



2023

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**University  
at Buffalo®**

The State University  
of New York



JACOBS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES  
GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE  
AND ROSWELL PARK GRADUATE DIVISION

# COMMENCEMENT

Sunday

May 21, 2023

9:30 AM

Center for the Arts

North Campus

Allison Brashear, MD, MBA

*Vice President for Health Sciences*

*Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences*

Jamie D. Smith, EdD, MLS

*Chief Academic Officer, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center*

*Dean, Roswell Park Graduate Division*



*Baird Point is an outdoor, Greek-style amphitheater located on the southern shore of Lake LaSalle. It was a gift to the University from the Baird Foundation and the Cameron Baird Foundation. The marble columns on the concrete platforms were once part of the old Federal Reserve Bank in downtown Buffalo. Following their relocation to the lake, the columns were dedicated as a memorial to servicemen and servicewomen.*

# Program

## Processional

Selections from Pomp and Circumstance  
*by Edward Elgar*

## Opening Declaration

Mulchand S. Patel, PhD  
*Associate Dean,  
Biomedical Education*

## \*National Anthem

Performed by Emory Redfearn  
*Music Theatre, BFA '23*

## Greetings

A. Scott Weber, PhD  
*Provost and Executive Vice President for  
Academic Affairs*

## Remarks

Allison Brashear, MD, MBA  
*Vice President for Health Sciences  
Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine  
and Biomedical Sciences*

## Commencement Address

Arturo Casadevall, MD, PhD  
*Bloomberg Distinguished Professor and  
Alfred and Jill Summer Chair, Molecular  
Microbiology and Immunology  
Johns Hopkins University*

## Presentation of Awards

### Graduate

John Panepinto, PhD  
*Senior Associate Dean,  
Biomedical Education*

### Undergraduate

David Shubert, PhD  
*Assistant Dean,  
Biomedical Undergraduate Education*

## Presentation of Candidates

### Doctor of Philosophy

Dean Brashear

### Conferring of Degrees

Provost Weber

### Calling of Candidates

Mark O'Brian, PhD  
*Professor and Chair,  
Biochemistry*

### Hooding

Hooding Party/Major Professors

## Presentation of Candidates

### Master's Degrees

Dean Brashear

### Conferring of Degrees

Provost Weber

### Calling of Candidates

D. Fernando Estrada, PhD  
*Associate Professor,  
Biochemistry*

## Presentation of Candidates

### Bachelor of Science

Dean Brashear

### Conferring of Degrees

Provost Weber

### Calling of Candidates

Elsa Bou Ghanem, PhD  
*Assistant Professor,  
Microbiology and Immunology*

Jennifer Surtees, PhD

*Associate Professor,  
Biochemistry*

## Alumni Welcome

Dean Brashear

## \*UB Alma Mater

Performed by Emory Redfearn

## Closing Declaration

Associate Dean Patel

## \*Recessional

Triumphal March from Aida  
*by Giuseppe Verdi*

*\*If able, guests will rise and please remain standing.  
For the national anthem, please remove caps.*

## Photographic Services

A photographer from GradImages will be at this commencement ceremony to take a posed photograph of you, as well as a candid photograph of your special moment of recognition. You will receive free proofs in the mail within two weeks of the ceremony. You may place orders or obtain answers to questions at [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com) or 800-261-2576. Since professional photographs will be available, family members and guests are encouraged to remain in their seats, relax and enjoy the ceremony.

## Online Viewing of the Ceremony

A recording of this ceremony will be available for online viewing, immediately following the live ceremony. Visit [buffalo.edu/commencement](http://buffalo.edu/commencement)

## SUNY Trustee and UB Officials

### Eunice Ashman Lewin

*Member of the State University of New York Board of Trustees*



President and co-founder of Impacto Consulting Associates, Eunice Ashman Lewin joined the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. She helped reinstate the Student Life Committee, which she co-chairs. In

this role, she spearheaded the creation of the Food Insecurity and the Mental Health task forces. Lewin serves on the board's Executive Committee and the committees for academic affairs, communications and external affairs, community colleges, and academic medical centers and hospitals.

