faith Ertzberger Bowersville, Georgia Shepherd Perry Hancock

Sharpsburg, Georgia Albert Farah Johary Jr. Roswell, Georgia

Kaylee Nicole Komyati Elberta, Alabama

Kamryn Marlow Carrollton, Georgia Shreya Piyush Mehta

Columbus, Georaia Lizbeth Flores Mendez

Robert Ashton Moorman Valdosta, Georgia

Maryam Nadeem Waycross, Georgia Neil S. Nariani

Johns Creek, Georgia Melissa Tchomtchoua

Nwafo Bafoussam, Cameroon Charmi Sanjay Patel

Norcross, Georgia Jessica Paresh Patel Columbus, Georgia

Ashley Nicole Penalbert

Acworth, Georgia Pranav R. Putta Alpharetta, Georgia

Brayton Reza Rahimi Savannah, Georgia

Austin Matthew Salmanzadeh Macon, Georgia

Darius Elias Scott Rincon Georgia

Minchan Shim Newnan, Georaia

Avinash Singh Cumming, Georgia Emma Helen Stewart

Statesboro, Georgia Samuel E. Stewart

Gainesville, Georaia

Graciela Marie Surratt Bainbridge, Georgia Emma Payton Williams

Hoschton, Georgia Duke Davis Wodetzki Marietta, Georgia

Amit Subash Yadav McDonough, Georgia

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Ebonie Nicole Crittenden Bonaire, Georgia

Louise Muriel Essimbi Yaoundé, Cameroon

Joseph Cornell Allston Macon, Georgia

Robert C. Rudd Valdosta, Georgia

Doctor of PHILOSOPHY IN RURAL HEALTH SCIENCES

Zelma Yelitza Delgado Camuv Puerto Rico

Talivah Marie Henderson Atlanta, Georgia

Alika Cleopatra Reid-Croy Brooklyn, New York Laura Monique Ross

Tahlequah, Oklahoma DOCTOR OF

MEDICINE

Madison Eileen Adams Dallas, Georgia

Zubair Akram Wavcross, Georaia Harish Raj Alappan

Columbus, Georgia Sarah Elizabeth Albritton • Loganville, Georgia

Luis Enrique Aleman • Stockbridae, Georaia

Ahmad Amer Al-Rafati Warner Robins, Georgia Briana Purves Alwawi

Canton, Georgia Kaitlin Leigh Anderson ❖◆

Kennesaw. Georaia Carver Nathaniel Arant ++ Carrollton, Georaia

Priya Arya + † Smyrna, Georgia

Gabriela Starr Barr Watkinsville, Georgi

Grayson Taylor Beasley Hazlehurst Georgia

Austin Hunter Bennett Doualas, Georaia

William Olin Blair III Ouitman, Georgia

Samuel Augustin Boatright Doualas, Georgia

Davis Edward Bobbitt & Jasper, Georaia Denisa Ramona Boitos

Buford, Georgia Arianna Michelle Borges Cumming, Georgia

Bethany Rozeboom Bowling

Candler Keith Boyett + † Statesboro, Georgia Lauren Crabb Brooker

Sandersville, Georgia Juan Carlos Cespedes Pacheco Elberton, Georgia

John Pickard Cheek Marietta, Georaia

Caleb Lee Christian Dublin, Georgia

John Dean Christiansen Ludowici, Georgia Kun Hsi Chu •

Hazlehurst, Georgia Jonathan Michael Coates • Savannah, Georaia

Genesis Rebeca Cook Hawkinsville, Georgia Bryce Dawson Crew + †

St. Marys, Georgia Blake Spencer Cromie

Leesburg, Georgia Katelyn Nicole Crumbley & Dalton, Georaia

Victoria Nichole Davis Thomasville, Georgia

Willem Jefferson de Vries Young Harris, Georgia Meena Dhir + †

Dallas, Georaia Ashlee TraKaila Dixon Sandersville, Georgia

Allison Leann Dockus ❖◆† Calhoun, Georgia

James Boyd Dunaway III ❖◆† Griffin, Georgia

Avery Michael Duncan * Canon, Georgia Myles Nicholas Duncan

Evans, Georaia Kira Ruth Eidle •

Decatur, Georgia Joshua Joseph Fertig LaGrange, Georgia

Leeia Cheree McEachern

Douglas, Georgia Kaleigh Ann Foster ❖◆†

Sparta, Georgia Annsley Haynes Fox Macon, Georgia

Srividya Ganapathy • Johns Creek, Georgia

Bret Kevin Garza ❖† Richmond Hill, Georgia

Anna Corry Gerald • Hoschton, Georgia

Fatima Ghiathi Savannah, Georgia Joseph Anthony Gibase

Kaylien Muller Goodin Sandersville, Georgia

Kenerly Nell Gordon • Guyton, Georgia **Emily Hartley Grant**

Butler, Georgia Octavia Greer Columbus, Georgia

Musah Gulzar & Warner Robins, Georgia Maya T. Handberry-Howard Milledaeville, Georaia

Hayden Elizabeth Harvard ∻† Alpharetta, Georgia

Christopher Lane Hatcher Albany, Georgia

Kieffer James Hellmeister Lula, Georgia Megan Nicole Hobbs •

Hazlehurst, Georgia Cameron Lee Holsomback • Marietta Georgia

Cristina Jazmin Huaca Cartersville, Georgia

Fatima Bint-E Humayun Griffin, Georgia Nicole Christina

Humphries • Columbus, Georgia Robert Jason Hunter

Caley Anna Ingram Gray, Georgia

Maryam Irfan Waycross, Georgia Susanna Hall Jenkins

Bartow, Georgia Samantha Van Dyke Johnson ◆

Lvons, Georaia Terrell Scott Johnson Milledgeville, Georgia Kaleb Christian

Johnston + †

Kristen Kent

Rome, Georgia Kristy Elizabeth Jones LaFayette, Georgia

Meenal Manish Joshi + Leesburg, Georgia

Bogart, Georgia Christina Leigh Kinder *

Rome, Georgia Tung La Dacula. Georaia

Stuart Preston LaMance Newnan, Georaia (AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY)

Alexandra Hope Lessnau Ball Ground, Georgia Jessica Jean Lewis

Columbus, Georgia Olivia LeKuang Little Demorest, Georgia

Sarah Katherine Neel Maddox Griffin, Georgia Alina Zofia Maleski

Atlanta, Georgia Mikalah Elise Maury + † Lawrenceville, Georgia

Megan Ann McArthur + † Winder, Georgia Claire Anne McCarthy Savannah, Georgia

Matthew Gregory McGinty

Savannah, Georgi Jon Mallory McRae Bainbridge, Georgia

Mary Rachel Metzger Albany, Georgia

Jacob Stuart Milliner & Columbus, Georaia

Brianna Michaela Moon Ellijay, Georgia Jin Hyung Moon

Chynna Marie Moore Glenwood, Georgia

Joshua Ryan Moore * † Auburn, Georgia Timothy Tyler Moore ◆

Winder, Georgia Samantha Kenzie Morris

Applina, Georaia Dakota Jordan Nale Lovett Harlem, Georaia

Sarah Jordan Neaves • Thomaston, Georgia Zachery Dylan Neil * •

Jimmy Nguyen Stockbridge, Georgia

Joshua Blake Nunez Winterville, Georgia Ogechukwu Jane Otiji Lawrenceville, Georgia

David William Park Duluth, Georgia Darshti Patel

Americus, Georaia Neha Patel Meigs, Georgia Rutt Patel

Macon, Georgia Mahiabin Patrawala Homerville, Georgia Payton Amber Phillips

Winterville, Georgia Garret Peter Pierzchajlo Tifton, Georgia

Noah Christian Pierzchajlo Charlotte Miriam Pilcher *

Warner Robins, Georgia Elizabeth Holland Pittman Nashville, Georaia

Harley Laing Ponder Whigham, Georgia Bowen Kenneth Powers • Macon, Georaia

Trung Dinh Quach Stone Mountain, Georaid Supreet Kaur Raina Gravson, Georgia

Taylor Mathis Ramirez * Macon, Georgia Christopher Ryan Rehak * Hamilton, Georgia

Ridaewell Savannah, Georgia **Emily Rose Rinehart** Savannah, Georaia Nicole Andrea Rios

Lawrenceville, Georgia

Brynne Meaghan

Gunnar Preston Rogers Eastman, Georgia

Matthew Louis Romine Doualasville, Georaid Ansley Blair Sanders *

Columbus, Georgia Catherine Brooke Sanders

Cochran, Georaid **Scott Thomas Saunders** Thomasville, Georgia

Brialisse Joy Sayre * Valdosta, Georgia

Déja Jamese Sibert • Sparta, Georgia

Alexandria Carrasquillo Simko Brunswick, Georgia

Havird McLean Skalak Augusta, Georgia Skyler Woodard Slater

Erin Wesley Smith Pine Mountain, Georgia Camron James Sohn

Dublin, Georgia Shawn-Michael Alen Speight

Waleska, Georaia Sydney Lauryn Stallings Summerville, Georaia

James David Stephenson Columbus, Georgia James Avery Stokes •

Cumming, Georgia Nidhi Sathya Thiruppathi Columbus, Georgia

Olivia Taylor Thomas

Amelia Annette Tochtrop Bremen, Georgia Peyton Russell Trancygier

Ashley Ellen Traylor Byron, Georgia Laura Blount Tunison Valdosta, Georgia

Hahira, Georgia

Caitlin Suzanne Turner Doualasville, Georgia Sarah Rachel Tuttle Cartersville, Georaia

Simran Pravinsinh Vaghela Johns Creek, Georgia Collin Andrew Vandemark

Sparks, Georgia Laurie Lynne Villamor

Annabel Grace Ward Atlanta, Georaia Katherine Hilton Wells Thomson, Georgia

Zachary Turner White Mount Vernon, Georgia Austin Allen Wiggins Ashburn, Georgia

School of Medicine | 15

HIPPOCRATIC OATH

(Mercer University School of Medicine Version)

I do solemnly swear and affirm in front of my faculty and colleagues as witnesses that throughout my life I will adhere, at all times, to the Mercer University School of Medicine Student Code of Honor and Professional Conduct and that I will keep that code and this oath:

I pledge to uphold and honor the principles of honesty, integrity and professionalism which are required for the practice of medicine and will accept my responsibility to keep these principles along with the consequences should I fail to do so.

I will hold those who taught me this art dear and will freely teach this art to those who wish to learn it. I will impart knowledge of the art to my own students.

I will use scientific foundations, which will benefit my patients according to my greatest ability and judgment, and I will knowingly do no harm or injustice to them. I will practice my profession with conscience and dignity. The health of my patient will be my first consideration. I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.

I will not give a lethal drug to anyone if I am asked, nor will I advise such a plan. I will not knowingly prescribe any drug that would do harm.

Into whatever homes or institutions I go, I will enter them for the benefit of the sick, avoiding any voluntary act of impropriety or corruption.

Whatever I see or hear in the lives of my patients, whether in connection with my professional practice or not, which ought not to be spoken of outside, I will keep in absolute confidence, as considering all such things to be private. I will respect the secrets, which are confided in me, even after the patient has died.

I will not permit considerations of religion, nationality, race, party politics or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient.

So long as I maintain this Oath faithfully and without corruption, may it be granted to me to partake of life fully and the practice of my art, gaining the respect of all people for all time. However, should I transgress this Oath and violate it, may the opposite be my fate.

May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling, and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.

School of Law Commencement

SCHOOL OF LAW COMMENCEMENT

Friday, May 9, 2025 | 10 a.m. | Hawkins Arena, University Center, Macon Campus

Presiding	William David Underwood The President of the University
Prelude	
Academic Procession*	
Invocation*	Professor of Law and Director of Experiential Education
Welcome	
Greetings from the Law School	
Introduction of Speaker	
Commencement Address	Vernon M. Strickland, '06 Managing Partner, Strickland Debrow LLP
Student Awards	
Special Recognitions	Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
George Waldo Woodruff Award of Excellence	Penny L. Elkins Executive Vice President and Interim Provost
Reynold J. Kosek Jr. Excellence in Teaching Award	
Conferring of the Juris Doctor	
Charge to Graduates	Karen J. Sneddon
Presentation of the Class of 2025	
Hooding Ceremony	
Benediction*	Sarah Gerwig
Academic Recession**	Jonathan Alan Poe

^{*} The audience is requested to rise.

^{**} The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

VERNON M. STRICKLAND

Commencement Speaker



Vernon M. Strickland is a distinguished attorney, accomplished engineer and former professional athlete whose life and career exemplify resilience, perseverance and excellence. A native of Newnan, Strickland is a 2006 graduate of Mercer School of Law and earned his bachelor's degree at Georgia Institute of Technology.

At Georgia Tech, Strickland earned a degree in textile engineering while walking on to the football team, beginning as a sixth-string weakside linebacker. He rose to become a team captain, ultimately securing a professional football career with the New York Giants and San Francisco 49ers of the NFL, as well as the Berlin Thunder of NFL Europe.

