



Class of 2021
SPRING COMMENCEMENT
April 30 and May 1, 2021



Dr. Glenda Glover, President



Class of 2021



SPRING

2021 COMMENCEMENT

GRADUATE CEREMONY

FRIDAY, THE THIRTIETH OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE
AT
FOUR O’CLOCK IN THE EVENING

UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY

SATURDAY, THE FIRST OF MAY
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE
AT
EIGHT O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
WILLIAM JASPER HALE STADIUM
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

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STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

TSU-21-196(B)-8b-30010 – Tennessee State University does not discriminate against students, employees, or applicants for admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, age, status as a protected veteran, genetic information, or any other legally protected class with respect to all employment, programs and activities sponsored by Tennessee State University. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Office of Equity and Inclusion, 3500 John Merritt Blvd., General Services Building, Second Floor, Nashville, TN 37209, 615-963-7435. The Tennessee State University policy on nondiscrimination can be found at www.tnstate.edu/nondiscrimination.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



April 30, 2021

To the Graduating Class of 2021:

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students at Tennessee State University, it is my distinct honor and privilege to extend heartfelt congratulations. I applaud you for having reached this extraordinary milestone, especially in light of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite these added 'roadblocks' you have soared, Bravo! Today, is also a momentous occasion for your family members and friends who supported you, and helped you reach this pivotal moment in your academic, professional and personal development.

As a graduate of Tennessee State University, I am proud of the leadership development that was imparted to me as a student, as well as the impact that TSU has had on the lives of students for over a century. We honor your achievements and we celebrate the advanced careers you are soon to undertake. Let the University's motto of think, work, serve be your foundation in all that you pursue. After moving your tassel or being hooded, you will join a historic lineage of TSU alumni.

It is my hope that you will forever cherish your years at Tennessee State University. Please accept my best wishes for a bright and successful future, and may God's blessings follow you throughout all your personal and professional endeavors.

Sincerely,

Dr. Glenda Glover
President



BOARD OF TRUSTEES



April 30, 2021

Congratulations to the class of 2021. I along with your Tennessee State University Trustee Board, are honored to celebrate this extraordinary accomplishment in your life. You are joining a long list of accomplished graduates who are making a difference everyday in the lives of others as well as the world. Today is the culmination of years of hard work and perseverance. You are to be commended on finishing what you started.

As you celebrate this moment, make certain you allow it to become a catalyst that propels you to higher heights. Your degree from Tennessee State University has prepared you to compete at any level as well as in any sector. Whether you are entering the workforce, graduate school or the military, be well assured that you deserve to be there. Become a world

changer and embrace the opportunities that will come your way. As you go forth from this day, always remember those who are behind you. Pay it forward and make certain you remember to support your beloved Tennessee State University.

We have been honored to have you as a student of TSU and now we are excited to welcome you as its Alumni. Keep striving and remember wherever you go in life, you will represent the best of Tennessee State University.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joseph Warren Walker, III
Chair, TSU Board of Trustees



April 30, 2021

Greetings TSU Graduates!



As Nashville's Mayor, I am truly honored to have my first opportunity to extend congratulations to the 2021 Spring Commencement Class of Tennessee State University. I applaud your dedication and your discipline which paved the way to this important and significant milestone.

This academic year has been challenging. It was a year like no other. A global pandemic forced us all to rethink and reshape our day to day lives. However, you were able to remain vigilant in your education via virtual and hybrid classwork and I applaud your tenacity.

I know how hard you have worked to get to this point in your academic career, and I am proud of you for this achievement. I have no doubt that you will continue to serve as worthy ambassadors for our great city by building upon Tennessee State University's reputation for excellence.

You have so much potential and I know great things are ahead for each of you. Best wishes, and may the wisdom you have gained lead you along a prosperous and rewarding career path.

Sincerely,

Mayor John Cooper



Bill Lee
Governor
State of Tennessee

April 30, 2021

Dear Graduates, On behalf of the great State of Tennessee, I would like to offer my congratulations to the 2021 graduates of Tennessee State University.

I know that the path leading up to this moment for the Class of 2021 has been particularly challenging in light of the COVID- 19 pandemic and natural disasters that have ravaged our capital city. I commend you for all the ways in which you demonstrated perseverance and resilience by striving each day to pursue academic excellence.

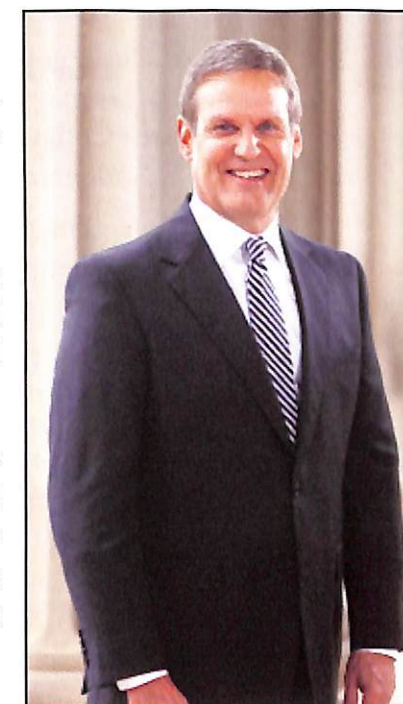
As you begin the next chapter in your lives, I am confident that the knowledge you have gained throughout your college career will lead you on a prosperous and rewarding path. You have had the opportunity to develop your unique talents over the past four years and I encourage you to utilize these lessons to improve your community and the lives of those around you.

Your family and loved ones must be extremely proud of your accomplishments and I join them in wishing you well as you embark on your next exciting adventure.

Again, congratulations on reaching this milestone. Maria and I wish you success in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Bill Lee
Governor





CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



April 30, 2021

Dear Tennessee State University Graduates and Families,

Congratulations on your graduation from Tennessee State University. Your degree is your ticket to a better future, and I wish you continued success.

We live in the greatest nation on earth, and you have graduated from a great institution. Over the past 100 years, Tennessee State University has garnered a well-earned reputation for serving our community and the nation. I know you will represent your school and our state well in all your future endeavors and as you hold close the motto, "Think. Work. Serve."

Again, congratulations on your achievement, and please accept my very best wishes for a fun-filled and reflective celebration.

Sincerely,

Jim Cooper
Member of Congress



UNITED STATES SENATE



April 30, 2021

Dear Class of 2021,

Congratulations on graduating from Tennessee State University. I am delighted to recognize your achievement, along with your family, friends, and professors.

You should be proud of this accomplishment. It took a lot of hard work and perseverance to get here. There may have been times when you thought this day would never come, but you pressed forward and are now college graduates. Continue to work hard and persevere through trials as you begin your careers or pursue further education. You have much to offer Tennessee and this nation, and I look forward to seeing how you use your education.

It is an honor to serve you in the United States Senate. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist you in any way.

Congratulations and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator



May 1, 2021

Dear Graduates of the Triumphant Class of 2021,

Congratulations on a job well done!

On behalf of the 26th Administration of the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association, and thousands of TSU alumni across the global spectrum, I am overjoyed to share with you how proud we are of you for all that you have accomplished. Today, we celebrate your esteemed victory.

You possess the spirit of many generations of exceptional tigers. The legendary Wilma Rudolph once stated, "I ran and ran every day, and I acquired this sense of determination, this sense of spirit that I would never, never give up,

no matter what else happened." You, like Ms. Rudolph, never gave up! I assure you that you are not defined by the uncertainty of a great pandemic; however, you are defined by the certainty of your great strength. We admire how you have patiently, uniquely, and resiliently earned the pomp and circumstance of this day, your graduation day.

As you celebrate, dance in gratitude. Take the time to reflect upon those encouraging people who have taken this amazing journey with you. Your support circle includes family, friends, teachers, mentors, and memories. You are ready for your next destination. Stand firm in the University's motto, "Think, Work, Serve." Use this motto as inspiration to help you make this world a better place. Take TSU with you in your community. Take TSU with you in your profession. Take TSU with you in your family. And, forever take TSU with you in your heart.

Of course we have something for you, to receive your graduation gift from TSUNAA, visit www.TSUALUMNIONLINE.org or scan the QR Code below. A complimentary one (1) year membership in the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association awaits activation by you. We look forward to connecting with you, linking you with tigers all over the world, and supporting you as you explore life beyond 3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.

Welcome to the Tennessee State University Alumni Association.

Serve incredibly,

Charles H. Galbreath, Jr.,
26th National President, TSUNAA

HISTORY OF TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



Tennessee State University is a comprehensive, urban coeducational, land-grant university founded in 1912 in Nashville, Tennessee. The university has two locations – the 500-acre main campus, with more than 65 buildings, located in a residential setting along the Cumberland River; and the Avon Williams Campus, located downtown, near the center of Nashville's business and government district.

Through successive stages, TSU has developed from a normal school for Negroes to its current status as an international university with students from 45 states and more than 50 countries. By virtue of a 1909 Act of the General Assembly, the Agricultural and Industrial State Normal School was created, along with two other normal schools in the State of Tennessee, and began serving students on June 19, 1912. Dr. William Jasper Hale was appointed president with an original 247 students.

In 1922, the institution was elevated to the status of a four-year teachers' college and was empowered to grant the bachelor's degree. The first degrees were granted in June 1924. During the same year, the institution became known as the Agricultural and Industrial State Normal College. In 1927, "Normal" was dropped from the name of the College.

As the college grew in scope and stature throughout the 1920s and 1930s, so too did its impressive roster of alumni who embodied the school's charge: "Enter to learn, go forth to serve." In 1943, an alumnus, Dr. Walter S. Davis, was selected to succeed Dr. Hale. Dr. Davis led the institution through an era of tremendous growth in academics, facilities and athletics leading to worldwide recognition. The Tennessee General Assembly of 1941 authorized the State Board of Education to upgrade substantially the educational program of the college, which included the establishment of graduate studies leading to the master's degree. The first master's degree was awarded by the college in June 1944.

Accreditation of the institution by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools was first obtained in 1946. In August 1951, the institution was granted university status by approval of the State Board of Education.



The reorganization of the institution’s educational programs included the establishment of the Graduate School, the School of Arts & Sciences, the School of Education and the School of Engineering. Provisions were also made for the addition of other schools, including agriculture, business, allied health and home economics.

After Dr. Walter S. Davis retired as president, another TSU alumnus, Dr. Andrew Torrence, was named the university’s third president. During his tenure, the state legislature dropped “Agriculture & Industrial” and officially changed the name to Tennessee State University in 1968. Also during that same year, TSU faculty member Rita Sanders filed a lawsuit, which became known as *Geier v. Tennessee*, alleging a dual system of higher education in Tennessee based on race.

Following the service of Dr. Charles B. Fancher as interim president, Dr. Frederick Humphries became TSU’s fourth president in 1975. He was the first president to face the challenge of maintaining the balance between TSU’s role as one of America’s preeminent historically black universities and its emerging status as a comprehensive national university. During his tenure, on July 1, 1979, the *Geier* case was settled by a court order merging the former University of Tennessee at Nashville with TSU as a result of a court order.

