Program

Processional
Selections from Pomp & Circumstance
by Edward Elgar

Opening Declaration
Sarahmona Przybyla, PhD
Assistant Dean, Director of Undergraduate
Public Health Programs
Clinical Associate Professor

National Anthem
Kristen Braunscheidel, EdM
Assistant Director of Graduate Studies,
Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

Sarah Krzyzanowicz, MSED
Clinical Director, Athletic Training Program
Clinical Instructor

Kirkwood Personius, PhD
Clinical Associate Professor

Jennifer L. Temple, PhD
Director, Nutrition and Health Research
Laboratory
Director, Graduate Programs
Professor

Greetings
Satish K. Tripathi, PhD
University President

Dean’s Address
Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD
Dean of the School of Public Health and
Health Professions
SUNY Distinguished Professor of
Epidemiology and Environmental Health

Commencement Address
George F. Nicholas, MDiv
CEO, Buffalo Center for Health Equity

Student Speaker
Sirawar Matin
DPT, 24

Conferring of Degrees
President Tripathi

Alumni Welcome
Christine Kemp, MPH
Director of Population Health and Quality
Improvement, BestSelf Behavioral Health

Alma Mater
Kira Whitehead
Music Theatre, BFA ’24

Closing Declaration
Professor Przybyla

Recessional
Triumphal March from Aida
by Giuseppe Verdi
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. In 2022, 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.

In 2024, Tripathi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A fellow of IEEE and 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 is co-chair of the Association of American Universities (AAU) Task Force on Expanding U.S.-India University Partnerships, and he serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers. Previously, he was chair of the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and Internet 2. He also served on the boards of the AAU, the NCAA Division I, the NCAA Board of Governors, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.
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. 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 serves on New York’s Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board for Chemical Waste Management. He is a former board member and current advisory committee member of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County.

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.
Pastor George Nicholas, MDiv, is the senior pastor of Lincoln Memorial United Methodist in Buffalo. He has been recognized by the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist for his work on urban ministries. Pastor Nicholas is an advocate for social justice and community revitalization. He has a particular passion for public health. As a result, he is a founding member of the African-American Health Equity Task Force, which birthed the Buffalo Center for Health Equity where he is the board chair and chief executive. As a recognition for his work in public health, Pastor Nicholas was awarded in 2022 with the Bernard J. Tyson Health Equity Award from the Joint Commission, an independent, not-for-profit organization and the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.


Pastor Nicholas holds an undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University and graduate degrees from University at Buffalo and Colgate Rochester Divinity School.

Pastor Nicholas is married to Daun Nicholas, and they have five children: Kristin, Desmond, George Jr., Joel and Caleb.
**Chancellor’s Award**

This award 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; diversity, equity, inclusion and justice; or the arts.

Hannah Crittenden of Kenmore, New York, graduates with a Masters and Bachelors in Occupational Therapy. Crittenden is a University Honors College Scholar. She has been an Orientation Leader, Student Engagement Ambassador, Alternative Break Trip Team Leader, first-generation student peer mentor and teaching assistant for an OT graduate class. She is a member and president of the national honor society for OT students, Pi Theta Epsilon, Tau chapter, and a member of the national scholastic honor society for allied health professions, Alpha Eta. She has facilitated research in breast cancer patients’ survivors and the relationship between occupational engagement, QOL, self-efficacy and psychological distress.

Samiha Islam of Rochester, New York, graduates with a BA in health & human services and statistics. Islam is recognized as the University at Buffalo’s second Harry S. Truman Scholar and first Public Policy and International Affairs Fellow. She has conducted workshops for thousands across Western New York on interfaith and multiracial coalition building, published research on non-carceral approaches to preventing hate crimes as a Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress Fellow, and helped secure $150,000 in grants for prison re-entry services. Samiha has also served as a diversity advocate, leading campus dialogues on privilege, politics, and social justice.

Jeremy Nguyen of Buffalo, New York, graduates with a Master of Public Health with a concentration in epidemiology. Nguyen currently serves as the president of the Epidemiology and Environmental Health Graduate Student Association and as a teaching assistant for two undergraduate classes. He conducts research with the UB Maternal and Child Health Laboratory, contributing to the study of bean consumption on maternal and child health outcomes. His passion for improving the health of the Buffalo community can be demonstrated through his regular volunteering for the Buffalo General Medical Center, Lighthouse Free Medical Clinic, and Seneca-Babcock Food Pantry.
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 4, 2024, and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Candidates are listed according to actual date of degree conferral (August 2023, February 2024, and June 2024).

