



WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT
2017

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017, 9:00 A.M.
PRUDENTIAL CENTER, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

2017

THE WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY MISSION AND VISION

OUR MISSION

William Paterson University of New Jersey is a public institution that offers an outstanding and affordable education to a diverse traditional and nontraditional student body through baccalaureate, graduate, and continuing education programs. The University's distinguished teachers, scholars and professionals actively challenge students to high levels of intellectual and professional accomplishment and personal growth in preparation for careers, advanced studies, and productive citizenship. Faculty and staff use innovative approaches to research, learning, and student support to expand students' awareness of what they can accomplish. The University's graduates embody a profound sense of responsibility to their communities, commitment to a sustainable environment, and active involvement in a multicultural world.

VISION: THE UNIVERSITY IN 2022

William Paterson University will be widely recognized as the model of outstanding and affordable public higher education characterized by rigorous academic preparation and a wide array of experiential, cocurricular and extracurricular opportunities. The University will be distinctive for nationally recognized programs that prepare its students for the careers of today and tomorrow and known for its support of the personal growth and academic success of a highly diverse student body. It will be an institution of first choice for students committed to transforming their lives and making a difference.

Approved by the William Paterson University Board of Trustees, March 19, 2012.





2017 COMMENCEMENT

- 2 LETTER FROM PRESIDENT
- 3 LETTER FROM CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
- 5 ORDER OF CEREMONY
- 6 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER/HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT
- 7 HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT
- 8 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN
- 8 FACULTY HONOREES
- 10 BACHELOR'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS, JANUARY 2017
- 17 BACHELOR'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS, MAY 2017
- 29 BACHELOR'S DEGREE RECIPIENTS, AUGUST 2017
- 36 HONORS COLLEGE GRADUATES
- 37 ACADEMIC AWARDS
- 40 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME
- 41 "SAY THANKS" DEDICATIONS
- 46 COMMENCEMENT NOTES
- 48 ALMA MATER



Dear Graduate,

On behalf of the faculty and staff at William Paterson University, I offer our warmest congratulations as you and your family celebrate this milestone event in your life. Today we will award you the university degree that you so richly deserve. As this chapter of your life comes to a close, I encourage you to reflect on your journey to this place and time, and to look forward to the world that awaits you.

You will have opportunities beyond imagination in the years ahead. But with opportunity comes responsibility. The world will need strong leaders and engaged citizens to make the good choices that will lead our country forward to higher ideals. You will be called upon to marshal the resources to help realize the dreams of your ancestors and to create a sustainable world for generations to come.

As artists and musicians, you will embody the creative spirit of a new generation. As business women and men, you will build and sustain our nation and world economically into the twenty-first century. As educators, you will shape the minds and lives of our children and grandchildren. As humanists, you will create new and deeper ways of thinking and perceiving ourselves and our world. And as social and natural scientists, you will help us more deeply understand ourselves and create scientific discoveries that will better our daily lives.

You are our future...and we couldn't be more proud of you.

There is no limit to your aspirations. You now have the academic preparation to begin the fulfillment of your dreams. And as you leave William Paterson University, know that we stand behind you and will always be proud that you graduated from this University.

Best wishes for a bright and happy future!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Waldron
President



Dear Graduates, Families, and Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, it is my pleasure to welcome you today to the 194th Commencement of William Paterson University.

At each graduation, my colleagues on the Board and I take great pride in watching so many talented women and men receive their diplomas. Each diploma is a tangible sign of the hard work, commitment, and determination that has gone into making this day a reality.

As you take your place as a leader in society, take a minute to reflect on how you can apply the knowledge, skills, and talents you have developed here at William Paterson University to make an impact on your community, our nation, and even the world. With your diploma in hand, you have proven that you are up to the challenge.

We are equally proud of our outstanding faculty, who challenge our students to the highest level of academic pursuit. Our faculty are as diverse as our students, possessing the same drive to excellence—in the classroom, on the job, and as productive citizens.

This is a great day for you, your family, and your friends. Enjoy it, savor it, and remember to be proud that William Paterson University is now your *alma mater*.

Sincerely,

Frederick L. Gruel, Chair
William Paterson University Board of Trustees

THE WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

2017 COMMENCEMENT

Board of Trustees

Frederick L. Gruel
Chairperson

Michael Seeve
Vice Chairperson

Robert Guarasci
Secretary

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(Student Trustee)

Lourdes Cortez

John Galandak

Kevin Lenahan '90

Anna Marie Mascolo

Brad Neilley '80

Linda Niro '76

William J. Pesce '73

Henry J. Pruitt, Jr.

Robert Taylor
(Trustee *Emeritus*)

Zachary Thomas
(Student Trustee)

Deborah Zastocki

Kathleen M. Waldron, *ex officio*

Robert Seal, Chief of Staff to the
President and Board of Trustees

State of New Jersey
The Honorable Chris Christie, Governor

The Honorable Kim Guadagno,
Lt. Governor

The Honorable Rochelle Hendricks,
Secretary of Higher Education

William Paterson University
Foundation
Aaron Van Duyn '75, MM '08,
Chairperson

Alumni Association
Domenico DiMaio '97,
President

Faculty Senate
Kate Makarec, Chair

University Marshal
Susan Godar, Professor, Marketing
and Management

Administrative Officers

Kathleen M. Waldron, President

Warren G. Sandmann, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Stephen Bolyai, Vice President for Administration and Finance

Pamela Ferguson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Miki Cammarata, Vice President for Student Development

Reginald Ross, Vice President for Enrollment Management

Stuart Goldstein, Vice President for Marketing and Public Relations

Allison Boucher-Jarvis, Vice President for Human Resources

Glenn R. Jones, General Counsel to the University and the Board of Trustees

Patrick DeDeo, Associate Vice President for Governmental Relations and External Affairs

Stephen Hahn, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

Danielle Liautaud-Watkins, Associate Provost for Academic Development

Jonathan Lincoln, Associate Provost for Curriculum and International Education

Glen Sherman, Associate Vice President and Dean of Student Development

Francisco Diaz, Associate Vice President for Campus Life

Daryl J. Moore, Dean, College of the Arts and Communication

Siamack Shojai, Dean, Cotsakos College of Business

Candace Burns, Dean, College of Education

Kara Rabbitt, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Kenneth Wolf, Dean, College of Science and Health

Edward Owusu-Ansah, Dean, Cheng Library

Loretta McLaughlin-Vignier, Associate Dean,
College of the Arts and Communication

Kathleen Barnes, Associate Dean, Cotsakos College of Business

Dorothy Feola, Associate Dean, College of Education

Wartyna Davis, Associate Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Jean Fuller-Stanley, Associate Dean, College of Science and Health

Student Government Association
Esaul Helena, President

Valedictorian
Jessica Geary

Salutatorian
Elena VILLECCA

Banner Carriers

College of the Arts and
Communication
Luisa Salazar

Cotsakos College of Business
Fredrik Hagbarth

College of Education
Stephanie Green

College of Humanities and
Social Sciences
Franziska Federico

College of Science and Health
Samantha Morris

Readers

Steven Colon, Assistant Director,
Educational Opportunity Fund

David Demsey, Professor, Music

Anthony Leckey, Senior Associate Director,
Admissions

Madhuri Mukherjee, Associate Professor,
Languages and Cultures

Cinzia Richardson, Director, Office of
International Students and Scholars

Julie Rosenthal, Associate Professor,
Elementary and Early Childhood Education

Danielle Wallace, Assistant Professor,
Africana World Studies



ORDER OF CEREMONY

Processional	Pomp and Circumstance March, No. 1, by Sir Edward Elgar (Audience is requested to remain seated for the academic procession)
National Anthem	Jamie Engels, tenor, accompanied by Carl Bolleia '08, Adjunct Professor, Music
Introduction	Kathleen Waldron, PhD, President of the University
Valedictory Address	Jessica Geary, <i>summa cum laude</i> , earth science
Faculty Excellence Awards	Warren G. Sandmann, PhD, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, presenting
Comment to the Class	Kathleen Waldron, PhD, President of the University
Conferral of Honorary Degrees	Frederick L. Gruel, Chair, William Paterson University Board of Trustees, presenting Maureen Conway '66, Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Paul A. Sarlo, Honorary Doctor of Laws
Commencement Address	Paul A. Sarlo, Deputy Majority Leader, New Jersey State Senate
Alumni Association Welcome	Domenico DiMaio '97, President, William Paterson University Alumni Association
Presentation of Degree Candidates	Warren G. Sandmann, PhD, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Candidates will be recognized by the deans of their respective colleges: Daryl Moore, MFA, Dean, College of the Arts and Communication Siamack Shojai, PhD, Dean, Cotsakos College of Business Candace Burns, EdD, Dean, College of Education Kara Rabbitt, PhD, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences Kenneth Wolf, PhD, Dean, College of Science and Health
Conferring of Degrees	Kathleen Waldron, PhD, President of the University
Alma Mater	Justine Lancaster, soprano, and Sarah Strickland, soprano, accompanied by Carl Bolleia '08, Adjunct Professor, Music
Recessional	Suite No. 2 in F, by Gustav Holst (Audience is requested to remain seated until the academic procession has left)



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER AND HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

PAUL A. SARLO

Deputy Majority Leader, New Jersey State Senate
Democrat of District 36

HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS

Paul A. Sarlo is Deputy Majority Leader of the New Jersey Senate. He serves as chairman of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, and is a member of the Judiciary Committee, the Higher Education Committee, the Joint Budget Oversight Committee, and the Senate Legislative Oversight Committee. He is a former chairman of the Judiciary Committee and the Labor Committee.

As a legislator, Mr. Sarlo has been the prime sponsor of more than 200 bills which have been signed into law. He was a prime sponsor of legislation which reformed New Jersey's worker's compensation system, established the "Main Street Business Assistance Program," criminalized the illegal trafficking and distribution of prescription drugs, required schools to adopt bullying prevention policies, and upgraded penalties for identity theft. He also sponsored laws dealing with ethics reforms, energy efficiency, environmental protection, homeland security, and consumer protection.

His career in public service spans more than two decades. He has served as mayor of the Borough of Wood-Ridge since 2000 and served on its Borough Council from 1995-2000. In 2001, he was elected to the New Jersey General Assembly, a position he held until May 2003 when he was sworn in to the New Jersey Senate to fill an unexpired term. He was elected to a full term in the New Jersey Senate in November 2003 and was re-elected in 2007, 2011, and 2013. Mr. Sarlo represents the 36th legislative district, which includes 15 municipalities in Bergen and Passaic counties.

