



WV SU

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

May 10, 2025

College of Arts and Humanities

College of Business and Social Sciences

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

College of Professional Studies



Ericke S. Cage, J.D., LL.M.
President

D. Stephen & Diane H. Walker Convocation Center
Institute, West Virginia

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY



West Virginia State University was founded under the provisions of the Second Morrill Act of 1890 to provide education to black citizens in agriculture and the mechanical arts. Like many other states at that time, West Virginia maintained a segregated education system. On March 17, 1891, the West Virginia Legislature passed a bill creating the West Virginia Colored Institute to be located in the Kanawha Valley. Federal funds provided \$3,000 for faculty salaries and the West Virginia Legislature appropriated \$10,000 to purchase land and to construct a building. We now celebrate that as the official “Founders Day” of West Virginia State University.

In 1915, the school became known as West Virginia Collegiate Institute and began offering college degrees. Under the leadership of President John W. Davis, academic programs were expanded and new buildings were constructed. In 1927, the Institute received accreditation from the North Central Association and in 1929 it became West Virginia State College.

After the 1954 United States Supreme Court historic decision outlawing school segregation, West Virginia State College became an integrated institution serving a predominately white, adult, commuter student population. At that time, land-grant status was lost due to a decision of the West Virginia Board of Education; West Virginia State College was the only 1890 land-grant institution to lose that status. The College regained land-grant status in 2001, by an act of Congress.

With reinstatement of its 1890 land-grant status, and accompanying federal funding, West Virginia State College strengthened its mission of teaching, research and service to the community. The first graduate degree programs began in fall 2003. With the passage of Senate Bill 448 during the 2004 legislative session, the Institution became West Virginia State University.

From a modest beginning, West Virginia State University has emerged into a multipurpose institution serving a diverse student body. From a small tract of land and one building, the University has developed into a multimillion-dollar education system.

What is West Virginia State University?

It is all of us who believe in it – who absent or present, work in it and wish it well. It is an exponent of trust which sweeps aside the petty jealousies of men and all propagandic proposals which would minimize or depreciate personality. It is an institution containing faults and defects which challenge the constructive efforts of students, teachers, officers, and graduates. It is incomplete and desires to remain so, to be in an advantageous position for changing life situations.

It is spirit; it cannot be touched by hand; it is based upon communions between the living and those who though dead yet live in immortality made practical through enlistment in the college program, which of necessity requires eternity for completion. What is the university? You and those graduates ahead of you are the university.

paraphrased from John W. Davis
Fifth President, West Virginia State College, 1932





Commencement Ceremony

May 10, 2025 10:00 a.m.

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Closed captioning is available for those who need or want to follow along on their mobile device at <https://captionedtext.com/client/Event.aspx?EventID=5983584>



WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
COMMENCEMENT
ORDER OF EXERCISES



PRELUDE	Classical Selections
PROCESSIONAL	Pomp and Circumstance
MARCHING ORDER	
Grand Marshal	
President and Deans	
Platform Party	
College Flag Bearers	
Faculty and Administrators	
Candidates for Degrees	
POSTING OF THE COLORS	Yellow Jacket Battalion Color Guard United States Army ROTC
NATIONAL ANTHEM	<i>The Star Spangled Banner</i> Myana Mosley and McKenzie Gray South Charleston High School
MUSICAL SELECTION	<i>Lift Every Voice and Sing</i> The State of Harmony Community Choir
INVOCATION	Shannon Robinson Pastor, Community Restoration Worship Center
GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS	Mark W. Kelley Chair, West Virginia State University Board of Governors
INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER	Deborah Williams, M.P.A., C.P.A. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS	Paul Smith Chef, Owner, 1010 Bridge Restaurant & Catering, and The Pitch Sports Bar & Grill
CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREE	Erick S. Cage, J.D., LL.M. President
MUSICAL SELECTION	<i>Thank You, Lord</i> The State of Harmony Community Choir



CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Candidates for the Degree of Master of Arts, Education,
Public Administration and Sciences. Dr. Naveed Zaman
Dean, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Deborah Williams, M.P.A., C.P.A.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Erick S. Cage, J.D., LL.M.
President