A former commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, Lewin was a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and a board member of the Buffalo Urban League and Hispanics United of Buffalo. She is a member of the Hispanic Women's League and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. Most recently, Lewin was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee to honor the mass shooting victims of the May 14 tragedy in East Buffalo.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, she is a champion for STEM education.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the U.S. with her family in 1967. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Marymount Manhattan College and master's degrees in American and Puerto Rican studies, and in educational administration, from UB.

### Jeremy M. Jacobs

*Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council*



Jeremy M. Jacobs was appointed to the UB Council in 1997; in 1998, then-Gov. George Pataki named him chairman. Jacobs is chairman of Delaware North, a global hospitality company with customers in the United States, Australia,

New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The company's operations include food and retail at airports and sports venues, sports facility ownership and management, operations of parks and major tourist attractions, hotel ownership and management, gaming operations and fine dining.

Jacobs owns the Boston Bruins and serves as chairman of the National Hockey League's Board of Governors. In 2018, he received the sport's highest honor when he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

An alumnus of UB's School of Management and Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program, Jacobs holds honorary doctorates in humane letters from UB, Canisius College, Niagara University and Johnson & Wales University. In 2015, his family donated \$30 million to advance UB's medical school, which was renamed the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Jacobs has served Western New York for more than four decades with his business expertise and philanthropic leadership, and Delaware North has received multiple awards for social responsibility, community service and environmental stewardship.

A longtime friend and supporter of UB, Jacobs has served as chairman, trustee and director of the UB Foundation, chairman of the President's Board of Visitors and adviser to the School of Management.

### Satish K. Tripathi

*University President*



An internationally distinguished researcher and higher education leader, Satish K. Tripathi, PhD, is the University at Buffalo's 15th president.

Tripathi, who served as UB's provost from 2004-2011, was dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside from 1997-2004. Previously, he spent 19 years as professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven years as department chair. A fellow of the IEEE and the AAAS, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences.

Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University (BHU). He holds a master's degree and a doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, as well as master's degrees in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. He has received honorary doctorates from the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University in Canada.

Tripathi serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers and chairs the Internet2 board of trustees. Previously, he was chair of the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and on the boards of NCAA Division I, NCAA Board of Governors, the Association of American Universities, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. A past member of the Reimagine NY Commission, he was the inaugural co-chair of the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council.

## **A. Scott Weber**

*Provost and Executive Vice President  
for Academic Affairs*



As provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, A. Scott Weber, PhD, serves as the university's chief academic officer, providing leadership across the academic enterprise including

research, scholarship and creative activities; undergraduate, graduate, professional and international education; faculty development; diversity and inclusion initiatives; and university libraries. Weber is leading the implementation of the university's vision to be recognized among the top 25 public research universities in the nation, focused on building on UB's strengths to achieve new levels of excellence in research, scholarship, education, clinical care and engagement.

A member of UB's faculty since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar and teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. During his time as chair, the department rose significantly in national rankings. Weber has held progressively responsible administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost and vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and the nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience on campus and promoting overall student wellness.

Weber earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnical Institute and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

## **Allison Brashear**

*Vice President for Health Sciences  
Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine  
and Biomedical Sciences*



An internationally renowned neurologist and researcher in movement disorders, Allison Brashear, MD, MBA, joined the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences as vice president for health sciences and dean in 2021.

Over the past three decades, she has made an impact as an expert in ATP1A3-related diseases, a spectrum of rare neurologic disorders, and has continuously been RO1 funded by the National Institutes of Health since 2008. She is currently the principal investigator for the Clinical Genetic and Cellular Consequences of Mutations in ATP1A3 project and has served as the principal investigator on more than 40 clinical trials in cervical dystonia and spasticity, leading to three FDA-approved medications.

