2020

VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY THE NINETEENTH OF DECEMBER
WELCOME ................................................................. Frederick G. Slabach  
*University President*

NATIONAL ANTHEM ........................................ Wesleyan Chamber Singers

ARRANGEMENT ..................................................... Jerome M. Bierschenk  
*Associate Professor of Music*

ALMA MATER - WORDS BY J.C. DENNEY ............ Texas Wesleyan Faculty Brass Quintet

Jerome M. Bierschenk, *Trumpet*  
*Associate Professor of Music*

Kurt Bonnett, *Trumpet*  
*Adjunct Professor of Music*

Eric Hessel, *Horn*  
*Adjunct Professor of Music*

David Humphreys, *Tuba*  
*Adjunct Professor of Music*

Paul Sikes, *Trombone*  
*Assistant Professor of Music*

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ........... Tom Locke  
*Vice Chairman of the Board*

EARL BROWN DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD .. Dr. Tito D. Tubog  
*Assistant Professor of Nurse Anesthesia*

CONFERRING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES ............... Dr. Hector Quintanilla  
*Interim Provost & VP of Academic Affairs*

AWARDING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES ................. Texas Wesleyan University Faculty

Joe Brown  
*Professor of Theatre*

Dr. Jacqueline Gaffner  
*Assistant Professor of Education*

Dr. Terri Kane  
*Associate Professor of Nurse Anesthesia*

Dr. Carlos Martinez  
*Dean, School of Education*

Dr. Linda Metcalf  
*Professor of Graduate Counseling*

Dr. Ricardo Rodriguez  
*Dean, School of Arts & Sciences*

Dr. Sameer Vaidya  
*Interim Dean, School of Business Administration*

Dr. Kimberly Webb  
*Associate Professor of Accounting*

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ........... Tom Locke  
*Vice Chairman of the Board*

EARL BROWN DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD .. Dr. Tito D. Tubog  
*Assistant Professor of Nurse Anesthesia*

CONFERRING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES ............... Dr. Hector Quintanilla  
*Provost & VP of Academic Affairs*

AWARDING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES ................. Texas Wesleyan University Faculty

WELCOME FROM ALUMNI ................................. Jorge Vivar, ’76  
*President of the Alumni Association*

LITANY AND BENEDICTION ............................... Dr. Gladys A. Childs  
*Dean of Freshman Success*

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020 ................. Texas Wesleyan University Faculty
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
- Business: Light Brown
- Counseling: White
- Criminal Justice: Purple
- Education: Light Blue
- Exercise Science: Sage Green
- History: White
- Language: White
- Library Science: Lemon
- Mass Communication: Crimson
- Music: Pink
- Nurse Anesthesia: Apricot
- Paralegal Studies: Purple
- Science: Golden Yellow
- Sociology: Citron
- Theatre: Brown
- Theology: Scarlet

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
Anne Lauren Daniel
Britney Nicole De La Rosa
Richard William Ornberg

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

Ericka Faith Pitts
Socorro Preciado
Melissa L. Schniers

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER’S DEGREES

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Adrian Matthew Abilez
Ngozi Akinro
Jaida Nicole Allen
Nicholas Dominic Ambrose
Justin D. Arth
Jennifer Nicole Barnes
Cierra Ciszecky
Jan Christian Cu
Yolanda Cuellar-Garcia
Jennifer Lancaster Gann
Alexis Nicole Gonzalez
Sophia Suzette Gordon
Jasmine Nicole Hall
Ameen Abdelaziz Hannun
Jonathan Harris
Martreveus Jackson
Aimee Vanessa Lerman
Roger Dale Metcalf
David Patrick Murphy
John Raymond Ornelas, Jr.
Stephen David Parkinson
Crystal G. Simmons
Amy Elizabeth Solis
Michael Werner
Diana White

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Alea Torres Armintrout
Emma Morse Duncan
Breeanna Whitley Goss
Laci Lewis
Xitlali Sedano
Casey Denise Toombs
Abigail A. Williams