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts and Sciences Dr. Kerri Steele
Dean, College of Professional Studies

Deborah Williams, M.P.A., C.P.A.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Erick S. Cage, J.D., LL.M.
President

*University Registrar, Roy Simmons announces the names of the graduates,
during the conferring of degrees by President Cage.*

REMARKS Erick S. Cage, J.D., LL.M.
President

ALUMNI PLEDGE Dr. Lateef Saffore
President, WVSU National Alumni Association

ALMA MATER. Destiny Patterson
Senior, Social Work Major

CLOSING REMARKS Deborah Williams, M.P.A., C.P.A.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

BENEDICTION Shannon Robinson
Pastor, Community Restoration Worship Center

RECESSIONAL Grand March

Please remain seated while the graduates recess.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER PAUL SMITH



From a childhood spent standing alongside his grandfather helping stir the sauce for large Sunday dinners, Chef Paul Smith's passions for food and his Appalachian home have taken him on a culinary journey that he is proud to share with his community.

After graduating from Charleston Catholic High School, Smith immersed himself in learning the hospitality industry and the finer points of great cuisine. With his bachelor's degree from West Virginia State University, he formally trained at New York's prestigious Culinary Institute of America and CIA's Greystone campus in Napa Valley, California, where he studied pastries and wine and graduated as Valedictorian.

Smith has worked around the country, from The Ritz Carlton Resort in Naples, Florida, to the world-renowned Biltmore Estates in Asheville, North Carolina, to The Windsor Club in Vero Beach, Florida. When the Mountain State pulled at his heartstrings, he returned to West Virginia where he served as the Executive Chef at the University of Charleston, and Corporate Chef for Buzz Food Service.

Today, he has multiple restaurants in Charleston: The Pitch Sports Bar & Grill, and 1010 Bridge Restaurant & Catering. He believes strongly that a rising tide will lift all boats, and has served as an advisor to multiple food and hospitality businesses in West Virginia. Smith's ultimate vision is to give back to the state he has always considered home through his gifts of great food and warm hospitality.

Smith was named a Semifinalist for the James Beard Foundation's Best Chef of The Southeast Award in 2023, the first West Virginia chef to receive that honor. He was also named West Virginian of the Year in 2023.

In 2024, he was honored again with a nomination for the James Beard Foundation's Best Chef of The Southeast Award and on June 10, 2024, in a ceremony in Chicago he became West Virginia's first James Beard Award winner.

In April he was recognized by West Virginia State University with a Presidential Award from WVSU President Ericke S. Cage at the 11th Annual Black & Gold Gala.

WVSU ALUMNI PLEDGE

To join hands with other alumni in perpetuating the ideals of West Virginia State University, nurturing its growth and promoting its programs, to serve with honor in my chosen profession, and to make myself a symbol of the best traditions of West Virginia State University – this is my commission and my challenge.

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION



The Academic Procession is composed of administrators, honored guests, faculty, graduates and the University Board of Governors. This procession is led by a marshal who seats the graduates, faculty and platform guests. Faculty members wear costumes that had their origin in the Medieval English University system. The costumes were devised to distinguish academic persons from lay persons, since everyone wore robes or gowns to ward off the cold. The recession is in reverse order, with the platform guests leaving the dais first, followed by the faculty and the graduates.

The colors of the academic dress have a significance deeply rooted in the tradition of academic life and are specified by a uniformed code maintained by the American Council on Education. Caps are black and are usually mortar boards with tassels. Doctors of Philosophy wear gold tassels, usually of metallic thread; other degrees wear black or discipline colors.

The bachelor's gown is simple and black with long, pointed sleeves. Master's gowns, also black, are longer than bachelors. Older gowns have sleeves that terminate at the elbow, while those since 1960 have sleeves extended to the wrist. Doctor's gowns are full, with bell-like sleeves. The front is marked by velvet panels, and the sleeves are marked by three velvet bars. While most gowns are black with black velvet, one variation is to replace black velvet with velvet in the discipline color. A second variation is a colored gown, usually of the university's colors.