Prior to UB, Brashear was dean of the University of California, Davis School of Medicine, as well as a professor and the Walter C. Teagle Endowed Chair of Neurology at Wake Forest School of Medicine.

Brashear earned her medical degree and completed her neurology residency at Indiana University School of Medicine. She earned her MBA at Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. She completed the Association of American Medical Colleges Council of Deans fellowship program in 2014 and has completed leadership programs at Harvard University, Drexel University and UC Berkeley.

Brashear is a trustee of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation and was recently elected to the Association of American Medical Colleges Council of Deans Administrative Board. She has been a lifelong champion of diversity, inclusion and patient-centered care.



## Guest Speaker

### **Arturo Casadevall, MD, PhD**

*Bloomberg Distinguished Professor and Alfred and Jill Summer Chair, Molecular Microbiology and Immunology  
Johns Hopkins University*



Arturo Casadevall, M.D., Ph.D., is a Bloomberg Distinguished Professor and Alfred and Jill Summer Chair of the Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. He received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from New York University. He completed his internship/residency in internal medicine at Bellevue Hospital and specialized in Infectious Diseases at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. The author of over 900 papers, books and chapters, his major research interests are in fungal pathogenesis and the mechanisms of antibody action. He is

editor-in-chief of mBio, was Deputy Editor of the Journal of Clinical Investigation and serves on several editorial boards. He has served on the National Science Board for Biosecurity and the National Commission on Forensic Science. He is currently chair of the Board of Governors of the American Academy of Microbiology, the honorific arm of the American Society for Microbiology. He has received numerous honors including election to the American Society for Clinical Investigation, American Academy of Physicians, American Academy of Microbiology, Fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Medicine, and the National Academy of Sciences.

# UB Alma Mater

*Music by Walter S. Goodale, MD, 1903.*

*Lyrics adapted by UB students in 2006 for contemporary use.*

Verse 1:

The pride of our spirit and tradition,  
Our alma mater's truth and name declare.  
Celebrate our history and wisdom,  
O let us all prepare to sing her glory.

Refrain:

To Buffalo all hail to thee,  
Noble and strong it's our university!  
To blue and white pledge loyalty,  
Singing, I will always remember thee!

Verse 2:

We'll ever keep our standards high,  
And sing UB's praises to the sky.  
Receiving the finest education,  
Our knowledge we impart unto the nations.

*(Repeat refrain)*

Verse 3:

Our friends we've made with ties that bind,  
A union of our spirit, heart, and mind.  
Together we'll continue life's journey,  
O may dear Buffalo forever be.

*(Repeat refrain)*





# Presentation of Graduate Awards

## The Biochemistry Graduate Student Research Achievement Award

**Recipient:** Christopher Campomizzi

**Dissertation:** *19F NMR studies of CYP121 from Mycobacterium tuberculosis illustrate the importance of the protein dimer*

**Major Professor:** D. Fernando Estrada, PhD

## The Dean's Award for Outstanding Dissertation Research

**Recipient:** Murat Can Kalem

**Dissertation:** *Arginine Methylation and the Control of RNA-Binding Proteins in Cryptococcus neoformans*

**Department:** Microbiology and Immunology

**Major Professor:** John Panepinto, PhD

## The Microbiology and Immunology Award or Excellence in Dissertation Research in Memory of Dr. Murray W. Stinson

**Recipient:** Murat Can Kalem

**Dissertation:** *Arginine Methylation and the Control of RNA-Binding Proteins in Cryptococcus neoformans*

**Major Professor:** John Panepinto, PhD

## Roswell Park Graduate Division Award for Excellence in Research

**Recipient:** Sarah Rose Chamberlain

**Dissertation:** *Novel Approaches of Photodynamic Therapy for Lung Cancer*

**Department:** Molecular and Cellular Biophysics

**Major Professor:** Gal Shafirstein, DSc

# Presentation of Undergraduate Awards

## Outstanding Undergraduate Degree Candidates

*These awards are presented to degree candidates who have maintained a high level of academic performance throughout their undergraduate career and were chosen based on their involvement in the campus community and external organizations. Recipients will receive a monetary gift from their respective departments and can be recognized today by the light blue cords they are wearing*

