



2026

**UB** University at Buffalo  
The State University of New York



GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
**COMMENCEMENT**

Friday

May 15, 2026

9:00 a.m.

Broadview Arena

North Campus

Suzanne N. Rosenblith  
*Dean and Professor*

**Senior Associate Dean**

X. Christine Wang

**Associate Deans**

Samuel Abramovich  
Fenice Boyd  
Christopher Brown  
Nathan Daun-Barnett

**Assistant Deans**

Charlie Baxter  
Elisabeth Etopio  
Wil R. Green  
Ryan Taughrin  
Amber M. Winters

# Letter to the Class of 2026 from President Tripathi



Dear Graduates,

Congratulations! You have reached an important milestone—one that marks both the completion of your degree and your arrival at a threshold of new opportunities and responsibilities. For that reason, today we celebrate not only what you have accomplished, but who you have become.

Your time here has been defined by intellectual growth, perseverance and discovery. You arrived with promise; you leave with purpose, ready to make an impact in a changing landscape that needs your talents and will test your resolve.

As graduates of the University at Buffalo, you uphold a mission dedicated to advancing knowledge and serving society. Your education has endowed you with greater clarity: to understand complexity and question assumptions. If we have done our job well, you have also come to appreciate the resilience of our collective humanity while recognizing where it is fraying.

You will encounter trials in the years ahead. When confronted with division or adversity, I urge you not to turn away, but to engage. Draw on what you have learned here to mend and renew the fabric of our communities. Whatever your discipline, you possess both the capacity and the duty to champion the public good through your work, commitment and leadership.

As Martin Luther King Jr. reminded us, “We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.” The challenges you encounter will not be yours alone, nor will their solutions be found in isolation. Beyond your knowledge, you carry a shared obligation—to fortify those bonds, enrich those connections and cultivate fairness and compassion in all that you do.

It has been one of the great privileges of my life to celebrate our UB graduates and to witness your growth. As I conclude my presidency this summer, my faith in the contributions you are poised to make remains unwavering.

To the Class of 2026, please accept my heartfelt best wishes. May your efforts advance integrity and harmony across society, and may you inspire others to follow your example.

Sincerely,

Satish K. Tripathi

President

# Program

## Processional

Selections from  
Pomp and Circumstance  
*By Edward Elgar*

## Herald

Dan E. Albertson  
*Chair, Department of Information Science*

## Opening Declaration

Kristin Stapleton  
*Mace Bearer, Chair of the Faculty Senate  
and Professor of History*

## National Anthem

Abby Tyler  
*BFA, Music Theatre '26*

## Greetings

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

## Remarks

Suzanne Rosenblith  
*Dean, Graduate School of Education*

## Student Speaker

Andrea Elise Kellman  
*Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
EdD '26*

## Excellence in Community Outreach and Engagement Award

Presented by: Suzanne Rosenblith

## Excellence in Inclusion and Belonging Award

Presented by: Suzanne Rosenblith

## Excellence in Research Award

Presented by: Suzanne Rosenblith

## Conferring of Degrees

Provost Weber

## Alumni Welcome

*Susan Lombardo*

## UB Alma Mater

Abby Tyler

## Closing Declaration

Kristin Stapleton

## Recessional

Triumphal March from Aida  
*by Giuseppe Verdi*

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## Readers

William Barba  
Nathan Daun-Barnett

## Marshals

Samuel Abramovich  
Amanda Nickerson

# 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 was appointed to the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. During her tenure, she has been instrumental in

reinstating the Student Life Committee and in spearheading the committee's food insecurity and mental health task forces.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, Lewin is deeply dedicated to her community. She served on the Western New York Health Equity Task Force, was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee and is a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. Lewin is also a member of the Hispanic Women's League and Hispanics United of Buffalo and previously served as a commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority. In 2024, she was named chair of the Buffalo Urban League, where she continues to advance its mission of social parity, economic self-reliance and civil rights for underserved communities.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the United States 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.

## Jerry Jacobs Jr.

*Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council*



Jeremy "Jerry" M. Jacobs Jr. is the chief executive officer of Delaware North, a role he shares with his brothers, Lou and Charlie. He also serves as an alternate governor to the Boston Bruins.

As CEO, Jacobs oversees the company and its operating subsidiaries, focusing on strategic growth, corporate governance and financial management. He joined Delaware North in 1986 and held progressive leadership roles before becoming CEO in 2015.

