



2020

VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY THE NINETEENTH OF DECEMBER



Texas Wesleyan
UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

WELCOME	Frederick G. Slabach <i>University President</i>
NATIONAL ANTHEM.....	Wesleyan Chamber Singers
ARRANGEMENT.....	Jerome M. Bierschenk <i>Associate Professor of Music</i>
ALMA MATER - WORDS BY J.C. DENNEY	Texas Wesleyan Faculty Brass Quintet
Jerome M. Bierschenk, <i>Trumpet</i>	David Humphreys, <i>Tuba</i>
<i>Associate Professor of Music</i>	<i>Adjunct Professor of Music</i>
Kurt Bonnett, <i>Trumpet</i>	Paul Sikes, <i>Trombone</i>
<i>Adjunct Professor of Music</i>	<i>Assistant Professor of Music</i>
Eric Hessel, <i>Horn</i>	
<i>Adjunct Professor of Music</i>	
MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Tom Locke <i>Vice Chairman of the Board</i>
EARL BROWN DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD ..	Dr. Tito D. Tubog <i>Assistant Professor of Nurse Anesthesia</i>
CONFERRING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES	Dr. Hector Quintanilla <i>Interim Provost & VP of Academic Affairs</i>
AWARDING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES.....	Texas Wesleyan University Faculty
Joe Brown	Dr. Linda Metcalf
<i>Professor of Theatre</i>	<i>Professor of Graduate Counseling</i>
Dr. Jacqueline Gaffner	Dr. Ricardo Rodriguez
<i>Assistant Professor of Education</i>	<i>Dean, School of Arts & Sciences</i>
Dr. Terri Kane	Dr. Sameer Vaidya
<i>Associate Professor of Nurse Anesthesia</i>	<i>Interim Dean, School of Business Administration</i>
Dr. Carlos Martinez	Dr. Kimberly Webb
<i>Dean, School of Education</i>	<i>Associate Professor of Accounting</i>
MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Tom Locke <i>Vice Chairman of the Board</i>
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CONFERRING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES	Dr. Hector Quintanilla <i>Provost & VP of Academic Affairs</i>
AWARDING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES.....	Texas Wesleyan University Faculty
WELCOME FROM ALUMNI.....	Jorge Vivar, '76 <i>President of the Alumni Association</i>
LITANY AND BENEDICTION.....	Dr. Gladys A. Childs <i>Dean of Freshman Success</i>
CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020	Texas Wesleyan University Faculty

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 degrees with the exception of the tassel, which denotes the academic area of the 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.

The gown is usually black. Some institutions have designated other colors to be worn by their doctoral graduates. 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. The master's gown has no ornamentation, is always black and is distinguished by the shape and length of the sleeves. The sleeves are long and shaped with a square-cut corner at the back and an arc-cut from the front. The gown for the baccalaureate graduate has long pointed sleeves.

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	Nurse Anesthesia.....	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

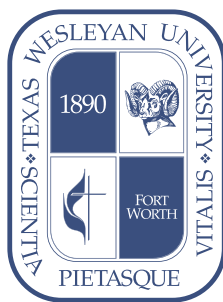
Originally called Polytechnic College — which literally means "many arts and sciences" — the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, founded Texas Wesleyan University in 1890. The school held its first classes in September 1891, with 111 students.

In 1902, H.A. Boaz assumed the presidency and led the university's first period of substantive growth. During his tenure, new residence halls, a fine arts conservatory, a science hall and a gym were built. Enrollment increased each year at the new university, which was located a few miles from the growing city of Fort Worth.

When Dallas was selected by the church leaders as the site for Southern Methodist University, the Polytechnic campus was designated the Woman's College for Southern Methodism, eventually becoming Texas Woman's College in 1914.

During the 1920s, the tradition of robing, which commemorates the relationship between faculty and students through a ceremonial vesting of cap and gown, became a university tradition. The tradition remains to this day. And, it is an example of Texas Wesleyan's dedication to a small, personal educational atmosphere.