**Degree Program:** Biochemistry

**Program Director:** Alfred Ponticelli, PhD

**Award Recipient:** Kevin Bowman

**Degree Program:** Bioinformatics and Computational Biology,  
Biomedical Informatics

**Program Director:** Alexander Diehl, PhD

**Award Recipient:** Luna Liu

**Degree Program:** Biomedical Sciences

**Program Director:** David Shubert, PhD

**Award Recipient:** Lily Freeman-Striegel

**Degree Program:** Biotechnology

**Program Director:** Jinwoo Park, PhD

**Award Recipient:** Fredrick Earl

**Degree Program:** Medical Technology

**Program Director:** Richard W. Browne, PhD, MS, MT (ASCP)

**Award Recipient:** Faith Dwyer

**Degree Program:** Neuroscience

**Program Director:** David Dietz, PhD

**Award Recipient:** Colin Schupbach

**Degree Program:** Nuclear Medicine Technology

**Program Coordinator:** Egon W. Fast, MEd

**Award Recipient:** Aja Holland

**Degree Program:** Pharmacology and Toxicology

**Program Director:** Jeannie Padowski, PhD

**Award Recipient:** Jordan Richardson

## SUNY Chancellor's Award

*The SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence acknowledges students for outstanding achievements that have demonstrated the integration of SUNY excellence within many aspects of their lives in areas such as academics, leadership, campus involvement, community service, or the arts.*

### Haeni Lee

*Biomedical Sciences; Minor, Public Health*



Haeni Lee graduates with a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences with a public health minor. Lee is an international student from South Korea and a University Honors College Scholar. She has been a senate of the Residence Hall Association, teaching assistant, research assistant and intern in several laboratories and a company. She has worked in UB MCH program, contributing to work on helping pregnant women quit smoking and studying maternal substance use related to pandemic.

### Richard Pasternack

*Biomedical Sciences*



Richard Pasternack of Alden, NY, graduates with a Bachelor's of Science in Biomedical Sciences. He is a recipient of UB's Excellence in General and Organic Chemistry Awards and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Pasternack works as a Research Aide studying bicarbonate transport and is a medical assistant for an endocrinology practice. He volunteers at the Pediatric Urgent Care of WNY and is a board member for the Alden Community Scholarship Foundation.

# Candidates for Degrees

*Subject to the completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon those individuals listed herein who were identified by April 8, 2023 , and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. This listing includes candidates for the following degree conferral dates: August 2022, February 2023 and June 2023 .*

## Latin Honors

Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of the following minimum criteria, Latin honors may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements. To qualify for Latin honors, students must present a minimum of 60 credit hours of UB undergraduate coursework, at least 54 of which must be graded credits (i.e., not satisfactory or unsatisfactory [grades of 'S' or 'U']). The UB GPA must be a minimum of 3.2 (to 3.499) for cum laude, 3.5 (to 3.749) for magna cum laude and 3.75 (to 4.0) for summa cum laude.

To receive the Latin honors designation in the printed 2023 commencement programs, candidates for the June 2023 degree conferral date must qualify based upon their UB cumulative GPA through the Winter 2023 session and total number of UB credit hours projected through the Spring 2023 semester. Standings for Latin honors MAY change once final grades are posted or degrees conferred.

## Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Beta Kappa is a national honor society that recognizes superior academic achievement in undergraduate work in the liberal arts and sciences.

## Legend

Cum Laude is denoted by an asterisk (\*)

Magna cum Laude is denoted by two asterisks (\*\*)

Summa cum Laude is denoted by three asterisks (\*\*\*)

SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence is denoted by the superscript (©)

Phi Beta Kappa is denoted by the superscript (P)

Outstanding Senior Award Recipient is denoted by the superscript (O)

Research Honors is denoted by superscript (R)

## Academic Recognition Items

### The Gold Cord

This cord is awarded to students who are graduating with Latin honors.

