



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
LAMAR UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MONTAGNE CENTER
SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2016

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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
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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 black ink, appearing to read "Enrique (Henry) R. Venta, Ph.D."

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



CEREMONY PROGRAM

Musical Prelude	Lamar University Brass Ensemble Scott Deppe, Ed.D. <i>Director of Bands</i>
Academic Processional*	Vivek Natarajan, Ph.D. <i>Associate Professor of Management and Marketing</i>
<i>Crown Imperial</i> Walton	Lamar University 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	David C. "Chris" Fisher, M.B.A. <i>Port Director and CEO, Port of Beaumont</i>
Introduction of Student Speaker	Kabir C. Sen, Ph.D. <i>Chair, Department of Management and Marketing</i>
Student Commencement Address	Sharmin Jahan <i>Master of Business Administration</i>
Certification of Candidates	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.

Conferring of Degrees

Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D.
President

Presentation of Graduating
Class

Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.

Announcement of
Graduates

Kaushik Ghosh, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of
Information Systems and Analysis

Toni Mulvaney, J.D.
Professor of
Accounting and Business Law

Lamar University
Alma Mater*
G. Rhodes Smartt

Craig Escamilla, B.M.A., M.B.A.

*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*

Vivek Natarajan, Ph.D.

Please join us for an informal reception under the tent, located in the front 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.





Chris Fisher is the Port Director and CEO of the Port of Beaumont.

Fisher, 53, joined the Port of Beaumont in 1981. Fisher was appointed as the Port Director and CEO on May 20, 2002. As Port Director, Fisher is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the port.

Fisher began his career as a member of the port's security/police while attending Lamar University. He obtained advanced certification from the Texas Commission on

Law Enforcement while serving in this capacity. He has also served as Sales Representative, Manager of Administration, and Director of Finance and Administration at the port prior to serving as Port Director.

Fisher holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Lamar University (1988) and a Master of Business Administration degree from Lamar University (1993). Fisher is a graduate of Lumberton High School (1980).

Fisher also holds the office of Secretary-Treasurer of the Foreign Trade Zone of Southeast Texas. He is a past president of the Gulf Ports Association (2015), the Texas Ports Association (2005-2008) and is past Vice President of the Texas Department of Transportation's Port Authority Advisory Committee. He currently serves on the board of the American Association of Port Authorities and is chairman of American Association of Port Authorities' National Defense Committee.

Fisher is involved in various community and business organizations including the United Way of North Jefferson County, board member (2003-date), the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, past Board of Directors (2003-2006) and current advisory board member (2006-date). He is a graduate of Leadership Beaumont (2003) and Leadership Southeast Texas (2004). Fisher also currently serves on the Lamar University Center for Advances in Port Management Steering Committee (2015-date).

Fisher is a native and lifelong resident of Southeast Texas, Fisher and his wife, Melissa, reside in Beaumont.



Sharmin Jahan graduated from high school in Dhaka, Bangladesh. She completed a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the prestigious North South University (NSU) in her country, with a double major in Marketing and Human Resource Management. Sharmin was the Vice President of the NSU Photography club and was involved in organizing many international student photography exhibitions. After graduation, she worked for the Human Resource department at BRAC Bank and later decided to attain a Masters of Business Administration degree from Lamar University. In 2014, she moved to the United States to pursue her dreams.

Throughout the years as a student of Lamar University, Sharmin achieved excellent academic standing, scholarships and became a member of Beta Gamma Sigma honor society. She developed a business plan to alleviate poverty and empower women in her country, which earned her an invitation to attend Clinton Global Initiative University 2016 in San Francisco, CA as a Lamar University representative. There, she had the opportunity to meet and connect with a diverse group of young and aspiring leaders from around the world. Currently, along with her studies, she is also working on establishing her social business in Bangladesh.

Sharmin worked on campus throughout her graduate studies. She has been employed as a Student Assistant of Lamar's MBA Department and has also worked for the Cataloging Department of the Mary and John Gray Library. She recently completed her internship at the Beaumont Enterprise as a Marketing Intern and upon graduation, she is looking forward to starting her career in marketing.

Sharmin is married to Tahsin Mujib, who is also graduating today at the top of his class, having excelled at all the requirements for a Master of Science in Accounting. Besides studies and work, she loves traveling, painting and photography.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS FACULTY

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

Accounting & Business Law

Gisele Moss, *Chair*

Clare Burns, *Director*

Marleen Swerdlow, *Director*

Frank Badua

Melissa Baldo

Ricardo Colon

Frank Cavaliere

Tim McCoy

Toni Mulvaney (Reader)

David Rose

Delvin Seawright

Economics & Finance

Larry Allen, *Chair*

Chun-Da Chen

Jai-Young Choi

Charles Hawkins

John 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

Kaushik Ghosh (Reader)

Purnendu Mandal

Ricardo Tovar-Silos

Yu (Audrey) Zhao

Management & Marketing

Kabir C. "KC" Sen, *Chair*

Jeff Dyson, *Director*

Soumava Bandyopadhyay

Craig Escamilla (Vocalist)

