



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

**LAMAR UNIVERSITY**

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MONTAGNE CENTER  
SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018

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## **ACADEMIC DEANS**

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Paul Bernazzani, Ph.D.	Acting 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.	Acting Director of Library Services



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## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



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



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## 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	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.
Student Commencement Address	Celine Do <i>Management Information Systems 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.



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Announcement of  
Graduates

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

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

Concluding Remarks and  
Awards

Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.

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, 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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## 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 Wantanabe

### **Information Systems & Analysis**

Kakoli Bandyopadhyay, *Chair*

Cynthia Barnes

Richard Drapeau (Retired Faculty)

Ashraf El-Houbi

Alicen Flosi

Kaushik Gosh

Dale Fontenot

Purnendu Mandal

Ricardo Tovar-Silos

Yu (Audrey) Zhao

Jerry Zhang

### **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

Brad Mayer

Delvin Seawright

Orrin Swift

Ricardo Tovar-Silos

Hiroki Watanabe

Xiao Zhang

### **OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR**

David Short Jr., *Registrar*

Barbara Price, *Assistant Registrar*

Natasha Walker, *Assistant Registrar*

### **COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Summer Rather, *Director of Records & Registration*

Mildred Piert, *Graduation Coordinator*

Siaa Taylor, *Graduation Coordinator*



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## COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Enrique (Henry) R. Venta has served as Dean of the College of Business at Lamar University since 2002. Prior to that time, he had been at Loyola University Chicago since 1979. His teaching and research activities are in the areas of strategic issues in operations, work systems design, operations planning, total quality management, managing the service sector, and clinical decision making. His academic accomplishments include Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Management Science and Economics from Northwestern University and a B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico. Dr. Venta has published or presented more than 50 articles, chapters and monographs.

Dr. Venta has served as independent consultant for various government agencies, and national and international corporations. Until his move to Texas, he served on Chicago's Council of Technology Advisors. Venta has served on the Texas Emerging Technology Fund Advisory Committee and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the South East Texas Economic Development District. He serves on the board of several civic and service organizations.

Venta is Cuban-born and has lived in Latin America. He is the father of two girls.





## **STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER**

Celine Do grew up in the Mid-County area and was raised by her single mother, Clarissa Do. She graduated from Port Neches – Groves High School in 2012. Celine started off as a Biology major, but today she is graduating with her Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems. She currently works as a Peer Advisor in the Undergraduate Advising Center

at Lamar University. In the College of Business, Celine serves on the Student Advisory Council to the Dean, a mentor in the Business Society, and Secretary of the Association of Information Systems Student Chapter. Through the Study Abroad program, Celine has expanded her skills and knowledge in business by experiencing a different culture in China, which she can apply to her future career endeavours. Celine is also involved in the Lamar Catholic Student Center, where she is currently President and Social Media Director. Within the Catholic Student Center, she assists with Mass, choir, Altar Society, and Confirmation Retreats. She has also recently been chosen as the co-director for the upcoming College ACTS Retreat. At her church, she is a Young Adult for Teen ACTS Retreats and is part of the Young Adult Ministry. Celine has a passion for helping others and giving back to the community. She was a Student Volunteer at Baptist Hospital for over a year and is presently a volunteer with Altus Hospice. She has volunteered with the Southeast Texas Food Bank, the Garth House, and United Way as well. In her spare time, Celine enjoys reading and spending time with her family and friends. Celine will be continuing her education at Lamar this fall to start her Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Healthcare Administration.





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## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING**

Farah Ibrahim Asgarli  
Wendi Cay Christian  
Pablo Cisneros  
Afolabi Olawole Duduyemi  
Ashley Michelle Fillips  
Kevin Scott Greif  
Mariana Martinez  
Melanie Carlyn McDonald  
Amreen S. Meghani  
Ryan Marie Nunez  
Wendy Esi Orhin  
Mackenzie Payton Richards  
Carlos Romero Torres

## **MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Christopher Louis Boozer  
Matthew Joshua Bukovicky  
Charles Jacob Chelette  
Jeff Edward Davis  
Vincent Dellocono  
Keith Allen DeRouen  
Carson Field Earp  
Chasity Nicole Estes  
Gina Ann Flanagan  
Kalai Rachelle Fuller  
Trisha Rachell Garcia  
Amina Gibic  
Tyler Scott Gray  
Karen Elizabeth Guidry  
Angelica Hernandez Hernandez  
Sravani Katari  
Lexie Leigh Kennedy  
Madison Ann Laurence