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Syed Misbah Akbar
Shawn Benson
Christine Michelle Heath
Menagere R. Isaac
Alanna Day James
Candance M. Johnston
Kalyn Loraine Maloney
Amanda Gayle Roach
Lourdes Aparecida Vasconcelos Almeida
Kristie Ann Young

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

MASTER OF ARTS IN PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

Rebecca Marie Forbes
Calen Shirlece Hawkins
Amaris Martinez Hernandez
Sonia Noorany
Gabriela Ana Padilla
CANDIDATES FOR MASTER’S DEGREES

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MARriage AND FAMILY THERAPY

Breonna Baldwin
Meghan Rashelle Braak
Katelyn Elizabeth Davisson
Joseph Franklin Kidwell V
Suzette T. Law
Amanda Poe
Erin La’drene Taylor
Bernadette Elizabeth Washington
Christine D. Zambos

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSE ANESTHESIA

Mary Alice Ford
Steven Michael Appelhof
Samantha Jo Armstrong
Dominique K. Arnold
Olivia Banks
Michael Anthony Baray
Dustin Michael Bergman
Mallory Ladonna Webb
Abby Bobo Rogers
Shana Brooke Bradley
Ruth Brown
Lesley Erin Burch
Holly Michelle Burich
Mary Carolyn Burrell
Andre Chepetan
Melissa Anne Cogdell
Dixie Leigh Cook
Jose Carlos Sabio Corpus
Tiffany Michelle Cox
Montgomery Ellen Davis
Kasandra Decker
Randy Allen Denson
Sandeep Singh Deogun
Gina Diaz
David Durrant
Kirsten Michelle Eichhof
Matthew Eisgrau
Tyler Aaron Ellis
Djoumelle Quincy Escano
Mary Louise Etoch
David A. Flores
Eric Garza
Gerard Louie Juat Gemelga
Lauren Kasey Green
Jensi Harte
Timothy C. Hatch
Chelsea L. Head
Matthew Alan Hill
Trevor G. Holsinger
Eunjin Hong
Candace C. Hooker
Jonathan J. Johnson
Fairyn Marissa Jones
Jeremy Del Jones
Austin T. Kamimura
Suzanne M. Largent
Josey Rae Lust
Jeremy Ryan Lynn
Kassandra Magin
Joshua Maliske
Jose A. Manzanilla
Marcos Antonio Mayorga Jr.
Brandon Thomas McGuire
Jaimason R. McReynolds
Videls Mecha
Brooke Alyson Meyer
Elizabeth Dias Morphis
Ashley N. Morton
Kerri Annette Mullone
Kristen Michelle Muru
Rachael Newnam
Todd Ryan Newton
Thanh An Nguyen
Alexandra Kali Nichols
Nicholas Nwoye
Derek Ray Olden
Michael B. Oppen
Alexander Orellana
Mallory Kennedy Parkey
Nitesh B. Patel
Cooper Patterson
Olivia Patton
Marc A. Porter
Michael David Puente
Gabriel Ramos
Caprica Evette Richardson
Brittany Lane Roberts
Eric Joseph Robichaud Jr.
Dhanisha Sam
Heinrich Schander
John Scherschel
Christopher John Schroeder
Wakeelah N. Sharif
Sarah Elizabeth Shin
Haylie Dawn Simon
David Simpson
Julia R. Sninchak
Ryan Soto
Samantha Ashley Sparks
Ryan Edward Stupca
Christie Angelie Tang
Alexys Marie Taylor
Jordan Michelle Thomas
Zachary Aaron Thompson
Erica Leanne Torgerson
Amanda Leigh Turner
Rogelyne Dela Cruz Ursua
Carissa K. Villarreal
Fernando Edwards Viorato Jr.
Kaylan Vollmering
Micah Andrew Walden
Lauren Caroline Walsh
Joshua Ray Watson
Blake David Weatherby
Taylor Ryan Whitaker
Kelsey Ann Wolfe
Michael Earl Woods Jr.
Madeleine Monet Young
Emily Jean Radcliffe

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

Rachel Lorayne Palmer
CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF APPLIED ARTS AND SCIENCES

Marquavius Hollins  
Javier F. Sanchez

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Edon Ademaj  
Melissa Nicole Gonzalez  
Stephanie C. Rodriguez