Following his career as a professional athlete, Strickland became a mechanical engineer with Panasonic Automotive before earning his law degree and joining the prestigious international law firm Holland & Knight LLP, where he practiced for a decade in the areas of complex civil litigation, intellectual property and sports and entertainment law.

Today, Strickland is the managing partner of Strickland Debrow LLP, a firm he co-founded in 2022. His practice focuses on civil litigation, intellectual property and business law, representing high-stakes matters both in Georgia and nationwide. In addition to his legal practice, he has been an adjunct professor in the School of Public Policy at Georgia Tech since 2018. Strickland also serves on the Mercer Law School Board of Visitors and the Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee and is a member of Leadership Georgia (Class of 2020-21).

He was awarded the Georgia Tech Black Alumni Organization Leaders & Legends Athlete Award in 2023 and was honored by Georgia Tech during the 60th Anniversary Celebration of Black Student Excellence in 2021. He was inducted into the Coweta Sports Hall of Fame in 2023 and was previously recognized as a Georgia Tech Living History honoree. Strickland and his wife of more than 25 years, Mak, have two children, Drake and Emmerson Rose.

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

Marshals

Bonnie Carlson Associate Professor Law

Katie Powers Assistant Dean of Advocacy

Scott Titshaw Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Development and Professor of Law

Hooders

James P. Fleissner Professor of Law

Daisy Hurst Floyd University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation

Timothy Floyd Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Advocacy and Professor of Law

Pamela A. Wilkins Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Law

Ushers

Mercer Law Students

GEORGE WALDO WOODRUFF AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The George Waldo Woodruff Award of Excellence is Mercer Law School's most prestigious award. Given to the graduating student who has the highest GPA at the end of five semesters, the award honors George Waldo Woodruff, distinguished businessman, proponent of education and friend of Mercer University School of Law.

2025 AWARD RECIPIENT

Chyna Annastasia Carter

* Cum Laude | ** Magna Cum Laude | *** Summa Cum Laude | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society | † Military

SCHOOL OF LAW

Nevie Marleigh Amaral Chyna Annastasia Carter **~ Warner Robins, Georgia Blackshear, Georgia Olivia Kate Amerson * Andalusia, Alabama Nadin Catak ** Kennesaw, Georaia Lillie Tate Andrews **∼ Einav Cohen Sandersville, Georgia Parkland, Florida William Edward Marissa Lyn Deall * Bazemore Jr. Manorville, New York Forsyth, Georgia McKayla A. Doss * Meagan Ann Marie Relflower Covington, Georgia Key Largo, Florida Miranda Lee Durden Rebecca Allison Bell Burnettown, South Carolina Donalsonville, Georaia William Andrew Duvall * Reese G. Blackley Vidalia, Georgia Winston, Georgia Sutton McGuire Eggena ** Brian J. Boatwright * Hamilton, Georgia Dunwoody, Georgia Seth Harrison Elmore ** Chloe E. Bonds * Canevville, Kentucky Buford, Georgia John Marshall Forbes ** Adelaide Bottomley * Alpharetta, Georgia Ciré Panache Foston Bryan Geddes Bowden * Milledaeville, Georgia Athens, Georgia Hannah Elizabeth Frantz Ariel Wickman Bozeman Tallahassee, Florida Hoschton, Georgia Campbell Garrard * Seth Jordan Brant Charleston, South Carolina Statesboro, Georgia Olivia Clare Greenblatt Olivia Amanda Brillinger Tucker, Georgia Camden, South Carolina Ashley E. Hall **† Lauren Nicole Brock * Marietta, Georgia St. Simons Island, Georgia Anna Carr Hanks * FeirraihSha' Allyyssia Atlanta, Georgia Brown Catherine Hare Dallas, Georgia Atlanta, Georgia Virginia Allison Leann Francis Joseph Hargadon IV ** Calhoun ** Andersonville, Georgia Canton, Georgia Christina Calvert Samantha Harvey Campbell ** Round Lake Beach, İllinois Atlanta, Georgia Gabrielle Hawkridge Natalie Andria Campbell

Reese M. Holloway 3 Haralson, Georgia Bailey Hotard * Pine Mountain Valley, Georgia Ashley B. Houser Cordele, Georgia Alexander Ross Huff Jacksonville, Florida Kaitlin Danielle Hunter Marietta, Georgia Camryn Renee Jones Eastman, Georgia Carah Elizabeth Jones Bainbridge, Georgia Spencer Jordan Statesboro, Georgia Ivey Elizabeth Jorgensen Brunswick Georgia Katherine Elizabeth Kazimer † Evans, Georgia Andrew Tyler Kelly * Doualasville, Georaia Kelly LaFleur * Guyton, Georgia Kacy Georgette Lee Ashland, Virginia Abigail Letts **~ Marietta, Georgia John R. Long Conway, South Carolina Meagan Lynch Lithonia, Georgia **Fmily Manley** Anchoraae, Alaska Michaela Michelle Manley Bluffton, South Carolina Kimberly Anahy Marroquin Montanez Lawrenceville, Georgia **Andrew David Martens** Macon, Georaia

Preslev G. Marxmiller Covinaton, Indiana Samuel Ian McKenzie Macon, Georgia Tyler W. Meadows * LaGrange, Georgia Addison Lauren Mecredy Lilburn, Georgia Stephanie Michelle Mendoza Torres Humacao, Puerto Rico Charlotte Meyer † Warner Robins, Georgia J. B. Milligan Odum, Georgia Mallorie Nicole Mitchell Dawsonville, Georgia Erin Kathleen Modzelewski Lexinaton, South Carolina Andrew D. Moody LaGrange, Georgia Rich Morrison Braselton, Georgia Paige McDonald Mostert Melbourne, Florida Zachary Negin Alpharetta, Georgia Elizabeth Smith Nelms * Bonaire, Georgia Sean James O'Sullivan Statesboro, Georgia Cameron Kenneth Obioha Columbia, South Carolina Josef Michael Oliver Bethlehem, Pennsylvania Valerie Jane Pallos Lexinaton, Kentucky William Hampton Parker IV Jesup, Georgia Anjali Ghanshyam Patel Warner Robins, Georgia Jasmine Rajanikant Patel Marion, North Carolina Shivani Hemant Patel

Haley Pendleton Altamonte Springs, Florida Anna Alexandria Phillips Savannah, Georgia Katelyn Elise Phillips Peachtree City, Georgia Breanna Makayla Pittman * Lancaster, South Carolina Samuel Paul Pompeo Senoia, Georgia Brinson Thomas Raley * Wrens, Georgia Benjamin D. Ranieri Columbus, Georaia Rachel Neil-Anne Rataiczak Milledgeville, Georgia Jasmine Tanzania Reaves † Chesapeake, Virginia Hudson Reynolds Bainbridae. Georaid Addison I. Robinson Lithonia, Georgia Kaitlyn Renee Rowe Savannah, Georgia Olivia Grace Salter Eatonton, Georgia Olivia Madison Sanders ** Danville, Georgia Julian Santos Warner Robins, Georgia Jordan Mae Savage Covinaton, Georaia Shane Scott Scadden Roswell, Georgia Sydney Elizabeth Schorr * Columbus, Georgia Madison Susanne Schumm Appling, Georgia Jacob Morgan Senter Tucker, Georgia Josh Shin Johns Creek, Georgia

Alexis Nicole Skowranek Locust Grove, Georgia Stanley Chase Smith * Gainesville, Georgia Wade Joseph Smith Kathleen, Georgia Zackary Smith * Warthen, Georaia Jackson W. Spivey **~ Macon, Georgi Noah Spragle Milton, Georgia Haley Elizabeth Askey Stafford Sharpsburg, Georgia James Scott Stafford * Stapleton, Georgia Paul William Stegenga Jr. Johns Creek. Georaia Thomas Stevenson Atlanta, Georaia Molly Anastasia Sullins * Ava Jane Teasley Covington, Georgia Laura Marie Thibeault Davie, Florida Walker D. Thomas Atlanta, Georgia Kirby McCall Tyner Commerce, Georgia Mallory A. Wall * Ellaville, Georaia John Pearce Wareham * Canton, Georgia Robert Henry Warren

Sarah Elizabeth Whalen * Savannah, Georaia Thomas B. Whilden Cataula, Georgia Lee Wilkes Stone Mountain, Georgia Sydnie Winter * Auburn, Alabama Clayton Winfield Wright ** Lakeisha Young Powder Springs, Georgia SPECIAL HOODING Allison Lorraine Cartwright David Dozier Macon, Georaia Sam Markle Atlanta, Georaia Charles B. Wheeler Toccoa, Georgia Mark C. Wheeler II McDonough, Georgia BUSINESS **Emily Irvin** Albany, Georgia

JURIS DOCTOR/ MASTER OF **ADMINISTRATION**

Luke Daniel Jackson * Tampa, Florida

Final arades for araduates are not due until June. Dearees and honors will not be determined or become final until all GPAs of students are computed in June. The program reflects those graduating students who, based on grades earned in the first five semesters, are likely to receive honors when final arades are calculated

CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED LEGAL WRITING, RESEARCH AND DRAFTING

The Certificate in Advanced Legal Writing, Research and Drafting is awarded to students who have completed intensive advanced-level writing workshops spanning the final two semesters of law study, as well as advanced training in legal research and drafting.

Olivia Kate Amerson Rebecca Allison Bell Reese G. Blackley Brian J. Boatwright Adelaide Bottomley Ariel Wickman Bozeman Lauren Nicole Brock Virginia Allison

Clermont, Georgia

Kissimmee, Florida

Rosajunely Cartagena Ruiz

Leann Calhoun Nadin Catak Finay Cohen William Andrew Duvall Hannah Elizabeth Frantz Catherine Hare Samantha Harvey Taiah Michelle

La Crosse, Wisconsin

Louisville, Kentucky

Hávwood *

Tajah Michelle Ann

Ann Havwood Reese M. Holloway Carah Elizabeth Jones Ivey Elizabeth Jorgensen Katherine Elizabeth Kazimer Andrew Tyler Kelly

Meagan Lynch

Justin Caleb Martin

Jesup, Georgia

Michaela Michelle Manley Kimberly Anahy Marroquin Montanez Samuel Ian McKenzie Tyler W. Meadows Charlotte Meyer J. B. Milligan Rich Morrison

Elizabeth Smith Nelms Valerie Jane Pallos Aniali Ghanshvam Patel Jasmine Rajanikant Patel Haley Pendleton Jasmine Tanzania Reaves Addison I. Robinson Kaitlyn Renee Rowe

Sydney Elizabeth Schorr Noah Spragle Halev Elizabeth Askey Stafford James Scott Stafford Paul William Stegenga Jr. Molly Anastasia Sullins Ava Jane Teasley

Atlanta. Georgia

Columbus, Georgia

Dawson Welsh **

Dalton, Georgia

Desare Lathea Webb

Mary Lindsey Wessel

Matlin Susanna Westbury

St. Croix, Virain Island:

Kirby McCall Tyner Robert Henry Warren Dawson Welsh Sarah Elizabeth Whalen Charles B. Wheeler Lee Wilkes Lakeisha Young

CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

The Certificate in Public Service is awarded to students who have demonstrated a commitment to public service and have completed pro bono work as well as coursework focused on public service.

Chyna Annastasia Carter Marissa Lyn Deall

Ciré Panache Foston Anna Carr Hanks

Bailey Hotard Kaitlin Danielle Hunter

Emily Manley Cameron Kenneth Obioha

Valerie Jane Pallos Shane Scott Scadden Madison Susanne Schumm Ava Jane Teasley

Walker D. Thomas

ATLANTA COMMENCEMENT

College of Pharmacy
School of Business
College of Education
School of Theology
College of Nursing
College of Professional Advancement
College of Health Professions

ATLANTA COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 10, 2025 | 1 p.m. | Gas South Arena, Duluth

Presiding William David Under	ad
The President of the Uni	
Academic Procession*	lount
O	rganist
Invocation*	
Welcome	ersity
Greetings and Words of Encouragement	
Message from the President	
Conferring of the Degrees	,
College of Pharmacy	Move
Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences Master of Science	i.ioye
Doctor of Pharmacy Doctor of Philosophy	
School of Business	oridge
Bachelor of Business Administration Master of Accountancy Master of Business Administration Master of Science	
College of Education	ılla Jr.
Bachelor of Science in Education Master of Arts in Teaching Master of Education Specialist in Education Doctor of Philosophy	
School of Theology	ch III
School of Theology	ch III
<i>.</i>	
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry	
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé heiser
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé heiser
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé heiser Iquist
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé heiser Iquist Miller
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé heiser lquist Miller tmacy Harle
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé heiser lquist Miller tmacy Harle gement Reader
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé heiser lquist Miller trmacy Harle gement Reader Elkins
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing Dean Tammy Diane Bachelor of Science in Nursing Master of Science in Nursing Doctor of Nursing Practice Doctor of Philosophy College of Professional Advancement Dean Priscilla Ruth Dank Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Science Master of Science Doctor of Philosophy College of Health Professions Dean Lisa Murphey Lunc Master of Medical Science Master of Public Health Doctor of Public Health Doctor of Physical Therapy Doctor of Psychology University Marshal Susan Whitley North Professor of Pharmacy Practice, College of Phar	Barbé heiser lquist Miller umacy Harle gement Reader Elkins Provost
Master of Theological Studies Master of Arts Master of Divinity Doctor of Ministry College of Nursing	Barbé heiser dquist Miller trmacy Harle gement Reader Elkins Provost Appel titatives

^{*} The audience is requested to rise.