Following the service of Dr. Roy Peterson as interim president, Dr. Otis Floyd became TSU’s fifth chief executive in 1987 and continued moving the university forward. In 1988, the university received an unprecedented \$112 million from the state general assembly for capital improvements. Under this plan, nearly all buildings on campus were renovated, and eight new buildings were constructed, including the Floyd-Payne Campus Center, the Ned McWherter Administration Building, the Wilma Rudolph Residence Center and the Performing Arts Center.

In 1990, the Tennessee Board of Regents appointed Dr. Floyd as its chancellor, opening the way for Dr. George Cox to serve in an interim capacity until Dr. James Hefner was selected as the University’s sixth president in 1991. Dr. Hefner supervised additional improvements to campus facilities and fostered enrollment growth to an all-time high. The Otis Floyd Nursery Crops Research Station in McMinnville was dedicated in 1996 and, in 1999 researchers at the TSU Center for Automated Space Science were the first to discover a planet outside the solar system.



Dr. Melvin N. Johnson became the university’s seventh president in June 2005, and was instrumental in continuing to bring national attention to the university by recognizing the Freedom Riders, engaging the university in the Tennessee Campus Compact and was awarded \$8 million for Race to the Top Funds by President Barack Obama. After Dr. Johnson’s retirement, Dr. Portia Shields served as interim president from 2011-2012.

In the university’s second century of academic excellence and service, Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover became the eighth president and first woman to lead the 100-plus year institution in January 2013.



She continues to make changes to further emphasize the excellence for which Tennessee State University is internationally known.

Through its eight colleges and schools, TSU offers 40 undergraduate degrees, 24 master’s degrees, and 8 doctoral degrees: biological sciences, computer information systems engineering, psychology, public administration, curriculum and instruction, administration and supervision, and physical therapy.

In summary, during its 100-plus year history, eight presidents and five interim presidents have served the institution.

William Jasper Hale	1912-1943	Otis L. Floyd	1987-1990, 1986-1987 (Interim)
Walter S. Davis	1943-1968	George W. Cox	1990-1991 (Interim)
Andrew P. Torrence	1968-1974	James A. Hefner	1991-2005
Charles B. Fancher	1974-1975 (Interim)	Melvin N. Johnson	2005-2011
Frederick S. Humphries	1975-1985	Portia Shields	2011-2012 (Interim)
Roy Peterson	1985-1986 (Interim)	Glenda Baskin Glover	2013-Present





EIGHTH PRESIDENT

GLEND A BASKIN GLOVER, PH.D., JD, CPA

Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover serves as President of Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tennessee, a position she has held since January 2013. Under her leadership as the university's first female president, TSU has experienced a significant increase in alumni fundraising, research dollars and academic offerings.

Dr. Glover is a certified public accountant, an attorney, and is one of two African American women to hold the Ph.D-CPA-JD combination in the country. Her past employment also includes high level positions in the corporate sector as she is among few women to rise to the heights to serve on corporate boards of publicly traded corporations. These include Pinnacle Financial Partners, The Lenox

Group, Citigroup-Student Loan Corporation and First Guaranty Bancshares, where she chairs the audit committee, and is experienced in corporate governance. She is a frequently sought keynote speaker at churches, national conventions, professional associations and community groups.

Her educational development began as a student at Tennessee State University, where she majored in mathematics. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree, she pursued the Master of Business Administration from Clark Atlanta University. She then completed her doctorate in business from George Washington University, and later completed her law degree from Georgetown University.

Dr. Glover is a member of several professional, civic, and non-profit organizations, and currently serves as International President and CEO of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. She is also the recipient of numerous awards and honors, and received the prestigious Thurgood Marshall College Fund Education Leadership Award as the 2018 HBCU President of the Year. Glover was also named to *Essence Magazine's* 2019 "Woke 100" List of influential African American women change agents and power players that also included First Lady Michelle Obama, and Gayle King of CBS This Morning News. In 2013, she was named to *Diverse Issues in Higher Education's* prestigious list as one of the "Top 25 Women in Higher Education."

Dr. Glover and her husband, Charles, are the parents of two adult children, Attorney Candace Glover-Datcher, and Dr. Charles Glover II. They are also the proud grandparents of three grandsons, Lincoln Mathis Glover, Langston Emmanuel Datcher and Everett Miles Glover.

TIGER STATUE ON TSU CAMPUS

On the main Tennessee State University campus now stands a giant tiger statue the university calls a symbol of strength and a representation of TSU's Big Blue pride. The specially commissioned bronze 6-foot-long sculpture, weighing in at 500 pounds, was unveiled Oct. 23 as part of ceremonies marking the 2020 Homecoming.

Standing at nearly 7 feet and mounted on a custom-made marble base, the statue is located in front of the Floyd-Payne Campus Center across from the McWherter Circle. The tiger was a student-led project.

President Glenda Glover led student representatives, administrators, staff, alumni and community officials in an elaborate ceremony to showcase the new campus attraction.

"Today is a special day as we unveil a monument that will represent the spirit of TSU for the next 100 years," Glover said to a round of applause.

"Generations will mark their presence on this campus in front of this great tiger statue. Tigers are resilient, strong and powerful, as we are. Tigers are determined and confident as we are."



NOTABLE ALUMNI OF TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Tennessee State University graduates become local, regional, national, and international leaders:

Traci Otey Blunt, Senior Vice President of Corporate Communications for the National Football League.

Ralph Boston, Chandra Cheeseborough, Barbara Jones-Slater, Edith McGuire-Duvall, Wilma Rudolph, and Wyomia Tyus, Olympic gold medalists.

T. B. Boyd III, former president and chief executive officer, R. H. Boyd Publishing Corporation.

Xernona Clayton, retired vice president for urban affairs with Turner Broadcasting/CNN and founder/CEO of the Trumpet Awards.

Dr. Deborah A. Cole, former president and chief executive officer of Citizens Savings Bank & Trust Co.

S. Allen Counter, explorer and Harvard neurophysiologist.

Richard Dent, the first TSU alumnus to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

The Honorable Myra Hudson Dixon, Chief Judge of the Fulton County State Court (Atlanta, GA)

Congressman Harold E. Ford, Sr., the first African-American to represent Tennessee in the U.S. Congress.

State Senator Brenda Gilmore, Senator for the 19th District in the Tennessee General Assembly since 2019; former member of the Tennessee House of Representatives, 54th District; Served on the Nashville Metro Council from the 1st District from 1993-2003.

Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover, first female president of Tennessee State University, and one of only two African-American women to hold the Ph.D.-CPA-JD combination in the nation.

Moses Gunn, renowned actor who in 1977 received an Emmy nomination for his appearance as tribal chieftain Kintango in the ground-breaking miniseries, *Roots*; Founder of the Negro Ensemble and received several Obie Awards for his off-Broadway work.

State Senator Thelma Harper, Retired Senator for the 19th District in the Tennessee General Assembly since 1991-2018. Her political career has led to the position of delegate for the 1980, 1984, 1988 and 1992 Democratic National Conventions.

Claude B. Humphrey, a former American football defensive lineman in the National Football League for the Atlanta Falcons and Philadelphia Eagles. He is a 2014 inductee into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Dr. Bobby Jones, executive producer of the *Bobby Jones Gospel Show* and Ambassador-at-large of the Commonwealth of Dominica.

Ed “Too Tall” Jones, retired American NFL Football Player spent 15 years with the Dallas Cowboys from 1974-1978 and again from 1980-1989.

Harvey Johnson, the first African-American mayor of Jackson, Mississippi.

Dr. Richard Lewis, an entrepreneur and president of Lewis & Wright Funeral Home in Nashville, as well as chief financial officer of the AME Church.

State Representative Harold M. Love, Jr., Member of the Tennessee House of Representatives, 58th District; Pastor of Lee Chapel A.M.E. Church.

Obie L. McKenzie, retired managing director at BlackRock in the Account Management Group, one of the largest publicly traded investment firms in the United States. He ranks among the Top 10 African-Americans on Wall Street.

Dr. Edith Peterson Mitchell, former President of the National Medical Association and Clinical Professor of Medicine and Medical Oncology at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University.

Lloyd W. “Fig” Newton, 4-star general, retired as highest ranking African-American in the Air Force.

Jo Ann North, a former Davidson County Property Assessor, and first woman elected as an At-Large member of the Metropolitan Council of Nashville, Davidson County.

Jesse Russell, pioneer in the development of the cellular telephone.

Dr. Catana Starks, former faculty member and department chair, was the first female head coach of an NCAA Division I men’s golf team, and coached the team to the National Minority Golf Championship in 2005. Starks story has been captured and shared with the world in the feature film, *From the Rough*.

Carla Venita Thomas, an American singer, who is often referred to as the ‘Queen of Memphis Soul.’

Dr. Maria Thompson, former president, Coppin State University, Baltimore, Maryland.

Dwayne Tucker, Campus Executives, LLC – Nashville Management Group; Chairman of Board of Trustees for the TSU Foundation.

Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr., M.D., obtained worldwide recognition for implanting the first defibrillator for the heart; former associate dean and cardiac surgeon at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

A.C. Wharton, former mayor of Memphis, Tennessee, and former mayor of Shelby County (TN) – first African-American to serve.

Kevin Williams, immediate past president and managing director of General Motors Canadian operations; a TSU Foundation Board of Trustees member.

Oprah Winfrey, owner of Oprah Winfrey Network, Talk Show Host, Television Producer, Philanthropist, and Actress.

Brenda Wynn, Davidson County Clerk, first African-American female to win an election to a constitutional office in the county.

VISION, MISSION AND CORE VALUES

VISION STATEMENT

Tennessee State University aspires to be the premier public urban, comprehensive institution achieving prominence through innovation and instruction, research, creativity, and service with the dissemination of knowledge and information.

MISSION STATEMENT

Tennessee State University, through its legacy as an HBCU and land grant institution, transforms lives, prepares a diverse population of leaders, and contributes to economic and community development by providing affordable and accessible educational programs at various degree levels promoting academic excellence through scholarly inquiry, teaching, research, lifelong learning, and public service.

CORE VALUES

Tennessee State University maintains the following core values:

- Learning everyday
- Making excellence a habit
- Thinking beyond the obvious
- Working relentlessly
- Serving everyone, we encounter

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Tennessee State University, an HBCU and 1890 land grant institution, is a major state-supported urban and comprehensive university. This unique combination of characteristics differentiates the university from others and shapes its instructional, research, and service programs designed to serve Metropolitan Nashville, Middle Tennessee, the State of Tennessee, the nation, and the global community. The university is committed to maintaining its diverse student body, faculty, and staff.

Tennessee State University provides quality instruction through academic programs which are broadly comprehensive at the baccalaureate and master’s levels. Doctoral programs are offered in select areas where the University exhibits strength in instruction and research and consistent with the University’s unique mission. The University’s educational programs are intended to increase the student’s level of knowledge, enhance the student’s skills, and expand the student’s awareness.

Tennessee State University is committed to engaging in pure and applied research which contributes to the body of knowledge and which broadens the application of knowledge. Whenever possible, the university strives to provide its students with the opportunity to be involved in the research activities of the faculty and academic staff.