A licensed professional engineer, licensed professional planner, and a certified municipal engineer, Mr. Sarlo holds bachelor of science and master of science degrees in civil engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, where he was a Division III All-American in baseball. He and his wife, Concetta, have two sons.



HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

MAUREEN CONWAY '66

Retired Vice President, Emerging Market Solutions Group,
Hewlett-Packard Company

HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

Maureen Conway is a retired senior executive at Hewlett-Packard Company (HP). She held various executive positions at Hewlett-Packard Company from 1989 until her retirement in 2005. Most recently, she was responsible for HP's Emerging Market Solutions Group, pioneering a new approach that applied technology and business model innovation to the social and economic needs of developing economies. Her work received many awards in India and the Republic of South Africa. In 2005, the approach, results, and impact were described in Thomas L. Friedman's bestselling book on globalization, *The World is Flat*.

Earlier, Ms. Conway served as vice president and chief information officer for HP; she received the Solomon Smith Barney CIO of the Year Award in 2002. Prior to joining HP in 1989, she spent 20 years in technical management positions at Bell Laboratories, Computer Corporation of America, and Apollo Computer. She began her career as a high school mathematics teacher at Palisades Park Junior/Senior High School.

A native of North Bergen, she is a 1966 graduate of William Paterson University with a bachelor's degree in mathematics. She holds a master of science degree in mathematics from Montclair State University and a master's degree in business administration with an emphasis in management and organizational behavior from Temple University.

Ms. Conway served as a member of the William Paterson University Board of Trustees from 2011 to 2016, including a term as vice chair. She is a past member of the William Paterson University Foundation Board, on which she served from 2006 to 2011. In 2006, she established an endowed scholarship to support a student in the College of Science and Health. She also was instrumental in the development of the University's Pioneer Leadership Institute, which helps students develop critical leadership skills.

Honored in 2003 by the William Paterson Alumni Association, which presented her with the Distinguished Alumni Award, Ms. Conway received the President's Medal and delivered the commencement address in 2006.

STUDENTS

VALEDICTORIAN

Awarded to the highest-achieving student who completed all credits at the University

JESSICA GEARY

Earth Science, *summa cum laude*

Jessica Geary is a January 2017 graduate with a bachelor of science degree, *summa cum laude*, in earth science, with a minor in philosophy. A Dean's List student throughout her entire career, Ms. Geary was inducted into *Pi Lambda Theta*, the education honor society, *Phi Sigma Tau*, the philosophy honor society, and *Sigma Alpha Pi*, the National Society of Leadership and Success. She has served as an environmental science research assistant, conducting research to analyze tree rings to derive past global climates. She recently joined with faculty member Nicole Davi, assistant professor of environmental science, to present a research paper, *Developing improved climate reconstructions for Central Asia*, at the 2017 annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers. Ms. Geary has served as an intern with the Student Conservation Association and as a visitor use assistant, both at the National Park Service's Jewel Cave National Monument in Custer, South Dakota. She will serve as an interpretive tour guide this summer with the National Park Service at Sequoia National Park in California.

SALUTATORIAN

Awarded to the highest-achieving transfer student

ELENA VILLECCA

Elementary Education and Psychology, *summa cum laude*

Elena Villecca is a May 2017 graduate of William Paterson University with a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education and psychology, *summa cum laude*. A Dean's List student, she has been invited to *Kappa Delta Pi*, the international honor society for education, and received the William Paterson University Presidential Scholarship. Ms. Villecca is a graduate of Passaic County Community College, and she has been inducted into *Phi Theta Kappa*, an honor society for two-year students, and *Tau Sigma*, the national honor society for transfer students. She has served as a volunteer at the New Jersey Aviation Hall of Fame in Teterboro and at the Boys and Girls Club of Pequannock. Ms. Villecca is seeking a position as an elementary school teacher.

FACULTY

2017 FACULTY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH/SCHOLARSHIP/ CREATIVE EXPRESSION

COREY BASCH

Associate Professor of Public Health



Professor Corey Basch is a public health researcher and scholar whose interests

include cancer education, cancer screening, and health communication. Much of her research is focused on reducing health disparities in low-income urban minority populations. Topics have ranged from the effects of technology on health and safety to health communications via YouTube. She is the author of more than 120 scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals, and more than 60 of these papers include students or alumni of William Paterson University as co-authors. Professor Basch has presented her research at numerous conferences and is a guest editor for a special issue of the *Journal of Prevention and Intervention in the Community*. A graduate of the University of New Hampshire with a bachelor's degree in nutritional sciences, she holds a master's degree in public

health from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, master's degrees in cognition and learning, communication and education, and nutrition education from Teachers College, Columbia University, and an interdisciplinary doctorate in health education and humanities from Teachers College, Columbia University.

2017 FACULTY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

MARIA KROMIDAS

Associate Professor of Anthropology



Professor Maria Kromidas is a cultural anthropologist specializing in racial

formation in the United States, anthropology of childhood and youth, cosmopolitan urbanism, and educational inequality. She teaches courses on a range of topics, such as anthropology of inequality, diversity and equity in schools, and research methods. Much of her teaching is grounded in her students' and her own experiences, which include three years as a teacher in a New York City public school and, most recently, as a researcher who spent more

than a year observing and interviewing fifth graders both inside and outside the classroom in one of New York's most diverse neighborhoods to explore how they developed their understandings of race. Her findings are detailed in her recent book, *City Kids: Transforming Racial Baggage* (Rutgers University Press, 2016). The author of numerous publications and presentations, Professor Kromidas holds a bachelor's degree in biological anthropology from the University of Michigan, a master's in anthropology and education from Teachers College, Columbia University, and a doctorate in anthropology from Columbia University.

2017 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE

KEVIN MARTUS

Professor of Physics



Professor Kevin Martus is a physicist specializing in atomic, molecular, and plasma physics. His research interests include the analysis of optical emissions from plasma discharges and plasma surface

interactions. He regularly mentors undergraduate and graduate students in research projects, as well as high school students conducting summer research. The recipient of a 2010 National Science Foundation Award in support of a sophisticated imaging spectrograph for research, he has written numerous journal articles. Professor Martus, who currently serves as chair of the Department of Physics, is a member of the Faculty Senate, a role he has held since 2003. He has served as a member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (2006-07 and 2013-14); chair, co-chair, and a member of the Research Council; and a member of numerous committees, task forces, and councils. A graduate of Kean University with a bachelor's degree in mathematics, he holds master's and doctoral degrees in physics from Lehigh University and conducted postdoctoral research at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

COLLEGE OF THE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

Bachelor of Arts

ART

Taylor Ross Allenstein
 Maria Reda Fawzi Kallini**
 Lilly Sohl Kim
 Thomas Lawrence
 Tiffany Patricia Seeger**
 Yuliya Shimanovskaya***
 Birgitte Westerveld**

COMMUNICATION

Stephen Abrunzo
 Ricardo Omar Aquino*
 Jonathan N. Astacio*
 Ashley Ayaz
 Roxanne Eva Back
 Yuniore Gerardo Caballero*
 Rebecca Garcia Canilao
 Charles Frank Carter III
 Michael A. Conte
 Lamisha Angela Cook
 Kyle Robert Cooke
 Brandy Lyn Corsaro***
 Seve Cousins
 Nadia Cruz
 Athena Anna Daniil
 Eric S. Dargis
 Nicole DaRosa**
 Brea Glynic Dean**
 Andrew Joseph Dunsavage*
 Ryan P. Edelson
 Catherine Esther Fernandez
 Grace Annette Francisco
 Atia B. Gleaton

Dominique Chloe Gouamba
 Amanda Marie Gray*
 Adam J. Heavner
 Nadiyah Kamyill Holmes
 Lindsey Charlotte Hutson
 Joseph J. Ingallina
 Karlee M. Kozik
 Brittany Nichole LaBruna
 Alexandra Raye Lindeman**
 Alina Maria Livingston
 Theodore John Mancuso
 Christopher Michale Marciniak
 Kaitlyn N. Mascola**
 Mark Anthony Messina**
 Mason Taylor Mills**
 Jake Gregory Mulholland
 Sharon Yvonne Murray
 Stephanie Margaret Parada
 Renee Michelle Pendergast
 Camilla Pietras*
 Wendy Liliana Vidal Rodriguez**
 Alfredo Salgado
 Fernando Sanchez
 Kasey Megan Seifried
 Thomas Michael Springsteen
 Meghin Rose Stanton
 Kristina Lynn Sternesky**
 Vinessa Renae Taylor
 Peter J. Trivett
 Alexandra Renee Valentino*
 Alexander Michael Vigna*
 Jessica Noelle Villavicencio
 Kelly Ronette Williams
 Nefertete I. Williams
 Sharina Jasmine Williams

MUSIC

Robert Lee Mahoney**
 Timothy Ryan Malone*
 Cole Mozelesky*
 Miguel A. Rivera*
 Sarah Ruth Strickland**

Bachelor of Fine Arts

ART

Eric Alexander Abrams
 Darlene Anico**
 David M. Blauvelt***
 Nylsha L. Feliciano**
 Yanira Garcia
 Jessica G. Loayza Jarama
 Rachel Joy Moore**
 Felix Jose Nunez*
 James Colin Pruiksma**

Bachelor of Music

MUSIC

Kate Baker
 Daniel C. Basile*
 David Michael Endean
 Justine L. Lancaster*
 Carlos Obikaa Nwankwo
 Daniel Christopher Raycraft
 Evangelia Stavridis
 Justin Vetrero**

COTSAKOS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Bachelor of Arts

ECONOMICS

Chukwuma Eugene Oguh
Daniel James Seneker
Stephen Trudgen

Bachelor of Science

ACCOUNTING

Ronald Aguilar
Muhammad Ahsan
Yehia Akle
Anjelly Apolinario
Alan John Barrese
Keyris Cardenas*
Alexis Sandiego Dumalagan
Nafen Esmael
Gentiana Fetahu
Juliana Garcia
Chandrajit Ghumwala
Anthony Angelo Guarneri
Dana Jalahej
Shea Lynne Kavanagh
Michael Kim
Kamila Kossakowska
Ian Michael Leary
Patricia Marques*
Maria Caridad Marrero
Astrid Carolina Mauricio
Katherine Mae Mendoza
Matthew Michael Milanowski
Ketevan Nasrashvili*
Andrew Charles Panora
Adrian H. Polania
Eleazar Edward Ramos
Stephanie Helen Spies**
Meghan Catherine Stamatopoulos
Grzegorz Szorc
Kelly L. Turner
Connor J. Whelan
Eugenie Laura Williams