Jacobs is actively involved in numerous philanthropic, civic and business organizations in Buffalo and across the country. He was appointed UB Council chairman by New York State Governor Kathy Hochul in December 2024. His additional current board positions include The Corps Network, Mimivax and the Jacobs Institute. He is also a member of the U.S. Travel Association's CEO Roundtable and the Partnership for New York City.

Jacobs was a founding board member of Say Yes Buffalo, and he has dedicated more than two decades of service to the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County, including past chairmanships of the board of directors and the annual fundraising campaign. He is a past member of the Board of Regents at Georgetown University and past chair of the Nichols School's Board of Trustees. He also served three terms on the University at Buffalo Foundation board.

Jacobs holds an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and a BA from Georgetown University.

## 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 a professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven as department chair.

In 2024, Tripathi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Academy of Artificial Intelligence Sciences, 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 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 Maharaja Surajmal Brij University, the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University.

Tripathi serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers and the board of University Innovation Alliance. Previously, he chaired the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and Internet2 and served on the boards of the AAU, NCAA Division I, NCAA Board of Governors, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

## **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; inclusive excellence initiatives; and university libraries. Weber is leading the implementation of the university's vision to be recognized among the top 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 UB faculty member since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar, teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. Prior to his appointment as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, Weber held several other senior administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience 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 & Erie County.

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

## **Suzanne N. Rosenblith**

*Dean and Professor  
Graduate School of Education*



Suzanne N. Rosenblith, PhD, was appointed the ninth dean of the University at Buffalo Graduate School of Education in July 2017. Since her arrival at UB, Rosenblith has focused on building

strong, collaborative relationships with schools and community organizations across Western New York. Her vision for a research-intensive school of education emphasizes leveraging faculty scholarship to expand opportunities for individuals and communities. This vision has helped strengthen GSE's partnerships throughout the region.

During her tenure, Rosenblith co-founded the Western New York Education Equity Task Force, a broad-based coalition of university and community members advocating for equitable schooling. She also helped establish, in partnership with local school districts, the region's first university-assisted community school and has developed and supported the UB Teacher Residency Program, which has brought national prominence to GSE. Rosenblith serves on the boards of directors for the National Federation of Just Communities and Buffalo Prep.

A prolific scholar, Rosenblith is widely recognized for her research on the relationship between religion and public schooling. Her work is situated at the intersections of educational policy, philosophy of education, and educational identity, where she examines the role of religion in democratic, pluralist schools.

## Graduate School of Education Awards

### Dean's Service Award

Dr. Michele Agosto  
Director of Arts  
Buffalo Public Schools

### Distinguished Alumni Award

Dr. Maria Runfola  
Emeritus Professor  
Graduate School of Education

### Dr. Edwin D. Duryea, Jr. Higher Education Memorial Award

Joshua C. Hine  
Higher Education PhD '26

### Excellence in Community Outreach and Engagement Award

Lucia Sun  
Counseling/School Psychology PhD '26

### Excellence in Inclusion and Belonging Award

Colleen Duggan  
Educational Leadership EdD '26

### Excellence in Research Award

Kristina Collier  
Higher Education PhD '26

### PhD Excellence Award

Mary DiCioccio  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning PhD '26

### PhD Mentorship Award

Dr. Stephanie Fredrick  
Associate Professor  
Counseling, School and Educational Psychology

## 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 2, 2026, and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Candidates are listed according to actual date of degree conferral (August 2025, February 2026 and June 2026).

### Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Suzanne N. Rosenblith  
Dean

