

Commencement Ceremony

Montagne Center Saturday, August 22, 2015

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Brian McCall, Ph.D., is chancellor of the Texas State University System, the first university system established in Texas, comprising eight institutions with more than 81,000 students and 15,000 faculty and staff.

McCall previously served in the Texas House of Representatives, first elected in 1991 to represent the areas of North Dallas, Frisco, Allen and Plano. As a representative, he served as chairman of the House Calendars Committee and as a member of the Higher Education Committee. *Texas Monthly* named McCall one of the "10 Best" legislators of the 2009 session.

McCall wrote and passed one of the largest tax-cut bills in the history of Texas and during his last session secured \$5 million in funding for the University of Texas at Dallas' Center for Values and Medicine. Other legislative accomplishments include authoring and passing key bills in the areas of health care, biotechnology, high technology, identity theft, and tax and budget policy.

McCall serves on the board of Legacy Texas Financial Group and as chairman of Texas' Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors, a position to which he was elected by the state's 38 public university presidents and six chancellors.

Previous to his appointment as chancellor, he was president of Westminster Capital Corporation, an investment firm focused on acquisitions primarily in software and technology. Additionally, he and his brother, David, operate Snow Hill Farm north of Dallas.

McCall holds a bachelor's degree from Baylor University and a master's from Southern Methodist University. He spent a year as a visiting post-graduate student at Oxford University, before earning a doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Texas at Dallas.

As the author of "The Power of the Texas Governor: Connally to Bush", published by University of Texas Press, he examined how various governors have overcome the institutional limitations of the office to achieve significant political power.

A long-time civic and community volunteer, McCall is founder and chairman of the board of the Empowerment Project, a non-profit organization which has sent more than \$10 million worth of math and science books to disadvantaged schools in the Republic of South Africa, and helped construct a library in Vietnam through the Libraries of Love organization. The Empowerment Project also raised more than \$350,000 to provide direct support for the medical needs of children in North Texas.

McCall is the recipient of the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Texas at Dallas, is a member of the Philosophical Society of Texas and serves on the board of directors of ZACH Theater in Austin.



CEREMONY PROGRAM

Musical Prelude Lamar University Brass Ensemble

Scott Deppe, Ed.D. Director of Bands

Academic Processional* Lula Henry, Ed.D.

Associate Professor of Teacher Education

Crown Imperial

Walton

Lamar University Brass Ensemble

The National Anthem*
The Star Spangled Banner

Francis Scott Key

Debra Greschner, M.M.

Instructor of Music

Welcome James Marquart, Ph.D.

Provost and

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Introductions Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D.

President

Commencement Address Brian McCall, Ph.D.

Chancellor

The Texas State University System

James Marquart, Ph.D.

Certification of Graduates James Marquart, Ph.D.

Conferring of Degrees Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D.

Presentation of Graduating

Class/Investiture of

Doctorates

Announcement of Graduates

Paul T. M. Hemenway, Ph.D. Professor of Communication

R. J. Davis, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Counseling

and Special Populations

Student Recognitions

Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D.

Alumni Greetings

Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D.

Lamar University
Alma Mater*

G. Rhodes Smartt

Debra Greschner, M.M.

Lamar to thee we're singing

Voices raised on high. We will forever love thee Laud thee to the sky. We will ever need thee As our guiding star. To us you'll always be Our glorious Lamar.

Academic Recessional*

Lula Henry, Ed.D.

Please join us for an informal reception, located upstairs in the concourse area of the Montagne Center, following the ceremony.

*Audience please stand.

To maintain the dignity of the program, guests are requested to refrain from unnecessary noises (air horns, etc.) and movement during the ceremony.



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Luis Antonio Rangel

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Nathanael Caleb Smith

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Richard Caleb Johnson Marcus Lee Salazar



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

Dr. Derina Holtzhausen, Dean

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION

William Hayden Gilbert
Bethany Marie Moore
Priscilla Ochoa
Shelby Rae Rinehart
Brent Christopher Salenga
Derwin Everett Samuels Jr.
Taylor Renae Shields
Courtney Shae Sonnier
Hannah Willis (Posthumous)
Sheri Kristine Woddail

Bachelor of Arts in Music Jacob Todd Hollier*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCES

Kelsie Sue Carlquist Kay Ethel Virginia Fuller Katherine Alexis LaFleur Hailey Louise Lofton Samantha M. Moody

*Reaud Honors College Graduate



DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS

Adams-Molina, Georgeanna – Correlational Study of Planned Behavior and PK-12 Teachers' Adoption of Digital Resources in Four Texas School Districts – Cynthia D. Cummings, Dissertation Chair