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 2024 commencement programs, candidates for the June 2024 degree conferral date must qualify based upon their UB cumulative GPA through the Winter 2024 session and total number of UB credit hours projected through the Spring 2024 semester. Standings for Latin honors MAY change once final grades are posted or degrees conferred.

Alpha Eta
Alpha Eta is a national honor society that recognizes superior academic achievement in the allied health professions.

Dean’s Scholars
The Dean’s Scholars program recognizes superior undergraduate students within the School of Public Health and Health Professions for their potential to succeed in graduate study.

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.

The Salmon Stole
This stole was awarded to graduating students inducted into the Delta Omega Honorary Society.

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.

Delta Omega
Delta Omega is a national honor society that recognizes public health excellence and leadership. Gamma Lambda is the University at Buffalo’s chapter.

HRSA Trainees
HRSA trainees are students who completed their program as a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Public Health Trainee grant recipient.

Pi Theta Epsilon
Pi Theta Epsilon is a national honor society that recognizes superior academic achievement in occupational therapy.

Legend
Cum laude is denoted by an asterisk (*)
Magna cum laude is denoted by two asterisks (**) 
Summa cum laude is denoted by three asterisks (***)
Alpha Eta is denoted by a dagger (†)
Dean’s Scholars are denoted by a lambda (Λ)
Delta Omega 2024 inductees are denoted by a delta (Δ)
HRSA trainees are denoted by a theta (θ)
Pi Theta Epsilon are denoted by infinity (∞)

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 and Lavender Stole
These items were received by students who participated in the Lavender Ceremony, 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 active duty servicemembers, reservists, members of the National Guard, newly commissioned officers or veterans of the United States armed forces.
Doctorate Degrees—PhD, DPT, BS/DPT

**Department of Biostatistics**

**Doctor of Philosophy in Biostatistics**

**August 2023**

Surui Hou
“Classification Techniques for Block-Missing Multi-Modality Data”

Haiyang Sheng
“Flexible Weighted Nearest Neighbors Classifiers for Transfer Learning and Multi-Label Classification”

**June 2024**

Jia Wang
“Selected Statistical Topics in Biomarker Evaluation under Multi-class Classification and Biomarker Identification for Genomic Data”

**Department of Community Health and Health Behavior**

**Doctor of Philosophy in Community Health and Health Behavior**

**August 2023**

Maria Keller
“A Digital, Self-Directed Kidney Transplant Access Intervention Using Animated Video: Three Studies that Inform Intervention Development”

**February 2024**

Katelyn Rogers
“Gender Norms and Attitudes in the Sexual Behavior and Values of Tanzanian Young People and African Immigrant Young Women in the United States”

**June 2024**

Mehreen Arif
“The Role of Risk-Related Behaviors and Mental Health on Alcohol Use Outcomes among United States Army Reserve and National Guard (USAR/NG) Soldiers”

Schuyler C. Lawson
“A Population-Level Examination of Smoking Cessation Apps: An Evaluation of their Relationship to Smoking Cessation Outcomes, Social Support and Racial Differences in Their Utilization”

**Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health**

**Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology**

**June 2024**

Yihua Yue Δ
“Dietary Patterns, the Oral Microbiome and Oral Health Outcomes: The Buffalo OsteoPerio Cohort Study”
Doctorate Degrees—PhD, DPT, BS/DPT

Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

Doctor of Philosophy in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

June 2024
Nathan Bartman
“Factors Affecting Heat Strain During Simulated Hiking in Wildland Firefighting Garments”

Doctor of Philosophy in Nutrition Science

August 2023
Adrianne DiBrog
“Effects of Alpha-7 Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor Agonism on Feeding in Rats”

Department of Rehabilitation Science

Doctor of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Science

August 2023
Haley Chizuk
“Salivary Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor and microRNA During Aerobic Exercise Intervention for Recovery from Acute Sport-Related Concussion”

Doctor of Physical Therapy

June 2024
Matthew Alexander
Jordan Block †
Bradley Bonner
Valentina Fan
Joshua Gho
Jordan Anthony Green
Gray Hendershot †
Gurjeena Jandu †
Cameron Kirby
Tiffany Mak
Madelyn McNamara
Ashleigh Nicolini
Stephanie A. Perna
Bradley Rybak †
Kaitlyn Smith
Erica Sorrells
David R. Stegemann
Andrew K. Syvertsen †
Rebecca Winnert
Kelvin Yam †

Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences & Department of Rehabilitation Science

Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science/Doctor of Physical Therapy

June 2024
Connor Black †
Max Braccia *
Roma Casey **
Brett Csont † ***
Georgia Dailey
Trevor Earle *
Joshua Falbo **
Therese Ford *
Mengmeng Jiang **
Jimmy Kronberg *
Sirawar Matin
Anastasia Nosova **
Cedrick Pierre-Paul *
Jocelyn Clara Pond *
Aaron Jed Presto **
Jake Townsend Pulis *
Travasia Singletary *
Darrick Smith **
Emma St. Pierre **
Elliott Szabala **
Haley Walters ***
Da Fu Wen *
Kathryn Elizabeth Witkowski **
Master’s Degrees—MA, MS, BS/MS

Department of Biostatistics
Master of Arts in Biostatistics

February 2024
Armaan Shojaie

June 2024
Tina Darabnoushtehrani
Shipra Gandhi
David Leo Glotzer

Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences
Master of Science in Exercise Science

August 2023
Joseph Bachraty
Caroline Krupa

February 2024
Hadiqa Arshad
Ritu Ashim Biswas
Ishwa Vivekkumar Dave
Wenjie Liu
Jianbo Qiao
Nandini Rathore
Fenny Vajani
Sneh Vyas

June 2024
Chirag Suresh Chaudhari
Ruchi Das
Gayatri Ramasubramanian
Neeharika Kale
Riddhi Chandrashekhar Kate
Kalindi Thakral
Fenny Vajani
Sneh Vyas

Master of Science in Athletic Training

June 2024
Amir Abdelqader
Peter Borzillieri
Alyssa Gardner
Jayden Metade †
Jordan Miller
Nicholas J. Olszewski †
Abigail Seamans
Celyna Shaw
Lucian M. St. John
Nicole Szymczak
Hailey Westover

Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition

June 2024
Peri Adylbekova
Dillon Benedicto †
Isabella Chee †
Hannah Cline
Mary Cook
Caroline Ruth Kennedy
Grace Krizen
Madison Lee †
Jiayi Lu
Kirk Maldiner
Madison Matheis
Sofia Perez Yudin
Meredith Roberts
Jahnvi Nayankumar Shah

Master of Science in Nutrition

June 2024
Pitamber Dhaliwal
Juliana Morris
Surya Suresh

Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science/Master of Science in Athletic Training

June 2024
Gabriella Giordano *
Amy Sternberg † **
Ryan Jakob Utley

Department of Rehabilitation Science
Bachelor of Science/Master of Science in Occupational Therapy

June 2024
Prince Ankomahjr
Morgan Rae Arrowood ∞ ***
Isabel Atwood ∞ **
Patrick Berman
Maryayumi Caluma **
Morgan E. Christ *
Hannah Ciffa **
Paula Arcila Colt ∞ † **
Maria Crane ∞ **
Hannah Marie Crittenden ∞ † **
Elena Daigneau ∞ **
Elizabeth Dennis ∞ **
Phoebe Federow
Cheyenne C. Felician ∞ **
Stephen Formanowicz *
Emily Frey † **
Taylor Rose Giacopelli ∞
Rachel Goode *
Madison Gregorius *
Lindsey C. Grochowski *
Miranda Jobson *
Ciana Kaplan ∞ † **
Elena Daigneau ∞ **
Maryayumi Caluma **
Miranda Jobson *
Ciana Kaplan ∞ **
Sue Kim *
Cassandra LeRoy **
Kevin Liang *
Lanxin Lin ∞ **
Grace Link ∞ † **
Alyssa Lobb
Erik Mulcahy *
Madison Perrault ∞ **
Trinity Ruckdaschel ∞ † **
Jenna Michelle Wackowski ∞ † **
Isabella Sabatini
Jessica Scheibel ∞ *
Stevie Smeriglio *
Allison Nicole Stockwell ∞ *
Richa Kamlesh Thakkar
Sakshi Sameer Shelar
Adam Szczupakowski
Richa Kamlesh Thakkar
Purva Trivedi
Jalak Upadhyay

Department of Community Health and Health Behavior
Master of Science in Community Health and Health Behavior

June 2024
Serena J. Blackburn
Cassandre Dauphin

Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health
Master of Science in Epidemiology

August 2023
Kaitlin Ange
Divyanka Mahesh Pawaskar
Marjorie Thomas
Master’s Degrees—MPH, BS/MPH