Tennessee State University serves its constituents through an array of programs and services which apply the knowledge, skills and discoveries of the instructional and research units at the institution. These services are intended to broaden the perspectives and enhance the quality of life of the University’s service constituents.

Tennessee State University expresses its commitment to students’ overall development by promoting lifelong learning, scholarly inquiry, and a commitment of service to others. Programs and services are geared toward promoting and nurturing students’ growth and development as persons who are liberally educated, appreciate cultural diversity and embody a sense of civic and social responsibility.

Tennessee State University projects itself to its students, faculty, and alumni and to the citizens of the State through the motto, “Think. Work. Serve.” Tennessee State University remains committed to the education of a non-racially identifiable student body and promotes diversity and access without regard to race, gender, religion, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status.



EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover	President
Dr. Michael Harris	Interim Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs
Mr. Frank Stevenson	Associate Vice President, Student Affairs
Dr. Frances Williams	Associate Vice President, Research and Institutional Advancement
Mr. Terrence Izzard	Vice President, Enrollment Management & Student Success
Dr. Curtis Johnson	Chief of Staff
Ms. Kelli Sharpe	Assistant Vice President, Public Relations & Communication
Chief Gregory Robinson	Assistant Vice President and Chief of Police
Attorney Laurence Pendleton	General Counsel & Secretary, Board of Trustees
Dr. Michael Allen	Director, University Athletics

ACADEMIC DEANS

Dr. Chandra Reddy	Dean, College of Agriculture
Dr. Millicent Lownes-Jackson	Dean, College of Business
Dr. Jerri Haynes	Dean, College of Education
Dr. S. Keith Hargrove	Dean, College of Engineering
Dr. Ron Barredo	Dean, College of Health Sciences
Dr. Samantha Morgan-Curtis	Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts
Dr. Nolan McMurray	Interim Dean, College of Life and Physical Sciences
Dr. Elizabeth Williams	Interim Dean, College of Public Service
Dr. Robbie K. Melton	Dean, School of Graduate and Professional Studies

ACCREDITATION AND AFFILIATIONS

Tennessee State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) to award the associate, bachelor's, master's, specialist in education and doctoral degrees. In addition, the following programs and associations support the high quality education available on the TSU campuses.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Family and Consumer Sciences (B.S. American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, American Dietetics Association)

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Business (B.B.A., M.B.A., AACSB is the Association of Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International)

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Education (B.S., M.S., M.A.Ed., Ed.S. Ed.D: National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)

Psychology (B.S., Ph.D with concentration in Counseling: American Psychological Association (APA)

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Aeronautical & Industrial Technology, Architectural & Mechanical Engineering, Civil & Environmental

Engineering, Electrical & Computer Engineering (B.S.: Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology)

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Cardio-Respiratory Care Sciences (B.S.: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs)

Dental Hygiene (A.A.S., B.S.: Commission on Dental Accreditation)

Health Care Administration and Planning (B.S.: Association of University Programs in Health Administration)

Health Information Management (B.S.: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in collaboration with the Council on Education of the American Health Information Management Association)

Medical Technology (B.S.: National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences)

Occupational Therapy (M.O.T.: Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association.)

Physical Therapy (D.P.T.: Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE))

Speech Pathology and Audiology (B.S., M.S.: Council of Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association)

Nursing (A.A.S., B.S.N., M.S.N.: The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing)

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Art (B.A.: National Association of Schools of Art & Design), Music (B.A.: National Association of Schools of Music), Social Work (B.S.: The Council on Social Work Education)

COLLEGE OF LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Committee on Professional Training (CPT) of the American Chemical Society (ACS)

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Public Administration (M.P.A.: The National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration)

Bachelor of Science in Social Work (B.S.S.W.) The Council on Social Work Accreditation (CSWE)

Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) (Collaborative) The Council on Social Work Accreditation (CSWE)

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

The College of Agriculture offers teaching, research and extension functions and B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees through four academic units: the Institute of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Research, the Cooperative Extension Program, and four research centers—the Center for Prevention Research, the Otis L. Floyd Nursery Crops Research Center, and the Agricultural Research and Education Centers at Nashville and Ashland City. The academic units are: the Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, the Department of Biological Sciences, the Department of Chemistry, and the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. Recently, the College has been improving and expanding, including some of these highlights:



- Agricultural enrollment has more than doubled while graduate student enrollment has increased eight-fold.
- In early 2018, the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded more than \$2 million in teaching, research and extension capacity building grants to seven Tennessee State University professors in the College of Agriculture.
- In 2018, the College opened six new laboratories and re-opened five newly remodeled labs, bringing the total number of state-of-the-art laboratories at the College to 35.
- In 2017, the College received nearly \$500,000 from the federal government to expand its research on goat meat production.
- The Dean's Scholars Program and pre-college summer apprenticeship programs continue to attract highly qualified students.
- The College's educational programs help educate minorities in STEM fields and offer pre-professional programs in medical, dental and veterinary medicine.
- Through youth and community development programs (4-H and FFA), the College teaches and encourages youth in science and engineering, as well as valuable leadership and life skills.
- In 2011-2012, TSU agriculture received the highest dollar amount grants and contracts among peer institutions. In fact, the college's current research outlays are about \$55 million—a three-fold increase in four years.
- Research in the College is focused on bio-energy, environmental sustainability, human health/nutrition/obesity/cancer, food safety and food security.
- The Nursery Crops Research Center at McMinnville provides leadership, research and support for improving the Tennessee Nursery industry.
- University outreach in Tennessee communities has expanded to include agents in 50 counties—another three-fold increase in four years. Technical assistance is provided to farmers, homeowners, and the general public on a variety of issues including crop, animal production and human health.
- The college has engaged in multiple construction projects including a 25,000 square foot Agricultural Biotechnology building, six new greenhouses, a new landscape studio, an agricultural education workshop, and a field research support building—totaling a commitment of nearly \$11 million.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Tennessee State University's College of Business was the first business school in Nashville to earn dual accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the most prestigious accrediting body for business schools. The College of Business earned its initial accreditation from AACSB in 1994. Such achievement resulted in Tennessee State University becoming the first university in Nashville and the first public Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in the country to gain dual accreditation at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.



- The College of Business has approximately 900 students and is also home to nationally recognized outreach programs including its Nashville Business Incubation Center, Tennessee Small Business Development Center, Office of Business and Economic Research, and Office of International Business Programs.
- The university's new Executive MBA program is helping to make Nashville even more competitive when it comes to business leadership. The 12-month program, which starts in the fall, is delivered in a hybrid format consisting of both in-person and online course offerings. Program participants also have the opportunity to spend 10 days studying outside the United States to broaden their understanding of global leadership.
- The College of Business offers Bachelor of Business Administration programs to undergraduates in Accounting, Business Administration, Business Information Systems, and Economics and Finance. Concentrations are available in Supply Chain Management, Marketing, Management, Human Resource Management, Hospitality, Real Estate and Urban Development, Business Information Systems—Industry, and e-Business Technology. Additionally, the College offers minors in General Business, Entrepreneurship, and International Business. At the graduate level, the Master of Business Administration is offered with concentrations in Accounting, Management of Information Systems, Healthcare Economics and Management, and Supply Chain Management.
- Recently, 24 students participated in study abroad programs that included China, Italy, and the great European capitals. Additional efforts in international education include a memorandum of understanding with Tianjin University in China and Meliksah University in Turkey; both initiatives are aimed at increasing enrollment in the College's MBA program.
- Accreditation and assurance of learning remain a top priority as the College continues with strategies and processes to gain separate accreditation in Accounting from AACSB International.
- The College successfully recruited two distinguished scholars to hold the Frist Chair of Excellence in Business with a focus in Accounting and the newly endowed Chair of Excellence in Banking and Financial Services. The College is continuing its efforts to raise funds for a third Chair of Excellence in Supply Chain Management.
- The College of Business has established alliances with a long list of community organizations that provide resources earmarked for internships and scholarships, business industry needs assessments, and recommendations for continuous curriculum improvements. The COB community partners include: Corning, Dell, Boeing, HCA, Lemark, Ernst & Young, Asurion, Regions Bank, Kraft CPAs, Nissan, PricewaterhouseCoopers, just to name a few.
- The Financial Trading Room is a state of the art facility designed to give students hands-on training and knowledge regarding the stock market and trading.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The College of Education prepares students to be professionals in schools and communities by fostering the development of critical thinking, technological skills, diversity competency, scholarly research, and a life-long commitment to service. Reflecting the historical purpose of the Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State Normal School—now Tennessee State University—the College is dedicated to producing competent and caring teachers, leaders, and other community servants through its programs in the departments of Educational Leadership, Psychology, and Teaching and Learning. All three departments exemplify the excellence for which TSU stands by demonstrating best practices in teaching, conducting first-class research, and selflessly serving the community.



The Department of Teaching and Learning was awarded four Grow-Your-Own grants by the Tennessee Department of Education to partner with 15 school districts across the state to prepare teachers with dual certifications. The Educator Preparation Program (EPP), noted for its full-year, co-teaching residency model of student teaching, was one of the first Tennessee programs to negotiate a virtual alternative with school districts in order to accommodate students during the COVID-19 pandemic. TSU's EPP continues to be one of the most prolific producers of teachers for the Metro-Nashville Public Schools (MNPS). TSU's undergraduate and graduate elementary education programs were recognized by the National Council on Teacher Quality for contributing to racial diversity in teaching, demonstrating effective classroom management, and promoting early reading standards.

The Department of Educational Leadership was awarded an Aspiring Assistant Principals Network grant to prepare teachers to become assistant principals; the department subsequently received a two-year extension of the grant. Most of the assistant principals and principals in MNPS are graduates of TSU. The current director of MNPS is a TSU graduate.

The Department of Psychology engages in cutting edge research, including a research grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). The Ph.D. Program in Counseling Psychology is one of only two HBCUs accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). The program's excellence in the recruitment, retention, and graduation of minority students earned the department the prestigious Suinn Minority Achievement Award.

The College of Education is also the recipient of a NASA Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) grant. Entitled the MUREP Aerospace Academy, this is a collaborative effort between Tennessee State University, NASA, and MNPS. Providing students in grades K-8 with STEM education throughout the academic year, the project aims to inspire, engage, and educate students and their families about the infinite possibilities in STEM degrees and careers.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

The College of Engineering is challenged and committed to providing the highest quality industry-driven curricula in Engineering, Technology, Mathematical Sciences and Computer Science to meet the growing demand for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) professionals in industry, government and entrepreneurship.