Anderson, Nancy C. – An Analysis of Teacher Morale and Motivation Before, During, and After Fiscal Distress in a Rural School District – Jason R. Mixon, Dissertation Chair

Baksi, Arnab – Preparation and Characterization of Layered Double Hydroxides, Hopcalite Catalysts and Their Mixed Analogs for Redox Reactions – John Gossage, Supervising Professor

Besharati-Givi, Maryam – Performance Analysis and Optimization of Power Plants with Gas Turbines – Xianchang Li, Supervising Professor

Connell, Dylan E. – A
Phenomenological Study: Explicit
Metacognitive Instruction in the
AVID Program – Jennifer Butcher,
Dissertation Chair

Dinh, Ha Quan – Process Simulation, Optimization, and Synthesis for Chemical Industry Sustainability – Qiang Xu, Supervising Professor

Gonzales, Kimberly E. – The Power of Words: A Bounded Case Study of Teacher Use of Mathematical Vocabulary – J. Kenneth Young, Dissertation Chair

Husband, Carl M. – An Investigation of the Relationship Between Student Employment and On-Time Graduation – J. Kenneth Young, Dissertation Chair

Kahn, Leah L. – STEM in the Middle Grades: A Phenomenological Narrative Study Exploring How Teachers Plan and Implement STEM Subjects as an Integrated Course – Babette Eikenberg, Dissertation Chair Kail, Elise L. – Internal Communication: Effectiveness in a Texas Public School District – J. Kenneth Young, Dissertation Chair

Keeney, Hunter E. – The Effects of Student-Centered Learning Constructs on Student Satisfaction in Online Courses – Kaye Shelton, Dissertation Chair

Keshari, Nasser – Parental Perception of a Charter School – Sandra Harris, Dissertation Chair

Mays, Wendy Jo – A Correlational Study of the Relationship Between Individual Attributes and Online Course Completion at a Rural Community College in Texas – Sandra Harris, Dissertation Chair

Mazloom, Zulema C. – Effective Leadership Responsibilities that Enhance English Language Learners' Learning – Sandra Harris, Dissertation Chair

Mustin, Denise L. – A Case Study of One Texas School District's Successful Implementation of Response to Intervention for Behavior – Sandra Harris. Dissertation Chair

Salazar, Jesse – Perceived Roles of Hispanic Assistant Principals in a South Texas Rural School District – Jason R. Mixon, Dissertation Chair

Welborn, Ronny D. – An Investigation of the Experiences of Military Veterans' Transition into Community College – Sandra Harris, Dissertation Chair

Williams, Melba Ellen – A Phenomenological Exploration of the Perceptions of Gifted Adolescents Coping with Stress – Sandra Harris, Dissertation Chair



MASTERS THESES

Bhowmick, Nirban – Mobile Multimedia Performance Differences in a UMTS LTE-Based Self-Organizing Network with and without Soft Handover – Harley R. Myler, Supervising Professor

Bohannon, Hannah E. – The Effects of Perceived Jury-Defendant Similarity on Sentencing Length – Judith R. Mann, Supervising Professor

Bravo Quintanar, Alma M. – Opposition to Policy Proposals Granting Legal Status to Undocumented Immigrants – Eric Bronson, Supervising Professor

Chowdhury, Mohammad A. – Improved Capacity in Macrocell Networks Through Deployment of Femtocells – Harley R. Myler, Supervising Professor

Chowdhury, Md Mujibur R. – Application of Singular Value Decomposition and Non-Negative Matrix Factorization in Image Compression – Kumer Das, Supervising Professor

Dean, Casey – Investigating Hidato Using Strong Direct Products – P. J. Crouch, Supervising Professor

Dey, Asim – Modeling Extreme Hurricane Damage in the United States – Kumer Das, Supervising Professor

Dey, Dipankar – Butterfly Flight Simulator – Timothy Roden, Supervising Professor

Haque, Md Emdadul – Emission Control and Optimization of Flaring Gas of Polymer Plant – Qiang Xu, Supervising Professor

Izadpahah, Saman – Utilizing One-Class Collaborative Filtering Using Clustering and Top-K Nearest Neighbor – Kami Makki, Supervising Professor Jalla, Anusha – Synthesis of Pyrrolidine Based Organic Linkers for Metal Organic Frameworks – Xiangyang Lei, Supervising Professor

Jones, Crystal G. – How Family Backgrounds Have Impacts on Juvenile Delinquency – Cheng-Hsien Lin, Supervising Professor

Pitman, Dana – Improving Augmentative Communication During Storybook Reading – Monica Harn, Supervising Professor

Potter, Jr., Phillip E. – Effects of Scaling on Radial Basis Function Neural Networks – Peggy Doerschuk, Supervising Professor