All hoods specify the level of degree, the discipline studied, and the awarding institution. First, degree level is signified by the size of the hood with bachelor's smallest, master's larger and doctor's quite large and of a different shape. West Virginia State University does not award hoods for bachelors' degrees. The width of the velvet trim also conveys the degree. Secondly, the discipline is indicated by the color of the trim edging the hood to form the throat over the gown. Finally, the color of the hood's lining specifies the awarding institution. The colors are displayed in combinations that are drawn from heraldry.

The colors of the tassels worn by candidates for bachelor's degrees represent the fields of study in which the degrees will be conferred. At West Virginia State University, the following colors of tassels and hoods are used to designate the various degrees:

TASSELS

- Bachelor of Arts - White
- Bachelor of Fine Arts - Brown
- Bachelor of Science - Yellow
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration - Drab
- Bachelor of Science in Communications - Yellow
- Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice - Royal Blue
- Bachelor of Science in Education - Light Blue
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing - Apricot
- Bachelor of Science in Social Work - Citron

HOODS

- Master of Arts in Media Studies - White
- Master of Arts/Science in Biotechnology - Yellow
- Master of Education in Instructional Leadership - Light Blue
- Master of Public Administration - Peacock Blue
- Master of Science in Computer Science - Yellow
- Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration - Midnight Royal
- Master of Science in Sport Studies - Sage

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES



COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

Master of Arts in Media Studies

Monica Renee' Starks
Aleeshia Fiaunia Watson

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Master of Public Administration

William Richard Mucklow
Kristen Lynn Olsen
Lynette Nicole Stewart §

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES & MATHEMATICS

Master of Science in Biotechnology

Elijah Oluwaferanmi Ayilaran
Kushal Bhattarai

Master of Science in Computer Science

MD Julfiker Ali Jewel
Sasidhar Kadiyala
Venkatesh Mannuru
Alexander Tomas Sanchez
Timothy Aundre Sanford, II
Claire Bay Wallace

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration

Anna Simone Ross

Master of Science in Sport Studies

Zoe Ree Aguirre
Emele Marie Clark
Sophia Monee Del Bosque
Kiersten Faith Eggleton
Nolan C. Johnson
Paola Maradei Mejia
Prinkle Singh
Valiant Allen West

COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

Bachelor of Arts in Art

Adair Meredith Johnson
Kay-Lynn Nicole McCall
Skyler Brooke Simpson §

Bachelor of Arts in English

Tierney Alexis Skye Chapman
Susan Rachelle Compton
Annalisa Dnae Echard
Lauren Elizabeth Hall
Lisa Marie Harper §
Emily Allison Knight

Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies

Madison Lynn Adkins §
Sarah Beth Chambers
Maryam Mostafa Rawash

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Performance

Michael Dakota Elkins
Donald Keith Naylor
Joseph Calvert Thomas

Bachelor of Science in Communications

Hannah Kay Cullifer
David Alphonso Dawson
Emyah K. Fortenberry
Dyllan Lanier Mobley
Ananya Rautela
Olivia Faith Smith
Jeremie William Thomas, Jr.

Regents Bachelor of Arts

Brian Scott Banks §
Jessica Ann Blake
Amanda Gail Bowen
Diont'a Thomas Brown
Tariq Rashun Brown
Olivia Kristine Carr
Natalie Nicole Casdorff §
Benjamin Arnold Davis
Austin Terry Dempsey
Brenda Gay Doss
Abel Elias
Amelia Grace Halley

Linda Danielle Hansel
Kevin Drew Hatfield
Sherry Lynn Hensley
Joshua Shane Hudson
Charles James Hutson-Farley
Justin Michael Kennedy
Ryan O'Neil Lyburn
Breianna Nichole Don Messer
Logan Elise Metz
Brittany Nashae Mills
Maelissa Rene' Mosley
Marshall Alexander Petty
Zakorrah Danay Russell
Carrie Ann Samuels
Jaedaun Latrell Slack
Sydnee LeeAnn Taylor §
Gabrielle Dominique Toliver
Shannon Renee Walls
James Ralph Winn, Jr.
April Dawn Zengel
Dong Zhou

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Franco Farias
Camille Marie Jarvis §
Dalton Wyatt Lucas
Logan Michael Stone
Alyssa Bailey Tudor