### The Grey and Red Stole

This stole was received by students who are University Honors College graduates.

### Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Outstanding Senior

This cord is awarded to students who received the Outstanding Senior award for their major.

### The SUNY Chancellor's Medallion

This medallion was presented to recipients of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. They were selected for this award based on their academic excellence and extracurricular involvement.

### The UB Flame of Wisdom Pin

This pin, depicting the flame of wisdom from the university's seal, was received by students who were honored at the UB Celebration of Student Academic Excellence for earning select national, SUNY and UB awards and citations.

### The WNY Prosperity Fellowship Medallion

This medallion was received by graduating WNY Prosperity Fellows. They were selected for this fellowship based on their commitment and demonstrated potential to positively impact WNY's economic development and sustainability.

## Non-Academic, University-Wide Recognition Items

### The Kente Stole

This stole was received by students who participated in UB's ALANA Celebration of Achievement which historically has honored graduating African, Latino/a, Asian and Native American students.

### The Rainbow Tassel

This tassel was received by students who participated in the Lavender Reception, celebrating achievements of graduating students who identify with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer community at UB.

### The Red, White and Blue Cord

This cord is being worn by graduating UB students who are reservists, members of the National Guard, newly commissioned officers or veterans of the United States armed forces.

# Doctor of Medicine / Doctor of Philosophy

**June 2023**

Matthew J. McGuire

Neuroscience

*Preclinical Pharmacologic Modeling of NTS-104 and Test of Efficacy as a Neurotherapeutic*

Major Professor: David Poulsen, PhD

Yuhao Shi

Experimental Therapeutics

*Tumor Intrinsic Consequences of Acquired Resistance to PD-L1 Inhibition*

Major Professor: John Ebos, PhD

Jiho Sohn

Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

*Unraveling the role of microbiota in inflammatory bowel disease*

Major Professor: Keith Kirkwood, DDS, PhD

# Doctor of Philosophy

**August 2022**

Jena R. Hazen

Molecular Pharmacology and Cancer Therapeutics

*Altered pyruvate metabolism in AR-independent prostate cancer: A novel therapeutic target*

Major Professor: David Goodrich, PhD

Murat Can Kalem

Microbiology and Immunology

*Arginine Methylation and the Control of RNA-Binding Proteins in *Cryptococcus neoformans**

Major Professor: John Panepinto, PhD

Aryn Michelle Rowsam

Cancer Sciences

*Leveraging polyamine metabolic stress to enhance sensitivity to an epigenetic therapy for Prostate Cancer*

Major Professor: Dominic Smiraglia, PhD

Isabella Lydia Ann Schember

Biochemistry

*Evolution of a gene regulatory network in *Aedes aegypti**

Major Professor: Marc Halfon, PhD

Akshika Sharma

Cancer Pathology and Prevention

*Assessment of Changes in Tobacco Use Behavior, Tobacco Product Perception and Product*

Major Professor: Richard O'Connor, PhD

Renyuan Zhang

Cancer Sciences

*Understanding the microenvironment in the benign, hyperplastic, and neoplastic prostate*

Major Professors: John Krolewski, MD, PhD, and Kent Nastiuk, PhD

**February 2023**

Sarah Rose Chamberlain

Molecular and Cellular Biophysics

*Novel Approaches of Photodynamic Therapy for Lung Cancer*

Major Professor: Gal Shafirstein, DSc

# Doctor of Philosophy

## June 2023

Hannah Rebecca Calkins  
Molecular Pharmacology and Cancer Therapeutics  
*BRD9 inhibition overcomes epithelial to mesenchymal transition-associated tyrosine kinase inhibitor tolerance in EGFR-mutant lung cancer*  
Major Professor: Pamela Hershberger, PhD

Christopher Campomizzi  
Biochemistry  
*<sup>19</sup>F NMR studies of CYP121 from Mycobacterium tuberculosis illustrate the importance of the protein dimer*  
Major Professor: D. Fernando Estrada, PhD