Kathy Fraccastoro

Lynn Godkin

Komal Karani

George Kenyon

Paul Latiolais

Brad Mayer

Vivek Natarajan (Mace Carrier)

Kelly Weeks

Reese Construction Management

Steve McCrary, *Director*

Seokyon Hwang

Mahdi Safa

FACULTY MARSHALS

Frank Cavaliere

Purnendu Mandal

Delvin Seawright

Komal Karani

Tim McCoy

Ricardo Tovar-Silos

George Kenyon

Jimmy Moss

Hiroki Watanabe

DIRECTORS OF GRADUATION CEREMONY

David Short Jr., *Registrar*

Barbara Price, *Assistant Registrar*

DIRECTORS OF RECORDS & REGISTRATION

Summer Rather

Natasha Walker

GRADUATION COORDINATORS

Faye Johnnie-Soileau

Mildred Piert

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING

Nicola Marie Adkins
Cameron Tate Brown
Brianna Renee Burks
Julie Anne Cascarelli
Trenton Matthew LaFour
Tahsin UL Mujib
Crystal Renae Sparkman
Ruobing Zhao

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Lacy Donee Brown
Anupa Buddhacharya
Brianna Renee Burks
Helene Marie Czudek
Dominique Anthonette Edwards
Amanda Lynn Ellison
Ashton Mariah Emerson
Vaibhav Gupta
Kayla Leigh Holloway
Paul Eugene Howell
Bradley Denton Jackson
Sharmin Jahan
Karun Thammaiah Kombanda
Ashim Kumar Dey
Xin Luo
Joseph Dillon Minden
Joseph Eston Nichols
Nicolai Tobias River
Jarrod Anthony Rossi
Sandip Kumar Sarkar
Brittni Rachelle Thibodeaux
Rachelle Kaufman White
Melinda Morrison Wilson
Honey Maisie Wood

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Thomas Aaron Gray
Shelbi Lynn Pickering*

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING

Emily Brieden
Cameron Tate Brown
Cameren Bianca Dennis
Joshua Andrew Dial
Alexis Downing
Franklin Ray Glenn
Kalyn Denise Harkness
Deborah Lynn Hooks
James Austin Huber
Melanie Carlyn McDonald
Amanda Le Raymer
Kristeen Kimberly Reynolds*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Kristopher Blake Borel
Jose Guadalupe Cardenas
Dylan Gabriel LeBlanc
Dillon Wilks Poole
Danny Joe Rose II



**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN ECONOMICS
AND FINANCE**

Corbin S. Carr
TaQuisha Tache Radford

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN ECONOMICS**

Elba Marisa Klenke
Juan Manuel Mejia Jr.

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN FINANCE**

Breana Aileen Delaney-Spates
Dakota Glen Eddins
Michelle Amber Kale
Lucinda Marie Whitesel

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Silvia Patricia Chapa
James Johnson III
Sydney Renee Rush
Taylor William Trahan

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

Jeremy Roshad Clemons
Alexander Holmgreen Hughes
Mason Christopher Radford

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

Tommy David Caudill
Toyya Nakkia Celestine
Alreona Cournisha Mason
Bethaney Rene' Waldrep

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

Keyana Janea' Carr
Mari Koerra Olastuen
Jasmine Janelle Savoy

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION GENERAL
BUSINESS**

John Mychal Damain Fontenot
Billy Carteal Jones Jr.
Sheri Marie Knox
Joseph Robert Maier
Sydney Renee Rush
Laura Rose Winegeart

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

David Glenn Hollyfield

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN RETAIL
MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING**

Rebekah Aline Drummond

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

Torrian Rayshod Perry

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

Ashley Marie Arevalo
Andrew Dylan Bradford
Christopher Glenn Buxton
L Pristine Pal Carpio
Andrew Paul Chase
William Patrick Cola
Devyn Marva Coleman
Robert Henry Flores II
Kalyn Denise Harkness
Idalia Yamileth Herrera Lopez
Adebambo Oyediran Siwoniku
Bryant A. Smith
Blair Curtis Tatum
Shanece E. Trimmer

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

Karla De Leon
Jared Russell Gallier
Bailey Elyse Harper
Shawntelle Elizabeth Hillman
Jordan Amanda Hinds
Victor Tyrone Jones II

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

Corey Michael Greene

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN MANAGEMENT**

Brittney Lanae Barlow
Emma Cristina Cosme
Angel Destiny Gibbs
Erik Daniel Guerrero
Trevor Paul Hoffpaur
Billy Carteal Jones Jr.
Jasmine Lashan Morris
Anita Thien-Nhi Nguyen
Taylor C. Pace
Erika Renee Rojas
Anthony Gerard Serio
Stephanie Janine Stallman

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN
MARKETING**

Calob Dean Broussard
Lauren Leigh Cain
Christina Laetriiece Craft
Lauren Bryce Dannelley
Rebecca Marie Higginbotham
Faith Danielle Hubbard
Sheldon Jace Lee
Bryan Dylan Mitchell
Jasmine Lashan Morris
Haley Nicole Permenter
Caitlin Gayle Wheeland*

*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 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.