^{**} The audience is requested to remain in place until the completion of the academic recession.

THOMAS P. (TOM) BISHOP

Greetings from the Mercer Board of Trustees



Tom Bishop serves as chair of the Mercer University Board of Trustees and is currently in his third five-year term on the board. A Double Bear, Bishop earned his undergraduate degree from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in 1982 and his J.D. from Mercer Law School in 1985. He is retired chief compliance officer and deputy general counsel for Southern Company Services, and for more than 20 years served in senior executive positions with the Southern Company and its subsidiaries, including Georgia Power. He previously served on the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Georgia Corporate Law Section, as a member of the Board of Governors of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, as a member of Gov. Nathan Deal's Judicial Nominating Commission, and currently serves as a trustee of the Georgia Legal History Foundation. He is past

national president of Kappa Sigma Fraternity and currently serves as trustee and chair of the Kappa Sigma Endowment Fund. Bishop has been a member of the Mercer Law School Alumni Board in addition to his service on the University's Board of Trustees. He and his wife, Darla, have a son, Tyler, who also holds undergraduate and law degrees from Mercer, and a daughter, Darian, who has an undergraduate degree from Mercer and is currently enrolled in Mercer's Doctor of Public Health program.

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

Susan Whitley Miller Professor of Pharmacy Practice College of Pharmacy

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Rhonda Leidra Dunson *~ Douglasville, Georgia

Ashlev L. Elander **

Macon, Georgia Malachi Alexander Evans

Decatur, Georgia Lyric Mishae Ferguson Athens, Tennessee

Rachel B. Floyd *~

Athens, Georgia Dwayne Cam Ford

Conyers, Georgia Antonine Georges McDonough, Georgia

Danielle Gravson Atlanta, Georaia

Tina Green

Haiar Haiiara

Woodstock, Georaia Krista Hall Kennesaw. Georaia

Alden Cole Hansen-Elliott

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Hopkinsville, Kentucky Creston Harper

Macon, Georaia

Caitlin Ray Herring Hephzibah, Georgia

Alexis Monique Hill Atlanta, Georgia

Wanda Jean Hill-Sandifer Macon, Georaia

Sarah Antionette Holmes 3

Atlanta, Georgia Meah Hopkins

Alexandria Leigh Hughes

McDonouah, Georaid Matthew Earl Husted Shalimar, Florida

BriAnn Ingram LaFayette, Georgia

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Alicia Koba

Hinesville, Georgia Sade Kumar

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Deileen Leader Jasper, Georgia Britney R. Leshok

McDonouah, Georaia Nevia Jantelle Lucas

Villa Rica, Georgia Cesia Sofia Maldonado

Buford, Georgia Christina Martin

Griffin, Georaia

Robert L. McAfee Jr. Macon, Georgia

Ma'kiwen Jawuan McGarrah

Americus, Georgia Joy LeAnne McGee

Statesboro, Georgia Khaliyah McKenzie

Atlanta, Georgia Jervl Lvnn Miles

Jonesboro, Georgia Hilda Nadia Moundounga

Atlanta, Georgia Victoria Michelle Nolan Milledaeville, Georgia

Charles A. Norris *

Roswell, Georgia Devin O'Neal Warner Robins, Georgia

Sumaya Osman Stone Mountain, Georgia Allissa Keaira Ottman

Macon, Georaia Queen Kiara Pickett Rahway, New Jersey

Amber Tyseti Powell Brooklyn, New York

Mikeisha Nicole Prather Douglasville, Georgia

Damian Prigeon Statesboro, Georaia

Samuel William Provost * Suwanee, Georgia

Katherine Ragan *** Demorest, Georgia

Paula Ramirez Oviedo Durazno, Uruauav

Daneane Maria Robinson Chicago, Illinois

Rebecca Robinson Hawkinsville, Georgia

Timiria Robinson * Americus, Georaia Lvth Roman

Cumming, Georgia Stephanie Rozier-Brown

Atlanta, Georaia Ladii Akil Ruffin **

Dacula, Georgia Dana Ann Ruiz

Dalton, Georgia Luce Kerene Saint Louis Austell, Georgia

Tamia Sammons Atlanta, Georaia

Nicholas Anthony Scafidi Peachtree City, Georgia

John Morrison Shuman El Cajon, California

Michael David Siebert II Senoia, Georgia Taylor Smith

Stockbridge, Georgia Julien J. Stewart Atlanta, Georgia

Nyeema Jalika Stokes Fort Valley, Georgia Avigail Azrielle Taev

Irwinton, Georgia Amanda Taylor Atlanta, Georaia

Andrewanna Ahalana Juantea Taylor

Waycross, Georgia Rickey Lynn Thomas Smvrna, Georaia

LaTisha L. Uzzell

Atlanta, Georgia Katherine Waterhouse **~

Covington, Georaia Tia Ronjerica White Doualasville, Georaid

Cianne M. Whitehead Atlanta, Georgia

Kenyatta Marie Whitten Snellville, Georgia

Jeffrey Brock Yeates Atlanta, Georgia

Johnny Mack York * Summerville, Georgia

Brittany Young * Macon, Georgia Katelyn Ann Young ***~

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Tamia Kimani Adams Cutler Bay, Florida

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Jackson, Georgia Akira Nzinga Allen Warner Robins, Georgia

Ylonda Renee Wilson Alston ~ Columbus Ohio

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Lizette Arias Douglasville, Georgia

Deltra Renae Arroyo

Griffin, Georgia Jaytlin Askew

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Avery Ryan Bracken Peachtree City, Georgia Nicholas Brown

Defiance, Georgia Jenny Lou Browning ~

Raven Burton

Atlanta, Georgia Monica Cheniqua Burton-Ritchie

Greenwood, South Carolina Rachel Ross Byrd

Macon, Georaia Jessica Anne Catchpole

Thomas Alton Cox IV McDonouah, Georaia

Makare' Nzinga Craig Atlanta, Georgia Chanel Lynn Davenport

Keanna S. Davis Macon, Georgia

Atlanta, Georgia

Melis Demir Alpharetta, Georgia Khaleedah Dickerson

Jonesboro, Georgia Marie Christine Ducev Savannah, Georgia

Destiny Andrea Durant Jersey City, New Jersey Bianca Lemuriel Easley

Adairsville, Georgia Jakori M. Edwards-Dixon

Oakfield, Georgia

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Ayodelemi Temidire Ekundayo *Middletown, Delaware* Joshua Fernandes *Dacula, Georgia* Naomi Fervil

Ocean Township, New Jersey Yisela Yaneth Flores Herrera Lilburn, Georgia

Rachelle Marie Francois Suwanee, Georgia

Precious Futch

Memphis, Tennessee Fabrisia Santana Gamble

Suwanee, Georgia
Randine Garvev

Lithonia, Georgia Savasia Imani Gladden

Stone Mountain, Georgia
Corey Glaze

Atlanta, Georgia

Casey Anne Graham
Boone, North Carolina

Caroline Elizabeth Gregory Snellville, Georgia

Startisha Jean Gresham

Decatur, Georgia
Rekina Lynnette Hall

Atlanta, Georgia
Kelli Renee Haxel ~

Roswell, Georgia Keltranecus De'lashay Henderson

Augusta, Georgia
Joseph Poindexter Hewes
Atlanta. Georgia

Crystale Yvonne Hightower Conyers, Georgia Shannon D. Hill Suwanee, Georgia Virginia Gail Hines-Thomas

Atlanta, Georgia Madison Elizabeth Holliday Bonaire, Georgia

Melinda Horton ~
Buford, Georgia

Kimberlea Dawn Howell Bremen, Georgia

Rida Sahar Hussain Lawrenceville, Georgia

Dzhuliya Ivaylova Ignatova ~ Chamblee, Georgia

Arden James Atlanta, Georgia

Aeeril C. Johnson Macon, Georgia

Candace Lynne Johnson Atlanta, Georgia

Jalen Ja'Vaughn Johnson Albany, Georgia

Jennifer Franklin Johnson Atlanta, Georgia

Khyale L. Johnson Bronx, New York

Preston Wade Joye Valdosta, Georgia

Andrew Jung Atlanta, Georgia

Sumaiya Kaleem Lithia Springs, Georgia John Mitchell Keim Dunwoody, Georgia

Kaylah-Ryan Keitt Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Mi Y. Kim Seoul, South Korea

Monica H. Kocher Ashburn, Georgia

Hannah Kraar Atlanta, Georgia

Marcuse Jennifer Lamothe-Williams McDonough, Georgia

Ryan Avery Langston Augusta, Georgia Loren Filson Lapidus

Atlanta, Georgia Kyra Monchél Lawson

New Orleans, Louisiana

Malaysia Lewis Hot Springs, Arkansas Andretta Pearl Ligé

Ellenwood, Georgia

Justin Taylor Lillis

Alpharetta, Georgia

Skyra Pearl Loche
Atlanta, Georgia

Mya Denise Long Atlanta, Georgia

Cassie Tamia Dacia Lundy Macon, Georgia

Jocelyn Monique Mayes-Smith Atlanta, Georgia

Brooke Burgess McAfee Atlanta, Georgia

Antoinette McCall Detroit, Michigan

Darah McCloud Wheatley Heights, New York John Kenneth McCord

Maryville, Tennessee LaTosma Sheron McGhee Griffin. Georaia Xitlalitl Mejia Hidalgo, Mexico

Meredith Ann Renfroe Metscher Montgomery, Alabama

Rodina Micourt Apopka, Florida

Karen Mitchell McDonough, Georgia

Mya Alexandria Morgan *Atlanta, Georgia* Olivia Victoria Morris

Kathleen, Georgia
Shervarius A. Morris

Covington, Georgia Katie Rose Mulazzi Decatur. Illinois

Kimani A. Mullings Hampton, Georgia

Mercy Mwendwa Muthee Kennesaw, Georgia

Windy F. Nelson Smyrna, Georgia Tee Howell Ogletree

Carrollton, Georgia Chika David Ohaya

McDonough, Georgia

Destiny E. Okonkwo
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Precious Nkechi Okoro Nashville, Tennessee

Michelle Okoye Jonesboro, Georgia

Darice Alexis Oppong Cumming, Georgia

Vishwa V. Patel Warner Robins, Georgia

Kimberly Megan Mimbs Pendragon ~ Lawrenceville, Georgia Erica Sarah Prante

Marbella Profaci Woodstock, Georgia

Iman Ava Pvel Warner Robins, Georgia Ashley Nicole Rachel ~

Conley, Georgia

Arshdeep Singh Rathor
Atlanta. Georgia

Ellen Claire Reilly Brookhaven, Georgia

Nicole Hope Reynolds Kennesaw, Georgia

Megan Marie Rigas Canton, Georgia

Ansley Lane Rosamilia Marietta, Georgia

Camille Marie Roty
Woodstock, Georgia

Syr' Victor Shaveyl Rozier Cochran, Georgia

Chantel Dominique Scoville ~ Irmo, South Carolina

Baylee Rain Sexton Gainesville, Georgia

Danielle Nicholle Shook Milton, Georgia Julian Silva

Alpharetta, Georgia Utopia Monique Simpson Phenix City, Alabama

Rendell Omar Sion-Johnson *Columbia, South Carolina*

Ryan Lane Sokolowski ~ Atlanta, Georgia

Naomi Liz Soto Pérez Marietta, Georaia Jamillah Deniece Stewart Snellville, Georgia

Oluwaseun Subulade Marietta, Georgia

Courtney Alonte Suggs St. Louis, Missouri Jarah Rachel Tavarez Torres Norcross, Georgia

Morgan Janiece Taylor Lawrenceville, Georgia

Keith Allen Tepera Atlanta, Georgia

Alexander William Thomson Dallas, Georgia

Elise Marie Tranovich Athens, Georgia

Melania Lashae Tucker Byron, Georgia

Asia M. Turner Cedartown, Georgia Gabrielle Elizabeth Usalis

Auburn, Pennsylvania Mary Taylor Viker Canton, Georgia

Garren Maurice Walker Monroe, Georgia

Shelby Brooke Walvoord Lawrenceville, Georgia Jaquet Ralphel Watkins Millen. Georgia

Connie Wei Duluth, Georgia

Holland Grace Wiersma Blythe, Georgia

Joshua Robert William Powder Springs, Georgia

Deja Williams Long Beach, California Tyliahia Williams Waynesboro, Georgia

Jalen Devon Wilson McDonough, Georgia

Jazmyn Rene Wood Grayson, Georgia Taylor Wright

East Point, Georgia

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Hibbah Ailya Agha Hasham Roswell, Georgia