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Arwa Majdi Altoukhi
Daniel William Simms
Wendy Marie Torres

FINANCE

Austin Alex
Deandra Adrian Anderson
Cherry Marielis Aristy-Castro
Shaquille O. Brant
Christopher Alberto Canales
Alyson Marie Da Silva
Jun-Wa Fung
Chandrajit Ghumwala
Dana Jalahej
Carolina Lopez
Carolina Martinez**
Catharine Maura
Kenny A. Obeso
Sulay A. Patel
Tyler Dillon Rabinowitz
Albros Varoqua
Vladimir Vojnovski***

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Danielle Arlotta
Brittani P. Parrino
Stephanie Helen Spies**

GLOBAL BUSINESS

Rafiel Nyakako
Rosanna Iris Perez
Catalina Restrepo
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MANAGEMENT

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Travis John Clauss
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Carolina Lopez

Debra Makris
Richard Edward McEown
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Nicholas Joseph Melillo
Tyler James Neira
Jongwoo Park
Catalina Restrepo
Quintashia Richardson
Dylan William Rodriguez
Austin L. Siclari
Alexander Edward James Simpson
Ashir Deepak Trivedi
Brandon Lee Velez
Klaus Dieter Weihenig II

MARKETING

Jordan Daniel Aughey
Kenny Alberto Beltran
Stephanie Marie Buffalino
Brianna Nicole Campo*
Kleber Antonio Cevallos
Collin P. Donovan
Marina Rose Florey
James Michael Flotard
Erick W. Gonzales
Lamont Taraine Griffin
Lucy C. Lora
Florencia Martinez
Alicia Mae McInerney
Cristhian Gabriel Medranda
Daniela Minervini
Peter Samuel Morales
Ritchie Renzo Movilla
Dario Ortiz
Caitlin Alexandra Pariso
Jamie Louise Stewart*
Joel Trinidad

PROFESSIONAL SALES

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Brianna Nicole Campo*
Gina Marie Cesaro
Matthew Chernego
Dana M. Najmowski
Daniel Kenneth Nann
Matthew Charles Shova
Austin L. Siclari
Dishant Trivedi



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Noelle Rebecca Boyer*
 Amanda Len Brown**
 Shannon L. Carroll**
 Ashlee Lynn Chiamonti
 Vivian Andrea Corrales
 Makenzie Lee Dreher
 Carla Marie Fletcher**
 Alexandra Lacina Gleason
 Stephanie Lynn Green***
 Mary Rose Henry
 Ivory T. Ho*
 Ian James Hunter***
 Maria Katie Karsos**
 Melissa Ann Lewis**
 Jessica Nicole Lino*
 Ghislaine Fatima Loffredo-Otero
 Amanda Taylor Madrid

Eric Anthony Oshman
 Amber Lynne Paterson**
 Lana Ploshchansky
 Christina Maria Reyes
 Maria I. Rodriguez*
 Rachel Diana Smith*

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Gabriella Rachele Armprister**
 Alexa Nicole Calandrillo*
 Jessica Sarah Carney***
 Dylan L. Cohen*
 Tara Rose Durkin
 Brittany A. English**
 Sylvia Rose Gaetan
 Keath Edward Gerald
 Rebecca Danielle Hennessy*
 Leanne Isabelle
 Shannon Elizabeth King*

Stephen Ray Kolankowski
 Yeong Mi Lee**
 Samantha Joanne Lyon
 Dalissa Canario Padilla**
 Joanna R. Pedalino
 Wendy Rosales**
 Lucia Filomena Russo*
 Kristen Lynn Schissler***
 Lauren Marie Seibert**
 Nadine Shadruff **
 Daniel Francis Van Wert
 Felicia L. Wilgus

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Emily Joan Benjamin*
 Agustin Castillo
 Michelle Marie Falco
 Katerina Kociski
 Kaitlyn Grace Oster
 Tiffany Ann Rosa**

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Bachelor of Arts

AFRICANA WORLD STUDIES

Lawrence Davaughn Smith**

ASIAN STUDIES

Simardeep Singh

CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Jante Altadouka
Clinton Leroy Linwood Bell II
Alexander Daniel Bogart
Juanito T. Borromeo
Lindsey Taylor Capozzi
Vanessa Marie Claret
Kyle Joseph Dean
Aileen Jeannette Delgado
Rachel R. Dzuber
William David Flores*
Tiyaana Kiara Garcia
Domenic A. Giannella**
Salvatore Mario Grosso
Willie Jamal Johnson
Helena Marie Lefkus
John S. LoGreco
Jeffrey Todd Lotz
Thomas James Miskovich
Hunter Naletko
Juan Gabriel Nunez
Alyssa Piedra
Peter John Posimato
Ashley N. Ribeiro
Corey James Rich
Anthony Jay Ruby
Jessica Beth Sanchez
Brian Richard Schatmeyer*
Ronn Lucious Schuck
Brian Scott Sisco
Davon Lamont Smith
Gaudencio Castro Soriano
Kyle R. Terramoccia**
Kyle A. Tucci
David Tulchinsky
Samantha M. Uzzell
Felicia M. Wetzel
Kelsey R. Wimmershoff

ENGLISH

Mohammed Ronny Amin**
Nicole Askovic
Leslie Cristina Barrios
Alexa Nicole Calandrillo*
Jessica Sarah Carney***
Allelia Koehler Cesa
Dylan L. Cohen*
Michelle Marie Falco
Jennifer Chrystel Falzarano**
Alexandra Lacina Gleason
Christopher Michael Guidi
Christopher M. Hallinan
Rebecca Danielle Hennessy
Ivory T. Ho*
Amanda Margaret Hollenbeck***
Leanne Isabelle
Mecca-Amirah Jackson*
Maria Katie Karsos**
Shannon Elizabeth King
Carla Jasmine Lezin
Samantha Joanne Lyon
Amanda Taylor Madrid
Angeline Deanna Matthews***
Jacob T. Nash*
Kaitlyn Grace Oster
Eric Michael Pacheco**
Cheryl Elaine Pallaghy
Dawn Marie Palmer***
Erika Maritza Quinteros**
Victoria Rosania
Sasha Briana Santiago*
Kristen Lynn Schissler***
Nadine Shadruff**
Christopher R. Sitko*
Shivaun Theresa Vogas
Felicia L. Wilgus

HISTORY

Allison D. Acre-Walker
Phillip Arumemi
Christa N. Bagnuolo
Glenn Eivind Berkenkamp
Agustin Castillo
Thomas Sherlock Decker
Alberto Luis Despaigne
Valerie Allison Jimenez-Baez
Christine C. Kearney

Stephen Ray Kolankowski
Katerina Kociski
Semra Kurucan
Reinaldi A. Marquez
Shaun J. Matriss*
Danielle Nicole McManus
Catherine L. Parra
Joanna R. Pedalino
Tyler Paul Phillippe
Pranav Rana
Tiffany Ann Rosa**
Sean Louis Ruffman
Daniella Marie Torres
Anthony J. Vasile

LEGAL STUDIES

Saranda Ala*

LIBERAL STUDIES

Cynthia M. Baez
Amanda Len Brown**
Shannon L. Carroll**
Vivian Andrea Corrales
Shaina Denise Daniels
Brittany A. English**
Carla Marie Fletcher**
Jennifer Catherine Foster
Sylvia Rose Gaetan
Keath Edward Gerald
Stephanie Lynn Green***
Stephen Hart
Mary Rose Henry
Ian James Hunter***
David Alexander Large**
Melissa Ann Lewis**
Jessica Nicole Lino*
Mirdita Merko-Hazir
Nelsi Natalie Morel
Eric Anthony Oshman
Amber Lynne Paterson**
Kathryn S. Pollack
Hiraysa Reynoso
Robert William Risetto***
Lucia Filomena Russo*
Meghan Hastings Russo
Lauren Marie Seibert**
Daniel Francis Van Wert
Daniel Wheeler
Vanessa Melissa Williams

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES CONT.

PHILOSOPHY

Lindsay Marie Alexis Bradford**
 Roger Joseph Fernandez
 Andrew Lucila
 Angeline Deanna Matthews***
 Piotr Mazurek*

POLITICAL SCIENCE

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PHILOSOPHY

Karol Sobolewski
Jill Louise Spears

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Claire J. Davey
Quawee Gerard Gallman
Seghen Asefaw Guadad
Atif Malik
Ignacia Antonia Oyanedel Munoz
Azuka Derek Ogbuagu
Danielle D. Oscar
James Anthony Rose Jr.
Karol Sobolewski
Da'Jah Monae Watkins

PSYCHOLOGY

Nadeen Nitham Alawi
Ashley Melissa Algarin
Diana Carolina Arias
Christopher Noel Astacio**
Tamara S. Awad
Jameslee Baptiste
Kasandra Beverly Berlus
Michael Blacknell
Jamaica Paulinda Blair
Asra Bozkurt
Andrea Gradim Brandao
Chenae N. Brown
Marlenne Natacha Brown
Tynasia Aallyyah Brown
Jonathan B. Chiles
Kelly Jane Cole
Klorisa L. Coleman
Ruth Septima Conteh
Ashlee May D'Egidio
Megan Erin Lindsey Dell'Arena
Jaclyn Leigh Desensi
Nancy Elizabeth Edge Dodge
Sarah Ann Dodge
Esterlina C. Dondero
Jamie L. Dubinski*
Carol Echeverry
Zaheer A. Glass
Stacey-Ann Rosette Grannell
Gabriela Guillen
Ricky Heeraman
Irene Hernandez

Rosana M. Hernandez
Jessica Amber Hoskins
Andrea Hoyos
Isra Mohsen Ibrahim
Bayan Jamal-Kanouni*
Erika Renee Jarrett
Gabriella Maria Jasper
Benjamin P. Jeanty
Kyla Dachele King
Djeneba Konta
Alyson J. La Spisa
Daniel Stephen Leocata
Yakema T. Liverman
Isabella Maria Llopiz**
Brandy Cherelle Lowery
Mindy Lynn Lugo
Jeffrey Carl Martorana
Tara M. McGuire
Monique Elaine McNair
Audrey Marie Millan
Anthony J. Minaya
Nettisha Mitchell
Lea Murphy
Amy Theresa O'Gorman
Michael Oyola
Emily Pena
Sasha Polanco
Mariely Rodriguez
Thamika Sainvil
Anthony Charles Santiago
Stephanie Sarria
Nicole Michele Senatore**
Vondalynn S. Simon
Kaliah I. Smith
Lourdes M. Sosa
Christina Jude Stylianou
Sahar Taschayodi
Christina Grace Taylor
Tara Lynn Terminiello
Nicole Danielle Torrone
Brianna Rose Ucci
Emmanuel I. Udume
Erika Maria Vallejo
Kristel Esmerald Vargas
Maria Villacis
Rachel Caitlyn Walker