The college was renamed Texas Wesleyan College in 1935, and has remained a co-educational liberal arts institution with an increasingly



comprehensive academic and student life program. Law Sone became the President of Texas Wesleyan in 1935, which kicked off a 33-year period of growth and expansion.

Under Sone, athletics thrived, with dominant teams in golf and basketball; new facilities were built on campus, including a new library and residence halls; and new academic programs in business and education became points of pride for the university.

In addition to strong undergraduate programs, the university added graduate programs in education in the 1970s and in nurse anesthesia in the 1980s. Recognizing the growth in programs, Trustees changed the name of the institution to Texas Wesleyan University, effective in January 1989. The Graduate Programs of Nurse Anesthesia has grown into the largest in the nation, delivering courses to students throughout the United States.

President Frederick G. Slabach became president of the university in 2011. During his tenure, the university has launched and completed the Rosedale Renaissance, the first major revitalization of East Fort Worth in several generations, enrollment has grown steadily, new online programs have been launched and the university football program was reinstated after a 75-year hiatus.

CANDIDATES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Brittany Alexandria Holmes
Darenda Audrey Bible Kirby

Shannon Marie Harvey Stoker
Mary Jessie Duron Villafranca

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE – FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

Melissa R. Berg

Britney Nicole De La Rosa

Soutnakhon Phandanouvong

Anne Lauren Daniel

Richard William Ornberg

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

Ericka Faith Pitts

Socorro Preciado

Melissa L. Schniers

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Meghan Rashelle Braak
Katelyn Elizabeth Davisson

Joseph Franklin Kidwell V
Suzette T. Law
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Dustin Michael Bergman
Mallory Ladonna Webb
Abby Bobo Rogers
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Alecea Marie Rodriguez

Shanjala Kynell Davis-Allen

Aleli Palma

Julisa Rodriguez Enriquez

Bryan Joshua Diaz

Parth Pandya

Guadalupe Salas

Mariella Louise Graham

Ishan Patel

Adrienne Leigh Smith

Marquavius Hollins

Catherine Anne Pitre

Emily Grace Tipping

LITANY - "PREPARING FOR THE LIGHT"

Leader: O, God, we who have waited so long in the darkness seek the light of your coming. We pray for your presence among us now.

People: Send the light of your advent to shatter our darkness and to scatter the shadows that surround us.

Leader: When we are slow to watch for your coming, when we are slow to wait for your wisdom, when we are slow to learn the wonders you would teach us ...

People: Send the light of your advent to make us watchful and wise.

Leader: Enlighten those who teach, that teaching give way to knowledge, and knowledge bring forth truth.

People: Send the light of your advent to make us truthful and strong.

Leader: Enlighten those who learn, that learning give way to insight and insight give birth to joy and wonder.

People: Send the light of your advent to make us joyful and glad.

Leader: Grant each of us the discipline of the teacher and the imagination of the student, that we may walk in ways renewed by the spirit of learning.

People: Send the light of your advent to make us creative and hopeful.

Leader: May our learning move us to caring; our caring move us to action; our action move us to be strong witnesses to your presence in our world.

People: Send the light of your advent to make us caring and brave.

All: And now, O God, we wait with still hearts and open minds for love, joy and peace to be born among us again. Come to us, Emmanuel! Amen.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Dr. Cary Adkinson
Associate Professor of Criminal Justice

Dr. Ngozi Akinro
Assistant Professor of Mass Communication

Dr. Connie Barker
Director, Family Nurse Practitioner

Dr. Elizabeth Battles
Professor of English

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Professor of Business Administration

Dr. Bruce Benz
Professor of Biology

Dr. Richard Bishop
Assistant Professor of Graduate Counseling

Valerie Carrington
Marketing & Communications Specialist

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Associate Professor of Biology

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Associate Professor of Mass Communication

Jacy George
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Neph Rivera
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Associate Professor of Family Nurse Practitioner

Paula Tran
Senior Graphic Designer & Brand Manager

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Dr. Michael Weir
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Dr. Meghan Wright
Assistant Professor of Management

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