



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

LAMAR UNIVERSITY

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MONTAGNE CENTER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2017

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ACADEMIC DEANS

William E. Harn, Ph.D.	Dean of Graduate Studies
Joe Nordgren, Ph.D.	Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences
Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.	Dean of Business
Robert Spina, Ph.D., FACSM	Dean of Education and Human Development
Srinivas Palanki, Ph.D.	Dean of Engineering
Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.	Dean of Fine Arts and Communication
Kevin Dodson, Ph.D.	Dean of Reaud Honors College
Sarah Tusa, M.A., M.L.I.S.	Interim Director of Library Services





On behalf of the faculty and staff, I am pleased to welcome all of you to the commencement ceremony for the College of Business at Lamar University.

As Dean of the College of Business, I am excited about our accomplishments and about the many opportunities we are exploring to strengthen our already top-notch business education. Lamar University offers our students a superior business curriculum and a well-rounded core of arts and sciences in a College of Business that is committed to

being an integral part of the business community. Our primary goal is to ensure that all of our programs continue to serve the needs of evolving and dynamic business marketplaces in Southeast Texas and around the world.

Lamar University's College of Business is distinctive because of the many important advantages we offer, including a strong and experienced faculty, who are committed to teaching and research, and who care deeply about our students. Full-time faculty teaches more than 80% of our sections, and we maintain a low student-faculty ratio; as a result, students learn in a highly interactive environment that provides close, personal attention. We also offer practical, flexible programs to respond to today's changing marketplace. Both our undergraduate and MBA programs offer full-time, part-time and online options. Our Master of Science in Accounting program offers a fully integrated five-year experience leading to the BBA and MSA degrees. Additionally, we offer an impressive network of accomplished business alumni, whose involvement in the college provides our students with speakers, internships, career opportunities and valuable ongoing support throughout their professional lives.

Thank you for joining us today as we celebrate the achievements of our students.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. R. Venta".

Enrique (Henry) R. Venta, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor of Management



CEREMONY PROGRAM

Musical Prelude	Lamar University Commencement Brass Ensemble Andrew McMahan, D.M.A. <i>Director of Bands</i>
Academic Processional*	Vivek Natarajan, Ph.D. <i>Associate Professor, Department of Management and Marketing</i>
<i>Crown Imperial</i> Walton	Lamar University Commencement Brass Ensemble
The National Anthem* <i>The Star Spangled Banner</i> Francis Scott Key	Craig Escamilla, B.M.A., M.B.A. <i>Instructor of Management and Marketing</i>
Welcome/Introductions	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D. <i>Dean</i>
Commencement Address	Todd Hoffman <i>Partner Human Resource Consulting PricewaterhouseCoopers</i>
Graduate Address	Reyna A. Tippetts <i>Business Administration Major</i>
Undergraduate Address	Jordan Caleb Garcia <i>Marketing Major</i>
Certification of Candidates	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.
Conferring of Degrees	Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D. <i>President</i>



Presentation of Graduating Class	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.
Announcement of Graduates	Craig Escamilla, B.M.A., M.B.A.
Concluding Remarks and Awards	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.
Lamar University Alma Mater* G. Rhodes Smartt	Craig Escamilla, B.M.A., M.B.A.
<i>Lamar to thee we're singing Voices raised on high. We will forever love thee Laud thee to the sky.</i>	<i>We will ever need thee As our guiding star. To us you'll always be Our glorious Lamar.</i>
Academic Recessional*	Vivek Natarajan, Ph.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.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS FACULTY

Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D., *Dean*

Accounting & Business Law

Toni Mulvaney, *Chair*

Clare Burns, *Director*

Marleen Swerdlow, *Director*

Frank Badua

Melissa Baldo

Ricardo Colon

Frank Cavaliere

Tim McCoy

Gisele Moss

David Rose

Delvin Seawright

Orrin Swift

Michael Toerner

Economics & Finance

Larry Allen, *Chair*

Chun-Da Chen

Jai-Young Choi

Charles Hawkins

John D. McCollough

Jimmy Moss

Karyn Neuhauser

Donald Price

James Slaydon

Hiroki Watanabe

Information Systems & Analysis

Kakoli Bandyopadhyay, *Chair*

Cynthia Barnes

Richard Drapeau (Retired Faculty)