Cindy Balsam Stockbridge, Georgia

Jenifer Nicole Beckman

Shakenya Catrice Burch Birmingham, Alabama

Brentia Jade Caldwell
Colorado Sprinas, Colorado

Joshua Dale Gebhardt Douglasville, Georgia

Jesyca Zoe Huggins Lyle Marietta, Georgia Toni F. Monroe

Atlanta, Georgia
Raven Alece Scott

Stevenson, Alabama

Michelle Sayers Shlafman Alpharetta, Georgia Dontay C. Williams Philadelphia. Pennsylvania

College of Health Professions

MASTER OF MEDICAL

SCIENCE
Allison Paige Barfield
Lilburn, Georgia

Savannah Leigh Barr Grayson, Georgia

Julianne Rebecca Blackburn Burlington, North Carolina

Kirsten Lynne Boss Tulsa, Oklahoma Isaiah Antonio Boyd

McDonough, Georgia

Lilliana Kathleen Boyd
Cummina, Georgia

Graham Grace Bryant Suwanee, Georgia

Temecula, California

Clarence Worth Calhoun IV

Chris Marl Maghinang Capili Ocala, Florida

Emma Grace Carroll Alpharetta, Georgia Anastasiya Yuryevna

Chekerenda Braselton, Georgia Abigail L. Cottrell

Marietta, Georgia
Emily Marie Covington
Cobb

Waynesville, North Carolina Priyanka Dave Chicago, Illinois

Victoria MiLayne Deeson Cochran, Georgia

Mara S. DeTrani

Great Falls, Virginia

Mary Katherine Fennelly

Brookhaven, Georgia

Samantha Forestier Flournoy Malden, Massachusetts

Josie Nicole Francis Villa Rica, Georgia Ally Nicole Freeman

Pittsboro, North Carolina Mitchell John Gajar Ann Arbor, Michigan

Leah Levene Gerendash Atlanta, Georgia

Riley Marie Gillis Tampa, Florida Ivan Dmitrievich Glotov

Auburn, Alabama Thomas Jayce Hardy Metter, Georgia

Eliza Grace Harris

Cleveland, Georgia Emily Marie Haugen Cumming, Georgia Amanda Hok Palm Coast, Florida

Anisha Lakshmi Jayachandran

Duluth, Georgia
Bridgette Ann Jones
Rome, Georgia

Sydney Alyssa Kayler Roswell, Georgia

Jason Donghwan Kim Los Angeles, California Megan Elizabeth Klinck Raleigh, North Carolina

Kristin Ara Ko Chantilly, Virginia Lillian Kendall Kulik

Jacksonville, Florida

YuHsuan Kung Snellville, Georgia Brandon T. Lai Lawrenceville, Georgia Elizabeth Josephine Lau Brooklyn, New York Emily Catherine Leonard

Atlanta, Georgia

Summer Lynn Lindsey
Lula. Georgia

Daniel John Loyke Solon, Ohio Rachael Noelle Maxwell

Jefferson, Georgia Maraya Josette Maynor Silver Spring, Maryland Hannah M. Moulton

Siddhika Nair Montgomery, Illinois Thao My Ngo Woodstock. Georgia

Emily Rose O'Brien

Atlanta, Georgia

Amari Junaé Oliver Savannah, Georgia Hunter Bryne Ottinger Chattanooga, Tennessee

Morgan Elise Palasti Oldsmar, Florida Lance Tyler Parks

Perry, Georgia
Roma Darsit Patel
Washington Court House, Ohio

Caroline Cellon Pridgen LaCrosse, Florida Ansley Rose Rogale St. Petersbura, Florida

Emma Nichole Romigh McDonough, Georgia Alec Garston Scott Kennesaw. Georaia

Kaylee Marie Sexton Marietta, Georgia Megan Beth Simon Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Kara E. Slaughter Cumming, Georgia

Madison Anne Smeeton Dunwoody, Georgia Joli Allyssa Smith Stone Mountain, Georgia

Samantha Elizabeth Smith Alpharetta, Georgia Brittany Marie Stento

Canton, Georgia

Lydia McGinnis Sundy

Alpharetta, Georgia Alexandria I. Swanson Sandy Springs, Georgia Roslyn May Talbert

Pequea, Pennsylvania
Continued —

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College OF HEALTH **PROFESSIONS**

Continued

Sophia Audrey Touchstone Newnan, Georgia

Ryan C. Wadkins ~ Snellville, Georgia

Hannah Lee Wheeler Atlanta, Georgia

Katherine Caroline Winchester Birmingham, Alabama

Jessica Tejada Wright Alpharetta, Georgia

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Oreoluwa Mabel Aladetoyinbo Atlanta, Georgia

Jacqueline M. Anglin ~ Acworth. Georgia

Sandhya Banishetty ~ Tucker, Georgia

Toni S. Barber Convers, Georgia

Tatiahna Aeriel Belton Ridgeway, South Carolina

Stevie-Anne M. Bertram Miami, Florida

Zachary Markham Bremmer Atlanta, Georaia

Yoshina Colbert-Bradford Atlanta, Georgia

Sara Usman Gandhi Duluth Georgia Kamaria N. Glover

Temple, Georgia Cecilia Franchelle Anne

Hicks Atlanta, Georgia

Kendall R. Johnson ~ Newnan, Georgia

Meridith Sade Johnson Dallas Georgia

Temilola Nathan Luwoye Fall River, Massachusetts John Taimu Mammie

Freetown, Sierra Leone Ciara M. Martin

Brooklyn, New York Kimberly L. McCargo

Mullica Hill, New Jersey Emily Ogbodo

Lawrenceville, Georgia Gloria-Elizabeth Abiodun

Oaionwo Atlanta, Georgia Erin Whitney Ratliff

Bowie, Maryland Covea H. Robertson Macon, Georgia

Nyshanti K. Ross Pearson, Georgia

Namesa Lorna Sesav Stockbridge, Georgia Gabriela Xochitl Soliz ~ Edinburg, Texas

Alexandria Gaybrill Steinhauer Jackson, Georaia

Brianna Jenae Watkins St Louis Missouri

Jarrod R. Wilkinson Polson, Montana

DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Sophiat Ayantunji Adegbola ~ Lagos, Nigeria

Bryant Darrille Bailey ~ Suffolk, Virginia

Idalis K. Bovd Jonesboro, Georgia

Toni Sage Carson ~ Lawrenceville, Georgia Yessenia Patricia Castillo

Zelaya ∼ St. Cloud. Florida

Co'Dale Cook Marin City, California Samantha Lindsey Correll-Soler ~

Oceanside, California Brian Patrick Emerson Tucker, Georgia

Monique A. Fairclough-Drake Brooklyn, New York

Lori B. Garibay-Aquino Kensington, Maryland Robert Antonio Gomez ~

Anaheim, California Joy Knight Harris

Perry, Georgia Samia A. Hussein ~ Windsor Locks, Connecticut Jana M. James ~ Christiansted, Virain Islands Jasmine J. Joiner ~

Pensacola, Florida Janesa April Licorish

Virainia Beach, Virainia Kailee Simone Marion East Dublin, Georgia

Fardowsa Y. Nor ~ Buffalo, New York

Justina Adwoa Omari Atlanta, Georgia Tori Armand Ponson ~

Austin, Texas Sonita C. Simelus ~ Columbia, Missouri

Daekiara Tene' Smith-Ireland Pasadena, Maryland

Jacqueline Witt Stotts Newnan, Georgia

Christine Lam Vo Houston, Texas

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Moyinoluwa Oluwatoyosi Adésinasi Nashville, Tennessee

Elizabeth Drew Boyett (raven Albany, Georgia

Caroline Elaine Chapman Canton, Georgia

Jackie Ann Coates Savannah, Georgia

Kelsey Brayden Davis Griffin, Georgia

Jay Anthony DiBacco Strasburg, Ohio

Sarah Elizabeth Gunter Doss Marietta, Georaia

Sarah K. Duff Bel Air, Maryland

Victoria Joy Giol Jupiter, Florida

Kennedy Clair Hardemion Los Angeles, California

Lynn Marie Hemera Atlanta, Georgia

Alexandra Noel Houser St. Simons Island, Georgia

Ava Carole Jakel Clermont, Georgia

Daniel Adam Kasper Long Island, New York

Eliot D. Kim Buford, Georgia

Mackenzie L. Koon Midland, Georgia

Colin Christopher Lambert Birmingham, Alabama Katlyn Bolden LeBlanc

Carrollton, Georgia Chloe Leiby Lithia Florida

Taylor Augusta McDermott Franklin, Tennessee

Micah Lee Mesecher Sylvania, Georgia

Steven Anthony Messer Gainesville, Georgia

Rachel Ann Nichols Johns Creek, Georgia

Kavla O'Connor Peachtree Corners, Georgia

Vinita Patel Darien, Georgia

Jake Harris Peliovich Johns Creek, Georgia

Hunter William Railey Dothan, Alabama

Walid Muhammad Sabha West Bend, Wisconsin

Najda Sahovic Kennesaw, Georgia

Luke Schrader Valnaraiso Indiana

Elizabeth Day Stone Columbus, Georgia

Leo P. Swanger Cummina, Georgia

Jordon Edward Wales Bethlehem, Georgia

Vincent Louis Watkins Marietta, Georgia

Sydney B. Widenhouse Matthews, North Carolina

Beniamin David Wynn Tallahassee, Florida

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Lake lackson. Texas

Sarah Grace Dowda Tvrone, Georgia

Jakobi Marquette Felton Houston, Texas

Taylor Ashton Figueredo Martinsbrug, West Virginia Aaliyah Shantelle Green

Chicago, Illinois Jessica Parvin Harvey

St. Louis, Missouri Victoria Laurén Hatchett

Savannah, Georgia Madeleine Ann Kloess

Marietta, Georaia

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Atlanta, Georgia Jeremiah Vrudny Fayetteville, Georgia

Participation in the graduation ceremony does not necessarily represent conferral of the degree. Degrees are awarded at the end of the term in which all requirements are met. Honors printed in the program and announced at the commencement ceremony are based on grades earned at the time of program publication and may not reflect final honors.

MACON COMMENCEMENT

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

School of Business

School of Engineering

College of Education

College of Professional Advancement

School of Music

College of Health Professions

MACON COMMENCEMENT

Monday, May 12, 2025 | 8 a.m. | Five Star Stadium, Macon Campus

Presiding	
Academic Procession*	
Invocation*	-
iiivocatioii	Minister of the University and Dean of Chapel
Welcome	
Greetings and Words of Encouragement	
	Mercer University Board of Trustees
Special Music	le Medley Arranged by River Sawchyn and Moa Glimberg casons by Oliver Schroer and Hoedown by Aaron Copland
	Moa Glimberg, double bass Class of 2025
	River Sawchyn, violin Class of 2025
Introduction of the Speaker	•
•	Executive Vice President and Interim Provost
Message to the Graduates	9 ,
•	ss Administration, Finance and Accounting Majors, Class of 2025
University Honors	•
Student Awards	Vice President and Dean of Students
Conferring of the Degrees	
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	-
Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Science Bachelor	
School of Business	•
Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Business Administration School of Engineering	•
School of Engineering	•
College of Education	
Bachelor of Science in Education Master of Arts in	
College of Professional Advancement	3.
Bachelor of Arts Bachelor o	
School of Music	,
Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Music Bachelor of Mi	
College of Health Professions	• /
Bachelor of Science Master of Atl	
Presentation of Graduates	Edward J. Weintraut uages and Literatures, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Reader
Alumni Welcome	Senior Vice President for University Advancement
Alma Mater*	
Benediction*	
Academic Recession*	
Academic Recession:	verai s Aiaa: Grana March

^{*} Please stand. The platform party, faculty and students will process and recess.

THOMAS P. (TOM) BISHOP

Greetings from the Mercer Board of Trustees



Tom Bishop serves as chair of the Mercer University Board of Trustees and is currently in his third five-year term on the board. A Double Bear, Bishop earned his undergraduate degree from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in 1982 and his J.D. from Mercer Law School in 1985. He is retired chief compliance officer and deputy general counsel for Southern Company Services, and for more than 20 years served in senior executive positions with the Southern Company and its subsidiaries, including Georgia Power. He previously served on the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Georgia Corporate Law Section, as a member of the Board of Governors of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, as a member of Gov. Nathan Deal's Judicial Nominating Commission, and currently serves as a trustee of the Georgia Legal History Foundation. He is past

national president of Kappa Sigma Fraternity and currently serves as trustee and chair of the Kappa Sigma Endowment Fund. Bishop has been a member of the Mercer Law School Alumni Board in addition to his service on the University's Board of Trustees. He and his wife, Darla, have a son, Tyler, who also holds undergraduate and law degrees from Mercer, and a daughter, Darian, who has an undergraduate degree from Mercer and is currently enrolled in Mercer's Doctor of Public Health program.