Meghan Mary Conner  
Biochemistry  
*Novel Regulation of the Transcription Factor ZHX2 by Na-modification*  
Major Professor: Christine Schaner Tooley, PhD

Celia DeJohn  
Cancer Sciences  
*Noninvasive Imaging of the Immune-Vascular Crosstalk in Head and Neck Cancer*  
Major Professor: Mukund Seshadri DDS, PhD

Melany Anabel Garcia  
Cancer Pathology and Prevention  
*HPV Vaccination in Young Cancer Survivors*  
Major Professors: Elisa Rodriguez, PhD, and Nicolas Schlecht, PhD

Sydney Herring  
Microbiology and Immunology  
*A2BR Signaling Regulates Mitochondrial Reactive Oxygen Species Production in Neutrophils During Streptococcus pneumoniae Infection*  
Major Professor: Elsa Bou Ghanem, PhD

Natalie Jay  
Biochemistry  
*Functional and Structural Characterization of Human CYP24A1 and Adrenodoxin*  
Major Professor: D. Fernando Estrada, PhD

Corey Michael Knowles  
Microbiology and Immunology  
*Stress responsive translation regulation in C. neoformans*  
Major Professor: John Panepinto, PhD

Steven Alan Lewis  
Computational Cell Biology, Anatomy, and Pathology  
*Improving Gross Anatomy: Enhancing the Information Content of Cadaveric CT Scans and Models*  
Major Professor: Scott Doyle, PhD

Alasteir Ong  
Biochemistry  
*Characterization of novel siderophore uptake factors in Bradyrhizobium japonicum USDA110*  
Major Professor: Mark O'Brian, PhD

Abhisha Gurudas Sawant Dessai  
Cancer Sciences  
*Bidirectional signaling between mitochondria and the nucleus dictates metabolic and epigenetic rewiring to drive tumorigenesis*  
Major Professor: Subhamoy Dasgupta, PhD

Matthew Aleksander Wysocki  
Computational Cell Biology, Anatomy, and Pathology  
*Improving computational analysis of anatomical structures for greater data validity in research and advanced treatments in medicine*  
Major Professor: Scott Doyle, PhD

Shirley Xu  
Pharmacology and Toxicology  
*Troponin-Mediated Autoimmune Mechanisms of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor-Induced Myocarditis*  
Major Professor: Umesh Sharma, MD, PhD

# Master's Degrees

## August 2022

Gabriel Jewula  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Atul Surendra Kotian  
Master of Science  
Biotechnology

Martin Steckiewicz  
Master of Science  
Pharmacology

Luona Yang  
Master of Science  
Pharmacology

## February 2023

Aayush Arora  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

Janaki Chezian  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics and Bioinformatics

Shazeda Haque Chowdhury  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

Brianna Paige Cunneen  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

Caitlin Delaney  
Master of Science  
Natural Sciences Interdisciplinary

Mercedes Fisk  
Master of Science  
Natural Sciences Interdisciplinary

Afreen Hameed  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

Andrew Khalil  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

Manasa Kumar  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Keerthana Maddirala  
Master of Science  
Bioinformatics

Aashka Gemini Mehta  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

Christopher Nieves  
Master of Science  
Natural Sciences Interdisciplinary

Megan Phelan  
Master of Science  
Natural Sciences Interdisciplinary

Vijay Raaj Ravi  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

Michael Christopher Shaver  
Master of Science  
Natural Sciences Interdisciplinary

Nikhil Unde  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

Meera Venkatesh  
Master of Science  
Microbiology and Immunology

# Master's Degrees

## June 2023

Nehal Kamal Ali  
Master of Science  
Biotechnology

Harshitha Basapura Suresha  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

John Charles Biber III  
Master of Arts  
Pathology

Maria Alexandria Bigos  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Jade Vitug Bose  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Oluwayemisi Campbell  
Master of Science  
Biotechnology