- The College currently provides bachelor's degrees in Architectural, Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering with several concentrations such as manufacturing, environmental, facilities and computer engineering. The college also awards degrees in Aeronautical & Industrial Technology, Computer Science, Mathematical Sciences and graduate degrees for the Master of Engineering and M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer and Information Systems Engineering.
- The College of Engineering's students and faculty continue to receive national recognition for their top-notch research. Students from the College recently received praise for their design of a special transport vehicle for the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Force. Studies by several graduate and undergraduate students have also been used by local city officials to determine the safety of bridges around Nashville.
- Recognizing the need for developing graduates with an appreciation for global awareness, solid engineering fundamentals and professionalism, the college strives to develop and promote an educational experience that produces the "global engineer" through life or language learning, a FE-based (Fundamentals of Engineering) curriculum for outcome assessment and critical skills in research, design, problem solving and communication. A dedicated faculty and staff seek to integrate innovative approaches to instruction, laboratory experience and internships to address the contemporary challenges of the profession and engage the community through service and outreach.
- The College of Engineering's programs complement the student learning experience with aggressive research initiatives in areas such as intelligent sensors, robotics, manufacturing, environmental issues, data fusion, cyber-security, renewable energy, nano-materials and signal/image processing. The Engineering Research Institute (ERI) serves as the primary entity to collaborate and partner with industry and government, complemented by several research centers in specific areas of scientific investigation.
- As the leading producer of African-American engineers in the state, the college continues to strengthen its partnerships with local, regional and national corporations and government. Producing a diverse population of graduates has prepared quality students for employment with companies such as IBM, GM, Corps of Engineers, TDOT, Raytheon, Lockheed Martin, P&G, and Boeing and the U.S. Navy and Air Force.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The College of Health Sciences at Tennessee State University serves 742 students in programs ranging from Associate to Doctoral degrees. Some unique aspects of the College are:

- The College offers two Clinics that serve the public: Dental Hygiene and Speech and Language – at low or no cost.
- The College's Dental Hygiene program has two degrees, an AAS in Dental Hygiene and a BS Degree Completion. Our state-of-the-art Dental Hygiene Clinic utilizes emerging equipment and technology, and provides service to nearly 600 patients a year, including students, as well as the Greater Nashville Community. We currently maintain 83% persistence to graduation rate, along with two (2) year didactic/written based - National Board Dental Hygiene Examination, (NBDHE) pass rate of 94% and clinical based - Southern Regional Testing Agency, (SRTA) test score of 94% that lead to professional licensure.
- The Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology offers a Master of Science (MS) Degree in both traditional and distance education formats. The online graduate program in Speech and Hearing Science holds the distinction of being the first distance education program at Tennessee State University as well as the first distance education program in the area of Speech-Language Pathology in the State of Tennessee.
- The School of Nursing offers two career mobility accelerated degree completion programs in nursing including: the LPN-AASN/RN Program and the RN/BSN Program, each specifically designed for the working nurse.
- The Physical Therapy Program has a partnership with LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) program with Vanderbilt University. The two-year aggregate pass rate of graduates of the Doctorate of Physical Therapy program for the classes of 2016 and 2017 is 97 percent.
- The College has a new partnership with Hillwood High School's Academy of Health Sciences.
- The Occupational Therapy program has ten year accreditation through ACOTE; job outlook according to U.S. News & World Report, January 2018: OT is ranked number 11 of the Best Jobs for 2018. Class of 2018 passrate is 93 percent as of August 2018. 30 students admitted annually.
- The Public Health, Health Administration and Health Sciences programs offer two undergraduate degrees and one graduate degree program: Health Sciences, Health Care Administration and Planning and Master in Public Health.
- The Cardio Respiratory Care program has an overall employer satisfaction of 100 percent.
- The Health Information Management program has an overall 95 percent retention rate of students accepted junior/professional level class and over 90 percent job placement.
- HPSS was awarded a transformational 5-year Title III grant to renovate/develop state-of-the-art classrooms and two applied physiology laboratories, beginning October, 2017.



Associate Degree Programs

Dental Hygiene • Nursing

Bachelor's Degree Programs

Cardio Respiratory Care • Dental Hygiene

Health Care Administration and Planning

Health Information Management • Health Sciences

Human Performance Sport Sciences • Nursing

Master's Degree Programs

Occupational Therapy • Speech Pathology

Human Performance Sport Sciences

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

The College of Liberal Arts offers courses and programs in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, preparing students for a wide range of graduate and professional opportunities.

From the traditional academic disciplines at the heart of a university education to new interdisciplinary fields, major and minor programs in the College promote a vision of liberal learning that recognizes the unique gifts, interests and goals of each student.

By engaging with the rich intellectual traditions, promoting knowledge of global cultures, and developing vital career skills, Liberal Arts courses and programs prepare their graduates for resilience and adaptability, lifelong learning, and leadership in a changing world.

The faculty of the College of Liberal Arts is committed to helping students make the most of their college education. Whether majoring in a Liberal Arts program, enriching a degree with a Liberal Arts minor or simply taking a class, the College supports each student on their intellectual journey.

The College boasts one of the top Forensics teams in the nation. It's so well respected, that TSU was selected in 2018 to host the Pi Kappa Delta National Forensics Tournament. It was the first time in nearly two decades that a historically black college or university hosted the tournament.

The Liberal Arts vision of education is about exploration. From English, art, theater, and music to history, political science, criminal justice, and mass communications, Liberal Arts disciplines put the intellectual growth of the student at the center of the university experience.

All of the majors in the College of Liberal Arts are guided by common core values:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| • Integrative Learning | • Criminal Justice |
| • Responsibility | • English |
| • Professional Competency | • History |
| • Creativity | • Interdisciplinary Studies |
| • Critical Thinking and Reasoned Judgment | • Music |
| • Student Service and Support | • Political Science |

Bachelor's Degree Programs

- Art
- Communications

Master's Degree Program

- Criminal Justice



COLLEGE OF LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES

The College of Life and Physical Sciences offers research opportunities and instruction in biological sciences, chemistry and mathematics. A specific goal of the college is to increase the proportion of underrepresented minorities in life and physical sciences and mathematics fields.

Department of Biological Sciences

The Department of Biological Sciences offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate degrees:

- Bachelor of Science (B.S.)–General Biology
- Bachelor of Science (B.S.)–Cell and Molecular Biology
- Bachelor of Sciences (B.S.)–Teacher Certification/Licensure (Grades 7-12)
- Master of Science (M.S.)– Biology
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Biological Sciences



A variety of courses in the botanical, microbiological, molecular biological and zoological life science areas are offered at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Department also has a cooperative program with Meharry Medical College in which students complete their TSU degree while working on a medical or dental degree at Meharry, thus saving a year in their education.

The Bachelor of Science program provides training in the basic biological sciences leading to the B.S. degree in biology for:

- pre-health professionals
- entry into life science graduate training programs
- acquisition of entry level positions in the job market
- students seeking certification for secondary teaching careers, and
- graduate training leading to the master of science and doctor of philosophy degrees

Department of Chemistry

Chemistry involves the composition, structure, and behavior of matter. The Department of Chemistry offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate degrees, and its Bachelor of Science program is approved by the Committee on Professional Training (CPT) of the American Chemical Society (ACS).

The following undergraduate and graduate degrees are offered in the Department of Chemistry:

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Chemistry with the following concentrations:

- Professional Chemistry-ACS Approved
- Biochemistry Concentration (Pre-Med, Pre-Pharmacy and Pre-Dentistry Conc)
- Teacher Certification Concentration
- Chemistry Concentration

Master of Science (M.S.) in Chemistry with the following concentrations:

- Professional Chemistry Concentration
- Biochemistry Concentration

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Mathematics is an essential grounding for many different disciplines and is used in many of the sciences for quantifying statistics and data. The Department of Mathematical Sciences provides students a general framework in mathematics which will suit the critical thinking and problem-solving skills required in varying fields.

A Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree is offered in:

- Mathematics

An undergraduate minor is offered in:

- Mathematics
- Astronomy

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE

The College of Public Service became operational January 2008 with the appointment and arrival of the founding dean, former Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell. The new College fulfilled the Geier Consent Decree of 1984 and from the Institute of Government has expanded to include the Department of Public Administration and the Department of Sociology, Social Work and Urban Professions. The intent of the Consent Decree was to establish a division that would address the workforce needs of the city and state in the various areas of government and public service.

The mission of the College is to educate, socialize and serve students and employers of nonprofit, health and urban organizations by:

- THINK – Providing educational programs that build skills in knowledge of sociology, social work, urban affairs, public administration and leadership;
- WORK – Conducting scholarly and applied research activities supportive of these educational purposes;
- SERVE – Consulting and applying research and knowledge of social programs.

The College features three undergraduate degrees:

- B.S. in Urban Studies, B.S. in Sociology and B.S. in Social Work;
- Two undergraduate minors in Nonprofit Management and Leadership;
- Six graduate degrees: online Master of Professional Studies, Master of Public Administration, a Graduate Certificate in Health Planning and Administration, a Graduate Certificate in Non-Profit Management, a Master of Social Work (the only multi-collaborative master's program among three universities in the country), and a Ph.D. in Public Administration (the only degree of this level in Tennessee at a public institution).

Where are CPSUA graduates? At the Tennessee Department of Labor, the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, the Tennessee Department of Human Services, TennCare Bureau, Juvenile Justice, serving in Student Professional Development, as elected officials, in social services in cities throughout Tennessee, the Tennessee Division of Intellectual Disabilities, the Tennessee Supreme Court, the Tennessee Department of Corrections, the Board of Regents, the Department of Internal Revenue, Centerstone, youth service agencies and many others.



SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The Tennessee General Assembly authorized the state Board of Education to establish graduate studies leading to the master's degree in several fields at Tennessee State University (then called Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial (A & I) State College) in 1941. Today, the School of Graduate Studies and Research offers seven doctoral degrees, 24 master's degrees, one educational specialist degree and six graduate certificate programs.



- In fiscal year 2011-2012, the School of Graduate Studies and Research, in collaboration with various units on campus, awarded more than 300 graduate assistantships to qualified graduate students totaling approximately \$3 million.
- In collaboration with the TSU Foundation, the School of Graduate Studies and Research in the past two years awarded the Walter S. Davis Scholarships to several first-time high achieving graduate students (with minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.75). The Walter Davis Scholarship Fund was established in memory of Dr. Walter S. Davis, president of Tennessee State University (1943-1968).
- Each spring semester, the School of Graduate Studies and Research recognizes excellence in graduate student research by awarding the Helen Barrett Award to one TSU graduate student. The 2012 winner and recipient of the Helen Barrett Award was Victor L. Roland II, a master's student in engineering. In recognition of his work, Roland received a prize of \$200 and certificate signed by the University's president and graduate dean. As the winner of the Helen Barrett Award, Rowland showcased his research at the annual poster presentation organized by the Tennessee Conference of Graduate Schools at the Legislative Plaza in downtown Nashville on April 4, 2012.

Dr. Mengistu Hailu, a 2011 graduate of Tennessee State University, has been appointed director of the Institute of Pedagogical Sciences of Mekelle University, Ethiopia. Dr. Hailu is tasked with moving the institute forward by developing a new College of Education. The institute currently offers undergraduate and graduate programs in the field of Educational Planning and Management; a post graduate diploma in teaching (a program that certifies high school teachers); and a higher diploma program that certifies university lecturers.

THE SYMBOLS OF OFFICE

The University Seal

In 1922, Dr. William Jasper Hale, first president of Tennessee A. and I. Normal School, asked Frances Thompson, professor and department head of Art, to design the University Seal. Enclosed in a circle, the seal is divided into three parts: 'Agriculture' upper left, 'Industry' upper right, 'Education' in lower center. Education is further emphasized by a hand holding a light with rays extending above the seal. The motto, "Think. Work. Serve." is placed beneath the seal for support.



