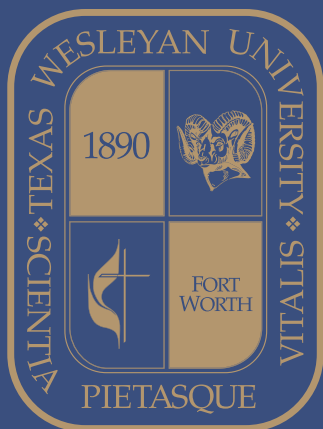




2026

COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY THE FIFTEENTH OF AUGUST



Texas Wesleyan
UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

PROCESSIONAL

NATIONAL ANTHEM

ALMA MATER - WORDS BY J.C. DENNEY

*Hail to thee dear Texas Wesleyan, from the heart I give my praise.
In the paths of high endeavor, fame and fortune crown your days.
Streaming forth a line of splendor, sons and daughters all declare,
Living testimony render, to the worthy name you bear.*

INVOCATION Dr. Stephanie Sloan
University Chaplain and Director of Spiritual Life

INTRODUCTIONS Vickie Stevens '80
Chairwoman of the Board

Dr. Emily Messer
President

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS Tracy Paul Young MSNA '01

CONFERRING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES Dr. Emily Messer

Dr. Hector Quintanilla
Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

AWARDING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES..... Dr. Terri Kane
Dean, School of Health Professions

WELCOME FROM ALUMNI Vernon Wright '93
President of the Alumni Association

LITANY AND BENEDICTION..... Dr. Stephanie Sloan

RECESSIONAL



TRACY PAUL YOUNG, MSNA, MBA, CRNA

Tracy Paul Young is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist and healthcare executive with more than two decades of experience in anesthesia practice, operations, and organizational leadership. He earned his Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia from Texas Wesleyan University in 2001 and began his clinical career providing anesthesia services across multiple facilities in Louisiana.

In 2003, Mr. Young founded YPS Anesthesia, an anesthesia management and consulting firm, where he served as Chief Executive Officer for nearly 20 years. He later earned a Master of Business Administration in Healthcare from The George Washington University in 2008, further strengthening his focus on healthcare operations, strategy, and growth. In 2022, YPS Anesthesia merged with EmergencHealth to form Essential Anesthesia Services, where Mr. Young now serves as Chief Operating Officer.

In his current role, Mr. Young oversees the operations and strategic growth of Essential Anesthesia Services and its subsidiaries, supporting exclusive anesthesia contracts at more than 150 hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers across six states, with a workforce of over 1,500 anesthesia providers. His work centers on building scalable clinical operations, strengthening workforce sustainability, and supporting access to high-quality anesthesia care.

Mr. Young also serves on multiple for-profit and non-profit boards and is the current President-Elect of the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA). He is a frequent national speaker on anesthesia workforce issues, healthcare operations, regulatory policy, and compliance.

ORDER OF THE PROCESSIONAL

Cross Bearer

Bible Bearer

Faculty Marshals

August 2026 Graduating Class

Platform Party

Provost

Mace Bearer

President

*Banners are emblazoned with the seals of the six Texas institutions
of higher education affiliated with the United Methodist Church.*

Huston-Tillotson University

McMurry University

Southern Methodist University

Southwestern University

Texas Wesleyan University

Wiley College

ACADEMIC REGALIA AND SYMBOLS

American academic regalia originated at European medieval universities, particularly Oxford University, about seven centuries ago. At that time, the teachers were clergymen, the students were studying to become clerics, and the cassock was their usual costume. The tradition has continued through the ages at colleges and universities in the wearing of the academic gown, hood and cap.

The cap, or mortarboard, is the same for all degree. The tassel is worn on the right side of the cap until the bachelor's degree is conferred, at which time it is switched to the left side.

According to the American Council on Education, the gown for the bachelor's degree has pointed sleeves and is designed to be worn closed. The gown for the master's degree has an oblong sleeve base that hangs down and opens at the wrist. The gown for the doctor's degree has bell-shaped sleeves. The doctor's gown is faced with velvet and has three velvet bands on each sleeve. These distinguishing marks may be either black or in the appropriate color of the academic degree earned. Though black is a traditional color for gowns, the degree-granting institution may, however, select unique colors for the gown and trim.