Nikitha Naidu Cothari  
Master of Science  
Biomedical Informatics

Joseph John Dombrowski  
Master of Arts  
Biochemistry

Avrium J. Douglas  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Kyle Timothy Feldman  
Bachelor of Science/Master of Science  
Pharmacology and Toxicology

Farah A. Gadelkarim  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Philopateer Garas  
Master of Science  
Biotechnolgy

Xian Guan  
Master of Science  
Medical Physics

Isha Gurumurthy  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Mckenzie Lynn Haller  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Collin Hanna  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Katherine Maureen Heiser  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Anastaija Vojislav Kalanovic  
Master of Science  
Physiology

Tanishka Khurana  
Master of Science  
Biotechnology

Zolton Kish  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Bhargavi Vivek Kulkarni  
Master of Science  
Pharmacology

Rutuj Parag Kusurkar  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Leslie N. Martinez-Gutierrez  
Master of Science  
Molecular Pharmacology and Cancer Therapeutics

Jordan McDonald  
Master of Science  
Cancer Sciences

Mohammed Haseeb Nawaz  
Master of Science  
Biotechnology



Namya Manoj  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Ryan Francis O'Donnell  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Edward Andrew Opalko, Jr.  
Master of Science  
Medical Physics

Rajvi Patel  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Ryan Charles Pauly  
Master of Science  
Biotechnology

Gayatri Anil Potekar  
Master of Science  
Pharmacology

Janice Rose Rosales  
Master of Science  
Natural Sciences Interdisciplinary

Alexandria Marie Ross  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Achisha Saikia  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Hamsa Vardini Senthil Kumar  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Mahek Shah  
Master of Science  
Cancer Sciences

Janvi Manish Shah  
Master of Science  
Biotechnology

Saptarsi Shai  
Master of Science  
Cancer Sciences

Ziyi Shang  
Master of Science  
Pharmacology and Toxicology

Andrew Allen Smith  
Bachelor of Science/Master of Science  
Pharmacology and Toxicology

Kajol Nayan Vijay Sontate  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Shruti Suresh  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Maria Elaine Tamblin  
Master of Science  
Pharmacology and Toxicology

Simran Utreja  
Master of Science  
Genetics, Genomics, and Bioinformatics

Sri Laxmi Veerapaneni  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Dominique White  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Taylor Reamy Wicks  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

Shengkai Zhao  
Master of Science  
Neuroscience

# Bachelor of Science

## Biochemistry

### June 2023

Moyofoluwa Rachel Aguda \*\*  
 Kevin J. Bowman \*\*\* O  
 Ryan Corey \*\*  
 Alex Depczynski \*\*  
 Zach T. Gorgas \*\*\*  
 Barbara H. Hansen \*\*\*  
 Mikaela K. Hastings \*\*\*  
 Lena L. Issa \*\*  
 Eunbi Jeong  
 Ibtisama Khan \*  
 Minsuh Kim \*\*\*  
 James Maher \*  
 Sharaf F. Maisha \*\*\*  
 Nicholas T. Muscarella \*\*\*  
 Ruth-Ann N. Saddler \*\*  
 Geyenna J. Sterling-Lentsch \*\*\*  
 Gavin Christopher Twoey \*\*\*  
 Jathush Vivekanandam  
 Caitlyn L. Waalewyn \*\*\*  
 Jacquelyn Cecilia Williams \*\*  
 Isabel Yu \*\*\*  
 Jiaying Zheng\*

## Bioinformatics and Computational Biology; Biomedical Informatics

### June 2023

Derek T. Host \*  
 Luna Liu \*\*\* P O

## Biomedical Sciences

### August 2022

Abhilaksh Bhardwaj \*  
 Amanda Shi \*\*

### February 2023

Emmanuel B. Agyenim \*  
 Sofia Alexander \*\*\*  
 Reēju Bhowmick \*\*  
 Shahela Binte Riaz \*\*\*  
 Astitva Chatrath \*\*\*  
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