Atheer Abdulhamid Alsahafi  
Delaney Shelby Ann Pricer  
C. Andrew Rose

Shanjala Kynell Davis-Allen  
Alma Yaneli Ramirez-Rosales  
Jakeb O’Bryan Silva

Kathleen Garcia  
Laura Rangel  
Kaicee Elizabeth Simpson

Daniel Garcia Rodriguez  
Graciela Reyna Rios  
Melvin Douglas Smith

Franceanne Gilbertson  
Julian Evan Rodriguez  

Gary Girard  
Alecea Marie Rodriguez  

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Reagan Danielle Fraze  
Abigail Marie Garraty

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Christopher G. Culross  
Jamie Ford  
Jasmin Miki White

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Haley Arnspiger Dierke  
Savannah Leigh Hart  
Amarsingh Purohit

Lindsey Michelle Bishop  
Jaime Hernandez  
Hongbi Quan

Bradley Dalton Boulton  
Kaitlyn Marie Johnson  
Rhyann Jacorey Montrae Reason

Kristen Elaine Branscum  
Jajuan Jante Jonas Kelly  
Hannah Isabella Rey

Lauren Elyse Bristol  
Jaylen King  
Juan Jose Rey Rivas

Iyanna Christina-Marie Brown  
Olivia Lopez  
Emily Renee Rodriguez

Christopher M. Campbell Jr.  
Mallory Jane Marks  
Pauline Angelica Rubio

Yvonne Dominique Castillo  
Felisa K. Gambrell  
Lauron Elon Scott

Connie Avina Cervantez  
Davonte Mitchell-Dixon  
Ashley N. Shelton

Joshua B. Chi  
Cheyanne Salinas  
Kristopher Joe Swift

Temuulen Chinzorig  
Marie-Merci U. Ndagano  
Emily Grace Tipping

Kaylee Michelle Conrad  
Marie-Clemence Ndagano  
Sophie Silva

Jonte M. Cox  
Joshua Nichols  
Adrianna M. Venzor

Maulin Dhivar  
Lyric Makayla Nunley  
Nikolas Westfall

Bryan Joshua Diaz  
Hannah L. Onder  
Brittany Williams

Adji Dior Dioum  
Parth Panda  
Destiny C. Winkfield

Charity Ellis  
Ishan Patel  
Isabel Zamarripa

Falesha Marie Fuller  
Jonathon Andrew Perkins  

Garfield A. Grant  
Bao Quoc Pham  

This program is not an official listing of degrees awarded or honors received.
CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Saleh M. Bamershed  \hspace{0.5cm}  Luis Alberto Lopez
Claudio Barraza Zuriaga  \hspace{0.5cm}  Jonathan Abel Martinez
Troy Carrigan  \hspace{0.5cm}  Savanna Sky McAlpin
Hunter Terrell Dampeer  \hspace{0.5cm}  Jiateia McDaniel
Joshua Burton Davis  \hspace{0.5cm}  Jonathan McNamee
Fan Zhaozhe  \hspace{0.5cm}  Alejandro Ortiz
Britt Fleischer  \hspace{0.5cm}  Aleli Palma
Devin D. Griffin  \hspace{0.5cm}  Shivkumar Patel
Jordan Naima Brimberry-Grinage  \hspace{0.5cm}  Mihir Miteshkumar Patel
Francia Idaly Hernandez  \hspace{0.5cm}  Catherine Anne Pitre
Nicholas Latham  \hspace{0.5cm}  Humberto Reyes
Julisa Rodriguez Enriquez  \hspace{0.5cm}  Shaun Rost
Shaun Rost  \hspace{0.5cm}  Lesa Nolte Scott
Adrienne Leigh Smith  \hspace{0.5cm}  Devyn Leigh Teague
Marcus Weden Waerstad  \hspace{0.5cm}  Senrui Wang
Adam David White  \hspace{0.5cm}  Kenzie Wilson
Quandre D. Zamora

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Ivett Granados  \hspace{0.5cm}  Cintia N. Rodriguez
Sophia Ramirez  \hspace{0.5cm}  Guadalupe Salas