SOCIOLOGY

Litherain Vermillion Alford
Michael Blacknell
Abigael Olivia Bocicaut
Kiara S. Bolds
Dasia M. Boykin
Jaquetta Kalisah Brown
Joanna Alyssa Candanedo
Casey Caravella
Catherin Everlin Cid
Shakeria F. Corsey
Sandra Elanani
Nalisha Fine
Edith Mae Fiore
Ashley Shante Floyd
Leanne Hernandez
Megan F. Hickey
Rakesha Hill
Demi Beth Irizarry
Quasherra M. Jackson
Khalinda La'Trelle Jeter
Seda Kucukozcan*
Ashley Yvette Lemon
Timothy Patrick Lindberg
Rebecca L. Mahabir
Vivian Annette Mancheno
Anthony J. Minaya
Carla Pierina Nolazco
Lillian Suzette Otero
Cesarina Chabely Polanco
Maria A. Toribio
Janelle Stephanie Torres
Daniela Uribe
Angelique M. Vasquez
Sonia Vazquez
Lucrecia S. Williams

SPANISH

Leslie Hernandez
Audrey L. Russell

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

Tara Marie Felten
Angelique M. Vasquez
Mercy Copantitla Villa
Tiffany N. White

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH

Bachelor of Arts

CHEMISTRY

David Aterh Akpatsu
Franchesca Zarzuela

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

Khadijeh Abbassi**

INTEGRATED MATH AND SCIENCE

Laura Salome Botero-Antia
Jennifer Aixa Cruz
Martina Sekulovska
Sweta Sanjay Shah

MATHEMATICS

Maha A. Bagh
Victoria Lalama-Cabrera*
Ronald Ng
Paul A. Perville

SPORT MANAGEMENT

Michael Thomas Aliotta
Demitrius Alexander Cooper
Brandon Lee Denny
Christian Jason Ferrell
Ramir Davonne Gibbs
John M. Grilo
Matthew Edmond Thomas Krysz
Nicholas Anthony Leitner
James Earl Lee Moore
David Armando Pinuel
Robert Luis Solano
Augusto Luna Victoria
Kymani Omar Whilby

Bachelor of Science

BIOLOGY

Adalyne Arafet
Meagan Taylor Didyk
Albert Andrew Gambale
Shadi Huzien**
Jolanta Jedryczka*
Muttalib Khan
Daniel Jordan Wayne Lawrence
Katerin Alejandra Lecaro
Bojana Madzovska
Fatma Yehia Medyan
Kadeem Emanuel O'Gilvie
Heather-Jane Plurad
Fatima Popcakova
Nirvanand Singh
Dominika Katarzyna Tomczyk

CHEMISTRY

Oyewumi O. Akinfenwa
Brynmor Wilcox Anderson
Kimberly Rose Fernando
Ralph Stevens Fleurant-Jean
Muttalib Khan
Zachary Paul Mosley

COMPUTER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Jamel Lamar Brown
Zimere T. Carter
Paul E. Deleo
Shannon Ashleigh Miller

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Danilo E. Inoa
Myumi A. Kalinowski

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Pawel Trzeciak

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Jacqueline Delcarmen Castillo*
Benjamin A. Hildebrand

EXERCISE SCIENCE

Nidaa Ali Abdeljabbar
Mitchel John Altamura*
Angelica Maria Anthony
Kyle Kay Aquino
Nicole Marie Bagnoli
Christopher Robert Blanc
Marcus C. Brown
Antonia Caratozzolo
Richard Clyburn
Gerhrad Miguel Cortez
Michael R. DiPasquale
Jenna Nicole Falzon
Katherine Josefina Fernandez
Francis Christopher Frabasile**
Dieter Michael Froehlich
Ariel Mateusz Furtak
Lorain Giannico
Michelle Gomez
Akeem Granum

Kevin Anthony Greenfield
Thomas Patrick Hennessy
Nicole Susan Herbst
Uka Kalu Iroha
Brittany Naiely Jimenez
Zamere Lamar Johnson
Nelsaris Maria Jorge
Samantha Renée Kanuch
Jude Marley Kernizan
Oscar Llivicura
Mercedes Lois
Jonathan L. Mallari
Catherine Ashley Marcelo**
Karissa Gayle Melfi
Alyssa Monico
Michael Steven Pelaez
Travis Daniel Poirier
Vanessa Polania
Yessica A. Rojas Suriel
Mahmoud Adel Salem
Nicholas Simone
Richard Andrew Simons Jr.
Jasmine Rose Small
Dorothea Antoinette Smith
Raquel Marie Smith
Christina Grace Taylor
Jason Zuniga

HEALTH STUDIES

Portia Adu
Yetunde Tinuade Bajomo
Ceylon Aryel Dizon
Maria Lynn Lacidonia
Sylvia Ijeoma Nwachukwu
Chastaney Jazmay Potts

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Timothy Patrick Currie*
Melissa Theresa D'Auria*

PUBLIC HEALTH

Nilajah Rakiya Florie Graham
Joshua Ogbennaya
Nandish R. Patel
Karol Patrick Sokolski

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

NURSING

Daniella Antanette Howell



HONORS COLLEGE GRADUATES

JANUARY 2017

BIOLOGY TRACK

Julia Roy MacDonald**

BUSINESS TRACK

Brianna Nicole Campo*
Stephanie Helen Spies**

INDEPENDENT TRACK

Timothy Ryan Malone*
Evangelia Stavridis

NURSING TRACK

Danielle Landayan*
Xanilyn O. Red

PERFORMING AND LITERARY ARTS TRACK

Kristina Lynn Sternesky**

MAY 2017

BIOLOGY TRACK

Alexis M. Evangelista
Andrew Isaiah Pratt***
Sylvia Joon Wasserman***

BUSINESS TRACK

Kara E. Cressey**
Stephen Thomas Grover**
Fredrik T. Hagbarth***
Nicole Marie Napolitano**
Emmanuel Rousakis*

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGY TRACK

Amanda Michelle Blazkiewicz*
Savannah Savoy Crippen**
Amineh Ali Kaddour*
Avery L. Matowik
Salvatore Joseph Morzetta**
Marie Margaret Sheehan**
Sarah D. Wilmote*
Corey Michael Winkler***

COGNITIVE SCIENCE TRACK

Brielle Alexandra Chamberlain***
Sydney Grosser**
Jennifer Ashley Haggis***
Emily Hope Moore***
Samantha Kaleen Morris***
Deanna Sumrein**

HUMANITIES TRACK

Kelly Danielle Driscoll*
Franziska Anja Federico***
Doha Mohamed Moussa**
Jenna Lynn Schreck***
Joseph Raymond Snider**

INDEPENDENT TRACK

Megan Christina Baird*
Kimberly Ann Fryer
Nicole Lee Fryer
Alissa Lianne Lopez**

MUSIC TRACK

Logan Daniel Stambaugh

NURSING TRACK

Lynda D. Amici**
Christopher L. Cela
Amanda Gabrielle Egri
Kayleigh Marie Orocchi
Sebastian Taylor Piskorz*

PERFORMING AND LITERARY ARTS TRACK

Priscilla Cordero*
Ryenne Catherine Doran***
Benjamin Lessner Frank*
Yevgeniya Gutina*
John Andrew Mould
Mateusz P. Pala
Tiffany Mercedes Rodriguez***
Melissa Nicole Silvestri**
Jessica M. Super**
Laura Rebecca Taylor
Jessica C. Wachuku

SOCIAL SCIENCES TRACK

Cassandra Noel Beck
Jessica Nicole Ehnat**
Karisa Lanette Foreman**
Jessica Lee Jones**
Matthew James Ruppert**
Erica Ann Schwertthoffer**
Amanda Kathleen Sobotor
Nalani M. Wilson*

AUGUST 2017

BIOLOGY TRACK

Jolanta Jedryczka *

COGNITIVE SCIENCE TRACK

Myumi A. Kalinowski
Isabella Maria Llopiz **

ACADEMIC AWARDS

COLLEGE OF THE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

Dean's Award for Creative Excellence
David Matthew Blauvelt

Department of Art

*Creative Excellence in Digital Art
and Design Award*
Jessice Paige Demaio
Austin M. Giardullo

*Creative Excellence in
Fine Art Award*
Kelly Cornella

Department of Communication

Excellence in Journalism Award
Alissa Lianne Lopez

*Excellence in Media (Radio, TV,
Film, or Theater) Award*
Mason Tyler Mills
Luisa Fernanda Salazar

Department of Music

Music Scholar Award
Matthew F. Sanchez

Outstanding Musician Award
Justin Vetrero

COTSAKOS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Department of Accounting
and Law

*Outstanding Senior Accounting
Major Award*

Yanal Khonako
Adriane Nicole Girangaya
Montemayor
Stephanie H. Spies

Department of Economics,
Finance, and Global Business

*Award for Outstanding Senior in
Business Administration with a
Concentration in Finance*

Lucas Daniel Gonzalez
Jienan Hu
Jared R. Lewin

*Award for Outstanding Senior in
Business Administration with a
Concentration in Financial Planning*

Matthew David Callander
Frank Alfredo Fernandez
Eric J. Vartanian

*Award for Outstanding Senior in
Business Administration with a
Concentration in Global Business*

Daniel August Barrecchia
Kelly Mesa-Bonell
Douglas Matos Quites

*Award for Outstanding Senior in
Economics*

Adrian Huerta
Emmanuel Rousakis
Denisse Taveras

Department of Marketing and
Management Sciences

*Award for Outstanding Senior in
Business Administration with a
Concentration in Management*

Ashley H. Ismailovski
Desiree Ann Paton
Connie Mora

*Award for Outstanding Senior in
Business Administration with a
Concentration in Marketing*

Kara Elizabeth Cressey
Daniel Eric Massa
Erin Lapaige Taylor

Department of
Professional Sales

Professional Sales Award
Brianna Nicole Campo
Kamila Magdalena Frej
Demi Trause

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dean's Award
Stephanie Lynn Green

Department of Elementary
and Early Childhood
Education

Excellence in Teaching Award

Malgorzata Downes (P-3)
Kimberly A. Siedel (K-6)
Angel N. Woodley (P-3 with
Teacher of Students with
Disabilities)

Department of Secondary
and Middle School Education

*Academic Achievement and
Excellence in Teaching Award (K-12)*
Stephanie Tapia-Nunez

Department of Special
Education and Counseling

Excellence in Teaching Award
Ryanne Catherine Doran

ACADEMIC AWARDS CONT.