Bachelor of Arts in History

Memphis Lee Farmer
Isaac Samuel Farren
Robert Andrew Marcum §
Tyler Lee Means

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

LucRichard Rameau

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Emmaleah Katherine Black
Benjamin David Borman §
Gavin Michael Caserta
Lisa Ann Keliher
Miguel Angel Martinez Moreno
Canada Marie Richardson
Chelsea Ann Thompson

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Samuel Scott Adkins
Trinity Sharon Amick
Brooke Nicole Ball
Kelley Anne Bickers
Gwendalynn Blue Browning
Juwana Donnell Bunch
Chelsea Chyanne Cogar
Olivia Grace Cullop
Mamadu B. Dem
John Bennett Engle
Cheikh A. Fall
Franco Farias
Kain Andrew Ford
Alexis Dawn Hartwell
Mallerie Zyara Haskins
Tarah Lynn Higginbotham
Hank Charles Hinchman §
Caleb Peters LaFunor
Madelyn Ann Loyd
Maureen Michelle Mathews
Madisyn Nicole Midkiff §
Nathaniel Dashaun Mims
Amaurae DeShaun Moore
Emma Elizabeth Pauley
Tyler Jacob Perdue
Carlos Donnell Porter-Lumpkin
Dominique Diana Robinson §
Curtava Leeghana Ruffin
Brennen Scott Schmitt
Gregory Allen Schott, Jr.
Roselanda Simon
Logan Michael Stone
James David Thacker
Jacob Thomas Thaxton
Bryce Alexander Tinney
Alyssa Bailey Tudor §
Kameron Andrew Vargas
Shanley Woods

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES & MATHEMATICS

Bachelor of Science in Biology

Brooklyn Jayde Baron
Morgan Jycole Caba
Danielle Leilani Carter
Emma Nicole Clark
Chad Edward Hollandsworth

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES



Jaden Marie Kardos §
Melissa Lee Morris
Thomas Patrick Rennie §
William Austin Rowan
Megan Elizabeth Shoemaker
Natasha Dee Sorongon
John Hickok Staples
Brooklyn Alexandria Starks
Kwesi Ayew Afriye Tillman §
Jana K. Whitlock

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Zimren Drew Dixon
Chayton Gage Hawks
Elias Antonio Valencia
Micah Shaun Walker

Bachelor of Science in Engineering

Gina Mi-ae D'Agostino

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics

Stephen Daniel Fleshman, II
Ammy Dama Mwasambu

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Grant Hartley Alderman
Brandon David Bishop
Brady Ryan Carrico
Christopher Allen Crowder
Kaleb Marvin Crowder
Ashlynn Renee Davis
Hailee Marie Degnan
Ethan Elijah DeMello

Dalton Jay Hall
Travis Matthew Hill
Jalil Isiah Hines
Mark Aaron Howell
Lauren Taylor Johnson
Brenton Harlowe Lane
Tracy Lynn Mann
Deanna McKinney
Madison Faith Nipps §
Tanner Joseph Perdue
Joana Dias dos Reis Indio
Julia Elizabeth Ruiz §
Taina Marie Ruiz §
Craig Jacobs Tabit
Riley Jordan Vadasz
Abbie Louise Ward
Julia Louise Washington
Raven Makayla White
Sarah Elizabeth Wingrove

Bachelor of Science in Education

Andy Joshua Anderson §
Mackenzie Nicole Bright §
Bryan Keith Cantrell
Emma Marie Gardner §
Brandi Rae Gifford
Darren Ray Goodwin
Grace Mackenzie Harding
Kathryn Dell Hayes
Destiny Grace Markowski
Elizabeth Michelle McCormick
Hunter Eugene Murphy
Devin Nicole Ord §
Allie Elizabeth Smith
Krysta Alexandria Smith Lewis §
Sarah Elizabeth Wilkinson

Bachelor of Science in Health Science

Latisha Nicole Dixon
Mae Lyn Haynes
Nancy Ann Rhodes
Krysti Lin Skoglund
Tara Ashley Sweeney §
Kenneth Isaiah Williams, Jr.
Ashlynn Brooke Zaferatos