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Darian Rae Dunn  \hspace{0.5cm}  Mariella Louise Graham
Amanda Nicole Garcia  \hspace{0.5cm}  Jacob Keegan Sapienza
Sara I. Gomez  \hspace{0.5cm}  Mikayla Dianne Smith
John Morton Ware III  \hspace{0.5cm}  Brittany M. Wheat

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ATHLETIC TRAINING

Jarrett Paul Blankenship
# UNIVERSITY HONORS

**UNIVERSITY HONORS**

Catherine Anne Pitre  
Devyn Leigh Teague

**DEPARTMENTAL HONORS**

**BIOLOGY**

Savannah Leigh Hart  
Hannah Isabella Rey

**EDUCATION**

Sophia Ramirez

**SOCIOLOGY**

Lindsey Michelle Bishop  
Hannah L. Onder

**LATIN HONORS**

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Claudio Barraza Zuñiga  
Francia Idaly Hernandez  
Adrianna M. Venzor

Joshua Burton Davis  
Bao Quoc Pham  
Jasmin Miki White

Jamie Ford  
Kaiicee Elizabeth Simpson

Savannah Leigh Hart  
Devyn Leigh Teague

**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Edon Ademaj  
Kaitlyn Marie Johnson  
Delaney Shelby Ann Pricer

Reagan Danielle Fraze  
Hannah L. Onder  
Ashley N. Shelton

Abigail Marie Garraty  
Alejandro Ortiz  
Adam David White

Jaime Hernandez  
Jonathon Andrew Perkins

**CUM LAUDE**

Catherine Anne Pitre  
Jajuan Jante Jonas Kelly  
Sophia Ramirez

Bradley Dalton Boulton  
Jonathan McNamee  
Hannah Isabella Rey

Christopher M. Campbell Jr.  
Marie-Merci U. Ndagano  
Aleceia Marie Rodriguez

Shanjala Kynell Davis-Allen  
Aleli Palma  
Julisa Rodriguez Enríquez

Bryan Joshua Diaz  
Parth Pandya  
Guadalupe Salas

Mariella Louise Graham  
Ishan Patel  
Adrienne Leigh Smith

Marquavious Hollins  
Catherine Anne Pitre  
Emily Grace Tipping
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.

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

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 …

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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.

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

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

Dr. Thomas Bell
Professor of Business Administration

Dr. Bruce Benz
Professor of Biology

Dr. Richard Bishop
Assistant Professor of Graduate Counseling

Valerie Carrington
Marketing & Communications Specialist

Dr. Chitra Chandrasekaran
Associate Professor of Biology

Dr. Kay Colley
Associate Professor of Mass Communication

Jacy George
Director of Digital Marketing Strategy

Cynthia Gonzales
Administrative Assistant to the Dean, School of Education

Dr. Matthew Hand
Associate Professor of Psychology

Shana Hellinger
Academic Services Coordinator, School of Business Administration

Linda Humphrey
Assistant Registrar

Shannon Lambersen
Associate Vice President, Marketing & Communications

Dr. Christopher Ohan
Associate Dean, School of Arts & Sciences

Amy Orcutt
Marketing and CRM Director

Dr. Christopher Parker
Assistant Professor of Microbiology

Caitlyn Pavey
Technical Records Coordinator, Student Records

Dr. Chad Pevateaux
Assistant Professor of Religion

Neph Rivera
Communications & Public Relations Manager

Dr. Alison Simons
Associate Professor of Sociology

Dr. Lisa Taylor
Associate Professor of Family Nurse Practitioner

Paula Tran
Senior Graphic Designer & Brand Manager

Dr. Kendra Weddle
Professor of Religion

Dr. Michael Weir
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Dr. Meghan Wright
Assistant Professor of Management

VIDEO PRODUCTION CREDITS

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER........................................... Amber Tejeda
Director of Academic Operations

PRODUCER/EDITOR & VIDEographer...................... Braidon Clemence
University Videographer

PRODUCER/PRODUCTION DESIGNER...................... David Monge
Creative Services Manager