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dean's Award

Alexis Lynn Hernandez (Social Sciences)

Angeline Deanna Matthews (Humanities)

William Paterson University-Mercer County Community College Academic Excellence Award

Ashley Anita Wertz

Department of Anthropology

Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Austin Charles DiCola

Franz Boas Award

Priscilla Cordero

Department of English

The Helen and Philip Manno Award

Franziska Anja Federico

Department of History

History and Education Award

Gabriela Zorrilla

Outstanding Graduating Senior Award

Erica Ann Schwerthoffer

Patricia Ripmaster Award

Joseph Raymond Snider

Department of Languages and Cultures

Award for Excellence in Spanish

Natalie Castrillon

Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Deanna Sumrein

Department of Philosophy

Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Samantha Ann Langenstein

Joseph Raymond Snider

Department of Political Science

Outstanding Senior Award in Political Science

Colleen M. Lugli

Outstanding Senior Award in Legal Studies

Imran Ahmed

Department of Psychology

Excellence in Academics, Research, and Service Award

Savannah Savoy Crippen

Outstanding Academic Achievement and Research Award

Jennifer A. Haggis

Department of Sociology

Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Michael W. Bordine

Austin James Court

Jennifer A. Haggis

Department of Women's and Gender Studies

Norma Van Dyke Award

Amanda Michelle Blazkiewicz

Sachel Freda Debrosse

Asian Studies Program

Distinguished Graduate in Asian Studies Award (Chinese Language)

Austin Charles DiCola

Distinguished Graduate in Asian Studies Award (Japanese Language)

Le'lyn Mikhale Yorke

Outstanding Graduate in Asian Studies

Stephen John Warholak

Latin American and Latino Studies Program

Catarina T. Feldman Award

Carlos Samuel Alvarez

Liberal Studies Program

Liberal Studies Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Karol Molina

Robert William Risetto

Departments of History and Philosophy

Paul Vouras Humanities Award

Nicholas Minervini (Philosophy)

Kevin Vega (History)

Departments of Sociology, Psychology, and Political Science

Paul P. Vouras Social Sciences Award

Erica Ann Schwerthoffer

(Political Science)

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH

Dean's Award
Ryan Borges Burger

Department of Biology

Outstanding Senior Award
Monika Anna Chung
Andrew Isaiah Pratt

C. Kent Warner Award
Monika Anna Chung
Sirai Ramirez

Outstanding Undergraduate
Research Award
Monika Anna Chung
Andrew Isaiah Pratt
Sirai Ramirez

Department of Chemistry

Excellence in Chemistry Award
Jason Codrington
Rana Saem Daher
Asha Gadhia

Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences

Undergraduate Excellence Award
Tiffany Mercedes Rodriguez

Department of Computer Science

Omicron Omega Award for
Excellence in Computer Science
Kenneth J. Fleischer

Department of Environmental Science

Excellence in Environmental
Science Award
Jacqueline Delcarmen Castillo
Jessica A. Geary
Dennis Philippe Grune

Department of Kinesiology

Athletic Training Education Program
Academic Award
Sidney Tate Gabrich
Exercise Physiology Award for
Physical Education
Jared Michael Guglielmino
Cindy Keller Award for
Physical Education
Krista Rachel D'Accampo

Department of Mathematics

Academic Excellence Award in
Mathematics
Jacqueline Felicia Anderle
Lauren G. Barnes
Ryan Borges Burger

Department of Nursing

Nursing Excellence Award
Lynda D. Amici
Laura Nancy Knights

Department of Public Health

Excellence in Applied Health
Academic Award
Apryl Nixon
Excellence in Health Education
Academic Award
Janielle Roxanne Hall
Excellence in Public Health
Academic Award
Yesenia Nereida Montalvo



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2017!

Welcome to the William Paterson University Alumni Association, the official alumni organization that all William Paterson graduates are automatically members of—for free, for life! You are joining a network of nearly 75,000 proud Pioneers worldwide who have shared many of the same experiences and traditions that you have enjoyed throughout your time at the University.

We have many exciting opportunities available to you. Networking events, social outings, exclusive benefits, career resources, and volunteer opportunities await you as you embark upon this new chapter in your life.

There are many ways to stay connected to William Paterson, including our official alumni website, www.wpunj.edu/alumni; our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/wpunj,

and professional connections through our LinkedIn group, www.wpunj.edu/linkedin. Or, follow us on twitter at [twitter.com @WPUNJ_Alumni](https://twitter.com/WPUNJ_Alumni). We have a wide variety of activities and services tailored especially for new and recent alumni, and as a member you will also receive frequent communications, including *WP Magazine* and our electronic newsletter, *Alumni Community News*. We also invite you to become an active participant in the many events we host each year, or even become a member of the Young Alumni Chapter and help plan those events!

We applaud you on this momentous occasion and look forward to sharing the next stage of your William Paterson life with you! Good luck and congratulations as you begin your journey as William Paterson alumni.

SAY THE

CLASS OF 2017 “SAY THANKS” COMMENCEMENT DEDICATIONS

William Paterson University is proud to acknowledge the following members of the Class of 2017 who participated in the “Say Thanks” initiative. The gracious gifts donated by the Class of 2017 will go to The Fund for WP. One hundred percent of the monies raised will support scholarships for students by students. On behalf of William Paterson University, we would like to thank these students for the difference they are making in the lives of future Pioneers.

Michelle Abril: Gracias Mami, Cristy, y Papi!
Seeeeeeequiu seasters <3 U WomYN!

Imran Ahmed: THANK YOU TO MY FAMILY! LOVE YOU ALL!

Alexi Alberto: Gracias mammy x aguantarme LQM.

Henry Allen III: Thanks for pushing me to finish, Mom, even if it took 19 years. Love, Number 1.

Anna Aluko-Fostine: A TOAST: Thanks and Gratitude to my husband Guelson. To Sister Shamim for looking after Joshua and Elliott. To tuition reimbursement. To God. Onward to the Next Journey CHEERS- AA.

Laura Alvarez: I hope you are all proud of me!

David Amoakoh: If it wasn't for my friends, family & God where would I be? Thanks a million for your love & support!

Alyssa Apryas: Thank you Dad, Bud, and Ellen!

Bryle Aquino: Thanks to the whole Math Department.

Portia Askew: Words cannot express how grateful I am for you!
Although it's been a long journey, by the grace of God, I FINALLY MADE IT! I Love You. Beyond Words and Thank YOU! Portia.

Denise Baez-Acosta: Thank you Mom and Dad! Love you guys!

Christa Bagnuolo: Thanks Mom and Dad! Love you!

Rodney Baldera: Thank you to my family and Melissa for always supporting me, this accomplishment is yours as it is mine!

Callen Benskins: Hey Mom, I love you. Thanks for all of the support and especially all of the money. I could not have done it without you.

Michael Benson: Thank you Mom, Dad, and everyone else.

Matthew Bernardo: Thanks Mom, Dad & Family for the support!

Erica Beverett: Biggest thanks goes to my family, Jay, Christian & Victoria Beverett for all the times you lifted me up LOVE YOU INFINITELY Love Mommy & Thanks Mom for watching the kids XOXO.

Christopher Blanc: Thank you very much Mom & Dad!

Jenny Blandon: To my entire family, this could not have been possible without everyone's help. To my beautiful daughter, do not ever give up and follow all your dreams. I love you guys!

Michael Bordine: Thank you Mom, Dad, & Bubba (Kellie).

Laura Botero Antia: Thank you Mammy for everything. Thank you Papi for watching over me.

Michael Botrous: Couldn't have done this without you Mom and Dad. Love you guys. You're the real MVP!

Samantha Boyle: Thanks Mom & Dad, I love you!

Martin Brown: Thank you Mom, Dad, and Family for all of your support. We did it! Love You All!

Tyrone Bryant: Thank you WillyP for everything.

Cailyn Buettner: Thanks to my big crazy family xo.

Tranika Burden: Thank you to my family. I Love You.

Denyelle Burgess: Thank you Mom, Dad, Dante & everyone who supported me! Love you!

Vincent Caffarello: Thanks to my 2 families. Love you!

Alexa Calandrillo: To my incredible mom, dad, stepmom Linda, and family- thank you for always believing in me.

Matthew Callander: To my Mom, Dad, Sisters, Grandparents, Uncles, WP Athletics, Tao, and Lawrence. Thank you for all your support!

Ellen Camacho: Thank you Dad, Mom, & Ellen H! LOVE YOU ALL!!

Stefania Camacho-Jimenez: Gracias a Papa y Mama. LOS QUIERO!

Brianna Campo: Thankful for my support system during the best years of my life at WPU! Wouldn't be where I am today without my family, RBI friends, and amazing boyfriend Freddy. LOVE YOU ALL!

Andrea Cardona: Today's triumph was conceived from the love, support, and encouragement from each of you. Thank you for aspiring and realizing this with me. ILY.

Joel Carrasquillo: Thanks Mom, Dad, & Gisellie for believing in me!
#TeamWeDaBest.

Christopher Cela: Thank you Mom, Dad, and Nick for supporting me during my years at WPU!

María Changanquí: Teachers from the Spanish and Latin American Program, thank you so much.

Evan Chertok: Dear Mom and Dad. Thank you so much for all of the support you guys have given me throughout my life and my college experience. I love you both very much.

Ashlee Chiamonti: On the road to success.

Jazmin Cintron: Momma we made it! Thanks to my family for your constant love and support.

Ashley Clark: Thanks Mom & Dad...love you always!

CLASS OF 2017 “SAY THANKS” COMMENCEMENT DEDICATIONS CONT.

Jada Clark: To my support system, I hope I made you proud! I love you all!

Erik Clarkin: Thank you to the best Mom in the whole world. Would not be nearly where I am without you, and I thank you for being there with me through every step. I love you more than you know.

Jason Codrington: I thank God, my family & my friends.