Master of Public Health

Department of Biostatistics

February 2024
Vijaya Krishnan Muthaiah

Department of Community Health and Health Behavior

August 2023
Dina Al Hashimi
Briana Gadley-Aaron
Behzad Kowsari
Hillary Wu

February 2024
Naike Belizaire Ṵ
Anuoluwa Famotibe
Austin Glick
Juliana Goldsmith
Lanamarie Huynh
Meghan McCole
Maryam Sakhaei Manesh
Ann Jaworski Skonecki
Sanja Stanar
Lauren Elizabeth Williams

June 2024
Elizabeth Kay Altman
Evodie Amina Ṵ
Jordan M. Anthony Δ
Briyanna Baron
Ifeoluwaniyo Deborah Dada
Hugh Dunn III Δ Ṵ
Divya Suresh Duraisamy
Trisha Etienne Montesino Ṵ
Zara Farooq
Amanda Elizabeth Fries Ṵ
Naomi Thi Song Freudenheim
Frisch
Catherine Hays
Leanna Kalinowski Δ Ṵ
Rosmery N. Landaverde Deras
Allyson M. Lenz
Mikayla Logan
Leah Marsack
Angela McNeight

Bachelor of Science in Public Health/Master of Public Health

Department of Community Health and Health Behavior

February 2024
Maisha Rahman ***

June 2024
Natalia Hauk **

Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health

August 2023
Bolaji Anjorin
John Podvezko

February 2024
Asma Aksa
Peyton T. Bulera
Mackenzie Felschow Ṵ
Richard Saba
Richard Zwolinski

June 2024
Alice Adachi-Bartholomay
Malakie Addo
Kyle Altadonna
Hannah-Lee Campbell
Minseon Chung
Gage Everts
Nada Fox
SaMari Precious Diamond Hall Ṵ
Gabrielle Hastings
Sarah Johnson
Hassan Khalid
Bethany Leach
Jacob Leach Δ
Allison Miller
Aye Moe
Toni Naccarella
Jeremy Nguyen Δ

Orian Baldi Painter
Aishwarya Palaksha
Vikranth C. Potluri
Irma Ramusovic
Htaboe Rar
Savanna Rae Salter
Sakshi Shrivastava
Gagandip Singh
Trishana Chandra Singh
Christopher Streeter
Wenxin Zhang

Miriam Rose Lipson *
Alexander Palladino *
William Santoro
Olivia C. Strohmeyer **
Baccalaureate Degrees

Department of Biostatistics
Bachelor of Arts in Statistics
August 2023
Samavitha Kaashyap
Dylan Somra

February 2024
Jason Chen
John McGinn
Cailey Shum **

June 2024
Anika Balk ***
Shengming Cheng
Emilie Davis **
Thomas Giordano *
Samih Islam ***
Sahojar Khan ***
Liam Meyers ***
Spencer Slote *
HoYin Tang
Ryan Taylor
Trevor Van Loan
Steven Wang *
Yate Zhang **

Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences
Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science
August 2023
Alexa-Briana Batchateu *
Isabella Battaglia
Peter Caputo *
Abigail Dragone
Clayton Dwyer
Elizabeth Gomez-Roman
Bruce Hawkins III
Christopher Irving
Zhuheng Jin
Aarman Jivraj
Martin Lamar II *
Giacomo Lo Re
Nicholas Lukashin
Adriana Merlino
KeyLee Napierala
Denise Nguyen
Michael Pascua
Jewel Schroder
Clemencia Tobias-Stanely *
Dengyi Wang *
Tam Yat