The most colorful and significant item of the academic regalia is the hood. The length indicates the degree; the color of the border denotes the academic area of the degree; the colors of the hood lining identify the college or university, which granted the degree. The doctor's hood is four feet long with a five-inch border. The master's hood is three and one-half feet long with a three-inch border and a long, large pocket at the bottom. The bachelor's hood is three-feet long with a two-inch border.

The academic colors most frequently associated with the Texas Wesleyan University academic community are:

Arts and Letters.....	White	Mass Communication.....	Crimson
Business.....	Light Brown	Music.....	Pink
Counseling.....	White	Nursing.....	Apricot
Criminal Justice.....	Purple	Paralegal Studies.....	Purple
Education.....	Light Blue	Science.....	Golden Yellow
Exercise Science.....	Sage Green	Sociology.....	Citron
History.....	White	Theatre.....	Brown
Language.....	White	Theology.....	Scarlet
Library Science.....	Lemon		

The green and blue tassels identify members of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society. These graduates are at or near the top two percent of their class.

The gold cord symbolizes membership in an honor society. The purple and teal tassels identify members of Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education.

The mace is a common symbol of the authority and power of a corporate body. Its use as such originated in medieval times in legislative bodies and university faculties. It is carried by the presiding officer of the Faculty Assembly.

The presidential medallion is a symbol of the Office of the President of a chartered institution. It bears the seal of the college and is placed around the neck of the president at investiture to represent the yoke of responsibility for the welfare of the institution.

A TEXAS-SIZED HISTORY

Texas Wesleyan University was founded in 1890 as Polytechnic College by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The early years saw growth under President H.A. Boaz, who even established the first football team. However, plans for a Methodist university in the area shifted focus, becoming a women's college in 1914.

The Great Depression forced a merger with Texas Wesleyan Academy in Austin, transforming the institution back to a co-educational college in 1934, with the return of men and men's athletics.

Graduate programs and a growing campus allowed the college to officially become Texas Wesleyan University in 1989. The university established a downtown Fort Worth campus with a law school (later sold to Texas A&M) in 1997. The early 2000s saw the rise of new athletic programs like women's soccer and table tennis.



The 2010's focused on revitalizing the surrounding area through the Rosedale Renaissance. The university invested in campus improvements and established a welcoming "front door" on Rosedale St.

In July 2023, Dr. Emily W. Messer became the 21st president of Texas Wesleyan. With an extensive background in higher education, she brings a proven track record of boosting enrollment, securing funding for new programs and prioritizing student life. Her leadership promises to solidify Texas Wesleyan's position as a leading educational institution within the community.

Texas Wesleyan's commitment to its community remains strong, offering programs to increase access to higher education and collaborate with the surrounding neighborhood and city for economic growth.

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER DEGREES

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Whitney Jackson

Zoisa Marsden

Brianna Wallace

CANDIDATES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Edith DeLorme

Optimizing Sterile Processing Department Efficiency: A 12-week Evidence Based Workflow Improvement to Reduce Tray Assembly Time, Missing Items, and Operating Room Delays

Analise Estrada

The Effect of Nursing Education on Pain Management After Spine Surgery

Masala Kromah

Addressing Uncontrolled Hypertension: Nurse-Led Intervention to Improve Blood Pressure Control and Reduce Stroke Risk in Adults Aged 45-70

Sujei Saavedra

Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 Teaching to Improve Self-Management

Yasmine Sharif

The Effect of Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) Use on Hemoglobin A1C in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes

Jason Starks

STEADI Fall Prevention Program for Older Adults in a Rural Primary Care Clinic

Regina Washington

Implementation of the Mediterranean Diet to Decrease Depressive Symptoms and PHQ-9 Scores in Adults Between 18-55 Years Old with Mild to Moderate Depression

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

DOCTOR OF NURSE ANESTHESIA PRACTICE

Nader Hawari Alrimawi

THRIVE in the Perioperative Period

Anali Arevalo

To PENG or Not to PENG: That is the Question for Hip Surgery

Paola Andrea Arias

Programmed Intermittent Epidural Bolus vs Continuous Infusion for Labor Analgesia