Pouresmaeil, Laya – Using Pyton to Analyze Safety Records – James C. Curry, Supervising Professor

Rhoads, Christina – What Is the Relationship Between Exposure to Sexuality in Music Videos and the Incidence of Pregnancy and Abortion Among College Females? – S. Greg Thompson, Supervising Professor

Richardson, Terra – A Wide Sky of "Academic Stars": A Qualitative Analysis of Outstanding Female Scholars in Criminology and Criminal Justice – Robert M. Worley, Supervising Professor

Samuel, Ashwin V. – Energy Management System (EMS) for an Electric Vehicle – G.N. Reddy, Supervising Professor

Saxena, Parag – Simulation of Selected Vapor Recovery Processes – Helen H. Lou, Supervising Professor

Shah, Meet A. – Relation of the Apparent Work of Adhesion to Vibrations – Rafael Tadmor, Supervising Professor Shahid, Maryam – In Vivo Study of Lipids and Sterols of Saccharomyces Cerevisiae (Yeast) Cell Membrane – Thuy Minh Nguyen, Supervising Professor

Smith, Kirstie – A City-Level Analysis Using Asset-Based Community Development – S. Greg Thompson, Supervising Professor

Somasi, Venkata S. – Comparison of Spontaneous Spreading and Retraction of Oil Drops in Zero Relative Humidity and Normal Conditions – Rafael Tadmor, Supervising Professor Suvvari, Ramesh – Study of Structural Properties and Kinetics of Ammonia Borane/Polyacrylamide Composite – Ozge Gunaydin Sen, Supervising Professor

Tomar, Sandeep – Contact Angle Hysteresis for Pendant Drops – Rafael Tadmor, Supervising Professor

Topping, Lisa A. – Comparing the Effects of Mental Imagery and Fantasy on Anxious Performers – Jeremy A. Shelton, Supervising Professor





HONORS

An Honor Graduate must have completed 60 hours at Lamar University for a 4-year degree. A student with a GPA of 3.5 or higher on all LU undergraduate work will be awarded honors. Cum laude is 3.5 to 3.64, magna cum laude is 3.65 to 3.79 and summa cum laude is 3.8 to 4.0.

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA

Freshman Honors Red, White and Gold Triple Cords

ALPHA PI MU

Industrial Engineering Honor Society White Cord joined with White Panel

BETA ALPHA PSI

Accounting Honor Society Red or White Stole with Emblem, Red and Black Double Cord

BETA GAMMA SIGMA

International Business Honor Society Blue and Gold Cord and Stole

BETA TAU CHAPTER OF KAPPA PI

International Honorary
Art Fraternity
Purple and Gold Double Cord

BETA XI CHAPTER OF PHI BETA DELTA

International Student Honors Gold Medallion with Red and Yellow Ribbon

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Arts and Sciences Majors with a 4.0 GPA Gold Medallion on Red Ribbon

CHI EPSILON

Civil Engineering Honor Society White Stole

DELTA-BETA CHAPTER OF ETA KAPPA NU

Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society Yellow Stole with Insignia, Yellow Cord with Red and Blue Tassel

GAMMA NU CHAPTER OF SIGMA TAU DELTA

English Honor Society Cardinal Red Stole with Black Embroidered Seal, Brass Medallion on Red Ribbon, Cardinal Red and Black Double Cords

KAPPA DELTI PI

International Honor Society in Education Purple and Green Cord

LU AMBASSADORS

Student Ambassadors Red and Gold Double Cord

LU HONORS

Latin Honors Red and White Double Cord

LU VETERANS

US Military Veteran Red, White and Blue Double Cord

NATIONAL STUDENT NURSING ASSOCIATION

Student Nursing Association Blue and White Cord

OMEGA CHI EPSILON

Chemical Engineering
Honor Society
White Stole

THE ORDER OF THE ENGINEER

Upholding Engineering Integrity Orange Stole with Red Trim

ORDER OF OMEGA

Greek Honors Gold Stole with Logo, Gold and Ivory Cords

PHI BETA DELTA

International Honor Society Gold Medallion with Red and Gold Ribbon

PHI ETA SIGMA

Freshman Honors
Black and Gold Double Cords

PHI KAPPA PHI

Junior/Senior Honor Society Yellow Stole with Insignia on White Background, White Medallion with a Blue Ribbon and Blue Cord

PI MU EPSILON

Math Honor Society
Purple, Lavender and Gold
Triple Cord

Psi Chi

Psychology Honor Society Platinum and Dark Blue Cord, Platinum Stole, Platinum Medallion on Navy Blue Ribbon