Kimbrell Page Eliason  
Literacy Education Studies

Kaylee June Gallant  
Early Childhood/Childhood Education

### Master of Education

#### August

Margaret Alvina  
Assimakopoulos  
Music Education

Dabralis Reyes Garmon  
Spanish Education – Adolescence

Julia Loucia Georgakis  
Literacy Specialist

Jason Brigham  
English Education

Taylor Giannantonio  
Literacy Specialist

Dan Cantafio  
Mathematics Education – Adolescence

Laura Susana Hann  
Early Childhood Education

TJ Cappiello Jr.  
Music Education

Maria Javiera Herrick  
Mathematics Education – Adolescence

Derek Lee Clark  
Mathematics Education – Adolescence

Maria Christina Jacobi  
Music Education

Molly Conron  
Literacy Specialist

Laura Carolina Jimenez Perez  
Mathematics Education – Adolescence

Karly Elizabeth Cox  
Literacy Specialist

Erica Leigh Johnson  
Music Education

Nicholas Czekaj  
French Education – Adolescence

Rebecca Karen Kirchberger  
Literacy Specialist

Dalton Doolittle  
Music Education

Octavia Kpukumu  
Early Childhood/Childhood Education

Alexis Drummond  
Rehabilitation Counseling

Danielle Kralik  
*Literacy Specialist*

Katherine Kuch  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Tessa LaGrou  
*Spanish Education –  
Adolescence*

Theresa Land  
*Mathematics Education –  
Adolescence*

Grace Lorenz  
*Literacy Education Studies*

Julia Stacy Maher  
*Mathematics Education –  
Adolescence*

Aloys Nyarushatsi  
*Education Studies*

Andy Othman  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Jakob Michael Pachucinski  
*Mathematics Education –  
Adolescence*

Trevor Marc Prutsman  
*Music Education*

Noah Reed-Eason  
*Music Education*

Yanely M. Reyes  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Sultana Rezia  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Emil Rivera  
*Spanish Education –  
Adolescence*

Randino Sargent  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Eric Matthew Scalise  
*French Education –  
Adolescence*

Sherri Singletary  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Ali Somo  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Sarah Stanz  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Lauren Rachael Stashak  
*Social Studies Education –  
Adolescence*

Madison Stercula  
*Literacy Specialist*

Liam Sullivan  
*Mathematics Education –  
Adolescence*

Tameka Thomas  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Emmeline Beverly Thompson  
*Literacy Specialist*

Hannah-kiran Kaur Thukral  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Marissa Rose Torcello  
*Literacy Specialist*

Isabella Rose Tronolone  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Kate Urkewich  
*Literacy Specialist*

Alivia Wagner  
*Literacy Specialist*

Kelly Wallace  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Matthew Wexler  
*English Education*

Hannah Kayelyn Wood  
*Mathematics Education –  
Adolescence*

**February**  
Myra Ahmed  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Jehad Alshilash  
*Teaching English to Speakers  
of other Languages*

Abygail Anderson  
*Education Studies*

Elias Assimakopoulos  
*Music Education*

Eligia Dilan  
*Education Studies*

Rachel Fogel  
*Literacy Specialist*

Leisha Gordon  
*Education Studies*

Connor Henderson  
*Education Studies*

Jorge Giovanni Inga  
*Music Education*

Jah-Shea John  
*Literacy Specialist*

Sabrina Eileen Keiper  
*Mathematics Education*

Shahnaz Mahmud  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Griffin Major  
*Social Studies Education –  
Adolescence*

Olivia Marchionda  
*Literacy Education Studies*

Sara E. McIntyre  
*Childhood Education*

Julia Mae McLean  
*Literacy Education Studies*

Red Murdock  
*Education Studies*

Ana Posa  
*English Education -  
Adolescence*

Stacy Reynolds  
*French Education –  
Adolescence*

Danielle Roma  
*Literacy Education Studies*

Bailey Ryan  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Andrew Schnackenberg  
*Education Studies*

Leah Singerman  
*Education Studies*

# Candidates for Degrees

Shuoqi Song  
*Education Studies*

Ryan Stampfli  
*Education Studies*

Caroline Sweikata  
*English Education -  
Adolescence*

Brooke Temple  
*Music Education*

Fernando Trejo Rios  
*French Education –  
Adolescence*

Carolyn Waters  
*Literacy Specialist*

Lin Zheng  
*French Education –  
Adolescence*

## June

Margaret Adams  
*Biology Education -  
Adolescence*

Rebekah Agliata  
*Mathematics Education  
Adolescence*

Sumaya Ahmed  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Madina Ulfat Alam  
*Educational Culture, Policy  
and Society*

Elnaz Amini  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Samuel Anglim  
*Mathematics Education  
Adolescence*

Danielle M. Armstrong  
*English Education -  
Adolescence*

Kingsley MacArthur Fletcher  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Cole Axberg  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Kinja Precieuse Bagalwa  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Laura Barcomb  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Gianna Bencini  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Alexander Berger  
*English Education -  
Adolescence*