February 2024
Imani Burch
Quinton Frederick
Brice Guirastante
Yongyu Zhao

June 2024
Karam Abilmona
Justin Ahye
Lauren Auyoung
Sajeda H. Be
Karim Belal *
Jada Blue
Chris Bruce-Tagoe *
Jimmy (James) Benjamin
Carlow **
Rian Casimir *
Pranav S. Chauhan
Daniel Chen ***
Alyssa Clement
Michael Cohen
Daniel Conway **
Jack Daley ***
Jack Davis *
Joseph Lon Dearborn *
Karla Denis
Samanta Denz *
Jean Desir
Harinder Dhaliwall
Elizabeth DiOrio *
Morgan L. Edwards *
Lillianna Engelhaupt *
Carlos Jose Enriquez Jr.
Scott Feighan *
Feiyue Feng (冯霏悦) **
Emmanuel Jameek Flemming
Kevin Gabalski *
Mounira Hanon Bidjinguè Ganou *
Torsten Gartenberg
Mia Hogan **
Megan Horan *
Justin Lovell Ivory
Madison Jake *
Taeyoung Daniel Jeong **
Nathan Kick *
Jinsun Kim
Tatyana Kingston
Christopher Kolodziekski *
Daviyon Lawrence
Joshua Lee
Cole Lennert *
Kayla Elizabeth Leo
Alexander Lopez **
Alexis Lucyshyn **
Morgan Mahoney
Eric Mai
Jacob Meschter
Nayab K. Mesfun
Owen Mieczkowski *
Emily Milleville
Matthew Mohan ***
Noah Mott *
Jotan Mwalakinga
Derek Ng
Lydia Nhan *
Nicole Nixon *
Ryan O’Connor
Brian O’shea
Michelle M. Parsick
Nate Paulino *
Jason Perillo
Makaila Grace Potillo*
Libby Powers **
Raynard Raeburn *
Athalia Faith Sadie Ralph *
Robert Ramirez **
Marcus Rauscher ***
Renée Riddick *
Daniel Ruano *
Anna Sauer *
Claudia Scampoli *
Liam Scheuer
Matteo Sementa
Zachary Shortslef
Ethan Cole Sison *
Nicole Soohoo *
Daniel Stone *
Paige Supkoski *
Ilya Tereshевич **
Aaron Thomas *
Imani S.Thompson
Meghan Mary Toftegaard *
Mohammed Ahsan Ullah
Alexander Van Wilber *
Eden Eileen Yarbrough ***
Kenny Jin Tang Zhong
### Baccalaureate Degrees

**Bachelor of Science in Nutrition**

**February 2024**
- Natalie Antonina Cassalia
- Sofia Ruffo *
- Annika Esther Tikofsky **
- Omar Velasquez

**Bachelor of Science in Occupational Science**

**June 2024**
- Alexandra Myers

**Bachelor of Science in Public Health**

**August 2023**
- Kayana Ashley
- Brenda Boughchay **
- Kyle Choe **
- Alexandra Colucci
- Habe Coulibaly
- Mia Dickinson *
- Winfred Gaus
- John Hightower II
- Chuka Ibezim
- Brandon Jean-Bart
- Lovepreet Kaur
- Maimuna Kebeh
- Chhime Lama
- Lin Liu *
- Malachie Mbolu
- Nicholas Millson *
- Mitchell Orzell
- Disha Patel
- Sefati Rafah
- Nia Richardson
- Julia Rusek
- Joseph Seltzer
- Samantha Thomas *
- Daisy Zhou

**February 2024**
- Isaac Beru
- Hailey Bienias
- Julie-Ann Britton
- Osheonna Brown
- Courtney Schuyler Calunod Λ *
- Zachary Cox
- Daniel Cucinotta *
- Jacqueline Flores
- Ashley Haffner Λ *
- Alyssa R. Hamblet Λ
- Farhan Ishraq Λ *
- Michaela Ann Leach *
- Tanisha Lord Λ
- Ainsley Owens *
- Alexis M. Park
- Connor Wayne Pritchard
- Samia Shawkat
- Erika Sherwood *
- Jamal Simon

**Magdalene Spycze**
- Tais Enjoli Williams *

**June 2024**
- Emma Anderson ***
- Amazhe Angbazo Δ *
- Brianna Bachman
- Emily Angelina Baer
- Sarah Barrett
- Djenaba Barry *
- Garcey Bernardin *
- Jason Brady Λ
- Kimberly Campos Ortiz Λ *
- Jack Carlson **
- Alethia Charles *
- Frank Chen Λ Δ **
- Daniel Cicalese *
- Tatum Clarke
- James H. Danvin Δ
- Esther Deguerre
- Nanisca Donkor
- Onome Temitayo Duduyemi
- Matthew Fajarda **
- Daniel B. Fakayode
- Embely Farinango *
- Maggie Feng *
- Catherine Fuentes *
- Jaylen Gaither
- Joenardie Gaston Λ
- Emma Elizabeth Gerstenfeld *
- Sydney Sarah Goldberg
- Shanya Grace
- Aria Grisham Λ ***
- William T. Guo ***
- Faye Habermehl *
- Sarah A. Hamdan *
- Albert Hamilton
- Zongyan Han ***
- Azreen Hoque Λ *
- Emily Howard
- Zanat Islam
- Julia Lee Jeon *
- Fiona Joseph
- Amalia Katsinis
- Daniel Philip Kaufman
- Sara A. Kelly **
- Lauren Keyes Λ Δ **
- Kelly Koprevich **
- Francis Nana Kwayisi Jr.