SHANNON DOUGHERTY

Student Commencement Speaker



Shannon Dougherty's journey to college began with an impressive feat — she was accepted into 19 undergraduate business programs nationwide. Yet, her decision was clear the moment she stepped onto Mercer's campus for a tour. During her visit, she immediately connected with "the joy of the students, staff and faculty," a warmth and energy she found lacking at other institutions. She eagerly accepted Mercer's offer, knowing she had found the right place to thrive.

A prestigious Stamps Scholar, Dougherty has been an active leader within Mercer's business community. She has served on the Mercer Business School Student Advisory Board and held the role of chief financial officer for the Student Managed Investment Fund Executive Board, overseeing a \$1 million endowment.

Dougherty, a double-major in finance and accounting with a minor in economics, credits School of Business Dean Dr. Julie Petherbridge with igniting her passion for making a difference through her Mercer experiences. "Changing the world" became more than just an aspiration but a guiding principle to her. She participated in Mercer On Mission programs in Rwanda and South Korea, where she and her peers embodied Mercer's philosophy of serving others while gaining invaluable international insights.

After graduation, Dougherty is set to join Bank of America's headquarters in Charlotte, North Carolina, as part of the Financial Management Analyst Program. With a steadfast commitment to professional growth, she plans to earn her CPA licensure within two years.

ZELMA REDDING

Doctor of Humanities



Zelma Redding is the Founder and President of the Otis Redding Foundation. Established in 2007 in honor of her late husband Otis Redding Jr. (known as the "King of Soul"), the Foundation continues the couple's shared dedication to philanthropy and empowering the lives of young people by championing education and creating learning opportunities in music and the arts. After Otis Redding's passing in 1967, as a young mother raising three small children, Zelma Redding set to earning her high school equivalency degree, enrolled in business classes, worked at a booking agency owned by her husband's former manager Phil Walden, and mastered the music business. She eventually opened her own booking agency and multiple businesses. She is also head of the Estate of Otis Redding, continuing to manage the family legacy, including his

music catalog and image, through Big O Holdings LLC. Zelma Redding continued awarding scholarships to students and supporting other educational initiatives as Otis Redding did in the '60s prior to his passing. The Foundation has continued the family's legacy of offering music and art camps to thousands of children in Macon and Middle Georgia. Many of those students have gone on to become successful musicians, including Macon native Roderick Cox, who today is an internationally renowned conductor. In March 2025, Zelma Redding and her family opened the Otis Redding Center for the Arts in Macon, which achieved a long-held dream she and her husband had. A 15,000-square-foot, stateof-the-art facility, the Center serves as a hub for the community and the Foundation's programs and includes the Zelma Redding Amphitheater. Serving young people ages 5-18, the curricula cover the creative and business sides of music and entertainment, including content creation, performing, entertainment law, engineering, graphic design and touring. Programs for toddlers and senior citizens will be announced later this year.

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

Kedrick Hartfield Professor College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

BANNER BEARERS

FACULTY MARSHALS

Nannette Turner Executive Associate Dean/Professor

College of Health Professions

Chinekwu Obidoa	Vicki Luther	Mary Kot	Sybil Martin
Associate Professor	<i>Professor</i>	<i>Professor</i>	<i>Professor</i>
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	College of Education	College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	College of Education
Ali Tolooie	Hollis Phelps	William Carty Assistant Professor School of Business	Fred Bongiovanni
Assistant Professor	Associate Professor		<i>Professor</i>
School of Business	College of Professional Advancement		College of Professional Advancement
Alireza Sarvestani	Marcus Reddick	Ramachandran Radharamanan	Martha Malone
Associate Professor	Associate Professor	<i>Professor</i>	Professor/Director of Opera
School of Engineering	School of Music	School of Engineering	School of Music

Mary Mathis Associate Professor/Director, BSPH Program College of Health Professions

STUDENT MARSHALS

Dalton Loyd Student Government President Class of 2025

Zoe Grace Smith Student Government Vice President Class of 2025

University Organist

Jack Mitchener Professor/Chair of Keyboard Studies/Director Townsend-McAfee Institute for Church Music

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College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Emma Kathryn Allen Favetteville, Georgia

Stephanie Alexandra Amendola ***† Peachtree City, Georgia

Ashley Adiba Nwanyife Ekwutosi Amene Lawrenceville, Georgia

Caitlann Alexandra Arant ** Carrollton, Georgia

Christen Elizabeth Carrollton, Georgia

Jina Athakhanh * Duluth, Georgia

Nadirah Oyinlola Atolagbe Mableton, Georgia

Sophia Jacquelyn Avers * Interlaken, New Jersey

Chase Daniel Baker *** Lawrenceville, Georgia

Alora Annalee Barasoain Rome, Georaia

Maria Dolores Bautista Santiago Jackson, Georgia

Lindsay Ann Bell Marietta, Georgia

Jaidan Ann Hammond Bergeron * Goffstown, New Hampshire

Jordyn Bibby Woodstock, Georgia

Joshua Mark Bishop Warner Robins, Georgia

Ella Grace Bissonnette *** Suwanee, Georgia

Emma Grace Bjornstad Helena, Alabama

Katie Bloodworth Newnan Georgia

Gracen Faye Bohling ***

Acworth, Georgia

Isabella Ann Bordenca *~® Dunwoody, Georgia

Keridah Marie Bouadou ***† Roswell, Georgia

Jackson Wesley Bramlett Athens, Georgia

Ashleigh Elizabeth Brooks ***† Warner Robins, Georgia

Jadelyn E. Brown Acworth Georgia

Ella Brumbelow ** Rome, Georgia

Skyler Grace Bumpers * Mobile, Alabama

Elaine Rose Cordoto Busby Brunswick, Georaia

Terry Busse *** Valparaiso, Indiana

Bailev Leonor Byrdsong ***~ Ruford Georgia

Phoebe Cara Isabella Caldwell ***†~® Macon, Georgia

Reema Chande *** †~⁰ Sugar Hill, Georgia

Denerica Eriel Chappell Hahira, Georgia

Chrishawn Nicole Chappelle Tifton, Georaia

Evangeline Amarachukwu Chidi-Maha **~⁰ Lawrenceville, Georgia

Tatiana Frances Cobos **~ Smyrna, Georgia

Mary Mauldin Collins ** Tifton, Georgia

Tara Marie Cornelius * Brandon, Florida

Scott Douglas Dahlberg Dacula, Georaia

Emma Charlotte Davis *~0 Valdosta, Georgia

Jorden Tyree Davis * Thomaston, Georgia

Haleigh Nicole Dearden *** Hamilton, Georgia

Jalen Christopher Dedeaux Atlanta, Georgia

Dale Spencer Degonia ***~0 Waverly Hall, Georgia

Madison Grace Delius ** McDonough, Georgia

Ziled Michelle Deliz-Soto Griffin, Georgia

Statesboro, Georgia Nahawa Diarra Berthe

Mataró, Barcelona, Spain William Christopher

Dietrich ** Eatonton, Georgia

Jordan Kennedy Dixon Gray, Georgia

Hannah Dong * Calhoun, Georgia William Parker

Dragoin *~ Americus Georgia Brayden Xavier Dudley Buford, Georgia

April Elizabeth Duffey *** Hoschton, Georgia

Emily Grace Earwood Eatonton, Georgia

Nathan Coy Eberhardt * Centerville, Georgia

Allison Elizabeth Edwards Gainesville, Florida

Skye Ekes Sarasota, Florida

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Lindsay Ann Murray ** Savannah, Georgia

Bercy-Dylan Ngeyo Musonera *Grayson, Georgia*

Peyton Ezra Nash ***†~ Canton, Georgia Frank Neeley IV

Braselton, Georgia

Mylan Ngoc Nguyen **
Tucker, Georgia

Christian Van Nipper *** Covington, Georgia Jay Nipper ** Social Circle, Georgia

Duncan Christopher Noel Kennesaw, Georgia

Michael James Norenberg *** Orlando, Florida

Kemdinum Tyra Oluku ***

Dallas, Georgia

Quyen Hue Ong * Gainesville, Georgia

Meshwa Amishkumar Patel ** *McDonough, Georgia*

Priya Mayur Patel **
Savannah, Georgia

Alexander Thomas MacDonald Patrick ***†

Slater Scott Payne Toccoa, Georgia

Scott Bolman Pfahl II *
Newnan, Georgia
Allen Seyla Phlonq **

Suwanee, Georgia

Jonathan Boone Price ***

Temple, Georgia

Hammad Afzal Quddus ***

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Alexa A. Rasmussen *
Warner Robins, Georgia

Zachary Micah Rehg ***†~

Greenville, South Carolina
Savannah Danielle Richie †

Carrollton, Georgia

Courtney Brianna Ross
Warner Robins, Georgia

Warner Robins, Georgia
Parker Christian Ross

Byron, Georgia Kendra Damaris Santillan

Hernandez
Fairburn, Georgia
Aaron David

Schneider ***†
Suwanee, Georgia

Matthew Schwieg Cumming, Georgia

Joshua Seepersaud Macon, Georgia

Sanjana Sharma Canton, Georgia

Evan Christine Silva ***

Greer, South Carolina

Bailey Brianna Sims **
Locust Grove, Georgia

Oladipo Sonuga Lawrenceville, Georgia

Rukiyat Temitope Thompson Dallas, Georgia Garrett Franklin Tobin *

Winder, Georgia

William Pace Tomlinson **
Leesburg, Georgia

Ryan David Walters *

Robert Alexander Weinstein * Orlando, Florida

Marianne Grace Welzyn *
Huntsville, Alabama

Alex Weng * Suwanee, Georgia

Ronald White III ** Rex, Georgia

Travis Paul White Jr. ***† Lizella, Georgia

Alyssa Yang Peachtree City, Georgia

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Gregory Allen Baugher Douglasville, Georgia

Benjamin T. Jackson Biloxi, Mississippi

Jennifer Jackson Centerville, Georgia

Rickey Matthews King II Warner Robins, Georgia Yiming Li

Duluth, Georgia
Abigail Anne McDowell

Warner Robins, Georgia
Lauren Denise Milner
Alpharetta, Georgia
Samuel Oliver Jr. ~

Richland, Georgia
Tyrell Owens

Perry, Georgia

Jeremiah J. Pulliam

Birmingham, Alabama

Victor Putter Centurion, South Africa

Tanner Forrest Scott Gordon, Georgia

Eden Sophie Schlagenhauf ~ Nürtingen, Germany Andrew Triplett

Favetteville, Georgia

Master of Science in Engineering

Edward Riley Adcock Dacula, Georgia

Drake Alexander Altman Acworth, Georgia

Nathan Bronce Anderson Dacula, Georgia Justice Bass

Grayson, Georgia

Alyssa Mae Bonifacio

Warner Robins, Georgia

Nicholas Matthew Cleveland Bradley Richmond Hill, Georgia

Westley T. Bridges Milledgeville, Georgia

Jasmine Shawn Briola Seattle, Washington Tristan Boyd Brown

Sylvester, Georgia

Cameron Yarbrough

Lyons, Georgia
Emanuel William Cheng
North Myrtle Beach, South
Carolina

Ethan Hyunsuk Choi Macon, Georgia

Christofer James Clisham Jr. Peachtree City. Georaia

Alexandra Ivette Comportie
Warner Robins, Georgia

Caleb John Cook Valdosta, Georgia

Aeryn Danielle Cronin Hahira, Georgia Garrett Alexander

Bainbridge, Georgia
Alexis Brianna Evans

Orlando, Florida Jada Farrell

Donalson ~

Evans, Georgia
Barry A. Fraser III

Powder Springs, Georgia

Malik Dontrell Freeman

Albany, Georgia

Marcellus Emile Gaudet Stone Mountain, Georgia

Carson Raymond Griffin Calhoun, Georgia

Naresh Guda Atlanta, Georgia Savanna Harter

Warner Robins, Georgia Kaitlin Ashley Henderson Warner Robins, Georgia

Michael Jacob Higdon Macon, Georgia Abby Hirtle

Brockton, Massachusetts Colten Trace Holley Kathleen, Georgia Walker Rhett Holley