Sristhi Bhatia  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Samuel Boakye Agyemang  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Rebecca Leigh Bogdan  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Samuel Booth  
*Learning Sciences and  
Educational Technology*

Darlene Borchert  
*Educational Administration*

Joshua E. Brice  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Emma Brown  
*Mathematics Education -  
Adolescence*

Katie Brown  
*School Counseling*

Nathan Bruce  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Ilma Buraira  
*Mathematics Education -  
Adolescence*

Zamira Caldwell  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Gerald Cappello  
*Educational Administration*

Michael Capestrani  
*Mathematics Education-  
Adolescence*

Nish Chowdhury  
*Teaching English for Speakers  
of Other Languages*

Joe Chrysler  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Sara Cichon  
*Education Studies*

Madeline Ciemny  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Kendall Clements  
*School Counseling*

Reid J. Collins  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Rosalie Comings  
*School Counseling*

Samuel Coniglio  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Ethan Creig  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Sage Cresanti  
*Literacy Specialist*

Sophia Cronk  
*Biology Education - Adolescence*

Christina Cuevas  
*Music Education*

Kaitlynn Dauphinee  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Jasmine Nicole Davis  
*Educational Administration*

Tonya L. Davis  
*Educational Administration*

Emilie Dellapa  
*English Education - Adolescence*

Delsia Joleen Delvalle  
*Literacy Education Studies*

Richard John Dodge III  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Adele Eagan  
*Literacy Specialist*

Mehri Sadat Jeanette Fakharzadeh  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Vincent Fattizzo  
*Literacy Education Studies*

Elizabeth Field  
*Education Studies*

Corey Fleck  
*School Counseling*

Naya Flores  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Shawndra Galley-Lowe  
*Spanish Education -  
Adolescence*

Johnna Gilbert  
*Literacy Education Studies*

Alyssa Grace Giroux  
*English Education -  
Adolescence*

Sarah Glashauser  
*School Counseling*

Andrew Glick  
*Mathematics Education -  
Adolescence*

Brooks Harmon  
*English Education -  
Adolescence*

Andrew Harrington  
*Educational Administration*

Sabrina Hayward  
*Education Studies*

Emaleigh Herlan  
*School Counseling*

Amelia Hill  
*English Education -  
Adolescence*

Andrew Hill  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Sarah Lauren Hirauk  
*French Education - Adolescence*

Jayda Iyanna Holmes  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Grace Holowka  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Marissa Hughey  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Catherine E. Hynes  
*Literacy Specialist*

Jacinda Jackson  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Cole Klawon  
*Chemistry Education-  
Adolescence*

Lauren Kelly  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Katie Lane  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Vince Leonardi  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Enkang Lin  
*Mathematics Education -  
Adolescence*

Kayla Cara Mak  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Rachel Maloney  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Samantha Mandel  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Abigail Mansfield  
*Biology Education -  
Adolescence*

Myazia Martinez  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Logan Marzec  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Catherine Helen Mazzola  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Phoenix McClinton  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Gabrielle Mcduffie  
*Education Studies*

Ashley McRedmond  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Kyra Rose Meagley  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Sarah Minton  
*Childhood Education*

Tristan Mitchell  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Eamonn Money Penny Hall  
*School Counseling*

Cade Mongiolo  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Julia Morales  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Xavier Morgan  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Thomas Morse IV  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Grace Murphy  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Maggie Rose Murphy  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Lauren Myer  
*Mathematics Education  
Studies*

Lily Nasso  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Sarah Nocero  
*Physics Education -  
Adolescence*

Bernie Novakovic  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Thomas O'Mara  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Kate OCallaghan  
*English Education*

Katherine Orcutt  
*School Counseling*

Ricky Orellana  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

# Candidates for Degrees

Jacob J. Panza  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Gina Pelligra  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Anna Piwko  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Dom Polizzi  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Lindsay Powers  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Autumn Ragonese  
*Biology Education -  
Adolescence*

Jennifer Reyes  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Kaylin Ricci  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Adriana Richard  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Cristina Rocha  
*English Education -  
Adolescence*

Erin Roland  
*Literacy Specialist*

Alex Rubadeau  
*Mathematics Education -  
Adolescence*

Busra Sariyuce  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Nick Savino  
*Chemistry Education  
Adolescence*