Hannah Michelle Armijo

Comparative Analysis of Intranasal Vasoconstrictors in Preventing Epistaxis during Nasotracheal Intubation: A Systematic Review

Eloise Jem Villahermosa Barcelona

Effects of Ketamine and Esketamine On Postpartum Depression After Cesarean Delivery: An Evidence-Based Review

Jay Kaistner Bautista

Effects of Ketamine and Esketamine On Postpartum Depression After Cesarean Delivery: An Evidence-Based Review

Curtis Michael Beckman

Use Of Peripheral Nerve Blocks as a Part of Enhanced Recovery Strategies for Post-Operative Analgesia After Sternotomy for Cardiac Surgery

Doni Jade Bennett

The Use of Dexmedetomidine as an Adjuvant Medication in the Adductor Canal Block for Patients Undergoing Total Knee Arthroplasty: A Systematic Review

Jordan Alan Bienek

For Patients Undergoing Endotracheal Intubation, is Esmolol More Effective at Attenuating the Tachycardic Response Than Fentanyl?

Breanna Black

Dexmedetomidine Use and PONV Reduction in Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery

Meghan Dauterive Brewer

Celecoxib Administration on Total Knee Arthroplasty Patients: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials

Taylor Elaine Brookshire

Bilateral Single-Injection Transversus Abdominis Plane Block with Liposomal Bupivacaine Compared to Thoracic Epidural Analgesia After Open Abdominal Surgery

Lauren J. Brown

Dexmedetomidine Use and PONV Reduction in Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery

Alyanna Beatrice Bulseco

To PENG or Not to PENG: That is the Question for Hip Surgery

Channing Lola Burleson

Gastric US to Assess Gastric Contents in Those Who Take GLP-1s

Jared Dale Caffey

Patch vs. Palatine: A Minimally Invasive Alternative for the Treatment of Postdural Puncture Headache

Bethany Ann Campos

Targeting Post-Dural Puncture Headache: A Comparative Analysis of Sphenopalatine Ganglion Block Efficacy Against Neostigmine-Atropine Drip

Darrin Capps

Optimal Dosing of Dexamethasone for Postoperative Pain Control After Total Knee Arthroplasty

Chad Carlson

TAP Blocks for Post-Cesarean Pain: Comparative Effectiveness Against Placebo and Active Controls

Diego Castillo

Gastric US to Assess Gastric Contents in those who take GLP-1s

Sharon Hannah Cherian

Intraoperative Methadone Use and Subsequent Reduction in Post-Operative Opioid Use

Miranda Lorene Counts

Intravenous Lidocaine Compared to Other Interventions in Reducing the Incidence of Cough During Emergence

Daniel Cupit

Dexmedetomidine Additive to Bupivacaine Versus Only Bupivacaine on Paravertebral Block: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

CANDIDATES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES

Veronika G. Davis

Use of Peripheral Nerve Blocks as a Part of Enhanced Recovery Strategies for Post-Operative Analgesia After Sternotomy for Cardiac Surgery

Christina Del Rosario

Adjuncts to Local Anesthetics in Peripheral Nerve Blocks

Ryan Cole Dement

Propofol's Effect on Cancer: A Systematic Review

Madilyn Dennington

Bilateral Single-Injection Transversus Abdominis Plane Block with Liposomal Bupivacaine Compared to Thoracic Epidural Analgesia After Open Abdominal Surgery

Megan Courtney Dudley

Neutrophil-to-Lymphocyte Ratio and Prediction of Postoperative Delirium

Ashley Nicole Elliott

The Use of Erector Spinae Plane Blocks in Lumbar Spine Surgeries: A Literature Review

Andrew Everett

Intravenous Lidocaine Compared to Other Interventions in Reducing the Incidence of Cough During Emergence

Lexie Paige Fitch

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Krista Marie Flores

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Anne Mariel Alba Gaby

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Bladimir Alejandro Garcia

Programmed Intermittent Epidural Bolus vs Continuous Infusion for Labor Analgesia

Jesus Garcia

Patch vs. Palatine: A Minimally Invasive Alternative for the Treatment of Postdural Puncture Headache