Kathleen, Georgia Blake Kazuma Ito Snellville, Georgia

Dallas, Georgia

Alan Timmons Johansen Macon, Georgia Fatoumata Diarraye Keita

Andrew Patrick Kelly Macon, Georgia Korthaniel Wesley Knighton

Covinaton, Georaia

Jacob Tyler Kovarovic Perry, Georgia

Joshua Little Macon, Georaia

Jacob Daniel Marcella Perry, Georgia

Hunter Keith McDaniel McDonough, Georgia

Christian J. McGrath Sugar Hill. Georgia

Payton Jeffrey McGraw ~ Cumming, Georgia

Peyton Elijah Mcneill Newark, Delaware

Beauponte Pouky Mezonlin Kathleen, Georgia

Anna Fe Marie Miller Carrollton, Georgia Evan Jacob Mullvain

McDonough, Georgia

Joshua Michael Murray
Warner Robins, Georgia

Tai-Viet Ly Nguyen Warner Robins, Georgia Trish Thuy Trinh Nguyen

Kathleen, Georgia
Michael Thomas Nierodzik

Clermont, Georgia
Michael Grant O'Neal
Doualas, Georgia

Erin Faith Parker
Eastman, Georgia

Harsh P. Patel Warner Robins, Georgia Garrett Arthur Pearson

Macon, Georgia

Bryan Ramirez ~

North Providence, Rhode Island

Joshua Robert Samosuk Westminster, Maryland Joel Anthony Seepersaud

Macon, Georgia
Ramon K. Shubert
Fwa Beach, Hawaii

James Thurlow Simmons Kennesaw, Georgia

David Stafford

Grovetown, Georgia
Charles James "C.J." Stubbs

Lawrenceville, Georgia Christine Ta Atlanta, Georgia Konner David Toth

Macon, Georgia
Sebastian Jarrett Turner
Hot Springs, Arkansas

Tyler James Watson Grovetown, Georgia Tanner Justin Whitford

Warner Robins, Georgia
Michael Young
Lawrenceville, Georgia

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*Cum Laude | ** Magna Cum Laude | *** Summa Cum Laude | † University Honors | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society | ® Phi Beta Kappa

College of Education

Ronald Jerome Lee

Miami, Florida

Shanita Little

Macon, Georgia

A'Mya D. Lyons

Forsyth, Georgia

Macon, Georgia

Atlanta, Georgia

Jamieson Mason

Columbus, Georgia

Terry McMullen

Snellville, Georgia

Montezuma, Georaia

Jonesboro, Georgia

Brandon Miller

Greenshoro, Georgia

Kanaan H. Mills

Covington, Georgia

Arlene Moumeni-

Snellville, Georgia

Alacia A. Murray

William L. North

Ernestine M. O'Neal

Janice Denise O'Neal ~

Griffin Georgia

Dublin, Georgia

Atlanta, Georgia

Jay Patel ~

Lilburn, Georgia

Naounou

Sandy Washington Melvin

Cynthia Walker Middleton

Zianah Melissa Marshall

Alexis Desiree' Mason

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN **EDUCATION**

Lana Katherine Aromatorio * Perry, Georgia

Rebecca Nicole Arp Forsyth, Georgia

Devon Xavier Barnes Macon, Georgia

Avery Paige Baskin *** Jacksonville, Florida

Taylor Dior Bradford Dublin, Georgia

Regina Luccille Cornelius Macon, Georgia

Emma Caroline Drury * Bluffton, South Carolina

Hannah Christine Gray *** Marietta, Georgia

Amber LaShae Green Macon, Georgia

Mary Kathryn Hampton Gordon, Georgia

Victoria Leigh Kershaw *** Woodstock, Georgia

Kaitlyn Allyse Kirk *** Byron, Georgia

Tia Ruth Middleton Lawrenceville, Georgia

Morgan Joy Parker *** Eastman, Georgia

Nykia D. Rountree Macon, Georaia

Aundrea N. Sanders Macon, Georgia

Zachary Connor Santee ** Buford, Georgia

Nekia Nicole Taylor ~ Xenia Ohio

Alexandra Louise Thorne Atlanta, Georgia

Jenna Noelle Utt ***† Peachtree City, Georgia

Meagan JeRise Walker Macon, Georgia

Ashlev Marie Williams *** Monroe, Georgia

MASTER OF ARTS IN **TEACHING**

Ariana L. Albritten Albany, Georgia

Tyanna Mekelle Askew Dublin, Georgia

Jesulayomi Emmanuel Awoyeye Macon, Georgia

Kory Shawn Baggarley Brunswick, Georgia

Michael Barriteau Brooklyn, New York

Robert Lee Bell IV Revnolds, Georaia

Daria Brady ~ Lawrenceville, Georgia

Jerome Brezial Jr. Macon, Georgia

Marcus Bridges Plains, Georgia

Crystal Brooks Hinesville, Georgia

Sharde' Bryant Albany, Georgia

Lakiya Butts Eastman, Georgia

Bryce Carr Dublin, Georgia

Marsha Renee Castillo Covington, Georgia

LaKesha Frances Chambers Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Anthony Timotheus Chatman Ir. Dublin, Georgia

Nathan Christopher Coggins Atlanta, Georgia

Carole Christina Cote-Findley ~ Macon, Georgia

Keiondra Sarita Datcher Ellenwood, Georgia

Eric Lee Davis Duluth Georgia

Marie Dickerson-Tabb Albany, Georgia

Courtney April Dickey Roberta, Georgia **Cameron Douglas**

Grayson, Georgia Robert Edward Douglass

Virginia Beach, Virginia Kelly Ann Drake

Macon, Georgia Ouinneshia Demetrius Marshae Sands-Everett Griffin, Georgia

Jennifer L. Farley Covington, Georgia

Jasmine Danielle Felder Macon, Georaia

Robyn Gail Fink Albany, Georgia

Charlie James Fletcher Jr. Macon, Georgia

Bryce Thomas Ford McDonough, Georgia

Chateireya Raquel Fordham Macon Georgia Kameron Garrett

Centralia, Illinois

Kristin Faith Grebel ~ Leesburg, Georgia

Ne'Davia Ne'Kol Harris Camilla Georgia

Justin Harvell Macon, Georgia Sveda Momina Hassan

Brooklyn, New York Colin Andrew Hathaway Snellville, Georgia

Kaleigh Heath Burt

Macon, Georgia Kissa Howard-Duncan

Clayton County, Georgia Raghad Hussain

Stone Mountain, Georgia Jackie Lee Irons II Duluth, Georgia

Ru'Myia T. Jackson Warner Robins, Georgia

Jarred M. Jefferson Warner Robins, Georgia

Kristen Ruth Jenkins ~ Locust Grove, Georaia

Erica Lyn Jobb Williamson, Georgia Harold Pavaris Johnson

Jonesboro, Georgia Adonte' Marcious Jones

Flint, Michigan Ouovardis Janae Jones

Buford, Georgia Rebecca Marshae Jordan

Dublin, Georaia Kathy Jo Lane

Jordan Alexis Lee

Macon, Georaia

Khassie Kamille Patterson Molena, Georgia Sikeston, Missouri Ricky Leneil Latimore Covington, Georgia

Tyler Eugene Peacock Warner Robins, Georgia Matthew Christopher

Poque Dacula, Georgia Kelsey Barron Ponce Macon, Georgia

Fredeja Ransom Atlanta, Georgia Kimberly Rayner

Dublin, Georgia Morris Everett Reese

Macon, Georgia **Emmanuel Ray Reid**

Albany, Georgia Steven Eric Reid Covington, Georgia

Prentice Marquis Risper Thomaston, Georgia

Sydnee Robertson Macon, Georgia

Randy Leon Robinson II Riverdale, Georgia

Alexis Christine Rutherford Macon, Georgia

Kaylee Satterwhite Favetteville, Georgia Dani Setiawan

Dacula, Georgia Maurese Shuntae Stanley Dudley, Georgia

Kalaya Chante' Staples-Scott Augusta, Georgia

Nicholas Neal Stewart Yonkers, Georgia

Olivia M. Stripling Macon, Georgia

Joseph Stubbs Dublin, Georgia

Rico Vanshon Stuckey Dublin, Georgia Daniel Lee Teets

Macon, Georgia Derrick Jermaine Thomas Lawrenceville, Georgia

Erica Monique Thornton Conyers, Georgia

Aleiandro Villasana Duluth, Georgia

Brandon Rashad Walden Dublin, Georgia

Imani Ja'nice Warden Jonesboro, Georgia

Alexis Emari Washington Garv. Indiana

Elices Washington III Tifton, Georgia

Lakeisha Renita Washington Dublin, Georgia

Alexis Danielle Whitaker Albany, Georgia

Ashley Renee White Dublin, Georgia

Kimberly Wilbur Dublin, Georgia

Frederick Cleveland Williams II Dublin, Georgia

Paul Williamson Jr. Macon, Georaia

Kamilah M. Williamson Miramar, Florida

Artisha Antionette Wright Macon, Georgia

MASTER OF **EDUCATION**

Cassidy M. Crowley ~ Lizella, Georgia

Steven Logan McCall Macon, Georgia

Samantha McLaughlin Warner Robins, Georgia Amoria Neal-Tysor

Sanford North Carolina

College of Professional Advancement

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Dawn Dupree Hodges ** Macon, Georgia

Susan Pike Watson

Gordon, Georgia

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Leslie Baker Macon, Georgia

Joshua Levi Brown Concord, Georgia
(Awarded Posthumously) Nicolas Blake Herndon Juliette, Georgia

Jennifer Ann Lowe ~ Gray, Georgia Alanea Hill Rainey

Macon, Georgia

James Edward Smith Jr. Macon, Georgia

Ralph Christopher Taylor Baltimore, Maryland Kimela Jevaye Williams

Macon, Georgia

*Cum Laude | ** Magna Cum Laude | *** Summa Cum Laude | † University Honors | ~ Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society | ® Phi Beta Kappa

School of Music

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Barrington Isaiah Bellinger * Mableton, Georgia

Elaine Rose Cordoto Busby Brunswick, Georgia

Aaron Christopher Ellingson ** Atlanta, Georgia

Evelyn June Hufstetler * Marietta, Georaia

Tanushka Digvijay Singh Sisodiya ** Cumming, Georgia

BACHELOR OF Music

Manou Magdalena Chakravorty * Chicago, Illinois

Moa Carolina Mätta Glimberg ** Arlöv, Sweden

Brelan Samuel Neal Jenkins Newport News, Virginia

Wesley David O'Brien *** Calgary, Alberta

River Sawchyn *** Winnipeg, Manitoba Daniel Jeremy Stein ***

Alexandria Virainia

Katrina Marie Stroud *** Austin, Texas

Kayla Hinano Yagi-Bacon Chiba, Japan

BACHELOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Aaron Joseph Henderson Jackson, Georgia Amelia Lynn Herzog ***

Kathleen, Georgia Benjamin M. Norton Stockbridge, Georgia

Jason Colby Pitts * Griffin, Georgia

Walker Allen West *** Dacula, Georaia

Cathryn Marie Whittington *** Warner Robins, Georgia

MASTER OF Music

Susan Elise Dantoni Rochester, New York

Galen Michael Peters Jacksonville, Florida

Jillene Revnolds Columbus, Georaia

Andreahnna Loree Rosenquist Brownwood, Texas

Dillon Lee Watkins Gordon, Georgia

College of Health Professions

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Ellie Grace Ballard ** Cary, North Carolina

Emily Kathryn Beers ** Duluth, Georgia

Brian Keith Berry * Warner Robins, Georgia

Emma Grace Bjornstad Helena Alahama

Kirsten Alexis Bowling Harris County, Georgia

Madison Ann Brown Woodstock, Georgia

Sydney Alyse Bunkley Covington, Georgia

Samantha Kayla Capozzi Jacksonville, Florida **Austin Nathaniel Chaffin**

Macon, Georgia

Alexandria Collier Perry, Georgia

Cumming, Georgia Emily Reese Duncan * Panama City, Florida

Elijah Pierce Edwards **

Rome, Georgia Joshua Caleb Farmer ***

Carrollton, Georgia Gabrielle Simone Fox ** Columbus, Georgia

Mya Elisha Frank Loganville, Georgia

Josephine Reese Cala Freund Lawrenceville, Georgia

Makenzie Maurnae Friend * Huntsville, Alabama

Aliyah Nicole Green Macon, Georgia

Chinmay Krishna Dongari

Lake Park, Georgia Alva Milledge Holstein III Cartersville, Georgia

Carlela R. Green **

Warner Robins, Georgia

Imani Taleyah Gulley

Sacramento, California

Rustburg, Virginia

Kate Elizabeth Hardie

Tori Hope Hedgecock

Jillian Kelly Humphries *** Winder, Georgia

Matthew Yates Hutchens Columbus, Georgia

Reid Nolan Johnson * West Point, Georgia

Sulyvan Ying Keo Jonesboro, Georgia Kinleigh Michael King

Macon, Georgia

Hanna Marie Knoll *** Angola, Indiana

Madison Nicole Lambert Savannah, Georaia Courtney Nichole Lewis *

Evans, Georgia Chandler Jai Lewis-**Jenkins**

Suwanee, Georgia Ashlee M. Locke

Hoschton, Georaia Elizabeth Helen Lupo Peachtree City, Georgia

Neena DeVoya Maith Augusta, Georgia

Brett Wills McHugh ** Macon, Georgia Ashley Lilian Morales

Lopez ~⁰ Grayson, Georgia William Riles Nash *

Byron, Georgia

Anna Oliver Suwanee, Georaid

Emma Padovano Brooks, Georgia Isha Mihir Patel **

Macon, Georgia Cordalia Naomi Peters ***

Lawrenceville, Georgia Hannah Marie Pitts *

Auburn, Alabama Alexia Rae Polychrones * Savannah, Georgia

Ceylani Juane Rembert Columbus, Georgia

Michael Anthony Roberts III Rincon, Georgia

Abigayle Zo Roberts * Swainsboro, Georgia

Justin Alexander Robertson West Point, Georgia

Annette Rodriguez Olvera Sugar Hill, Georgia Abigail Caitlin Sears ***

Robins AFB, Georgia Shruti Shanti * Byron, Georgia

Victoria Grace Siple *** Hoschton, Georgia

Laila Farid Siyam *** Cairo, Egypt

Caelynn Stark Orlando, Florida

William E. Stephens *** Warner Robins, Georgia Joshua Varnadoe

Barnesville, Georgia Lauren Shelby White

Hoover, Alabama Madilyn Wicker Minneola, Florida

Lillian Wilkerson Trenton, Florida

Taylor Ann Wilson Auausta, Georaia

Parker Alan Wroble Hoschton, Georgia

Olivia Mae Young Lawrenceville, Georgia

MASTER OF ATHLETIC TRAINING

Taylor Michelle Baltrus Valdosta, Georgia Leda Natee Dixon ~ Marietta, Georaia

Janae Brianna Evans College Park, Georgia

Amari Nicole Lyons Cartersville, Georgia Zanetriah Tytiana Shorty Olive Branch, Mississippi

Participation in the graduation ceremony does not necessarily represent conferral of the degree. Degrees are awarded at the end of the term in which all requirements are met. Honors printed in the program and announced at the commencement ceremony are based on grades earned at the time of program publication and may not reflect final honors.