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Lisa Michelle Boggs
Ashton Taylor Buckner
Katelyn Grace Clendenen
Ashley Nicole Craigo
Savanah Grace Doub
Janice Denise Garner
Isabella Grace Kay
Abigail Brooke Lacy
Kaitlyn Jade Luikart
Zoey Briona McCutcheon
Jestdon Skyy McKenzie
Erin Kay Mullins
Nathan Elliott Paulsen
Rory Kellin Rennie

Bachelor of Science in Social Work

Clifton Lee Belcher
Veronica Leslie-Jamie Bumpus §
Sana Hamdan
Eric Isaac Holstein
Autumn Jewel Mellert
Destiny Amaya Patterson §
Anna Jolie Payne
Diorre Elizabeth Robertson §
Ashanti Renea Spillman

Bachelor of Science in Sport Studies

Leyd Kevin Bayard
Dyson Logan Bowers §
Mykael Davon Brown
Jackson Arthur Cox
Nicholas Armond Fannin
Eric Jamal Geter
Anaisia La'Naye Dawn Griffin
Blake Andrew Charles Henry
Caleb Colin Jantuah
Joshua Van Everett Jenkins
Joseph Peter Jones, V
Priscilla Lanaaia Moleni
Kerigan Brooke Moore
Latifat Olatunji §
Marqus Devon Ray
Carter Bryant Ruffner
Alexandra Nichole Schmitt
Dillon Dwayne Taylor
Karissa Marie Vela §
Jakob James Whitlock

A name on the program does
not assure that final degree
requirements have been met.

§ Denotes Senior Class Gift
Participant

SENIOR CLASS GIFT CAMPAIGN



The WVSU Philanthropy Cord is an old gold and black cord that graduates wear with their cap and gown during the commencement ceremony to represent their passion for philanthropy. Contributions will be directed to the Student Emergency Fund, which will assist WVSU students experiencing financial hardship.

ACADEMIC HONORS



Cum Laude

Candidates who have attained cumulative grade point averages between 3.25 and 3.49

Magna Cum Laude

Candidates who have attained cumulative grade point averages between 3.50 and 3.74

Summa Cum Laude

Candidates who have attained cumulative grade point averages of 3.75 and above

With Distinction

Candidates, who are graduating with a second bachelor's degree, who have completed at least 30 hours beyond the first degree and have attained a grade point average of 3.5 and above in these additional hours

Graduating Seniors in Honor Societies

To become a member in a University Honor Society, a student must have earned 30 hours toward his/her degree and must have met the society's specific requirements for eligibility.

Congratulations to the seniors listed for your commitment to academic excellence and thank you for the national and international recognition that you bring to West Virginia State University by your membership in these societies.

1890 Scholars

Dr. Barbara Liedl, advisor

Brooke Ball
Morgan Caba
Danielle Carter
Camille Jarvis
Natasha Sorongon
Brooklyn Starks
Logan Stone
Jana Whitlock

Alpha Phi Sigma

National Criminal Justice Honor Society

Dr. Leighann Davidson, advisor

Dr. Cassandra Whyte, advisor

Madison F. Nipps
Tanner J. Perdue

Alpha Psi Omega

National Theatre Honor Society

M. Sue Woodward, advisor

Madison Adkins
Hannah Cullifer
Emyah Fortenberry
Dyllan Mobley
Anayah Rautela
Jeremie Thomas, Jr.