Angel Rene Garcia de Alba

Postsurgical Pain Management in Polysubstance Users

Allison Kate Garrison

THRIVE in the Perioperative Period

William Andrew Gentry

Bilateral Single-Injection Transversus Abdominis Plane Block with Liposomal Bupivacaine Compared to Thoracic Epidural Analgesia After Open Abdominal Surgery

Adan E. Gonzalez

Postsurgical Pain Management in Polysubstance Users

Ruber Jesus Gonzalez Boada

Celecoxib Administration on Total Knee Arthroplasty Patients: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials

Allison Grace Grissett

From Anesthesia to Alertness: Refining Emergence with Dexmedetomidine

Rebecca Grogan

Postsurgical Pain Management in Polysubstance Users

Jacob Allen Heinold

To PENG or Not to PENG: That is the Question for Hip Surgery

Samiera Heydari

Ketamine and Magnesium in Reducing Post-Operative Opioid Use

Kimberly Diane Hill

From Anesthesia to Alertness: Refining Emergence with Dexmedetomidine

Kylee Holden

Optimal Loading Dose of Dexmedetomidine to Decrease Incidence of Postop Ileus and Improve Recovery of GI Function: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Liqi Huang

The Impact of Transversus Abdominis Plane Block on Postoperative Outcomes in Liver Surgeries

Alexandra Jocelyn Elizabeth Hurring

Positive Pressure Extubation vs. Negative Pressure Extubation: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials

Brianna Kaelyn Jester

Dexmedetomidine in Brachial Plexus Nerve Blocks on Upper Extremity Surgery: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Monterrio Jones Jr.

Intravenous Lidocaine Compared to Other Interventions in Reducing the Incidence of Cough During Emergence

Ryan Allen Juarez

For Patients Undergoing Endotracheal Intubation, is Esmolol More Effective at Attenuating the Tachycardic Response Than Fentanyl?

Victoria Ruthanne Keinath

Propofol's Effect on Cancer: A Systematic Review

Marlea Kerr

TAP Blocks for Post-Cesarean Pain: Comparative Effectiveness Against Placebo and Active Controls

Mebin Mathew Kuriakose

Ketamine and Magnesium in Reducing Post-Operative Opioid Use

Wai Long Lee

Does Dexmedetomidine Compared to Remifentanyl Reduce Post-Op Complications In Adult Patients?

Allison Marie Lehman

Ultrasound Guidance versus Standard Landmark Palpation with Neuraxial Anesthesia of the Obese Parturient

Kong Meng Lor

Ketamine and Magnesium in Reducing Post-Operative Opioid Use

Marc A. Lynes

Intraoperative Methadone Use and Subsequent Reduction in Post-Operative Opioid Use

Carson Reynolds Lyon

Celecoxib Administration on Total Knee Arthroplasty Patients: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials

Marly Mackles

Postsurgical Pain Management in Polysubstance Users

David Matthew Martinez

The Efficacy of Dexmedetomidine as an Adjunct to Bupivacaine and Morphine in Cesarean Section Parturients

Joshua Dwayne Martinez

Dexmedetomidine in Brachial Plexus Nerve Blocks on Upper Extremity Surgery: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Alvin Mathew

Optimal Loading Dose of Dexmedetomidine to Decrease Incidence of Postop Ileus and Improve Recovery of GI Function: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Kaitlyn McDow

Optimizing Oxytocin Dosing During Cesarean Delivery

Sarah Elizabeth McFarland

Dexmedetomidine Use and PONV Reduction in Laparoscopic Bariatric Surgery

Alexandra Elizabeth McKenna

TAP Blocks for Post-Cesarean Pain: Comparative Effectiveness Against Placebo and Active Controls

Austin Meil

Does Dexmedetomidine Compared to Remifentanyl Reduce Post-Op Complications In Adult Patients?

Brian Bao Nguyen

Dexmedetomidine Additive to Bupivacaine versus Only Bupivacaine on Paravertebral Block: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

CANDIDATES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES (CONT.)