Message from THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

On behalf of the Alumni Association, I congratulate you on reaching this important milestone in your life! While you may leave today to embark on future careers, further studies and all the other journeys of a long, interesting life, Mercer will never leave you. You are — and always will be — a Bear. And as such, you have a place with the Mercer University Alumni Association.

It is my honor to welcome you to the Alumni Association, a network of more than 90,000 Mercerians. There is no need to join; you are already a member. The Alumni Association is for all Mercer alumni and provides opportunities for you to connect with



your classmates and all who came before you — and those who will come after. We hope you will stay in touch by keeping your contact information current, participating in reunions and events and supporting the University with your time, talent and resources.

We look forward to celebrating the milestones of your life with you and to being a resource for your lifelong learning. Together we roar!

Go Bears!

B. Todd Smith

Associate Vice President & Executive Director

MERCER UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, Georgia 31207-1517 (478) 301-2715 | (800) 637-2378 | Alumni@Mercer.edu

MERCER UNIVERSITY PROFILE

ercer University is one of America's oldest and most distinctive institutions of higher learning, offering rigorous programs that span the undergraduate liberal arts and sciences to doctorallevel degrees. Founded by early 19th century Baptists, Mercer while no longer formally denominationally affiliated — remains committed to an educational environment that embraces the historic Baptist principles of intellectual and religious freedom.

With more than 9,200 students enrolled in 12 schools and colleges, on major campuses in Macon and Atlanta; medical school campuses in Macon, Savannah, Columbus and Valdosta; and at regional academic centers in Henry and Douglas counties, Mercer is ranked among the top tier and best values of national research universities by U.S. News & World Report. More than 90,000 alumni are making important contributions to their professions and communities throughout Georgia, the Southeast and the world.

While offering a breadth of programs found at much larger universities, Mercer maintains an intimate, student-focused culture more characteristic of smaller liberal arts colleges. Mercer's uniqueness is found in the way the University integrates five defining components of its mission: Liberal Learning, Professional Knowledge, Discovery, Service to Humankind and Community.

ACADEMIC DIVISIONS

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Macon — The oldest and largest of the University's academic units, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is Mercer's academic cornerstone. The College offers baccalaureate programs in the humanities, fine arts, natural sciences, social sciences, mathematics and computer science, along with a variety of interdisciplinary options. Offering a multitude of pre-professional programs in health, law and theology, the College also provides students a strong liberal arts foundation. The core curriculum blends practical skills, such as critical thinking, clear writing and effective communication, with a deep engagement with the diversity and richness of the peoples, faiths, cultures and natural processes in the world. Mercer has been frequently recognized by U.S. News & World Report for "Best Undergraduate Teaching" and has been honored by the Council on Undergraduate Research for its robust research opportunities for undergraduates. In 2015, Mercer was awarded a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's most prestigious academic honor society.

School of Law

Macon — Founded in 1873, Mercer School of Law is one of the oldest law schools in the U.S. and the first in Georgia accredited by the American Bar Association. Mercer Law School is committed to preparing students for high-quality, general practice in a supportive and professional learning environment. In 2024, the annual Gavel Rankings rated Mercer Law School's trial advocacy program No. 2 in the nation. It is a two-time recipient of the prestigious ABA Gambrell Professionalism Award for excellence and innovation in ethics and professionalism throughout the curriculum. With an enrollment of approximately 400 students, Mercer Law continues to be recognized for preparing students for practice through its award-winning programs in legal writing, advocacy, experiential education and emphasis on ethics and professionalism.

School of Business

Macon, Atlanta, Henry County and Online — Established in 1984, Mercer's Stetson-Hatcher School of Business is named for Eugene W. Stetson, a 1901 Mercer graduate and business pioneer who leveraged the first major buyout in corporate history, and his grandson Robert F. (Bob) Hatcher, a Macon businessman, longtime supporter, Life Trustee and former board chair for the University. Over the past 80 years, Mercer has granted more than 12,000 business degrees, and many of its graduates hold senior leadership positions in companies around the world and are successful entrepreneurs. Mercer's business school delivers career-focused business education in order to develop innovative leaders who are responsible global citizens.

As an accredited member of The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International, Stetson-Hatcher School of Business is among the top 5% of business schools worldwide. It has been recognized as one of the "Best Business Schools" in the U.S. by both The Princeton Review and U.S. News & World Report. Mercer is listed as one of the "Best Undergraduate Business Programs" by U.S. News & World Report, and it has been recognized among "MBA Programs Where Grads Make More Money Than They Owe."

School of Engineering

Macon and Online — Mercer's innovative and academically challenging engineering and engineering-related programs provide students with a comprehensive education, featuring a solid foundation in mathematics and sciences, a core engineering curriculum, a range of courses in engineering specialties and a strong emphasis on communication methodologies and technologies. The School of Engineering marked its 40th anniversary in 2025, and its undergraduate program is consistently ranked among the top programs in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. Known for its breadth of instruction in its undergraduate program and its 4+1 integrated bachelor's and master's degree program, Mercer combines technical education with hands-on laboratory experience, research and real-world problem-solving. The School has produced 15 Goldwater Scholars in the last nine years — including an unprecedented three recipients in three consecutive years — and 15 Department of Defense SMART Scholars in the last nine years.

College of Education

Macon, Atlanta, Douglas County, Henry County and Online — Mercer's Tift College of Education prepares more professional educators than any other private institution in Georgia. It offers undergraduate and graduate programs in teacher education and educational leadership, including initial teacher certification, advanced teacher education, P-12 educational leadership, independent school leadership and higher education leadership. The College's teacher certification programs are approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. In addition to full-time, daytime baccalaureate programs for residential undergraduate students, the College of Education offers programs with flexible delivery formats for working professionals, including baccalaureate and graduate-level programs with a combination of online and on-campus coursework and fully online graduate-level programs.

School of Theology

Atlanta and Online — Established in 1996, Mercer's James and Carolyn McAfee School of Theology brings Jesse Mercer's founding vision of providing students with a classical and theological education full circle as it prepares students for ministry in the church and beyond. The School of Theology forms ministers and cultivates leaders who thrive spiritually, professionally and academically in service with congregations, communities and classrooms. The School's vision is to inspire churches and communities to imagine, discover and create God's loving and just world. The School offers master's and doctoral degrees, and several ministry concentrations. The innovative, fully integrated curriculum is taught by nationally recognized scholars who are committed Christians. Along with a network of partner churches, the School of Theology is affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

College of Professional Advancement

Macon, Atlanta, Douglas County, Henry County and Online — Mercer's College of Professional Advancement offers undergraduate. graduate and certificate programs for adults seeking leadership roles in their community and beyond, professional transition and advancement and lives that have meaning and purpose. Programs support the needs of highgrowth and high-demand employment sectors and provide students with a multidisciplinary curriculum that integrates theory and practice. Flexible program delivery formats include fully online programs and options for a blended combination of online and on-campus coursework. Areas of study include communication, counseling, health care, human resources, human services, humanities, leadership and administration, public safety, psychology, science, technology, informatics, data intelligence and machine learning, along with interdisciplinary and self-designed options.

School of Music

Macon — Mercer's Townsend School of Music is nationally recognized for its Emmy award-winning artist faculty, internationally acclaimed students, wide range of performance ensembles and beautiful facilities. The School of Music offers a thorough and rigorous curriculum, providing a conservatory-quality music education within a university environment. Students benefit from small class sizes and individual instruction from faculty who regularly perform on campus and at major national and international venues. Specialized music programs include the Robert McDuffie Center for Strings and the Townsend-McAfee Institute for Graduate Studies in Church Music.

MERCER HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

The Mercer Health Sciences Center, a multi-campus academic health center, encompasses the School of Medicine, College of Pharmacy, College of Nursing and College of Health Professions. The Health Sciences Center enrolls more than 2,000 students, employs 450 full-time faculty and staff and annually graduates more than 750 physicians, nurses and nurse educators, as well as family nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, physician assistants, pharmacists, physical therapists, family therapists, athletic trainers, clinical psychologists, public health professionals and biomedical scientists.

School of Medicine

Macon, Savannah, Columbus and Valdosta — Mercer's School of Medicine was established in 1982 to educate physicians and health professionals to meet the primary care and health care needs of rural, medically underserved areas of Georgia through education, service, research and collaboration. Today, a majority of graduates practice in the state of Georgia, and Mercer is a leader in the nation for those who are practicing in rural or medically underserved areas. The School's educational environment was the nation's first to be founded on a patient-based learning philosophy that is case-driven and provides early patient care experiences. Mercer University School of Medicine's four locations offer a campus environment for every type of student. Macon is the School's administrative campus. The Savannah campus was established in 2008 and is located adjacent to Memorial Health University Medical Center. Columbus began as a clinical campus in 2012 and welcomed the first four-year M.D. class in the fall of 2021. In 2024, a third- and fourth-year clinical campus was added in Valdosta at SGMC Health. All four campuses are closely integrated and function as one unit.

College of Pharmacy

Atlanta — Founded in 1903, Mercer's College of Pharmacy has a long history of advancing health care through teaching, research, patient-centered care and service innovations. The College's motto, "A tradition of excellence, a legacy of caring," frames its philosophy of providing excellent academic programs in an environment where every student matters and every person counts. The 335 enrolled students are encouraged to get involved in the College's many nationally recognized professional organizations. They also can take advantage of internships and other opportunities with Atlanta-based health care organizations and government agencies. Construction of the Moye Pharmacy and Health Sciences Center was completed in late 2023, and it opened to students in January 2024.

College of Nursing

Atlanta — Mercer's nationally recognized Georgia Baptist College of Nursing is the longest-established nursing program in Georgia. With a rich history dating back to 1902 and more than 9,000 alumni, the College is grounded in the heritage of excellence in nursing education. The College advances the nursing workforce through multiple degree options, and faculty are dedicated to the development of professional nurses committed to scholarship, leadership, practice, research and service within a culture of academic excellence.

College of Health Professions

Macon and Atlanta — The College of Health Professions is composed of six disciplines: physical therapy, physician assistant studies, public health, clinical psychology, athletic training and kinesiology. In addition to its degree offerings, the College offers post-professional residencies and fellowships and operates an on-site physical therapy clinic. With an overall enrollment of more than 700 students, the College seeks to improve the health and quality of life of individuals and society through excellence in teaching, research and service.

MERCER UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The Mercer University Libraries seek to embody a patron-driven philosophy by practicing excellent customer service, making available learningcentered gateways of information resources, offering robust collections in support of the academic mission of the Mercer community and utilizing patrondriven materials acquisition models. The libraries provide a range of print materials and cloud-based resources such as e-books, e-journals, streaming media, research guides and how-to videos.

The libraries participate in the campus academic enterprise through virtual reference services, group information literacy sessions, one-on-one reference tutorials and the availability of cloud-based reference tools designed for 24/7. Library facilities contain multiple learning environments designed for mixed

study scenarios, including comfortable spaces for group gatherings, quiet areas for individual work and private group study rooms for collaborative projects.

The Mercer University Libraries include:

- Jack Tarver Library, Macon
- Monroe F. Swilley Jr. Library, Atlanta
- Regional Academic Center Library Services supporting programs in Henry County and Douglas County

Specialized libraries at Mercer:

- Skelton Medical Library serving students in Macon and Columbus
- Skelton Library in Savannah serving the School of Medicine on the Savannah campus and the Memorial University Medical Center
- Furman Smith Law Library in the School of Law, Macon

MERCER MEDICINE

Mercer Medicine is a multi-specialty group of more than 30 primary care providers and specialists who work to guide patients through their health journey and create strong, long-term relationships. A wide variety of outpatient services are offered in Macon and at rural primary care clinics in multiple locations throughout Central and South Georgia, including Clay County, Harris County, Plains, Putnam County, Jekyll Island and Taylor County. As a subsidiary of the School of Medicine, Mercer Medicine is staffed by experienced health care providers who are leading the way in medical education, technology and research.