Timothy Conte: I would like to thank my amazing family for all of your love and support throughout this great journey.

Lamisha Cook: Thank you family, especially Mom.

Edmund Cox: Thank u so much 2 my amazing family!

Michael Cruz: Mom, Dad, thank you for everything!

Shaina Daniels: THANKS FAMILY FOR BELIEVING IN ME!

Thomas Decker: Thank you Mom, Dad, and friends for everything!

Juan DeJesus: Thank you to my mom and dad for all the support.

Austin DiCola: Thank you Mom/Dad/Fam! Love you all.

Sharon Dimov: Sometimes I forget to be thankful for the ones in my life. Sometimes I forget to show them the love they deserve. To my friends and family, thank you for being by my side. ILOVEYOU.

Alyssa Doctor: Thank you Mom, Dad, Amanda, and Dominic for always believing in me!

Nancy Dodge: Dirk, could have done it without you but it would have been HARDER! Love you, Nan.

Taylor Dulemba: Thank you Mom, Dad, Trevor & Jarrett.

Amanda Egri: This was a team effort... thank you!

Elenita Elias: Mom & Dad—thank you for all your love and support throughout this journey. Jheremy—thank you for always believing in me. Cesco & Logan—this is for you both! I love you all!!!

Aida EL-Samna: Thank you to my loving family and friends!

Heather Enrico: Thank you Mom and Dad for all of your support! I did it!

Henrietta Eugene: Thank you Moofies, I love you!!!

Jennifer Eustace: Thank you Mom & Dad, Casey, Brian, Ricky, Jenn, Nana, Hope, Dave, & Mark <3, I hope to make you all proud!

Alfredo Eustaquio: Thank you to my mother and the rest of my family for supporting me and helping me accomplish my goals.

Kissairy Evans: Thank you God because without you I wouldn't have made it through college. Thank you Mami for everything you've done. Papi, I wish you were here. Please continue to watch over us.

Jenna Falzon: Thank you Mom & Dad for everything! I LOVE YOU!!!

Sasha Lee Fermaintt: Thank you to my supportive family here with me today and to my two guardian angels above “Mommy and Grandma.” I love you!

Joelle Filippi: Love you Mom, Dad, and Steven!!

Nicole Fleck: Thanks Dad, Mom, and Samantha for putting up with me & believing in me!

Andres Flores: To my family, I love you all.

Adama Fofanah: Thank you Mom, Dad, Grandma and Sarran—WE DID IT! RIP Daddy I love you.

Karisa Foreman: Thanks to all who have supported me!

Christian Foti: To my family, thank you and love ya!

Amber Fountain: #MommaIMadeIt! I Love and Thank You!

Michelle Mae Franco: Thank You So Much To Mom, Dad & Kuya.

Katherine Gamble: I am lucky to have the world's best sister! I love you Ashley!

Jenny Gamez: Ma y Pa, Sin ustedes, yo no estaría aquí hoy. Durante todo, ustedes han estado ahí para ayudar. Gracias por todo! Les amo con todo mi corazón!

Greta Gazso: Mom and Dad, thank you for all your support and guidance. Love you!

Kaylee Gelenius: Thanks Mom & Dad...For everything!!!

Keara George: It's all for you Mommy! I love you!

Lorain Giannico: Thank you dad, WE DID IT!!

Mariela Gioffre: Thank you to my parents who have always been so supportive and encouraging. I could not have done this without you. Jennette we did it!! You are really an amazing friend.

Atia Gleaton: Thnx Mom, Erick & Caitlyn. I love u!

Tracey Gomez: Mom & Dad, This is for you.

Jonathan Goncalves: Big thanks to my parents

Joseph Gonzalez: Thank you Mom, Dad, Jilly, Kristina, and all my friends and family for supporting me through this. I love you guys so much. Chance too.

Merylin Gonzalez: Mom, thank you for all that you do, I love you!

Sean Gonzalez: Thanks to anyone who believed in me.

Yolianny Goris: To my mother and father thank you for all you have done for me. To God that made all my dreams come true you are why I am here!

Nilajah Graham: Thank you MOM, DAD & Family! This wouldn't have been possible without you. I love you!

Evan Grau: Love you Mom and Dad. Thx so much.

Courtney Greulich: I couldn't have done it without you all. Thanks for everything. Love, Ck

Lamont Griffin: You know why I'm here!

Julian Guilarte: Thanks to Guilarte/Ramirez Family.

Selene Guizar: Es por ustedes mom y dad, Gracias!

Nicole Gutierrez: Love you fam <3 this was for you!

Yevgeniya Gutina: I LOVE YOU MOM, DAD & DANIEL!

Janielle Hall: Thanks for everything Mom. Love you.

Ricky Heeraman: Thank U Mom & Dad. Your fatboy is graduating. Love you always.

Kyle Higgins: Thanks to my friends and family, especially Martha, for all the support!

Chaniece Higgs: THANK YOU family Jer. 29:11.

Ivory Ho: Thanks to my family, Dana, & Angelo.

Tanesha Hobson: Special Thanks to my dad, my grandparents/ family and my mentor Donyea Collins. I couldn't have done it without you. I MADE IT.

Lisa Holt: Thank you Bill, Brianne, Brandon, Mom, Dad, and ALL THE HOLT FAMILY for your continued support in my WPU journey. I could not have completed without your support. Finally. Love you.

Jusuf Hoxha: MOM & POPS I LOVE YOU!! FALEMINDERIT SHUME!! ALLAH ALMIGHTY IS THE GREATEST!!! #WPU #CLASSOF2017 #WEDIDIT.

Brandon Hynson: Thank you God and family!

Alexa Iandolo: Pat and Gene Iandolo, Thank you for all your love and support! I couldn't have done it without you! Love you always! Lex.

Zaira Carrasco Ibanez: I wouldn't be here without my family's support. Love you guys.

Diana Irribarre: From birth to this day, Dana Molina (Mom) thank you for always believing in my dreams, supporting my goals, and being a shining light in my life. I love you Mom, Elva, and Valerie.

Ashley Ismailovski: Thanks Mom & Dad!

Austin Jacobson: Thank you Mom, Dad, and Aaron!

Alyssa Jean: Thank God I made it, I love you mom!

Christian Jimenez: Thank you Mom and Dad!

Allysa Johansen: Thank you to my motivators, support, & strength; Mom, Mormor, Lisa, Morfar. For guidance and motivation, Sharon. And to my idol, inspiration, and whole world, Uncle Ken.

Erin Johnson: Family, Thanks for your Love & Support.

Rebeca Johnson: Mommy did it for you Nylah! Love you.

Zohna Jones: Thank you Mommy Daddy Dee & Nahjee!

Sophia Joseph: Thank you family, I love you.

Maria Kallini: Thank you Mom and Dad and Youssef, for all the sacrifices, and support. I love you and I will not let you down.

Craig Kimbrough: Thanks Mom, Dad, Amanda, Danni, and Nae for the support through this crazy journey we call college. You guys are amazing!!! Love y'all #mifamilia ;).

Daniel Klein: Thank you to my loved ones.

Kayla Klinzing: Thank you Mom, Dad, Nick and Sarah Marie for the unconditional love and support. Thanks Kenn for being my motivation to always try my best! 143.

Djeneba Konta: Thanks a lot Dad, Mom & My Babe Rich.

Matthew Krysz: Thanks to Aunt Kirstin, Dad, Mom, Nana/Papa, Angela, Uncle Keith and all those who helped me get here. I love you all so very much.

Michael Lania: Thanks you Mom, Dad and Kelly, for everything you have done for me!!

Alyson Laspisa: Thank you Mom, Dad, and Kyle!! ;)

Jim Lawless: Thanks Mom and Dad. I'm really lucky to have you for parents. Love you guys.

Jessica Lino: Mom, Dad, Steph & Kyle: Thanks for always believing in me. I love you.

Ghislaine Loffredo-Otero: Hecnado Thanx for believing in me Luv Mami Gracias por tu amor y apoyo Luv U.

Paule Louis: Mom, thanks for your sacrifices, your prayers, and giving me Toby!

Melissa LoVerde: A big thank you to the LoVerde/Turrone family for being the best support system through my years at William Paterson! I love you all so much! XOXO Love, Melissa.

Colleen Lugli: Thank you Gram and Pop for being my biggest supporters.

Christa Luzzi: Thank you Dad, Mom & Ren! Love you!

Timothy Malone: Mom & Dad, thank you for your support.

Nicholas Marrazzo: Mom and Dad, I just want to thank you for supporting me throughout the years.

Maria Marrero: Thanks to the best husband ever. Without you I wouldn't have made it.

Jacob Martin: Thank you to my family and friends!

Rita Martin: SPECIAL THANKS TO MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR ALL THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT IN HELPING ME RECEIVE MY LONG-AWAITED COLLEGE DEGREE! THANKS!

Victor Masi: Thank you Mom and Dad for all your support during these illuminating four years. To my mom and dad, I thank you for all the support you've provided during my college career. It helped me get through a lot and I'm sure I'll continue to prosper from here on out.

CLASS OF 2017 “SAY THANKS” COMMENCEMENT DEDICATIONS CONT.

Patrick Mazo: Beyond blessed. I love you Mom & Dad!

Fengai Mbayo: Thanks to my lovely wife and 2 daughters for your encouragement & support throughout my college career.

Celeste McCall: Thank you Mom/Dad! I love you!

Keira McDonald: Thank You Mom and Dad! I hope I made you proud.

James McLane: Thank you Mom and Dad for everything!

Dana McStowe: Thank you for all your love and support, Dad, Mom & Ryan!

Abriela Guillen Mejia: Thank you mom and dad for your support and love.

Kevin Mello: Thank you Mom n Dad for everything<3

Karen Melo: Los amo gracias por apoyarme siempre.

Caroline Mendes: Thanks to my family, especially my parents for everything. Mom & Dad, Obrigada por tudo. Amo Vocês!

Carina Metz: Gracias Mami y Papi, con todo mi amor!

Audrey Millan: This one is for you Mami, Basilia!

Rose Moise: Mom, Dad, Bebe and Taloue, with all my heart thank you for everything.

Adriane Nicole Montemayor: Thanks Mom, Dad, Kuya & Warren! ILY!

Connie Mora: Thanks fam for the support! I <3 U

Edlin Munoz: Thank you Mom and Dad! LOVE YOU!!!!

Jamal Mustafa: Dear Dad, You have supported me through college. From PCCC, Prague, to WPU you were always there for me and I will never forget it. Thank you.