Sofie Scaletta  
*Education Studies*

Alyssa Marie Scheib  
*School Counseling*

Katherine Nicole Schibler  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Ryan M. Seier  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Bridget Anne Sharp  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Sunettee Sharpe  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Dalia Shiber  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Alivia Sibeto  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Naomi Maria Smith-Perrone  
*Educational Culture, Policy  
and Society*

Kelsey Dorita Soto Garza  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Erin Teresa Spicer  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Reese Springer  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Evan Stefanopoulos  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Mia Stigi  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

James Sutherland  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Danielle Tear  
*Mathematics Education -  
Adolescence*

Angelo Trelles  
*Mathematics Education -  
Adolescence*

Kayla Tu  
*School Counseling*

Jannatun Uddin  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Alexandra Unz  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Aaron Vener  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Lily Vernon  
*Music Education*

Mike Vorenkamp  
*Physics Education-  
Adolescence*

Allyson Wagner  
*Literacy Specialist*

Emma Warden  
*Higher Education and Student  
Affairs Administration*

Mike Warsaw  
*Mathematics Education-  
Adolescence*

Aidan Watson  
*Social Studies Education -  
Adolescence*

Zackary Weber  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Heather Westlund  
*Educational Administration*

Matthew Wetzel  
*Education Studies*

Johanna Woellert  
*English for Speakers of Other  
Languages*

Amanda Woestendiek  
*Early Childhood/Childhood  
Education*

Cagla Zirek  
*Physics Education -  
Adolescence*

## Master of Art

**August**  
Yu Min Chen  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

Yonglin Huang  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

**February**  
Erica Kathryn Coffey  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

Kirsten Hussey  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

Kaitlin Washbon  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

**June**

Olisa Bajgora  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

Jessica Capellupo  
*School Psychology*

Rachel Castello  
*School Psychology*

Hannah Grace Dougherty  
*School Psychology*

Hayley Feibel  
*School Psychology*

Grace Fullerton  
*School Psychology*

Nur-E Jasica Imam  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

Daniel J. Leach  
*School Psychology*

HuiHsuan (Shana) Liu  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

Andrea Ludwig  
*School Psychology*

Tukhbita Afroz Nawmi  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

Ava Irene O'Hara  
*School Psychology*

Averi Saulter  
*School Psychology*

Taylor Taggart  
*School Psychology*

Haochu Tian  
*Educational Psychology and  
Quantitative Methods*

Nicole Wang  
*School Psychology*

Ben Wells  
*School Psychology*

Taylor White  
*School Psychology*

**Master of Science**

**August**  
Christina Almonte  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Andrew Austin  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Alexandra Jaye Davis  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Sean DeMarco  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Grace Elizabeth DeNicola  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kevin Di Camillo  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Alexis Drummond  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Angela Rodrigues Gloria  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Joe Landolfi  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Agnes Osowiecka  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Megan Provost  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Tyler Martin Sutherland  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kailey Shannon Valenti  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Ashley Marie Valentine  
*Information and Library  
Science*

**February**

Jane-Roz H. Abbe  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Ronan Adams  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Emily Baio  
*School Librarianship*

Holly Barnett  
*School Librarianship*

Dawn Marie Bauer  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Lisa Marie Becker  
*School Librarianship*

Hannah Benson  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Korynn Boyea  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Arianna Boylan  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Mary Bracci  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Radine Branch  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Robin Burns  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Jake Donald Cannetti  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Celia Carbone  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Kimberly Gisselle Carlo  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Oluwapelumi Carrena  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Anne Elizabeth Cataldo  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Cindy Ann Choe  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Alex Clift  
*Information and Library  
Science*

# Candidates for Degrees

Somer Nicole Coyle  
*School Librarianship*

Ryan Daily  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Aurelie Mazalon Damperon  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Steven Rafael Delacruz  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Eliana Diana Dermody  
*English/Information and  
Library Science*

Abigail DiCarlo  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kasey Dillenbeck  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Claire Dougher  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Fatima Fatih  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Alexandra Cooper Feehan  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Madeline Feehan  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Lindsay Fletcher  
*School Librarianship*

Sarah Isabel Gardos  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Reuben Gelley Newman  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Daniel Scott Gittens  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Ashley Hankins  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Tova Leigh Harris  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Amy Hilburger  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Erica Lynn Howland  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Farzana Islam  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Samantha Kaufman  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Meagan R. Kimick  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Renee Eileen Kitson  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Krista Knowlton  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Hrysanthi Maria Kolokotsas  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Lily Joan Konys  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Ali L'Hommedieu  
*School Librarianship*