REAUD HONORS COLLEGE

Graduate who has completed 23 hours of honors coursework, including an honors thesis, or 26 hours with eight hours of upper-level credits while maintaining a 3.25 GPA. Bronze Medallion with Red and White Ribbon

SIGMA DELTA PI

Spanish Honor Society Red and Gold Double Cords Gold or Red and Gold Stole

SIGMA THETA TAU

International Nursing Honor Society Purple and White Double Cords

SMITH-HUTSON SCHOLAR

Smith-Hutson Scholarship Recipient Black Stole with Red Trim

TAU BETA PHI

Engineering Honor Society White Stole with Orange Insignia

UPSILON PI EPSILON

Computer Science Honor Society Medallion on Maroon Ribbon, Maroon and White Double Cord

ZETA LAMBDA CHAPTER OF PI SIGMA ALPHA

Political Science Honor Society Red, White and Black Cord Medallion on Red Ribbon



THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

In its essential features, the academic regalia worn at American college exercises had its beginning in the Middle Ages. The oldest universities in Northern Europe grew out of church schools, and both faculty and students were regarded as part of the clergy. Hence, as their regular costume, they wore clerical garb borrowed largely from the monastic dress of their day.

The academic gown and hood were first regularly adopted by the University of Cambridge in 1284 and by the University of Oxford a little later. The custom transplanted to this country in Colonial times by King's College in New York, now Columbia University. In 1895, American universities and colleges decided to standardize their academic styles and developed the intercollegiate code of academic costume. The style follows in the vein of the Cambridge tradition. The distinctive caps, gowns and hoods worn at present-day college and university functions denote the institution that granted the degree, the field of learning in which the degree was earned and the level of the degree – bachelor, master or doctorate.

The gown is usually of black material (serge or worsted for bachelors, the same or silk for masters and silk for doctors). Bachelor's gowns have pointed sleeves and master's have long pouch-like sleeves, which reputedly were once used to carry books. Doctor's gowns are faced with panels of velvet down the front and three bars of velvet across each sleeve.

The hood, worn around the neck so as to hang down the back, is the principal emblem of the nature and source of the degree held. The colors in the hood lining are the colors of the school conferring the degree. The color of the border indicates the scholarly field of the wearer. Hoods may be worn only after the degree has been granted.

The cap, the square mortarboard in American universities, but a round, short, flat velvet hat in British, Canadian and some European universities, bears a tassel which may be black, or it may be colored

according to the scholarly field of the wearer. Only the doctors' cap may be of velvet.

The degree colors are used for the edging of all hoods and may be used for the velvet facing and sleeve bars of doctors' gowns and tassels on bachelors' and masters' caps. This includes: Arts and Letters – White, Commerce – Drab, Education – Light Blue, Engineering – Orange, Fine Arts – Brown, Humanities – Crimson, Law – Purple, Library Science – Lemon, Medicine – Green, Music – Pink, Pharmacy – Olive, Philosophy (Ph.D.) – Dark Blue, Physical Education – Sage Green, Science – Golden Yellow and Theology – Scarlet.

UNIVERSITY MACE

Originally a medieval weapon and later carried by Sergeants at Arms guarding kings and high church officials, the mace has gradually assumed a purely ceremonial character symbolizing authority. As used in formal academic processions, the mace derives from the early university history. The Lamar University mace is traditional in design. The mahogany shaft is crowned by a head on which are mounted four representations of the university seal. The president of the Faculty Senate, who leads the academic procession, carries the mace in today's ceremony.

ACADEMIC GONFALONS

Gonfalons, banners that are designed to hang from a crossbar, have historical roots dating back to the 12th century when they served as the official emblems to represent the various districts of Florence, Italy. In more recent times, gonfalons have been adopted by academia to serve as symbols to represent each college within a university. Each college has their own representative banner with the dean from the respective college carrying the gonfalon in the academic processional.



Lamar University engages and empowers students with the skills and knowledge to thrive in their personal lives and chosen fields of endeavor. As a doctoral granting institution, Lamar University is internationally recognized for its high quality academics, innovative curriculum, diverse student population, accessibility and leading edge scholarly activities dedicated to transforming the communities of Southeast Texas and beyond.



Special appreciation is extended to volunteers for serving as ushers for today's commencement ceremony.

This program is not an official graduation list. This printed program lists students who are eligible to graduate pending the outcome of final examinations and final grades. Therefore, it should not be used to determine a student's academic or degree status. The student's permanent academic record is kept by the Records Department, P.O. Box 10010, Beaumont, Texas 77710. Students, faculty and staff members are selected without regard to their race, color, creed, sex, age, disability or national origin, consistent with the Assurance of Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Executive Order 11246 as issued and amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.