Presidential Medallion and Chain of Office

The Presidential Medallion and Chain of Office serves as a symbol of authority as head of the university. It originated in medieval times and is worn by the president of the university on ceremonial occasions such as commencement, convocations or other formal occasions.

The front of the Medallion and Chain of Office bears the official University Seal. The backside of the medallion contains a circular seal with a blue border bearing the President's motto in latin: NIL SINE MAGNO LABORE - "Nothing without Great Effort."



Each link of the chain holding the medallion is inscribed with the name of a past president of the institution and his term in office. Holding together these links and supporting the medallion is a bronze leaf cluster.

University Mace and Baton

In 2005, the mace and baton was conceptualized. The Lapis stone characterizes the TSU Blue and is used to stimulate inner vision and give enhanced wisdom, insight and good judgment. The pearl stone represents the TSU White and symbolizes the wealth, purity and power of knowledge. The head and flanges of the mace are modeled after the Floyd-Payne Campus Center Tower located on the university's main campus. The reflective quality of the polished silver signifies the vision of the university.

The baton of the mace is made of wood which is a forest symbol or the symbol of a provider. It represents a tree of knowledge around which each college and school is mounted. This aspect of the mace serves to link the university with its cultural heritage, as well as TSU's ancestral past.

The three-tier stand for the mace embodies the motto: "Think. Work. Serve." This aspect of the mace constitutes the foundation of the university that holds the mace in place and represents the classical architectural structure of the educational values at the university. On top of the mace is the seal of the university. Together, the mace and baton are borne as a symbol of authority in the Processional and Recessional at occasions such as Commencement and Inaugural ceremonies.

The mace is carried by the University Chief Marshal in front of the Platform party that is composed of the President, Vice Presidents, Tennessee Board of Regents Representatives, other authorities and distinguished guests.



University’s Academic Excellence Award

The University’s Academic Excellence Award was commissioned in 2008. The award is a two-inch light oxidized bronze seal pendant medallion attached to a blue ribbon and serves as a symbol of recognition for academic achievement for students graduating summa cum laude and with the highest grade point average in the class.



University’s Distinguished Student Leadership Award

The University’s Distinguished Student Leadership Award was commissioned in 2008. The award is presented to the student whose record of leadership and outstanding contributions to student life and government has had a great impact on improving the quality of the student experience at Tennessee State University.

THE HISTORY OF ACADEMIC REGALIA

The history of academic dress began with the medieval European universities of the 14th century. In a time when all students were clerics, the gown and its attached hood served the dual function of keeping the student warm in unheated buildings and identifying the particular order to which he belonged. Modern academic costume in the United States is based upon an intercollegiate code established in 1895. These early agreements have been revised periodically to cover standardization of the cap (two basic styles), the gown (three basic styles) and the hood (subject to greater variation than either the cap or the gown). The cap, originally round in shape, is usually the more familiar mortarboard square with tassel or black Oxford style.

The gown, commonly black, differs in sleeves and trimming according to the level of degree. The bachelor’s gown is relatively simple in design. It is full-cut, falling in a straight line from an elaborate yoke, with long pointed sleeves as its distinguishing mark. The master’s gown is similar to the bachelor’s, except for its peculiar arrangement of the oblong sleeves that terminate in square ends at the wearer’s knees; the wearer’s arms emerge through slits in the sleeves made at the elbows. Short-sleeved master’s gowns are also worn. The doctoral gown is an elaborate, full-cut, flowing costume distinguished by velvet panels down the front and around the neck and by three bars of velvet on the voluminous bell-shaped sleeves. The velvet is usually black, but it may be a color designating the field of study (for example, dark blue for philosophy).

The hood, traditionally bearing the heaviest symbolic burden, is the most important feature of the academic costume. The length of the hood and the width of its velvet trimming designate the level of the degree. The hood’s lining identifies the institution that granted the degree, and the color of the velvet heralds the major field of learning.

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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MS. TIARA THOMAS
Student Trustee

COLORS

For all academic purposes, including trimmings of doctoral gowns, edging of hoods, and tassels of caps, the colors associated with the different disciplines are as follows:

Agriculture	Maize
Arts, Letters, Humanities	White
Business, Accounting, Commerce	Drab
Dentistry	Lilac
Economics	Copper
Education	Light Blue
Engineering	Orange
Fine Arts including Architecture	Brown
Forestry	Russet
Journalism	Crimson
Home Economics	Maroon
Law	Purple
Library Science	Lemon
Medicine	Green
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Pharmacy	Olive Green
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Physical Education	Sage
Public Administration	Peacock Blue
Public Health	Salmon Pink
Science	Golden Yellow
Social Work	Citron
Speech, Oratory	Silver-Gray
Theology, Divinity	Scarlet
Technology	Bright Red
Veterinary Science	Gray

ORIGIN OF AWARDING DEGREES

The first academic degree was conferred in approximately 1160 A.D. at the University of Bologna, Italy with the practice spreading quickly to other European universities, most notably the University of Paris, Oxford University, and Cambridge University. The procedure used for awarding degrees at most American universities is based on a practice developed at the University of Paris in the late 12th or early 13th century. In those days, the Bishop of Paris, like every other bishop, was responsible for local educational curriculum and degree setting. His authority, however, soon came to be disputed by the teachers. They asserted that only they could be proper judges of the qualifications of their students. The threatened impasse was resolved by a compromise, under which the teachers, or masters, judged the merits of the students and then recommended them to the Bishop for the conferring of their degrees.

GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Friday, April 30, 2021

DR. GLENDA BASKIN GLOVER, EIGHTH PRESIDENT

Tennessee State University
Presiding Officer

Prelude	University Wind Ensemble <i>Dr. Reginald McDonald, Conductor</i>
Academic Processional (Audience remains seated) <i>"Pomp and Circumstance"</i> –Sir Edward Elgar	University Wind Ensemble <i>Dr. Reginald McDonald, Conductor</i>
College/School Banner Carriers	Students with Highest Academic Honors
Chief Marshall	Dr. Oscar Miller <i>Professor of Sociology and Department Head Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Urban Professions</i>
Presentation of Colors	Air Force ROTC Color Guard
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> (Audience stands)	Francis Scott Key <i>University Wind Ensemble</i>
<i>Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing</i> (Audience stands)	James Weldon Johnson <i>University Wind Ensemble</i>
Invocation	Reverend Frank Stevenson, Sr. <i>Dean of Students, Division of Student Affairs</i>
Greetings	President Glenda Glover
Music	University Wind Ensemble <i>Dr. Reginald McDonald, Conductor</i>
Announcements and Acknowledgements	Dr. Curtis Johnson <i>Associate Vice President and Chief of Staff</i>
Introduction of Speaker	Miss Y'Lond Mitchell <i>Doctorate in Psychology</i>
Commencement Address	Mrs. Michelle Miller <i>Co-Host of "CBS This Morning: Saturday"</i>

ACADEMIC DEANS

Dr. Chandra Reddy	Dean of the College of Agricultural
Dr. Millicent Lownes-Jackson	Dean of the College of Business
Dr. Jerri Haynes	Dean of the College of Education
Dr. S. Keith Hargrove	Dean of the College of Engineering
Dr. Ronald Barredo	Dean of the College of Health Sciences
Dr. Samantha Morgan-Curtis	Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts
Dr. Nolan B. McMurray, Jr.	Interim Dean of the College of Life and Physical Sciences
Dr. Elizabeth Williams	Interim Dean of the College of Public Service
Dr. Robbie K. Melton	Interim Dean, School of Graduate and Professional Studies
Conferring and Awarding of DegreesPresident Glenda Glover
Alumni Induction CeremonyMr. Charles Galbreath, Sr. National President, TSU National Alumni Association

Alumni Pledge:

I hereby fervently pledge my lifelong loyalty, service, and financial support to my alma mater in appreciation for the opportunities afforded me at Tennessee State University.

I pledge to maintain active membership in the national alumni association, to encourage others to attend Tennessee State University, and to become a part of a global society of notable alumni who promote excellence as a way of life.

I further pledge to exemplify the high ideals of my alma mater, and to continue to hold fast to the University’s motto - Think. Work. Serve.

The Alma MaterUniversity Wind Ensemble
BenedictionDr. Napoleon Harris Pastor, First Baptist Church South Inglewood Nashville, TN
Recessional (Audience remains seated)University Wind Ensemble

GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER
MICHELLE MILLER



Michelle Miller is the co-host of “CBS This Morning: Saturday.” Miller joined the broadcast in July of 2018. Her work regularly appears on the “CBS Evening News,” “CBS This Morning” and “CBS Sunday Morning.” She has also appeared as a correspondent on “48 Hours.” Miller joined CBS News in 2004.

While at CBS News, Miller has reported on many stories of national and international importance. She provided extensive coverage of protests surrounding police misconduct and indictments including: the deaths of George Floyd (and his funeral), Travon Martin, Michael Brown and the trial of George Zimmerman. She was on the ground during the Newtown Massacre; March for Our Lives protest and gun control movement; the shooting at Chardon High School in Ohio; Medical care for the rural poor in South Africa. Her notable coverage also includes the celebration and life of Nelson Mandela, the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton and Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the March in Washington. She has also covered several presidential and local elections. Her most recent presidential

elections were in 2016 and 2020.

Miller’s reporting has earned her several prestigious journalism awards including an Emmy for her series of reports on the National Guard’s Youth Challenge Academy, an Edward R Murrow for her coverage of a day care center stand-off in New Orleans, and she was part of the Alfred I. duPont – Columbia Award winning team for coverage the Newtown, Conn., school shooting. In 2019, Miller won a Gracie award for her reporting on the hidden world of sex trafficking in “‘48 Hours’: Live to Tell: Trafficked.”

She’s also earned a Salute to Excellence Award from NABJ and was voted Woman of the Year by the National Sports Foundation. In 2014, TV Week named Miller as one of the “12 to watch in TV news.”

Miller has interviewed global leaders, politicians, artists and celebrities, including President Bill Clinton, Oprah Winfrey, former Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev, Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai, renowned artist Peter Max, Beyonce, John Goodman, Tony Bennett, Louis Gossett Jr., James Earl Jones, Lenny Kravitz, LL Cool J, Carlos Santana, Denzel Washington and violinist Yo-Yo Ma.

Miller earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Howard University and studied abroad in Kenya and Tanzania. Miller also holds a master’s degree in urban studies from the University of New Orleans.