Ashraf El-Houbi

Alicen Flosi

Dale Fontenot

Kaushik Ghosh

Purnendu Mandal

Ricardo Tovar-Silos

Jerry Zhang

Yu (Audrey) Zhao

Management & Marketing

Kabir C. "KC" Sen, *Chair*

Carly Broussard, *MBA Director*

Soumava Bandyopadhyay

Jeff Dyson

Craig Escamilla

Kathy Fraccastoro

Lynn Godkin

Komal Karani

Paul Latiolais

Brad Mayer

Vivek Natarajan

Kelly Weeks

Reese Construction Management

Seokyon Hwang

Steve McCrary

Mahdi Safa

FACULTY MARSHALS

Chun-Da Chen

Ashraf El-Houbi

Komal Karani

Purnendu Mandal

Brad Mayer

Delvin Seawright

Orrin Swift

Ricardo Tovar-Silos

Hiroki Watanabe

Jerry Zhang

DIRECTORS OF GRADUATION CEREMONY

David Short Jr., *Registrar*

Barbara Price, *Assistant Registrar*

Natasha Walker, *Assistant Registrar*

DIRECTOR OF RECORDS & REGISTRATION

Summer Rather

GRADUATION COORDINATOR

Mildred Piert



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Todd Hoffman, graduated from Lamar University in 1988 with his Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting. While at Lamar University, Todd was involved in a number of campus organizations and honor societies. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity and a Kemble Award Finalist, which is conferred annually to a senior who brought honor to himself and to Lamar University through his efforts to improve the quality of campus life, as well as through his scholastic endeavors. Todd is a Principal

who leads Pricewaterhouse Coopers State and Local Government Advisory Practice in Texas. He has more than 29 years of experience helping companies and governments develop innovative strategies to achieve improvements in performance. He has worked with health care, retail, government and energy companies. In the government sector Todd serves clients as they seek to enhance service to citizens, reduce costs, increase efficiency and implement process improvements. Todd is a leader with strong project/program management, implementation delivery, and architecture skills experience. Todd has significant experience in designing and delivering organizational effectiveness, and talent management solutions, including organizational design and leadership development.

Todd sits on a number of Advisory Councils for the State of Texas, is a Trustee for the Houston Opera, and on the Lamar University Advisory Board for the College of Business.





GRADUATE SPEAKER

Reyna Tippetts, originally from Ebano, S.L.P., Mexico, immigrated to this country in 1998, with her husband Roscoe and has lived in Splendora, Texas since then. In May 2017 she graduated from Our Lady of the Lake University, with her Bachelors of Business Administration. Today Reyna will be graduating with her Masters of Business Administration. Throughout her college career, she has been attending school full-time, working a 40 hours a week job, as a Division Specialist at Lone Star College, and caring for her children. In the future, she would like to work as a manager and/or as business/management instructor.

Reyna enjoys living in this country because she knows this is a place where the opportunities are the same for everyone who wants to take a chance, regardless of their background.

She has come so far, from working as a housekeeper because she did not speak any English, to graduating with her M.B.A., Reyna has made great strides. Her biggest desire is to make sure her kids understand that there is a lot more to life than a brand name or a specific stylish look; that life is not about how we look or what we wear, but about who we are, what we know and what we can do. So many times we are frustrated about what we want, that we forget how blessed we are with what we have. Education is the biggest and most secure investment we have; no one can ever take that away.

Reyna likes to thank her family for all the support, her mother Martha, who taught her to work hard; but especially her children Nelson, Brandon and Alma, "Love you guys!" Her professors, who –as Reyna describes, "Did more than their job description required and inspired her to give her best." And, she wants to thank her work family for all the support and encouragement they have given her.



UNDERGRADUATE SPEAKER

Jordan is from Rosenberg, Texas where he was raised by his parents, Roy and Veronica Flores. Upon graduating from B.F. Terry High School in 2011, Jordan attended Lamar University as a Music Education major from 2011-2013 and was an active member of the Lamar University Marching Band, Drumline, and Percussion Ensemble. After taking a year away from school, Jordan came back in the fall of 2014 and will be graduating with a B.B.A. in Marketing. He is an active member of Beta Gamma Sigma - International Business Honor Society. During his time as a marketing major, he worked full-time at Applied Industrial Technologies, starting as a delivery driver and working his way up to an inside sales position. Along with work and school, Jordan is very involved in his local church as a musician and staff member of the youth group. He is passionate about drumming,

coffee, and helping others. In the future, he would initially like to work as an account manager/outside sales representative for a company that sells a product or service that truly offers value. Eventually, Jordan would like to become a business development manager or brand manager. After achieving financial success, Jordan plans to open a coffee shop alongside his wife, LaRae.