Andrew Walter William Norwalt
Use of the McLott Mix to Reduce Opiate Consumption in Anthroplasty

Great Oguejiofor
Use of the McLott Mix to Reduce Opiate Consumption in Anthroplasty

Naomi Okonofua
Dosing of Sugammadex in the Obese Population

Destiny Renae Peden
The Impact of Transversus Abdominis Plane Block on Postoperative Outcomes in Liver Surgeries

Alondra Pereda
The Use of Ketamine for Perioperative Shivering

Jennifer Valenciano Perez
The Use of Ketamine for Perioperative Shivering

Vivian Karina Perez
Propofol's Effect on Cancer: A Systematic Review

Jackson James Poole
Dosing of Sugammadex in the Obese Population

Cooper Pulliam
The Use of Erector Spinae Plane Blocks in Lumbar Spine Surgeries: A Literature Review

Jawaria Qasim
The Use of Ketamine for Perioperative Shivering

Dalani Elizabeth Schneider
Positive Pressure Extubation vs. Negative Pressure Extubation: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials

Claire Allen Sterling
Comparative Analysis of Intranasal Vasoconstrictors in Preventing Epistaxis during Nasotracheal Intubation: A Systematic Review

Josue Eleazar Tabares
Targeting Post-Dural Puncture Headache: A Comparative Analysis of Sphenopalatine Ganglion Block Efficacy Against Neostigmine-Atropine Drip

Serena Valarie Tan
Impact of 15° Versus 30° Trendelenburg Positioning on Airway Management Performance: A Randomized Crossover Simulation Study

Omar Basam Thannoun
Impact of 15° Versus 30° Trendelenburg Positioning on Airway Management Performance: A Randomized Crossover Simulation Study

Chankanika Theam
Dosing of Sugammadex in the Obese Population

Carlos Gregory Valerio
Targeting Post-Dural Puncture Headache: A Comparative Analysis of Sphenopalatine Ganglion Block Efficacy Against Neostigmine-Atropine Drip

Meredith Hope Valle
Neutrophil-to-Lymphocyte Ratio and Prediction of Postoperative Delirium

Chelsea Rose Varble
Positive Pressure Extubation vs. Negative Pressure Extubation: A Systematic Review of Randomized Controlled Trials

Kyle Ashley Vick
Postsurgical Pain Management in Polysubstance Users

Autumn Faye Walker
The Use of Erector Spinae Plane Blocks in Lumbar Spine Surgeries: A Literature Review

Jessica Elyse Wasserman
From Anesthesia to Alertness: Refining Emergence with Dexmedetomidine

Tedros Kemal Yeshaw
Dexmedetomidine Additive to Bupivacaine versus Only Bupivacaine on Paravertebral Block: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

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Dr. Eddy Lynton
Interim Dean, School of Arts & Sciences

Dr. Sameer Vaidya
Dean, School of Business Administration and Professional Programs

LITANY - "WISDOM"

Leader: Happy is the one who finds wisdom,
People: And the one who gets understanding.

Leader: For the gain from it is better than the gain from silver,
People: And its profit better than gold.

Leader: Wisdom is more precious than jewels,
People: And nothing you desire can compare with it.

Leader: Long life is in wisdom's right hand,
People: And in its left hand are riches and honor.

Leader: The ways of wisdom are ways of pleasantness,
People: And all its paths are peace.

Leader: Wisdom is a tree of life to those who lay hold of it,
People: Those who hold fast to wisdom are called happy.

Leader: The Lord by wisdom founded the earth,
People: And the Lord by understanding established the heavens.

WELCOME

TO THE TEXAS WESLEYAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!

You are a vital part of the Texas Wesleyan community.
Here's how you can stay involved as a TXWES alumni.

ATTEND EVENTS WITH CLASSMATES

There's always something going on at Texas Wesleyan. Check out our monthly e-newsletter, The Ram's Horn, to find out about events like Alumni Weekend and Homecoming.

EXPAND YOUR NETWORK

Staying active as an alumni provides opportunities for career networking, meeting new people and gaining skills and experience as a volunteer. Watch for ways to give back – and grow in return.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Change of address? Different email? New job? Email us at alumni@txwes.edu so we can keep you connected.

FOLLOW US

Facebook: Texas Wesleyan University Alumni
Instagram: [@txwesalumni](https://www.instagram.com/txwesalumni)





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