DOCTORAL CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

2021 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Jerri Haynes, Dean

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Arnold, Terrica, Hendersonville, TN

M.Ed. Tennessee State University, 2010

B.A., Fisk University, 2009

Bartley, Quinetta, Nashville, TN

M.Ed., Tennessee State University, 2009

B.S., Tennessee State University, 2005

A.A.S., Volunteer State Community College, 2003

Challenges Black Women Face With Promotional Opportunities To Executive-Level Administration Positions In An HBCU

Drs. Eleni C. Elder and Robbie K. Melton

Githua, Susan, Thika, Kenya

M.S., Tennessee State University, 2015

B.S., Kenyetta University, 2002

A Phenomenological Study of Female International Students in Graduate Programs in the College of Education at a Public HBCU in the United States

Dr. Janet Finch

Hayes, Debra, Cane Ridge, TN

B.A., Berry College, 1984

Jones, April, Chicago, IL

Ed.S., Tennessee State University, 2014

M.Ed. Tennessee State University, 2013

B.S., Chicago State University, 2006

Lane, Trellaney, Nashville, TN

Ed.S., Tennessee State University, 2007

Teachers' Perceptions of Their Responsibility to Cultivate the Self-Efficacy of K-12 Students

Dr. Eleni Elder

Martin, Jamila, Antioch, TN

M.Ed. Georgia State University, 2004

The Relationship between Midlevel Higher Education Administrators' Job Satisfaction Levels and their Intent to Leave

Dr. Trinetia Respress

Mitchell, Joi, Nashville, TN

Ed.S., Tennessee Technological University, 2008

M.Ed. Tennessee State University, 2006

The Impact of Principal Leadership Styles on Teacher Retention

Dr. Eleni Elder

Nixon, Shanique, Nashville, TN

M.Ed., Emory University, 2009

B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2006

The Impact of Community Cultural Wealth on Resilience, Student Engagement and Academic Success: An Ethnographic Study of Two Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Dr. Eric Vogel

Roberts, Natalie, Cookeville, TN

B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 2006

Perceptions of Teachers and Administrators Regarding the Effectiveness and Implementation of the RTI Framework in K-4th Grade Elementary Schools of a Rural Eastern Tennessee School District

Dr. Eric Vogel

Robinson, Nicole, Antioch, TN

Ed.S., Tennessee State University, 2012

M.Ed., Tennessee State University, 2009

B.S., Tennessee State University, 2007

Perceptions of Leadership Roles through the Lens of Principals: A Phenomenological Study of Principals' Sense of Efficacy When Leading Special Education Programs

Dr. Janet Finch

Thomas, Ashley, Nashville, TN

MA.Ed., Lipscomb University, 2010

B.A., Tennessee State University, 2009

The Use of Smartphones by K-12 School Administrators: A Gratification Study

Dr. Kirmanji Gundi

Williams, Davon, Nassau, Bahamas

Ed.S., Tennessee State University, 2011

M.S., Tennessee State University, 2005

B.S., Tennessee State University, 2001

Perceptions of African American Students about their Success in Mathematics at a Historically Black College and University (HBCU)

Dr. Kirmanji Gundi

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Wilson, Deirdre, Nashville, TN

M.A., Trevecca Nazaren University, 2008

B.S., Union University, 1983

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

PSYCHOLOGY

Ackerman, Lindsay, Cleveland, OH

M.A., John Carroll University, 2017

B.A., Ohio University, Athens, 2013

Race and Perceptions of Criminal Injustice: A Social Dominance Theory Perspective

Dr. Robin Oatis-Ballew

Audette, Lillian, Washington, DC

The Relations Between Agentic and Communal Caring, Gender, and STEM Interest For Undergraduates At An HBCU

Dr. Marie Hammond

Campbell, Kelly, Baldwinville, NY

B.A., Niagara University, 2012

College Stress Impacts Mental Health and Relationship Satisfaction

Dr. James Brooks

Mitchell, Y'Londa, Columbia, SC

M.Ed., University of Missouri, St. Louis, 2014

M.A., Webster University, 2008

B.A. Kentucky State University, 2002

Adverse Childhood Experiences and Mental Health Outcomes of College Students at Predominately Black Institutions: Resilience as a Moderato

Dr. Thurman Webb

White, Margaret, La Vergne, TN

M.S., Vanderbilt State University, 2017

B.A., Shaw University, 2015

The Relationship Between Food and Mood: A Look Into Nutritional Access, Nutritional Intake, Demographics, and Depression

Dr. Robin Oatis-Ballew

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Dr. S. Keith Hargrove, Dean

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Alsulami, Abdulaziz, Jeddah,

Musinguzi, Abram, Ntungamo,

B.S., Salem State College, 2019

COLLEGE OF LIFE & PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Dr. Nolan McMurray, Interim Dean

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Almarwani, Bashiyar

Aras, Sadiye, Kiziltepe Mardin,

B.S. Tennessee State University, 2017

Bonner, Kala, Nashville, TN

Dhakal, Kripa, Lalitpur,

M.S. Tennessee State University, 2017

B.S., Dicie University

Biofilm Formation and Pressure-Based Pasteurization of Bacterial Spores and Foodborne Pathogens of Public Health Concern as Affected by Bacteriocin and Bactericidal Compounds

Dr. Aliyar A. F. Foulaad Khah

Saini, Priya, Ludhiana, OTH

B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology, 2015

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. Elizabeth Williams, Interim Dean

PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Marioni, Robert, Nashville, TN

M.A., University of Memphis, 2002

B.A., University of Memphis, 2000

Employment misclassification: Variations in Policy and the Diffusion of Penalty Laws across U.S. States

Dr. Megan Streams

Ntembo, Victor, Bamenda, Cameroon

M.B.A., University of Buea, Cameroon, 2002

The Advocacy Coalition Framework: The Tennessee Hall Income Tax Case Study

Dr. Rodney Stanley

GRADUATE CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

2021 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Dr. Chandra Reddy, Dean

MASTER OF SCIENCE

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Baird, Lillian, Antioch, TN
B.S., Tarleton State University, 2011

Bennett, Constance, Saint Louis, MO
B.S., Tuskegee University, 2019

Joshi, Durga, Bheemdatt,
Rose, Jessica, Lenoir City, TN
B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 2013

Williams, Zedonia, Southfield, MI
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dr. Millicent Lownes-Jackson, Dean

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Addison, Raven, Los Angeles, CA
B.S., Fisk University, 2019

Austin, Marquis, Cincinnati, OH
B.B.A., Tennessee State University, 2018

Barfield, John, Nashville, TN
B.B.A., Tennessee State University, 1999

Burnett, Kira, Nashville, TN
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2018

Cook, Bridges, Pleasant View, TN

D'Arras, Charlotte, Nagoya,

Dolati, Solmaz, Nashville, TN

Fuqua, Jessica, Nashville, TN

Ghaly, Joseph, Nashville, TN
B.S., Hewan/Egypt, 1999

Gunter, Joshua, Nashville, TN

Haines, Isabelle, Teresina, Paiui, Brazil
B.A., Piaui State University, 2010

Olowogemo, Titilayo, Nashville, TN

Powell, Lauren, Springboro, OH
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019

Purvis, Keniece, Greensboro, NC

Shaw, Mandela, Antioch, TN
B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2012

Williams, Scott, Clarksville, TN
B.B.A., Austin Peay State University, 2016

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Jerri Haynes, Dean

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Alharbi, Nujud, Jeddah,

Bull, Cody, Athens, TN
B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 2011

Butler, Garry, Dyersburg, TN

Churchwell, Lashonda, Goodlettsville, TN
M.Ed, Tennessee State University, 2005
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2001

Coates, Brandi, Antioch, TN
B.S., Cumberland University, 2017

Dandridge, Yukita, Antioch, TN
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2018
College of Education

Mahdy, Nawras, Nashville, TN
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2015

Natraj, Pragati, Bangalore,
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019

Roy, Renata, Bowie, MD

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Del Cid, Jodi, La Vergne, TN
B.S., Clarion University, 2009

Jordan, Asja, Antioch, TN

Dotson, Madison, Nashville, TN
B.A., Emory University, 2007

Lekich, Leah, Nashville, TN
B.S., Warren Wilson College, 2013

Neal, Jonathon C.
B.S., Howard University, 2018

Mahdy, Nawras, Nashville, TN
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2015

Reynolds, Sean, Franklin, TN
B.S., Park University, 2013

Roy, Renata, Bowie, MD

Shirey, Eden, Antioch, TN
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2014

Watson, Marshavia, Antioch, TN
B.S., University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, 2015

Yarbrough, Michael, Nashville, TN
B.A., Vanderbilt University, 2012

Wilson, Deirdre, Nashville, TN
M.A., Trevecca Nazaren University, 2008
B.S., Union University, 1983

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Jordan, Asja, Antioch, TN

Shirazi, Hijaab, Nashville, TN
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2012

Wilkerson, Kerrisha, Nashville, TN

SPECIAL EDUCATION

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Orr, Shana, Nashville, TN
B.S. Tennessee State University, 2018

PSYCHOLOGY

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Boakye, Stefanie, Accra, Ghana
B.A., Cardinal Stritch University, 2018

Dangerfield, Brooke, Murfreesboro, TN

Fleming, Alexis, Denver, CO
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2017

Johnston, Cailyn, Nashville, TN
B.S., University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, 2018

Mastin, Tneisha, Chattanooga, TN

Osemwegie, Mable, Nashville, TN

Roberts, Taylor, Fallbrook, CA

Wilcox, Brittney, Nashville, TN

Wilson, Jada, Goodlettsville, TN
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Lockert, Ashley, Ashland City, TN

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Dr. S. Keith Hargrove, Dean

ENGINEERING

MASTER OF ENGINEERING

Andrews, Kahlil, Nashville, TN
B.S., Western Michigan University, 2017

Crowell, Weymoth, Jackson, MS
B.A., Fisk University, 2017

Eniola, Moyinoluwa, Ikorodu,

Harris, Emily, Nashville, TN

Israr, Khaibarullah, La Vergne, TN

Montgomery, William, Chattanooga, TN

Shaukat, Haris bin, Smyrna, TN
B.S., American International University, Bangladesh, 2006

COMPUTER SCIENCE

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Alikali, Benjamin, ABUJA. Federal Capit,
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019

Almasari, Nahar, Riyadh,

Corona, Yahaira
M.E., Tennessee State University, 2016

Islam, Md, Nashville, TN

Navas, Aliya, Nashville, TN
B.S., Fisk University, 2011

Paul, Omari, Nashville, TN
B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 2017

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Dr. Ronald Barredo, Dean

PHYSICAL THERAPY

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Anderson, Samantha, Columbia, TN
B.S., Lipscomb University, 2017

Apple, Brooklyn, Gainesboro, TN
B.S., Lipscomb University, 2017

Bradley, William, Smyrna, TN
B.S., Jacksonville State University, 2014

Brown, Audrey, Clarksville, TN
B.A., Norfolk State University, 2009

Bryan, Steven, Nashville, TN

Cartwright, Mikayla, Joelton, TN

Ellis Kennedy, Lisa, Hermitage, TN
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2015

Fenner, Maryann, Kingston Springs, TN
B.S., Austin Peay State University, 2017

Fincher, Colton, McMinnville, TN
B.S., Alabama State University, 2019

Goetz, Jeffrey, Three Way, TN
B.A., Clark University, 2014

Haji, Barrawan, Zaxo, Kurdistan
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2018