Amanda Negron: Endless gratitude to my incredibly supportive family! Love you!

Carla Nolazco: Thank you Mom and Dad!

Jake Nouel: To Mom, Dad and my entire family. Thank you for everything. I love each and every one of you.

John O’Gorman: To Linda, Mom and Dad. Thank you for the love and support to finally achieve this goal. Toni-Ann, Love you and miss you. Wish you were here to enjoy this moment. John.

Tosin Ogundare: Congratulations babe so proud!!!!

Stephanie Organ: Thank you Dad and all my family and friends for all your support!

Nicole Outlaw: Shout out to MY Uncle Kenny! Love ya. To my BEST FRIEND Alex, THANKS BABE!

Dana Panaro: Thanks to my family, bestie & derp!

Catherine Parra: Thank you to my parents Evelyn and Jairo for their love and support.—Love Cathy. Thank you Wayne for your continued support, especially those late night paper assignments.—Love you, Cathy

Brittani Parrino: Thank you mom and dad! I love you <3.

Joanna Pedalino: Mom and Dad, thank you for always being there for me, no matter what! I love you both so much! We did it!

Michael Pelaez: Mom you’re my superhero. Thank you!

Janet Pena: Dedicated to my two children: Nana and Dylan.

Dayna Perez: Thank you Mom and Dad, I couldn’t have done any of this without your love and support!

Rosanna Perez: Thank you Ma—I owe this to your love and support! Thank you my JOJO—love u baby bro! Thank you Babe for always believing in me! I LOVE YOU ALL!

Paul Perville: Thanks to my family, professors, and friends.

Dan Piazza: Thank you very much for all the support! I couldn’t have done it without you Mom, Gina, Lauren, and the rest of the family!

Alyssa Piedra: Thank you Mami & Dadi! AP :)

Travis Poirier: Thank You to all my friends and family, love you guys.

Sasha Polanco: Thank you to my family and mini family :).

Kathryn Pollack: To my wonderful husband and children Irwin, Marc & Jacob: Thank you all for your love and support in helping me to achieve this goal! I love and believe in you all always.

Carlo Ponsica: Thank you everyone for your support.

Brian Potoczak: I wouldn’t be here without the support of my family, thank you.

Michelle Pough: I thank all my loved ones for their guidance and support.

Pamela Presinal: I owe all my success to my family and best friends.

Alexandra Ptak: Thanks MOM and DAD! Love you.

Caroline Quispe: Mom, your support got me here. ILY!

Benjamin Reeder: Thank you Mom and Dad for everything.

Manuela Rodriguez: Gracias Mami, Papi, Broski, Manny! Love you!

Sierra Rosa: Thank you Mom and Dad for everything. I love you both!

Karla Rosales: Gracias mami y papi por apoyar me!

Wendy Rosales: Estoy enormemente agradecida con mi familia por apoyarme durante todo este reto.



Sara Rosamilia: Thank you to an awesome mother!

Bianca Rosario: Thanks to my family! Couldn't have done it without you!

Paola Rosario: I dedicate this to my beautiful family N my LOVE JZ THANK YOU ILU.

Carlos Ruiz: Gracias a toda mi familia & iglesia por su amor y apoyo, I love you all so much. Abuela, te amo & soy quien soy por ti. DIOS ES GRANDE!!!

Chevon Sadler: My Family, thank you for EVERYTHING!

Stephanie Salas: A BIG thanks to my creator up there!

Luisa Salazar: Gracias mamá por apoyar mis sueños.

Cintha Salcedo: Farro Gracias Mami, papa Marvin y Mario por su apoyo y por ser maravillosos.

Andres Santacruz: FAMILY! LOVE YOU! BALANCE ACHIEVED!

Christopher Santaniello: 180 characters aren't enough to thank everyone who has supported me over the years, but know that I truly appreciate each and every one of you!

Amber Santos: Thank you—my amazing parents and sisters for all of your support. I wouldn't have made it to the finish line without you all. ILY family! This is for you Arien Noel! We did it! –XO.

Paola Scaduto: I made it!! Thank you for everything—Family & Anthony. Love you always!!

Gregory Schwartz: Thanks to my family! Love you guys!

Justin Schwarz: Thanks Mom, Dad, and Emmy. Love you!

Michelle Serna: Gracias por crear en mi, los amo flia.

Matthew Shova: Thank you for your love and support along this journey!

Michelle Silva: I would like to thank my family for all the support you gave me :).

Kivabena Sintim-Damba: To Mommy, Daddy, and Sis! Thanks for everything...I am extremely grateful for your support and everything you have done for me in support of my academic endeavors.

Christina & Brian Sisco: Mom & Dad, Thank you for all your support throughout the years! Love, Christina & Brian Sisco.

Lawrence Smith: Love you Lisa, Mom, Dad and Kids!!!

Steven Spoto: Mom & Dad-This is for u! Forever grateful. Bruna- WE DID IT! Ur amazing. Shane-Be inspired! Mae&Pai—Thank u! I'm thankful for u all & everyone here. I love you all.

Deanna Sumrein: Thank you Momma and Baba! LOVE YOU!!

Cassandra Sundstrom-Smith: Thank you to my parents, Gretchen and Steve Sundstrom-Smith. My grandparents, Wilma and Donald Smith, and Eileen Sundstrom. My siblings Andrew, Karlee, and Arianna. I love you all!

Micah Tampac: Nanay, Tatay, Jonathan, & Sangit: I couldn't have made it without your unconditional love, support, and prayers. I am eternally grateful to God for surrounding me with you guys!

Andrea Tapia: Thank you for all your love and support through this long journey! I LOVE YOU ALL! To my little family...this is for YOU!

Erin Taylor: Thank you Mom & Dad for everything!

Ciera Thornton: Thank you to all my family, friends and the entire AWS Department. Leia-Rae this is ALL FOR YOU!

Andrew Tichacek: To my family for all of your support over my academic journey.

Jaylene Torres: Mum, Papi, family & friends - ILY!!!

Priscilla Trastoy: Obrigada a Deus e minha familia!

Alex Valentino: Thanks Mom & Dad! Love you!

Kevin Vargas: Thanks Mom for all the support! ILY.

Sonia Vazquez: MY PARENTS & DAUGHTER. LOVE U ALWAYS.

Wendy Vidal: Love you Grandma & friends, Thank You!

Tim Warrington: Thank you Mom and Dad love, Tim.

Danielle Wiedmann: Thank you Mom and Dad! Love you lots!

Connor Whelan: Thank you so much for always loving and supporting me!

Geena Williams: I dedicate this to my mom and my family. I love you all.

Nikole Williams: Thanks Mom & Dad. Your support is greatly appreciated. I love you.

Lauren Witte: Thank you to my amazing parents, family, friends, and boyfriend for all of your support.

Sibel Yuksel: WE DID IT EMEL;)TY to my family! XO.

THANKS

COMMENCEMENT NOTES

COMMENCEMENT at William Paterson University is a time of ceremony and pageantry, portions of which represent traditions dating back to medieval times. These notes on the history of the commencement ceremony are offered in the hope that they enhance your appreciation and enjoyment of this special day.

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY traces its roots to the city of Paterson, where it was founded in 1855. For more than a century, training teachers for New Jersey schools was its exclusive mission.

In 1951, the University moved to the present campus in Wayne. Originally known as Ailsa Farms, this 300-acre site was purchased by the state of New Jersey in 1948 from the family of Garret A. Hobart, twenty-fourth vice president of the United States.

The original manor house, built in 1877, was the weekend retreat and summer residence of the Hobart family. Today the building is known as Hobart Manor and is home of the Office of the President and the Office of Institutional Advancement. Hobart Manor was designated a national and state landmark in 1976.

The University changed its name to Paterson State Teachers College when it relocated from Paterson in 1951. In 1966, the curriculum was expanded to include degree offerings other than those leading to a teaching career. In 1971, the institution was renamed The William Paterson College of New Jersey. The change of name honored the man who was the state's first senator, its second governor, and a United States Supreme Court Justice appointed by President George Washington, and reflected both the institution's proud beginnings in the city that also bears his name and the legislative mandate to move from a teachers college to a broad-based liberal arts institution.

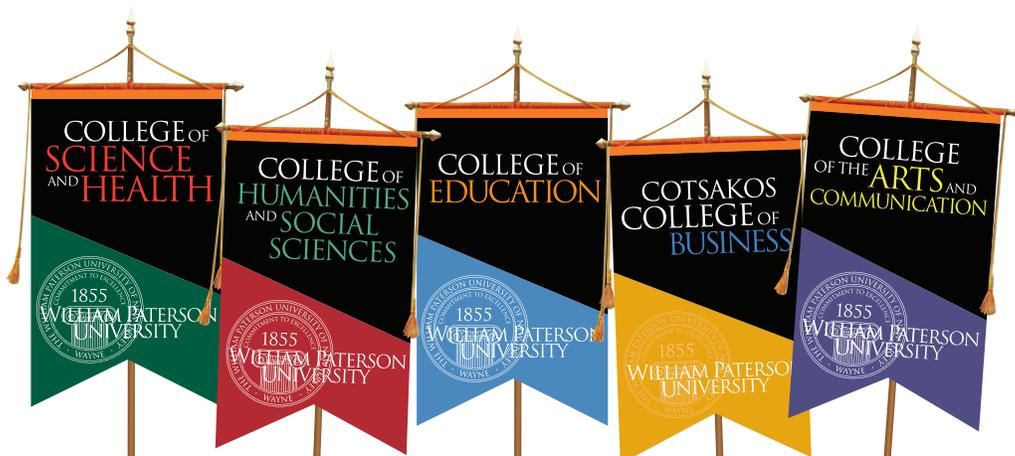
In another historic milestone, William Paterson was awarded university status by the Commission on Higher Education in June 1997.

Today, William Paterson University offers a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs through five colleges: Arts and Communication; Cotsakos College of Business; Education; Humanities and Social Sciences; and Science and Health.

The **MACE** carried by Professor Susan Godar, a senior University faculty member, is used at all academic ceremonies. In medieval times, maces were weapons of warfare, but today a mace is "a staff borne by, or carried before, a magistrate or other dignitary as an ensign of his authority." It is the emblem and symbol of the president's authority to administer the University. This mace was first used in the one hundred fifty-third commencement ceremony in 1987 and was designed and crafted by Ming Fay, retired professor of art. The top piece, cast of brushed aluminum, features a center ball symbolizing universal knowledge, surrounded by four curved fins radiating outward, representing the University's community outreach. The bottom portion, made of teak and inlaid with faux ivory, was carved with the assistance of Joseph Van Putten, an award-winning graduate of the University's Art Department and a retired assistant professor of art.