John Alex Manrique  
Megan Marie McCallon  
Karen Victoria Munoz  
Jazzmun Evonne Robinson  
Lauren Eicher Scully  
Ashley Michelle Siverand  
Eric Anthony Spaulding  
Brandon Paul Stacey  
Brandon Neal Stockett  
Bret Tyler Treadway  
Kellie Rachelle Treadway  
Jamena B. Watson  
Davida Eugenia Whitt  
Hunter Ryan Wilson  
Magda Zietek

## **BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE**

Andrew James Lee

## **BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING**

Nargiza Asykbaeva  
Sara Charlene Badeaux  
Alexander Lynn Defrancis  
Lindsey Marie Fontenot  
Zara Noorali Jiواني  
Carlton Kevin Martin  
Ryan Marie Nunez\*  
Robert Dale Powers Jr.  
Rachel Cherie Rich  
Tyralyn Sharnàe Singleton  
Kenya Trelisa Marie Tabb  
Kaylynn Elizabeth Villemmez  
Karen Prater Young



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**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**

*Brittan Thomas Brown*

*Casey Allen Burleigh*

*Brittany LeAnn Free*

*Jose Loza*

*Brett Joseph Rogers*

*Esther Alicia Salazar*

*Ryan David Stanley*

*Samantha Lynn Thayer*

*Rhett Markwood Williamson*

*Spencer Charles Wommack*

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

*Mans Magnus Berglund*

*Conor Thomas Rodrigues*

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION IN FINANCE**

*Kristen Rae Golmon*

*Ryan Mark Gunstream*

*Luke William Lozoya*

*Taylor Christopher Pace*

*Deanna Brooke Rich*

*Blerina Salihu*

*Zachary Michael Thomas*

*Michelle Denisse Vindel Brower*

*Karley Monét Worthington*

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

*Jonathan Daniel Ayala*

*Brittany Gayle Borel*

*Tonya R. Cabarrus*

*Claudia Correa*

*Charlotte Jacobs*

*Tamara Lynn See*

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

*Ryan Matthew Citrano*

*Cody Lee Gilmore*

*Leslie Lopez*

*Madison Claire Lyons*

*Reagan Jacob Sonnier*

*Sarah Christine St. John*

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

*Deborah S. Flynn*

*Luis Antonio Garza*

*Keeysa R. Holmes*

*Jake Joseph Jannise*

*Brandy Lynn Jones*

*Marie Lund*

*Marcus Elliott Mann*

*Rebecca Eloisa Salinas*

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION IN  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

*Crystal Marie Haynes*

*Tanaya Renee Keys*

*Kasey Tuyet Nguyen*

*Stacey Ky-Duyen Nguyen*



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**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION IN GENERAL  
BUSINESS**

Roina Chavett Clay  
Kevin Charbel Endari  
Kiera Shena Hager  
Hostin Madison May  
Sara Elizabeth Steinman  
James Kyle Worthey

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

Wrenette Nicole Gantt-Stewart

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

Asif Bheemani  
Rayshaun Brinette Brocks  
Chad Edison Burge  
Celine Diem Phuong Do  
Dayna Michelle Doize  
Shaniqua Renee Johnson  
Brandon Marshall Kirwin  
Tori Brooke Lummus  
Aifaz Nizar Maknojia  
James Patrick Mayo  
Deonte Travon Moore  
Shana Simone Rogers  
Adam J. Schick  
Monica Elise Sparks  
Sharena Ali Villarreyana

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION IN MANAGEMENT**

Iceses Ayanna Billard  
Christopher Michael Douglass  
Amber Nicole Duncan  
Tyler Lee Haynes  
Kaitlin Renee Hooper  
Jacob Lucas Johnson  
Brady Austin Kane  
Peyton Stewart McKinley  
Amna Ahmad Pasha  
Tanner David Ruiz  
Kristi Dane Segura

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

Jared Stephen Gieseke

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION IN ADVERTISING  
COMMUNICATIONS**

Tammy Tran Tran

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION IN MARKETING**

Charleen Chelette  
Taylor Doucette  
Ashley Nicole Goforth  
Paige Cecilia Jorgensen  
Alfred N. Joseph III  
Evan Ray Moses  
Jensen Reide Richard  
Mabry MacLaurin Trent

\*Reaud Honors College Graduate



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## 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



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### **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 at least one high impact educational practice  
and 23 hour hours of honors coursework, including an honors thesis, or 26  
hours with eight hours of upper-level credits while maintaining a 3.4 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



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## 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



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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.*