**Tina Li Δ Δ **
- Emily Lin
- Winson Lin
- Melanie Lopez
- Diam Lu **
- Alexa Diane Lubin ***
- Connor Majkszak Λ **
- Bianca Elia Mancini
- Jalicia Massop Λ*
- Carmel Matewos Λ Δ ***
- Grace Frances McDowell Λ *
- Hannah Mink ***
- Bryanna Moore Λ ***
- Gabriella Morales *
- Alice Odierna *
- Ifeoma Okorie *
- Erielle Ortiz
- Kayla Phillip *
- Natalie Reina Λ **
- Janis Rodriguez Λ *
- Mamadou Sakho
- Morzina Sarker
- Staedi Sadorah Severe
- Saffa Shaikh Δ
- Seham Shariff ***
- Tyshaun Shields
- Grace Smith
- Rachael Solares Λ
- Mackenzie Spieler
- Angelina Tarasova ***
- Kaitlyn Grace Taylor
- Karla Tribaldos
- Caitlyn Susan Varney **
- Lauren Vermette
- Eleonore Warren
- Zachary Washburn *
- Megan Williams
- Wing Shing Wong *
- Alexandra Wyman Λ Δ *
- Angfeng Yang Λ *
- Jingjun Yang Λ **
- Joanna Yu Λ *
- Mia Zegarra Λ *
- Nelson Zhang Λ **
- Hao Zheng
- Michael Zheng Λ
- Stephanie Zhong **
Awards

Alfred T. Caffiero Scholarship Award
Joshua Gho
Gurjeena Jandu
Anastasia Nosova
Elliott Szabala

Annette Rachman Scholarship
Perizat Adylbekova
Dillon Benedicto
Jimmy (James) Benjamin Carlow
Rian Casimir
Isabella Chee
Hannah Cline
Mary Catherine Cook
Caroline Kennedy
Grace Krizen
Madison Lee
Jiayi Lu
Kirk Maldiner
Maria Maloney
Madison Matheis
Sofia Perez Yudin
Autumn Phillips Pease
Jahvni Nayankumar Shah
Annika Tikofsky
Clemecia Tobias

Community Health and Health Behavior Outstanding Doctoral Achievement Award
Schuyler Christopher Lawson

Francis V. Hanavan Memorial Fund
Srikriti Krishnan

Glenda R. Reardon Student Assistance Fund
Isabella Chee
Mary Cook

Julie Baker Award
Aishwarya Palaksha

Matthew J. Morris Memorial Award
Chirag Suresh Chaudhari
Peri Adylbekova

Outstanding Undergraduate Public Health Senior Award
Aria Grisham

Paul DeMartinis Award
Alyssa Gardner
Jayden Metade
Nick Olszewski

Paul T. Wietig Community Service Award
Leanna Kalinowski

Robert O’Shea Student Travel Award
Minseon Chung
Nisha Nair
Jeremy Nguyen
Yihua Yue

Sanjit and Jharna Basak Student Assistance Fund
Hannah Premo

Saxon Graham Dissertation Award
Kexin Zhu

Stonegraber Scholarship
Matthew Alexander
Cheyenne C. Felician
Paula Arcila Colt
Emily Frey
Joshua Gho
Grace Link
Jocelyn Clara Pond
Bradley Rybak
Andrew K. Syvertsen

Wactawski and Wende Family Endowment Award
Nisha Nair
Administrative and Academic Staff
School of Public Health and Health Professions

Office of the Dean
Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD
Dean
SUNY Distinguished Professor

R. Lorraine Collins, PhD
Associate Dean for Research
SUNY Distinguished Professor

Keith Conroy, BS
Assistant Dean/Director of Technology Services

Gaspar A. Farkas, PhD
Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs
Associate Professor

Jo L. Freudenheim, PhD
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
SUNY Distinguished Professor

Kimberly A. Krytus, PhD
Assistant Dean/Director of Graduate Public Health Programs
Clinical Assistant Professor

Lisa Neff, BA
Assistant Dean/Community Engagement

Ekaterina (Katia) Noyes, PhD
Associate Dean for Translational and Team Science
Director, Division of Health Services Policy and Practice
Professor

Heather Orom, PhD
Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Director of Graduate Studies, PhD Program
Associate Professor

Sarahmona Przybyla, PhD
Assistant Dean/Director, Undergraduate Public Health Program
Clinical Associate Professor

Jillian N. Reading, PhD
Assistant Dean/Director of Student Affairs

Michael C. Redfern, MBA, EdM
Associate Dean for Strategy, Planning, and Operations