The **PROCESSIONAL BANNERS** include the University gonfalon in the institution's colors of orange and black and featuring the University seal in silver. Additional banners identify the University's five colleges. They are:

- College of the Arts and Communication
- Cotsakos College of Business
- College of Education
- College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- College of Science and Health





The **ACADEMIC PROCESSION** begins with the gonafalon, carried by the Salutatorian, who is followed by the graduates. After the graduates have taken their place, the University marshal carrying the mace leads the faculty to their places and then leads in the president, the board of trustees, vice presidents, deans, and other University officials. The mace is presented at the center of the stage while those processing enter and take their places. Once the mace is placed on the stand, it signals the beginning of the ceremony.

ACADEMIC GOWNS, HOODS and REGALIA represent more than elegance or colorful attire. Academic caps and gowns represent a tradition that reaches far back into the early days of the oldest universities of the Middle Ages.

The early European universities were church-founded; the students, being clerics, were obliged to wear prescribed gowns and caps at all times. Caps and gowns were once common forms of clothing and were retained by the clergy when the laity adopted more modern dress.

Though some universities here and abroad have other colors, the usual color for gowns in America is black. Bachelor's degree gowns have pointed sleeves, master's degree gowns have oblong sleeves open at the wrist, and doctoral degree gowns have sleeves that are bell-shaped. Also, on doctoral degree gowns, the front is faced with black velvet with three bars of the same across the sleeves, or these bars may be of velvet of the color distinctive of the faculty or subject to which the degree pertains.

Hoods are lined with the official color of the college or university that conferred the degree. The velvet edging color represents the appropriate degree as follows: bachelor of arts – white; bachelor of fine arts – light brown; bachelor of music – pink; bachelor of science – golden yellow. Mortar boards (caps) are usually black.

The gown and hood of the University marshal and the president were made especially for William Paterson University ceremonies in the official colors of orange and black.

The **PRESIDENT'S MEDAL** worn by President Kathleen Waldron was first given in 1978. It is awarded to individuals who have made outstanding contributions of service to the University community, to academe, or to society as a whole. The President's Medal is awarded periodically to those who have given time, talent, or funds to the University; to those who have enhanced cultural, scientific, or artistic awareness in New Jersey; to those who provide a positive role model in personal achievement and/or outstanding service to others; and those who have strengthened higher education locally or nationally.

The **AWARDING OF DEGREES** at William Paterson University is accomplished in a twofold manner. On behalf of the deans of the five colleges, the provost presents the candidates receiving bachelor's degrees. Each student processes to the platform and his or her name is read, and is presented a diploma cover by the dean of his or her respective college. When all candidates have been duly presented, the president of the University then formally confers the appropriate degree. This is accomplished when she says:

“By the authority vested in me by the Board of Trustees, I confer on each of you the degrees you have just earned and for which you have been recommended.”

At this time representatives of the graduating students lead the graduates in moving their tassels from the right to the left side of their mortar boards.

The **ALMA MATER** is then sung by a music student. The Alma Mater was written for William Paterson University by Professors Mark Karp and Earl Weidner; in 1997, new lyrics were added by Professor David Shapiro.

The **RECESSIONAL** of the president, officials, and faculty is once again led by the University marshal. The students recess behind the faculty. The audience is requested to remain seated until the recessional is concluded.

This program does not constitute the official list of graduates. The students included in the program have applied to graduate as of April 15, 2017. Their degree, as well as any Latin honors that they may have earned, will be officially posted by the Office of Registration Services after their grades have been received and verified.

ALMA MATER

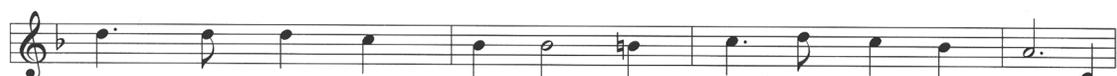
William Paterson University of New Jersey

Prof. Mark Karp
(verses 1 and 2)
Prof. David Shapiro
(verses 3 and 4)

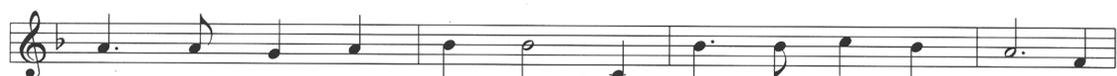
Prof. Earl Weidner



To thee, our Al - ma Ma - ter, We raise our voic - es high In
The years may soon di - vide us, Our hearts re - turn to thee Thy
A new song bursts like blos - soms A new school grows like fire And
The earth is our great teach - er In wild - er - ness and grace It



learn - ing's path you'll lead us, To fol - low you we'll try We'll
les - sons held and cher - ished, En - shrined in mem - o - ry We're
stu - dents rise with vis - ions and vis - ions won't ex - pire And
tells us to build gar - dens With kind - ness on our face The



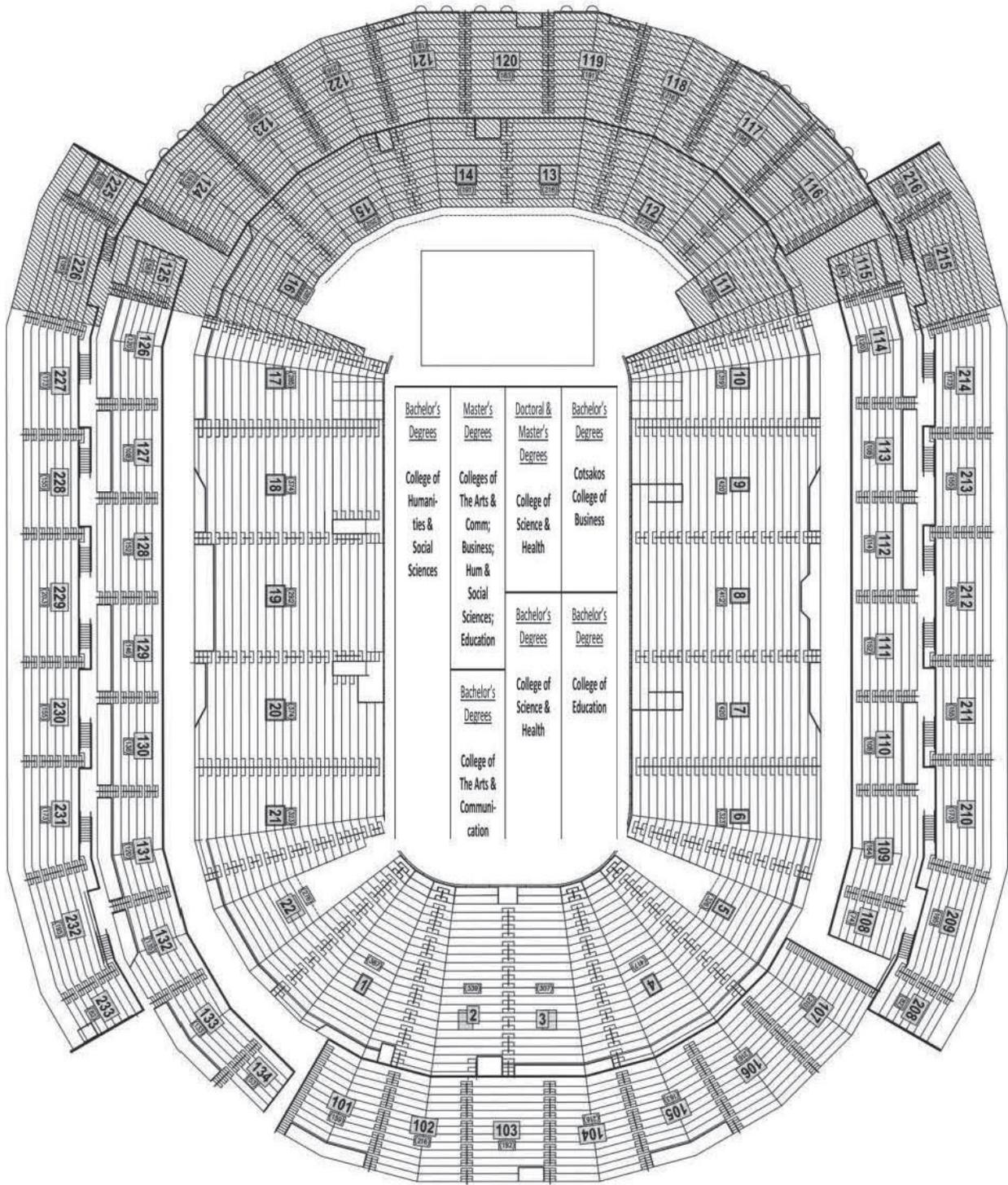
guard and share thy learn - ings, Dif - fuse thy truth and light En -
pi - o - neers cour - a - geous, We face a wid - er world Aid -
con - stant in our cour - age We sing in un - i - son Our
fu - ture is that gar - den We're plant - ing in the sun And



light - en ea - ger child - ren, Add to our coun - try's might.
ing the spread of know - ledge, Truth's ban - ner bright un - furled
dream has sprung where we've be - gun At Wil - liam Pat - er - son
all our seeds will wake up flowers At Will - iam Pat - er - son

Engraved by John Link
Department of Music

MAP OF PRUDENTIAL CENTER





ABOUT WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

William Paterson University is a leading public University with nearly 11,000 students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate degree programs offered by five academic colleges: Arts and Communication, Cotsakos College of Business, Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Science and Health.

The University offers a wide range of learning opportunities in its classrooms, laboratories, and studios, and throughout the campus, as well as at various off-campus locations. William Paterson's faculty members provide a valuable blend of accomplished scholarship and practical, applied experience. Among the University's faculty are forty-one Fulbright scholars and recipients of numerous other awards, grants, and fellowships.

Students benefit from individualized attention from faculty mentors, small class sizes, and numerous research, internship, and clinical experiences.

The institution's nearly 75,000 alumni can be found throughout New Jersey, the nation, and the world, using their William Paterson degrees and experiences as a springboard to professional accomplishment and personal growth. They are leaders in the arts, business, health care, sports, entertainment, the media, and education. They are public servants, artists, musicians, teachers, scientists, television personalities, authors, politicians, crime fighters, and entrepreneurs. Their achievements reflect the University's mission and commitment to preparing graduates for success in their careers, communities, and lives.