Evan Liss  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Charlotte MacVittie-Morales  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Robert Keller Mains  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Patrick Joseph Malacaro  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Culleen Mandigo  
*School Librarianship*

Nikki Lee Martin  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Keegan Ross Chileon  
*Matthews  
Information and Library  
Science*

Allison Marie McGourty  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Ciera Nicole Moore  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Maude Muto  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Remi Nation  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Lillian Florence North  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Omayya Ortiz  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Maggie Ossit  
*School Librarianship*

Adam David Peretzman  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kate Posenjak  
*School Librarianship*

Stephanie Race  
*School Librarianship*

Arianna Rivera  
*School Librarianship*

Christine Rivers  
*School Librarianship*

Rachel Catherine Robertazzi  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kiara Divine Roberts  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Alex Ruffini  
*School Librarianship*

Shayan Salehirad  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Simone Joy Saunders  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Teddy E. Scheuerman  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Victoria Lynn Scott  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Gabrielle Michelle Sheehan  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Leyla Skopljak  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Madison Smrtic  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Gretchen Snyder  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kacie Spink  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Jaclyn Stevens  
*School Librarianship*

Miranda Stevens  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kristen Strmel  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Ashley T. Tarasi  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Christine Tenhaeff  
*School Librarianship*

Timothy Steven Treco  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Courtney Truong  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Alex Tsakiris  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Nabiha A. Ukaj  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Lindsey Van Gieson  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Tracey VanderNaald  
*School Librarianship*

Elizabeth Varga  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Joseph Christian Veronica  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Justin P. Weber  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Olivia Kassidi Weiss  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Sarah Royal Welker  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Lucas Wentworth  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Esmiliani Zabala Acosta  
*Information and Library  
Science*

**June**  
Nicholas Alkhatib  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Marriah Allen Pina  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Lincoln Alpern  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Emily Anderson  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Riley Backus  
*School Librarianship*

Anne Baranello  
*School Librarianship*

Kivanc I. Batirbek  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Beth Berasti  
*School Librarianship*

Aaron Berenbach  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Brittany Bigness  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Ashley Bonura  
*School Librarianship*

Amy Boutet  
*School Librarianship*

Alyssa Bove  
*School Librarianship*

Sean Braganca  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Nina Brocculeri  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Mariel Buchtman  
*School Librarianship*

Savana Calarco  
*School Librarianship*

Veronica Gabriella Camardo  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Emma C. Carpenter  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kaitlyn Casper  
*School Librarianship*

Erin Ashley Chun  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Nicolette Raye Clock  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Kayla Clymo  
*School Librarianship*

Katie Conley  
*School Librarianship*

Dorothy Constable  
*School Librarianship*

Josephine Conti  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Ket Oliver Ryan Cordova  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Caroline Crimmins  
*School Librarianship*

Sophia Crook  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Connor Culverwell  
*Information and Library  
Science*

Caroline Cutroneo  
*Information and Library  
Science*

# Candidates for Degrees

Ann Damtoft  
*Information and Library Science*

Jamie Dea  
*Information and Library Science*

Anne Derose  
*School Librarianship*

Daphne DiFranco  
*Information and Library Science*

Sian Elizabeth Eisenhut  
*Information and Library Science*

Stacey Ellsworth  
*Information and Library Science*

Karen Everson  
*Information and Library Science*

Mary Beth Fantacone  
*School Librarianship*

Savannah Farrugia  
*Information and Library Science*

Ian Faynik  
*Information and Library Science*

Julianne Fedele  
*Information and Library Science*

Sophia Finger  
*Information and Library Science*

Lauren Fowler  
*Information and Library Science*

Ivelisse Garcia  
*Information and Library Science*

Maria Gates  
*Information and Library Science*

Caitlin Gemmell  
*Information and Library Science*

Megan Gherzi  
*School Librarianship*

Alexandria Gibaldi  
*School Librarianship*

Susan H. Gill  
*Information and Library Science*

Jacqueline Gilpin  
*School Librarianship*

Eleanor Glover  
*School Librarianship*

Samantha Gould  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Alex Gregorski  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Courtney Griffo  
*School Librarianship*