Hubbert, Douglas, La Vergne, TN

Jones, Bradley, Memphis, TN

Kolp, Katharine, Nashville, TN B.S. Austin Peay State University, 2019
Ledbetter, Tiffany, Lebanon, TN B.A., Eastern Washington University, 2018
Mingo, Jordan, Hendersonville, TN B.S., Tennessee State University, 2017
Mundy, Jordan, Hendersonville, TN B.S., Tennessee State University, 2018
Muraca, Katherine, Dickson, TN B.S.N., University of Tennessee, 2015
Palm, Katie, Millville, MN B.A., University of Memphis, 2017
Prudoff, Zachary, Nashville, TN
Quinlan, Cody, Lake Forest, CA B.S., Cumberland University, 2015
Shoup, Katie, Nashville, TN
Singleton, John, Mount Juliet, TN
Sizemore, David, Arrington, TN B.S., University of Cincinnati, 2017
Sizemore, Michael, Arrington, TN B.S., Georgia Southern University, 2015
Swift, Janae, Collierville, TN B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2018
Torres, Denise, Nashville, TN
Underwood, Samuel, Franklin, TN B.S., Univeristy of Kansas, 2016
Webb, Andrew, Hendersonville, TN B.S., Tennessee State University, 2017
Zienkiewicz, Michal, Nashville, TN B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2017
NURSING
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING
Bosgraaf, Hannah, Nashville, TN
Case, Christie, Ooltewah, TN B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 2012
Davis, Leondrea, Jackson, TN B.S.N., Belmont University, 2012
Foust, Courtney, Villa Hills, KY B.P.S., University of Memphis, 2012
Ingle, Jamie, Cumberland Furnace, TN
Jones, Marquita, Murfreesboro, TN B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2018
Mooney, Suzanne, Scottsville, KY
Phillips, Kayla, Nashville, TN B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2018
Spikes, Marcy, Nashville, TN B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019

HUMAN PERFORMANCE AND SPORT SCIENCES
MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION
Barrett, Shamira, Nashville, TN B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2018
Brown, Phillip, Hoover, AL B.S.N., Western Governors University, 2017
Chambers, Terrell, Clarksville, TN
Gant, Alexis, Locust Grove, GA B.S., Lee University, 2016
McIntosh, Mason, Pittsburgh, PA B.S., Western Kentucky University, 2018
PUBLIC HEALTH
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Gascoigne, Catherine, Murfreesboro, TN B.S., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, 2017
Tinuoye, Felicia, Oro Town, Irepoodun, B.S., Nicholls State University, 2019
SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCE
MASTER OF SCIENCE
Baxter, Jessica, Charlotte, NC
Becoats, Brandi, Brentwood, TN B.A., Vassar College, 2013
Coggins, Allegra, Franklin, TN B.S., University of California, Irvine, 2016
Evans, Jaelyn, Atlanta, GA
Fonseca, Milleena, Tuscaloosa, AL
Gold, Amanda, Fort Smith, AR B.S., Indiana University, 2019
Kelley, Sydney, Antioch, TN B.S., Biola Universiy, 2019
Lawson, Corey, Beechgrove, TN B.S., Auburn University, 2019
Maher, Leigha, Thompsons Station, TN
Moore, Kathleen, Glenview, IL
Perry, Alexa, Norwalk, OH B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2018
Raines, Victoria, Woodbury, TN B.S., North Carolina Agricultural Tech State University, 2014
Rastgoo, Kayla, Fullerton, CA B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2014
Reed, Chelsea, Bloomington, IN B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 2015
Risser, Kendra, San Jose, CA B.S. Tennessee Technological University, 2015
Robinson, Jordan, Florence, AL

Shedd, Amber, Bartlett, TN
Simpson, Tashala, Fountain, CO
Taketa, Taylor, Yorba Linda, CA B.S., North Carolina State University, Raleigh, 2016
Tedder, Anna, Franklin, TN
Weatherly, Karley, Linden, TN B.S., Lipscomb University, 2017
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
MASTERS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
Bush, Keiara, Fairview Heights, IL B.S. University of Alabama, 2017
Connolly, Patrick, Nashville, TN
Curtis, Tierney, Marion, AR B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2018
Schmittou, Clara, Lafayette, TN
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS <i>Dr. Sammantha Morgan–Curtis, Interim Dean</i>
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
MASTER OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Butler, Andrew, Nashville, TN B.S., Tennessee State University, 2018
Lewis, Armani, Harvey, IL B.S., Lincoln University, 2019
Milner, Quorneshia, Columbia, TN B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019
COLLEGE OF LIFE & PHYSICAL SCIENCE <i>Dr. Nolan McMurray, Interim Dean</i>
BIOLOGY
MASTER OF SCIENCE
Albeladi, Ashwaq, Rabigh, B.S., The University of Memphis, 2016
Aljohani, Sarah, Nashville, TN B.A., University of Florida, 2015
Basunia, Sumia, Lawrenceville, GA B.S., Tribhuvan University, Nepal, 2009
Desine, Stacy, Delray Beach, FL B.S., Tennessee State University, 2018
Hemphill, Phyllicia, Nashville, TN M.S., Tennessee State University, 2014 B.S., Punjab Agricultural University, 2012
Trabue, Dalancee, Indianapolis, IN B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE <i>Dr. Elizabeth Williams, Interim Dean</i>
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
Cotham, Jeremy, Vanleer, TN B.A., University of Tennessee, Martin, 2001
Davis, Shanavika, Clarksville, TN B.S., Austin Peay University, 2006
Johnson, Alicia, Granada Hills, CA B.B.A., California State University, Northridge, 2008
Minor, Mallory, Conyers, GA B.S., Clayton College and State University, 2012
Simons, Dana, Clarksville, TN B.A., Trevecca Nazarene University, 2006
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Comm, Abby, Hermitage, TN B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2012
Conn, Erica, Goodlettsville, TN B.A., Trevecca Nazarene University, 2018
Ford, Suzanne, Hendersonville, TN B.S., Austin Peay State University, 1996
Tate, Illana, Gallatin, TN
Teasdale, Shana, Hendersonville, TN B.S., National American University, 2002
Wilkins, Jordan, Smithville, TN B.S., Tennessee Technological University, 2018
SOCIAL WORK
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK
Chaffin, Laura, Baxter, TN B.S., Troy State University, 2015
ColeWest, Amy, Carmichael, CA
Davis, Dedra, Memphis, TN
Debose, Twilah, Nashville, TN
Grizzard, Monica, Goodlettsville, TN B.S.W., Tennessee State University, 2020
Hailey, Terenecia, Nashville, TN B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019
Howard, Mary, Nashville, TN
McGhee, LaQuandra, Clarksville, TN
Roberts, Daisy, Bloomington, IN B.S., Indiana University, 2014
Smith, Amanda, Madison, TN B.S.W., Tennessee State University, 2020

Townsend, Brittany, Springfield, TN
B.S., University of Tennessee, Martin, 2012

Watson, Gabriel, Murfreesboro, TN
B.S., University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, 2015

Williams, Kelley, Madison, TN

Yeomans, Rachel, Nashville, TN
B.A., Samford University, 2017

Zuck, Adam, Shannon, IL
B.S., Western Illinois University, 2012

NON PROFIT MANAGEMENT

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Webster, Alison, Hendersonville, TN
M.P.H., Meharry Medical College, 2000
B.B.A., Middle Tennessee State University, 1996

Yaeger, Rhonda, White Bluff, TN
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2010

PUBLIC POLICY

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Barrie, Jennifer, Nashville, TN
M.S., Lipscomb University, 2011
B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara, 1996

Comm, Abby, Hermitage, TN
B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2012

Edwards, Nicholas, Nashville, TN
B.B.A., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2011

Long, Emily, Nashville, TN
M.P.H., Emory University, 2017
B.A., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2009

Nixon, Shanique, Nashville, TN
M.Ed., Emory University, 2009
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 2006

Wilson, Gary, Thompsons Station, TN
B.S., Columbia College, 1999

PUBLIC ADM EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Gilbert, Matthew, Nashville, TN
J.D., Washington University, 2012
B.A., Washington University, 2012

Johnson, Robin, Oak Ridge, TN
B.S., Tennessee State University, 2019

Mitchell, Paula, Nashville, TN
B.S., Coastal Carolina University, 2017

Teasdale, Shana, Hendersonville, TN
B.S., National American University, 2002

ACADEMIC HONORS

Summa Cum Laude A senior who has earned a grade point average of 3.75 or above.

Magna Cum Laude A senior who has earned a grade point average of 3.50 to 3.74.

Cum Laude A senior who has earned a grade point average of 3.25 to 3.49.

University Honors..... A senior who has earned a grade point average of 3.25 or above and has fulfilled other requirements of the University Honors Program.

Candidates who have achieved honors in general scholarship are distinguished in procession by three-tassel gold braid cords. Those graduating with University Honors are distinguished by a scarlet braid cord with three gold tassels. The scarlet is symbolic of the University Honors Program; the gold, of general scholarship. The cords are provided by the University Honors Program.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Laura Easter

Laura Midgett

Destiny Armoni Pennington

Braxton Kennedy Simpson

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Kalie Brae Ellis

Zemzem Seraj

Akiliyah Korriana Sumlin

CUM LAUDE

Jayla S. Beason

Brianna Celeste Crockett

Kaylee Skylar Hurt

Amber Jones

Erica P. Keen

Kennedye Miller

JeVata Joyce Partridge

Justin Lane Spicer

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Kalie Brae Ellis

Kayla J. Helms

Jacob Zachary Rawls

Braxton Kennedy Simpson

Akiliyah Korriana Sumlin

Kobie Rai Williams

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Bradford M. Beard

Morgan T. Cage

Dominique R. Davis

Tydasia Renee Driver

Hanan Romany Henein

Iyanuoluwa Abigail Jubreel

Teskyler D. Manning

Alexandria J. Ross

Jada N. Stills

Rima Taylor

Asyen Nichole Taylor

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Leann Bernard

Jackson Crosse Bradds

Natalie Marie Cooper

Christiann Goodson

Joshua A. Horn

Desha M. Horton

Gabrielle Kathleen Kershaw

Demarco Morgan

Leslie Morgan

Mina Ramzy Ramzy

Jennifer Rivera

Nuven Behcet Tayip

Thuy Thu Tran

CUM LAUDE

K Lynn C. Ambrose

Brent L. Cheatham

Carl Leonard Fisher

Nicholas Gailes

Taylor Ann Roberts

Kai Phillip Shearer

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Natalie Marie Cooper

Kemysha Jayana Esaw

Alexia M. Hollins

Kelsey Skye Jones

Demarco Morgan

Jurnee E'lyse Parker

Kai Phillip Shearer

Jaziya Simon

Asyen Nichole Taylor

Kristopher Jordan Woodard

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Ana J. Gragg

Diamond Law

Kariely Santana Delgado

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Chyna C. Richards

Hannah L. Brannon

Dawn Carrington Coxton

Sydney J. Greer

T'Keyah J. Gwynn

Chelsi Lanay McQuiston

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Malynta S. Anthony

Valecia K. Colvin

Ana J. Gragg

Alexis E. Hess

Taria Daneen Langston
Chyna C. Richards
Britni-Diavian NyCole Willis
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Micah A. Hord
Joud S. Salameh
Madinah J. Shamsu
Jeffory Taylor Wallace
Travis J. Young
MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Iyana A. Clemente
Marcus C. Dean
Alberto Gonzalez Raton
Darrell E. Johnson
CUM LAUDE

Kayla S. Clanton
Merian Momtaz Ayoub Gabra
Rebekah D. Wynn

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Jasmin J. Conway
Rebekah D. Wynn