Delta Mu Delta

International Honor Society in Business

Dr. Alan R. Tillquist, advisor

Emma Pauley
Brennen Schmitt

Kappa Delta Pi

Lambda Zeta Chapter International Honor Society in Education

Dr. Alonda Wylie, advisor

Mackenzie Bright
Darren Goodwin
Devin Ord
Krysta Smith Lewis

National Society of

Leadership and Success

Dr. Christopher Jackson, advisor

Jaleesa Nunez, advisor

Grant Alderman
Brooke Ball
Kelley Bickers
Lisa Boggs
Benjamin Borman
Veronica Bumpus
Bryan Cantrell
Brandy Carrico
Natalie Casdorph
Zimren Dixon
Isaac Farren
Emma Gardner
Darren Goodwin
Amelia Halley
Grace Harding
Alexis Hartwell
Mae Haynes
Jalil Hines
Chad Hollandsworth
Camille Jarvis
Abigail Lacy
Kaitlyn Luikart
Robert Marcum
Maureen Mathews
Elizabeth McCormick
Zoey McCutcheon
Jestdon McKenzis
Deanna McKinney
Autumn Mellert
Breianna Messer
William Mucklow
Ammy Mwasambu
Devin Ord
Tanner Perdue
Tyler Perdue
Carlos Porter-Lumpkin
LucRichard Rameau
Maryam Rawash
Nancy Rhodes
Diorre Robertson
Dominique Robinson
Brennen Schmitt
Ashanti Spillman
Sydnee Taylor
James Thacker
Claire Wallace
Jana Whitlock

Phi Alpha

National Social Work Honor Society

Lena Lambert, advisor

Eric Holstein
Autumn Mellert
Destiny Patterson
Anna Payne
Diorre Robertson
Ashanti Spillman

Phi Alpha Theta

National History Honor Society

Dr. Tae Jin Park, advisor

Isaac Farren
Robert Marcum

Psi Chi

International Honor Society in Psychology

Dr. Paula K. McCoy, advisor

Emmaleah Black
Benjamin Borman

THE MACE

The Academic Mace precedes the entire procession and is carried by the Grand Marshal. The mace is a symbol of authority and its placement and removal from a place of honor signifies the opening and closing of ceremonial sessions. The mace had its origin in the Middle Ages, being used first as a weapon by royal bodyguards to protect their monarchs in processions. Today, the mace is primarily used in academic ceremonies including commencements.

The original mace used by West Virginia State University had historical significance in that it was created from a spindle used in the staircase of West Hall, the second building erected on the campus, in 1895. This mace was restored by James Huffman when he was the assistant director of Admissions at the University, and has since been retired from usage.

The mace being used today was created by Seth Davidson, class of 2005, and Mike Cunningham of Cardinal Creek. The mace was hand turned on a lathe and is made from solid walnut sourced in West Virginia. It is engraved with the names West Virginia State University has been known by throughout its proud 132-year history. The mace is topped with a solid brass medallion that is the great seal of West Virginia State University and features the university's motto Veritas Lux Mundi, or "Truth is the Light of the World."

COLLEGE BANNERS

West Virginia State University students will proceed to their respective places behind gonfalons. Gonfalons are flags or banners hung from crosspieces on poles, used since medieval times in the republics of Italy as symbols of state or office. Universities and colleges around the world have adopted gonfalons to increase the ceremonial nature of commencement exercises.

This new tradition associated with commencement symbolizes the accomplishments of the graduates whom we honor on this occasion and the University's commitment to their success.

Four gonfalons of the old gold with black lettering will be carried by two faculty members from each College: the College of Arts and Humanities; the College of Business and Social Sciences; the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and the College of Professional Studies.

Banner Carriers

College of Arts & Humanities

Josh Martin

Dr. Reidun Ovebo

College of Business and Social Sciences

Dr. Ginta Palubinskas

Dr. Charles Perdue

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Dr. Eyas Mahmoud

Dr. Aniruddha Maiti

College of Professional Studies

Dr. Mickey Blackwell

Dr. Raphael Mutepa

Grand Marshal

Deborah Williams

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Faculty Marshal

Kemberly Pasley

Stage Marshals

Dr. Leighann Davidson

Dr. Walter Stroupe

Student Marshals

Katherine Bryant

Patricia King

Sign Language Interpreters

Jasmin Cannisi

Ashley Turley

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Francis Scott Key

*Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we bailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?*

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

J. Rosamand Johnson, composer, and James Weldon Johnson, lyrics

*Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.*

ALMA MATER

Ernest Wade '30, Martha Spencer '31

*There is a place we love so dear—
Its name we'll ever praise and revere
'Tis West Virginia State we love—
Just one more step from there is Heav'n above.*

REFRAIN

*West Virginia's praise we'll sing—
Lift our voices 'til heavens ring—
As we gaily march along—
We'll sing a song—
For Alma Mater
How we love her
Pride of all our loyal hearts—
From her we will never part—
Thoughts of thee will ne'er be few
Alma Mater we love you.*



WEST VIRGINIA STATE
UNIVERSITY