MERCER ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTER

Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC) is the University's nonprofit applied research operating unit. Located in Warner Robins, MERC was established in 1987 to provide engineering and scientific services, research and specialized technical expertise to Robins Air Force Base, other Department of Defense (DoD) entities, DoD international partners and allies (Foreign Military Sales), as well as commercial customers. MERC's core competencies include electrical engineering, electronic warfare, digital transformation, artificial intelligence and machine learning, embedded software, custom software development, cybersecurity, computational fluid dynamics, human factors and biomechanics, finite element analysis, structural integrity, mechanical testing, non-destructive inspection, reverse engineering and prototyping.

Mercer University Press

Mercer University Press has published more than 1,750 books since its establishment in 1979. It publishes 30 to 35 new books each year in the areas of religion, philosophy, literary criticism, Southern history, regional studies and creative writing. The Press holds membership in the Association of University Presses.

ROBERTS ACADEMY

Roberts Academy at Mercer University is Georgia's only school for dyslexic learners outside of Metro Atlanta. The mission of the Academy is to prepare students with dyslexia to achieve academic success through dynamic educational programs. The Academy teaches a comprehensive curriculum designed for students in grades 2-5 using the Orton-Gillingham Approach, an evidence-based practice proven to help students with dyslexia. Students attend the Academy until they have mastered the skills to accommodate their learning differences and are prepared to succeed in a traditional school setting.

ATHLETICS

Mercer is the only NCAA Division I private institution in Georgia and competes in the historic Southern Conference (SoCon). In the 2023-2024 academic year, Mercer student-athletes achieved an overall GPA of 3.688. The University has won the Southern Conference's Barrett-Bonner Award for academic achievement every year since joining the conference in 2014. Mercer's 18 intercollegiate teams include men's baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer and tennis; and women's basketball, cross country, golf, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, beach volleyball, track and volleyball. Other members of the Southern Conference include the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, East Tennessee State University, Furman University, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Samford University, The Citadel, Virginia Military Institute, Western Carolina University and Wofford College.



PHI BETA KAPPA ZETA OF GEORGIA

 $lap{N}$ HE PHI BETA KAPPA SOCIETY — THE NATION'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS ACADEMIC HONOR SOCIETY — CHARTERED MERCER UNIVERSITY TO SHELTER THE ZETA CHAPTER OF GEORGIA IN 2015. In recommending Mercer for membership, the Society's Committee on Qualifications described Mercer as a "quintessentially Phi Beta Kappa institution" in its values and mission, in its curriculum and general education requirements, in the variety of opportunities it provides its students, in the quality of its best undergraduates, and in the dedicated engagement of the faculty in all aspects of undergraduate education.

Phi Beta Kappa was founded Dec. 5, 1776, at the College of William and Mary by five undergraduates who sought to create a student society that would be more serious-minded than others that had previously existed at the Williamsburg, Virginia, institution.

The first college society with a Greek-letter name, Phi Beta Kappa is derived from the initials for the society's motto, "love of learning is the guide of life." ΦBK introduced the essential characteristics of the numerous Greek societies that would follow. These included a badge, mottoes in Greek and Latin, a code of laws, an elaborate form of initiation and a seal.

Phi Beta Kappa is not awarded simply on the basis of high grade point average or class rank, but on a student's breadth of knowledge and coursework, including foreign language, math and sciences, and humanities and fine arts. An inductee into Phi Beta Kappa has taken a wide range of courses beyond a major. In addition to seeking out a broad range of academic interests, the ideal Phi Beta Kappa member has demonstrated intellectual inquiry and integrity as well as tolerance for freedom of thought and varied points of view. These are the distinctive elements of Phi Beta Kappa that distinguish it from Latin honors such as summa cum laude or department honors in a discipline.

Only 10% of the nation's institutions of higher education have been awarded chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, and only 10% of an institution's seniors may be inducted, making Phi Beta Kappa one of the most competitive and distinguished honors a student may achieve. Since ΦBK's founding, 17 U.S. presidents, 42 U.S. Supreme Court justices and more than 150 Nobel laureates have been inducted as members, along with countless authors, diplomats, athletes, researchers, actors and business leaders.

2025 PHI BETA KAPPA INDUCTEES

Aderonke Esther Adewumi Senior I <i>Conyers, Georgia</i>	
Stephanie Alexandra Amendola Senior I <i>Peachtree City, Georgia</i>	
McKayla M. Ayettey Senior I <i>Augusta, Georgia</i>	
Chase Daniel Baker Senior I <i>Lawrenceville, Georgia</i>	
Aylah Maresa Birks Senior I <i>Dry Branch, Georgia</i>	
Isabella Ann Bordenca Senior I <i>Dunwoody, Georgia</i>	
Bailey Leonor Byrdsong Senior <i>Buford, Georgia</i>	
Zachary Thomas Carman Junior I <i>Marietta, Georgia</i>	
Reema Kalpesh Chande Senior <i>Sugar Hill, Georgia</i>	
Evangeline A. Chidi-Maha Senior <i>Lawrenceville, Georgia</i>	

Auro Senior I

Haver Junior |

Tatiana Frances Cobos Senior I <i>Smyrna, Georgia</i>	Anna Callista Hale Senior I <i>Aiken, South Carolina</i>	9
Emma Charlotte Davis Senior I <i>Valdosta, Georgia</i>	Nyny Trieu Hoang Senior I <i>Dacula, Georgia</i>	S
Dale Spencer Degonia Senior I <i>Waverly Hall, Georgia</i>	Devin Myles Jones Senior I <i>Augusta, Georgia</i>	Nal Ser
lan Gregory DeRosso Senior <i>Statesboro, Georgia</i>	Kylla Michelle Justice Senior I <i>Loveland, Colorado</i>	S
William Parker Dragoin Senior <i>Americus, Georgia</i>	Harumi Carolina Kano Torres Senior I <i>Johns Creek, Georgia</i>	9
Aurora Leigh Estabrook enior I <i>Maynard, Massachusetts</i>	Mokshitha Katkoori Senior I <i>Flowery Branch, Georgia</i>	
Haven Elisabeth Estabrook unior I <i>Maynard, Massachusetts</i>	Janhavi Gurudatta Kulkarni Senior I <i>Cumming, Georgia</i>	N
Rafael Garcia Chirino Senior I <i>Canton, Georgia</i>	Emily Anne Lewis Senior I <i>Woodstock, Georgia</i>	9
Grace Nealie Gasaway Senior I <i>Roswell, Georgia</i>	Ashley L. Morales-Lopez Senior <i>Grayson, Georgia</i>	S
Ashleigh L. Gray	Carter Lane Murdaugh	Ge

Anna Callista Hale	Alana F. Murray	S
enior <i>Aiken, South Carolina</i>	Senior I <i>Cumming, Georgia</i>	Junio
Nyny Trieu Hoang	Nicole Evelyn Nelson	En
Senior I <i>Dacula, Georgia</i>	Senior I <i>Alpharetta, Georgia</i>	Junio
Devin Myles Jones	Naluchi Bernadette Okonkwo	Jaso
Senior I <i>Augusta, Georgia</i>	Senior <i>Powder Springs, Georgia</i>	Seni
Kylla Michelle Justice	Davis Heejoon Park	Br
Senior I <i>Loveland, Colorado</i>	Senior <i>Alpharetta, Georgia</i>	Senior
rumi Carolina Kano Torres	Niyati Mukesh Patel	Jalis
enior I <i>Johns Creek, Georgia</i>	Senior <i>Centerville, Georgia</i>	Jun
Mokshitha Katkoori	Jana Alyssa Richardson	Ri
nior I <i>Flowery Branch, Georgia</i>	Senior I <i>Kingston, Jamaica</i>	Senio
nhavi Gurudatta Kulkarni Senior I <i>Cumming, Georgia</i>	Mandia Patricia Roberts Senior I <i>Nassau, Florida</i>	
Emily Anne Lewis Genior Woodstock, Georgia	Albert Jason Rother Senior <i>Columbus, Georgia</i>	
Ashley L. Morales-Lopez Senior <i>Grayson, Georgia</i>	Zainab Shaik Senior <i>Alpharetta, Georgia</i>	
Carter Lane Murdaugh Senior Springfield, Georgia	Genevieve Evelynne Smith Senior <i>Canton, Georgia</i>	

EMBLEMS

THE MACE

The mace is carried by the Marshal as a symbol of the authority of the University to confer degrees. Originally a weapon of war, the mace came to be used as an emblem of military power and civil authority. Its use as a symbol of university authority dates from medieval times.

The Mercer mace was designed in 1960 by Marshall Daugherty, professor of art in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and was first used for the inauguration of President Rufus C. Harris. It depicts a cross atop a globe, symbolizing the spiritual commitment of the University as it seeks to understand the world. Circumscribing the globe are the words, "Mercer University, 1833," symbolizing the influence of Mercer throughout the world. Beneath the larger globe is a smaller one, which represents the microcosm of the University. This, in turn, rests atop a form suggestive of a spire. The mace is made of bronze.

THE PRESIDENTIAL SEAL

The seal is worn by the President as a sign of authority. The seal was designed by Professor Otis D. Knight and Professor Marshall Daugherty and was first used for the inauguration of President Rufus C. Harris in 1960.

The seal, which was carved directly in fine silver and bronze, is a mandola-shaped pendant that depicts the form of the Godsey Administration Building, a riband and a stylized stained-glass window of Willingham Hall. The background is in bronze, and the window is in blue and red cloisonné enamel. On the riband are the Latin words for science, law, religion and the arts. On the border are inscribed the name of the University in Latin and the date of its founding. The shape of the seal is traditional for early university seals.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The practice of wearing academic attire extends back to medieval times and the Renaissance, when it was the custom for teachers and students in European universities to wear gowns, caps and hoods. Although the wearing of the garb is now limited to formal occasions, the garb itself may be called the uniform of the professional scholar and teacher. The style and color serve as symbols of collegiate attainment.

The long sleeves of the gowns and the deep hoods were, on occasion, used to carry books and refreshments. Each European university developed its own style of garb with strict rules for its design. In the United States, however, most American colleges have agreed on a uniform design and color code.

Holders of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees wear black gowns; the pattern and trimming differ for each degree. Originally, the bachelor's gown was made of serge or worsted and the master's of serge, worsted or silk; but now synthetic fibers are also used. The bachelor's gown is distinguished by its long pointed sleeves. The master's gown has long sleeves with a slit for the arm at either the elbow or the wrist. Doctor's gowns are adorned with velvet panels and bars that may be black or of a color distinctive to the wearer's discipline.

Holders of all degrees wear caps, popularly known as mortarboards, to which a long tassel is fastened that hangs over the left side of the cap. Doctors may wear tassels of gold thread. Holders of bachelor's and master's degrees may wear colors indicating the faculty by which their degrees were granted.

The academic hood is an ornamental fold that goes

around the neck and hangs down the back of the gown. The length and shape of the hood vary with the level of the degree. Hoods are generally lined with the colors of the university which granted the degree and trimmed with the color representing the faculty by which the degree is granted.

The following colors are associated with the various faculties:

Arts, Letters, Humanities	White
Athletic Training	Sage Green
Commerce, Accountancy, Business	Drab
Education	Light Blue
Engineering	Orange
Journalism	
Law	
Library Science	Lemon
Medicine	_
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Speech	
Pharmacy	Olive Green
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Physical Therapy	Teal
Physician Assistant	Kelly Green
Psychology	Gold
Public Health	Salmon Pink
Science	Golden Yellow
Theology	Scarlet

THE MEDALLION OF PHI KAPPA PHI

The medallion is worn by faculty, administrators and students who are members of the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, an organization that initiates members from all disciplines. The cloisonné enamel medallion is decorated with the badge of the Society and is suspended from a blue, grosgrain ribbon.

ALMA MATER

MACON CAMPUS

On the city's western border Reared against the sky, Proudly stands our Alma Mater, As the years roll by.

Chorus

Forward ever be thy watchword, Conquer and prevail. Hail to thee, O Alma Mater! Mercer, Hail all Hail!

Cherished by thy sons and daughters, Mem'ries sweet shall throng Round our hearts, O Alma Mater, As we sing our song.

ATLANTA CAMPUS

On the city's eastern border Reared against the sky, Proudly stands our Alma Mater, As the years roll by.

Chorus

Forward ever be thy watchword Conquer and prevail. Hail to thee, O Alma Mater! Mercer, Hail all Hail!

Cherished by thy sons and daughters Mem'ries sweet shall throng Round our hearts, O Alma Mater, As we sing our song.

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