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Sami Atallah Alhujuri
Mutarid Almutarid
Teihler Q. Gause
Ana J. Gragg
Elizabeth Gutierrez
Merna A. Ibrahim
Lydia M. Jones
Robert Dylan Kirby
Megan J. Morton
Nojin Jamil Numan
Victoria Carol Oakley
Bryce Reed
Kathryn K. Schneider
Shannon VanBrackle
Brianna Vire

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Hannah Belle Amonette

Bryce D. Daniel
Chayla D. Holder
Warveen R. Ismail
MaKayla R. Johnson
Ashlee M. Nokes
Rezhna O. Penjweeni
Rodnaye D. Warner
CUM LAUDE

Dina A. Abdalla
Khalil M. Almuzaini
Tahani Ali Alshammari
Jalyn A. Bowen
Nicole Brown
Brittney M. Daugherty
Kennedy J. Davis
Sami Abdullah Ghodaif

Bre'onna Lashun Green
Regina G. Hodge
Abigail Morgan King
Britni Malone
Macy Alison Parsons
Kayla Dominique Redden
Latrece M. Stevenson
Monnesha E. Swinger
Jaylin Alexandria Williams

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Kala Elaine Wilson
Kyla Nicole Winston
Yousef H. Yousef
Mehraeel Youssef
Dina A. Abdalla
Sami Atallah Alhujuri
Mutarid Almutarid
Tahani Ali Alshammari
Hannah Belle Amonette
Brooke April Coleman
Haneen Abdul Elezeb
Teihler Q. Gause
Ana J. Gragg
Demiya D. Grandberry
Shawna Kay Abagale Holding
Merna A. Ibrahim

MaKayla R. Johnson
Lydia M. Jones
Sydney P. Morehouse
Jaylaan Shelecia Parker
Rezhna O. Penjweeni
Ciara Amaree Sanders
Shelby Nicole Sellers
Jaylin Alexandria Williams
Kala Elaine Wilson

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Indiya Nicole Bush-Long
Arielle Elise Echols
Senia M. Hernandez - Mapson
Evan Martin Petty
Collin Ruth

Sydney A. Satterwhite
Braxton Kennedy Simpson
Taylor Brooke Woodard
MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Domenyque Mekenzie Clay
Arturo Herrera
Monica Eleece Jones
Gabrielle Kathleen Kershaw

Chyna C. Richards
Garrett Ross
Vanessa Grace Salazar
Haily Mary Schroeder
Zoe Malaika Thomas
Calandrea L. Williams
Calandrea L. Williams
CUM LAUDE

Miles Jones Archie
Allison Carmack
Shea Fordham
Kimberly L. Jolley
Kayla Rhena Matlock
Gracie Faith Oliver
Lamonica Smith

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Indiya Nicole Bush-Long
Tatyana G. Carter

Arielle Elise Echols
Alycia Rushawn Jones
Marianna Pritchett
Mariah Renae Rhodes
Sydney A. Satterwhite
Calandrea L. Williams
COLLEGE OF LIFE AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Jacqueline Yaa Kon Asamoah
Theodora Afua Asamoah
Autumn Olivia Brunson
Sahra Osman Gabure
Jazmyne Mary Jackson
Keanna Kristina Johnson
Folusho E. Micah
Kianna Lasha Robinson
MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Robert J. Maddox
Larry Lee McNary

Krysten M. Perkins
Marina A. Sargios
CUM LAUDE
Joel J. Agyemang
Vanecia Akins
Clair Kamal Awad
Jonathan A. Jenkins
Mariel E. Liggin
Clark Jensen Massick
UNIVERSITY HONORS
Jacqueline Yaa Kon Asamoah
Theodora Afua Asamoah
Autumn Olivia Brunson
JerMeiah M. Clay
Shania Paige Ferguson
Sahra Osman Gabure
Jazmyne Mary Jackson
Keanna Kristina Johnson
Kimberly Laporte
Mariel E. Liggin

JaQuel Alexis Maise
Larry Lee McNary
Folusho E. Micah
Maureen N. Nwozo
Krysten M. Perkins
Kianna Lasha Robinson
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Senia M. Hernandez - Mapson
Arielle A. Williams
MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Karson Alyssa Brown
Kenneth Patterson
Brodus Wicks
CUM LAUDE
Brooklyn M. Compton
UNIVERSITY HONORS
Destiny Denise Coleman
Zara J. Houser
Joshua Trueheart



Class of 2021

UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Saturday, May 1, 2021

DR. GLENDA BASKIN GLOVER, EIGHTH PRESIDENT

Tennessee State University
Presiding Officer

Prelude	University Wind Ensemble <i>Dr. Reginald McDonald, Conductor</i>
Academic Processional (Audience remains seated) <i>"Pomp and Circumstance"</i> —Sir Edward Elgar	University Wind Ensemble <i>Dr. Reginald McDonald, Conductor</i>
College/School Banner Carriers	Students with Highest Academic Honors
Chief Marshall	Dr. Oscar Miller <i>Professor of Sociology and Department Head Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Urban Professions</i>
Presentation of Colors.....	Air Force ROTC Color Guard
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> (Audience stands).....	Francis Scott Key <i>University Wind Ensemble</i>
<i>Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing</i> (Audience stands)	James Weldon Johnson <i>Video Presentation</i>
Invocation	Reverend Frank Stevenson, Sr. <i>Dean of Students, Division of Student Affairs</i>
Greetings	President Glenda Glover
Music	University Wind Ensemble <i>Dr. Reginald McDonald, Conductor</i>
Announcements and Acknowledgements	Dr. Curtis Johnson <i>Associate Vice President and Chief of Staff</i>
Introduction of Speaker	Morgan Cage <i>B. S. Business Administration/Management</i>
Commencement Address	Mr. Marc Morial <i>President and CEO of the National Urban League</i>

Presentation of Deans of Colleges and Candidates for DegreesDr. Michael Harris
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

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Dr. Elizabeth Williams	Interim Dean of the College of Public Service
Dr. Robbie K. Melton	Interim Dean, School of Graduate and Professional Studies
Conferring and Awarding of DegreesPresident Glenda Glover
Alumni Induction CeremonyMr. Charles Galbreath, Sr. National President, TSU National Alumni Association

Alumni Pledge:

I hereby fervently pledge my lifelong loyalty, service, and financial support to my alma mater in appreciation for the opportunities afforded me at Tennessee State University.

I pledge to maintain active membership in the national alumni association, to encourage others to attend Tennessee State University, and to become a part of a global society of notable alumni who promote excellence as a way of life.

I further pledge to exemplify the high ideals of my alma mater, and to continue to hold fast to the University’s motto - Think. Work. Serve.

The Alma MaterUniversity Wind Ensemble
BenedictionDr. Napoleon Harris Pastor, First Baptist Church South Inglewood Nashville, TN
Recessional (Audience remains seated)University Wind Ensemble

UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER
MARC H. MORIAL



Marc Morial, who has been described as one of the few national leaders to possess “street smarts”, and “boardroom savvy”, is the current President and CEO of the National Urban League, the nation’s largest historic civil rights and urban advocacy organization.

Morial has been widely recognized as one of the most effective, and accomplished servant-leaders in the nation as well as one of America’s leading voices on civil rights, social justice, and economic opportunity. As President and CEO of the National Urban League since 2003, he has been the primary catalyst for an era of change – a transformation for the 108-year-old civil rights organization. His energetic and skilled leadership has expanded the League’s work around an Empowerment agenda, which is redefining civil rights in the 21st Century with a renewed emphasis on closing the persistent economic gaps that divide Americans.

He has secured the BBB nonprofit certification, which has established the NUL as a leading national nonprofit, and the coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, which has placed the NUL in the top 10 percent of all U.S. charities for adhering to good governance and other best practices, as well as executing its mission in a fiscally responsible way.

Under his stewardship, the League launched a historic \$100 million, five year “Jobs Rebuild America: Educate, Employ, Empower” initiative in 2013 – a solutions-based, comprehensive approach to the nation’s employment and education crisis that brings together federal government, business, and nonprofit resources to create economic opportunity in 50 cities across the country through the Urban League affiliate network.

His creativity has led to initiatives such as the Urban Youth Empowerment Program to assist young adults in securing sustainable jobs and Entrepreneurship Centers in 10 cities to help the growth of small businesses. Also, Morial helped create the Urban Empowerment Fund, which lend to urban impact businesses, and helped create the League’s New Markets Tax Credits initiative, which has resulted in \$1 billion in community investments via urban impact businesses, including minority business, through both debt and equity investments.

As Mayor of New Orleans, Morial was a popular chief executive with a broad multi-racial coalition who led New Orleans’ 1990’s renaissance and left office with a 70 percent approval.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in Economics and African American Studies, he also holds a law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., as well as numerous honorary degrees including Xavier University and Howard University.

UNDERGRADUATE CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

2021 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

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Khadijah Islam Muhammad Antioch, TN
Mya Jaylin - Monique Powell Lithonia, GA
Malik Amaru Shabazz Saint Louis, MO

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Instructor

Department of Communications
College of Liberal Arts

PROGRAM NOTES

- Photographs: Guests are requested to refrain from taking photographs during the exercises.
- The audience is requested to remain seated during the Academic Procession and Recession.
- The assembly is requested to stand for the Alma Mater.
- An interpreter is provided by the university for hearing-impaired members of the audience. These guests should be seated near the front of the stage on the second level of the gym.
- This program is not an official graduation list. It lists students who were eligible to participate in the graduation ceremonies pending the outcome of final examinations and final grades. Therefore, it should not be used to determine a student's academic or degree status.
- Candidates: Any display of disruptive behaviors--stumping, dancing, etc.--on stage or in the audience will not be tolerated. No talking on cell phones. All phones must be turned off! Failure to comply with these University rules will necessitate the removal of the graduate from the ceremony, withholding diploma, and other possible consequences.
- Audience: Please turn off cell phones, keep the noise level to a minimum, and do not display behaviors that disrupt the ceremony (bull horns, signs, whistles are prohibited).

THE ALMA MATER

In the land of golden sunshine
By the Cumb'rland's fertile shore.
Stands a school for greatest service
One that we adore
Alma Mater, how we love thee,
Love thy white and blue
May we strive to meet Thy mandates
With faith that's true.

Many come to Thee for knowledge,
Come from East, North, South and West.

For they know that Thou dost offer

Such a rich bequest.

Alma Mater, all Thy children

Worship at They shrine;

May the God of nations bless thee

With gifts divine.

Send forth sons both strong and valiant,

Send forth daughters wise and true.

Filled with hope and dauntless courage

Motives sane and true.

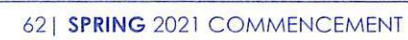
Alma Mater, kindly mother

Smile on Tennessee

May she lift her head toward Heaven

Honor Country, God and Thee.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY NEW STUDENT HOUSING



Fall 2022



HEALTH SCIENCES BUILDING



Tennessee State University's ultramodern Health Sciences Building commissioned by President Glenda Glover brings together several of the university's excellent programs under one roof and serves as a hub for collaborative practice, community service, and clinical research.