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING

Kelsey Danielle Broussard
Cameron Cole Dishon
Andrew Scott Horn
Holly Nicole Palmer
Liran Wang

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Mary Katherine Alton
Shilpana Bhawal
Monica Taylor Boggan
Joshua Michael Bonura
Amanda Sue Buffington
Matthew Joshua Bukovicky
Brandon Craig Corley
Ryan Lee Crews
Evans Mawuli Gawu
Stacey Luedke Hill
Victor Kpeyibor
Gerald Joseph Landry
Jennifer Suy Loas
Jason Allen McDonald
Katie Lynn Meeks
Holly Nicole Palmer
Chad Kristopher Prouse
David Elgin Robertson
Richard Rosario Jr.
Reyna A. Tippetts

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING, FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Jaden Ross Holbrook

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Brittney Lynn Graham

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING

Shane Christopher Benoit
Sawan Dipak Bhakta
Melanie Noelle Bransford
Pablo Cisneros
Kelly Bruna Alves Davis
Thaer Zeid El-Zereini
Wesley Demetrius Ferguson
Joshua Brian Gibbs
Lauren Ann Kidder
Kourtney Lynn Magnes
Lien Lynn Tuyet Nguyen
Nathaniel A. Pigno
Zachary Tyler Rhame
Tessa Marie Runte
Hayley Nicole Shiflet

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ECONOMICS

Joey Ryan Rutherford

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

Autumn Renee Broussard
Rajae Keshia Haynes
Caleb James McCallon
Kenneth Preston Pittman
Cesar Omar Gonzalez Rangel
Jussanique Lashae Simmons
Benjamin Grant Stansbury



**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN FINANCE**

Tinsai Mulugeta Beyene
Ashley Nicole Courville
Gavin P. Gray
Phatara Promyanont
Tuyet Tran
Trevor Garrison Trevino

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN GENERAL
BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Stephanie Lauren Coimbre
Hunain Khawar Syed

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN GENERAL
BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT**

SyriSSa Nicole Dominguez
Asia Patrice Fisher
Lynsie Renee Fontenot
Amanda Jayne Hill
Kailee Patrice Kubicek
Thomas James Milan
Connor Ray Ward
Jasmine Simone Woodard

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN GENERAL
BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Kaley Lynn Nowicki

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS IN
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Joshua Joe Rodriguez

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN GENERAL
BUSINESS**

Taylor Leigh'An Chatagnier
Kiera S. Hager
Matthew Ryan Henry
Chance Everett Lemoine
Jonathan Erickson Martin
Rakendra LeAnn Turner
Harold Weston

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN GENERAL
BUSINESS - INDUSTRIAL
ENGINEERING**

Eugene Chimene Onyejiekgha

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN MANAGEMENT
INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

Earlyn Shenees Castorena
Madison Taylor Cole
Jonathan Allen McCord
Michelle Le Pham
Jacob Tyler Rone
Shebin Abraham Sabu
Ezandria Darnyce Spencer

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN HUMAN
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Janis Gayle Wyatt

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN RETAIL
MANAGEMENT**

Michelle Christine Butler
Nancis Vanessa Zamudio



**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN MANAGEMENT**

Earlyn Shenees Castorena
Tyler Wayne Hodgkinson
Eloisa Jaramillo-Garcia
April Nicole Klaerner
Jared Daniel McCullough
Victoria Ashley Nolen
Andrew Renee Ramirez
Enjoli Lanee Vincent

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN MARKETING**

Peter Hatch Cortez Aguila
Emma L. Bland
Emily Rae Carl
Breanna Janae Casimiro
Jordan Caleb Garcia
Tanner Reid Holland
Laura A. Parra
Ikea Z'hane Rice
Mason Troy Vizona
Audrey Elizabeth Wood

**Reaud Honors College Graduate*



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 Cord

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 XI CHAPTER OF PHI

BETA DELTA

International Student Honors

Gold Medallion with Red and Yellow Ribbon

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

ORDER OF OMEGA

Greek Honors

Gold Stole with Logo, Gold and Ivory Cord

PHI BETA DELTA

International Honor Society

Gold Medallion with Red and Gold Ribbon



PHI ETA SIGMA

Freshman Honors
Black and Gold Double Cord

PHI KAPPA PHI

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

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

RONALD E. McNAIR SCHOLAR

First generation, low income, and underrepresented graduate who has
completed graduate-level research internship, including undergraduate
thesis and research defense.

NASA Blue Stole with Lettering, Lamp of Knowledge Medallion with
Red, White, and Blue Ribbon

SMITH-HUTSON SCHOLAR

Smith-Hutson Scholarship Recipient
Black Stole with Red Trim



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 IS DEDICATED TO STUDENT
SUCCESS BY ENGAGING AND EMPOWERING
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,
STUDENT SUCCESS, AND LEADING-EDGE
SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTING
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.