Mark Rotella, MBA
Assistant Dean/Unit Business Officer

Biostatistics
Douglas Landsittel, PhD
Chair
Professor

Saptarshi Chakraborty, PhD
Assistant Professor

Joseph D. Consiglio, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Rachael Hageman Blair, PhD
Associate Director for Education, Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Data Science
Associate Professor

Dietrich W. Kuhlmann, PhD
Director, Undergraduate Program
Clinical Professor

Jonathan Lopez, PhD
Clinical Associate Professor

Chang-Xing Ma, PhD
Co-Director, MPH Biostatistics
Associate Professor

Marianthi Markatou, PhD
Associate Chair of Research and Healthcare Informatics
Assistant Director, Institute for Healthcare Informatics
SUNY Distinguished Professor

Jeffrey Miecznikowski, PhD
Associate Professor

Lili Tian, PhD
Associate Chair and Director of Graduate Studies
Professor

Albert Vexler, PhD
Professor

Gregory Wildling, PhD
Professor

Yi Xiong, PhD
Assistant Professor

Jinhhee Yu, PhD
Director, Population Health Observatory
Professor

Community Health and Health Behavior
Gregory G. Homish, PhD
Chair
Professor

Elizabeth Bartelt, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Jessica Braymiller Knapp, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

R. Lorraine Collins, PhD
Associate Dean for Research
SUNY Distinguished Professor

Nicholas Felicione, PhD
Assistant Professor

Akua Gyamerah, DrPH
Assistant Professor

Heather Orom, PhD
Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Director of Graduate Studies, PhD Program
Associate Professor

Sarahmona Przybyla, PhD
Assistant Dean, Director of Undergraduate Public Health Programs
Professor

Epidemiology and Environmental Health
Pauline Mendola, PhD
Chair
Professor

Katharine Amato, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Matthew R. Bonner, PhD
Associate Professor

Dennis E.N. Daniels, Jr., PhD
Director, MPH Concentration in Health Services Administration
Clinical Assistant Professor

Gauri Desai, PhD
Co-Director, Community for Global Health Equity
Clinical Assistant Professor

Marina Oktapodas Feiler, PhD
Assistant Professor
Jo L. Freudenheim, PhD
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
SUNY Distinguished Professor

Katarzyna (Kasia) Kordas, PhD
Associate Professor

Michael J. LaMonte, PhD
Director of Graduate Studies, MS
and PhD Programs
Research Professor

Denise Lilvis, PhD
Assistant Professor

Amy E. Millen, PhD
Associate Professor

Albina Minlikeeva, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Lina Mu, PhD, MD
Director, Office of Global Health
Initiatives
Associate Professor

Ekaterina (Katia) Noyes, PhD
Associate Dean for Translational
and Team Science
Director, Division of Health
Services Policy and Practice
Professor

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Director of Graduate Studies, MPH
Programs
Associate Professor

James R. Olson, PhD
UB Distinguished Professor

Tia M. Palermo, PhD
Associate Professor

Xuefeng Ren, PhD, MD
Director, Division of Environmental
Health Sciences
Associate Professor

Carole Rudra, PhD
Director, MPH Concentration in
Epidemiology
Clinical Assistant Professor

John M. Violanti, PhD
Research Professor

Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD
Dean
SUNY Distinguished Professor

Meng Wang, PhD
Director, MPH Concentration in
Environmental Health
Assistant Professor

Shauna C. Zorich, MD, MPH
Clinical Associate Professor

Exercise and
Nutrition Sciences
David P. Hostler, PhD
Chair
Professor

Katherine N. Balantekin, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Rebecca L. Begalle, PhD
Undergraduate Clinical Coordinator
Clinical Assistant Professor

Nicole Becklem, MS
Director, Clinical Nutrition Program
Clinical Instructor

Heather D. Bieber, MPH
Director, Undergraduate Exercise
Science Program
Clinical Instructor

Gaspar A. Farkas, PhD
Associate Dean for Academic and
Student Affairs
Associate Professor

Melissa A. Genovese, MS
Lecturer

Hayden W. Hess, PhD
Assistant Professor

Ryckzianowicz, DAT
Assistant Professor

Sarah Krzyzanowicz, MSED
Clinical Director, Athletic Training
Program
Clinical Instructor

Ann Kuhn, PhD
Assistant Professor

Tegan Mansour, PhD
Clinical Instructor

Danielle Meyer, MS
Director, Undergraduate Nutrition
Science Program

Elizabeth G. Mietlicki-Baase, PhD
Assistant Professor

J. Luke Pryor, PhD
Clinical Associate Professor

Riana R. Pryor, PhD
Assistant Professor

Todd C. Rideout, PhD
Associate Professor

Lesley Vandermark, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Rehabilitation Science
Sue Ann Sisto, PhD
Chair
Professor

Michael R. Brown, PhD, DPT
Clinical Assistant Professor

Robert F. Burkard, PhD
Professor

Cristian Cuadra, PhD
Assistant Professor

Turquesa P. Francis, EdD
Assistant Director, Occupational
Therapy Program
Clinical Assistant Professor

Deanna Colburn Hostler, PhD, DPT
Clinical Assistant Professor

Hang Jin Jo, PhD
Assistant Professor

James A. Lenker, PhD
Director, Advanced Graduate
Certificate in Assistive and
Rehabilitation Technology
Program
Associate Professor

Christine Linkie, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Cheryl Lucas, EdD
Clinical Associate Professor

Jacob I. McPherson, PhD, DPT
Clinical Assistant Professor

Melanie M. Merril, OTD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Vijaya Prakash Krishnan
Muthaiah, PhD
Assistant Professor

Kirkwood Personius, PhD
Clinical Associate Professor

Michael Policella, DPT
Associate Director of Clinical
Education
Clinical Assistant Professor

Sharon A. Ray, ScD
Director, Rehabilitation Science
PhD program
Clinical Associate Professor

Ghazala Saleem, EdD
Assistant Professor

Christopher Stavisky, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor

Janice Tona, PhD
Director, Occupational Therapy
Program
Clinical Associate Professor

Juli A. Wylegala, PhD
Director, Physical Therapy Clinical
Education
Clinical Associate Professor
A Message from Jean Wactawski-Wende, Dean, School of Public Health and Health Professions

Dear graduates:

I am very pleased today to watch you, the talented graduates of the School of Public Health and Health Professions, as you cross the stage to recognize your academic achievements and celebrate this important milestone.

The people gathered here to support you—families, friends, partners and fellow students—feel equally proud of your accomplishment. The person you have become is a result of your hard work and the support and belief of these people in your abilities.

This day is the start of what will be a remarkable journey for each of you as you strive to improve health for all people and populations. Indeed, I believe your efforts to address and overcome health inequities will be a meaningful factor in making our communities healthier and stronger.

Please know that everyone in the University at Buffalo and the School of Public Health and Health Professions wishes the best for you as you embark on your future work. Congratulations, and I wish each of you great success!

Warm regards,

Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD
Dean and SUNY Distinguished Professor

Alumni Letter

Dear Member of the Class of 2024,

Congratulations! On behalf of the UB Alumni Association, I’m delighted to welcome you to your global network of more than 300,000 alumni. We’re proud of all you have accomplished.

As you begin your next chapter, please stay in touch! Your alumni status opens up so many opportunities to stay connected to your alma mater and to fellow alumni.

What does this mean for you in practical terms? It means that career help, through our virtual Connect-a-Bull platform, volunteer opportunities to recruit new students or help current students, and engaging educational and social events are all yours for the taking. To learn more about what’s available with your new alumni status, visit buffalo.edu/alumni.

If you have questions about how to stay involved, contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at ub-alumni@buffalo.edu.

Remember, this isn’t goodbye—it’s WELCOME to the UB alumni family. We know you’ll always be True Blue and proudly keep your Horns Up, wherever you go and whatever you do.

Go Bulls!

Joseph Stefko, PhD ’03, MA ’99, BA ’97
President, UB Alumni Association Board of Directors

P.S. Keep your @buffalo email for life simply by logging in through a browser every 90 days.
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)

Ceremonial Mace

The ceremonial mace is traditionally carried during the procession by a senior distinguished faculty member as a symbol of authority. The staff is made of dark, polished walnut, topped by three intersecting silver rectangles simulating the emblem of the State University of New York at Buffalo. When not in use for ceremonial purposes, the mace is displayed to visitors in the office of the dean. The mace was designed and constructed by Irwin Franco, jeweler, woodcrafter, and former assistant professor, Department of Occupational Therapy.
ON THE COVER:

The modern seal for the University at Buffalo harks back to a design adopted in 1923 to reflect the evolution of the university from separate schools into a more close-knit organization. Though the seal has been revised several times over the decades, the foundational elements remain: a proud bison signifying the City of Buffalo atop a shield supported by the palm leaves of victory and emblazoned with the flames of wisdom.