Heidi Hacsí  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Kathleen Hanley  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Amy Hansen  
*Information and Library Science*

Meghan Harney  
*Information and Library Science*

Emily Herwick  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Noel Jean Huntley  
*Information and Library Science*

Jessie Hymowitz  
*Information and Library Science*

Aric Jackson  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Danny Jacob  
*Information and Library Science*

Chris Johns  
*Information and Library Science*

Jenna Johnson  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Taji Johnson  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Taryn Johnston  
*School Librarianship*

Mila Karpenko  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Yoojin Kim  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Jenna Kincaid  
*Information and Library Science*

Sydney King  
*Information and Library Science*

Brenna Joy Koehler  
*Information and Library Science*

Juliana Lambert  
*Information and Library Science*

Patrick Larkin  
*Information and Library Science*

Dawn Larson  
*School Librarianship*

Andrew Lavoie  
*Information and Library Science*

Gretta Leon  
*Information and Library Science*

Kathryn Lovell-Alleyne  
*Information and Library Science*

Audrey Mack-Westby  
*Information and Library Science*

Pooja Ashok Malde  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Zoe Manalo  
*Information and Library Science*

Heidi Marchand  
*Information and Library Science*

Niko Martinez-Saroff  
*Information and Library Science*

Julia Maslanka  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Emily Mattulke  
*Rehabilitation Counseling*

Delaney McCourt  
*English/Information and Library Science*

Grace McHale  
*Mental Health Counseling*

Kevin McLaughlin <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>	Sydney Pagan <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Shalimar Rosario <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Carinah Townsend <i>Mental Health Counseling</i>
Amanda Mendez <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Abigail Rose Palmer <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Megan Royce <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Kate Valajcavska <i>Information and Library Science</i>
Heather Millman <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Grace Pare <i>School Librarianship</i>	Elizabeth Sblendorio <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Samantha Varone <i>School Librarianship</i>
Shaina Renee Montero <i>School Librarianship</i> Lamar L. Moore <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Michelle Paternostro <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Angelica Schubert <i>School Librarianship</i>	Caridad Velez <i>Information and Library Science</i>
Katie L. Morris <i>School Librarianship</i>	Tina Perretti <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Sierra Scott <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Noni Wahab <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>
Ashlie Morrison <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Heather Plourde <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Brillante Self <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Kristen Walker <i>Information and Library Science</i>
Rebecca Mortellaro <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Sarah Polanski <i>School Librarianship</i>	Iqra Shahzad <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>	Matthew Stewart Walker <i>Information and Library Science</i>
Michelle (Mitch) Lanning Murray <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>	Shifa Quddus <i>Mental Health Counseling</i>	Brianna Smith <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Joseph Weidlein <i>Information and Library Science</i>
Kaitlyn Newman <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Naava Rauvenpoor <i>School Librarianship</i>	Brianna Smith <i>School Librarianship</i>	Kristin Welch <i>School Librarianship</i>
HoiTung (Kaley) Ng <i>Mental Health Counseling</i>	Dani Redmond <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Jay Smith <i>Mental Health Counseling</i>	Jennifer Wilbur <i>Mental Health Counseling</i>
Leona O'Connell <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>	Hannah Reilly <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Jordan Stanford <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Kristen Williams <i>Information and Library Science</i>
Megan O'Shaughnessy <i>School Librarianship</i>	Emma Dwyer Reynolds <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Christine Stein <i>School Librarianship</i>	Kelaiah Wolf <i>School Librarianship</i>
Alycia Olsen <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>	Misty Reynolds <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>	Karleigh Stevens <i>School Librarianship</i>	Yining Wu <i>Information and Library Science</i>
Cailin Oneal <i>School Librarianship</i>	Annie Rosa <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Ashley Torres <i>Information and Library Science</i>	Lachea Ximines <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>
Edmund Oti Antwi <i>Rehabilitation Counseling</i>			

# Candidates for Degrees

## Doctor of Education

### August

Shannon Leah Gosnell Brewer  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Coaching Success: A Qualitative Case Study on Student, Instructor, and Success Coach Engagement in Co-Requisite Mathematics at a Tennessee Community College”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Jennifer Hartman  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Perceptions of Outdoor Learning Environments amongst Preservice Teachers”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Kristin Cipollone

Sarah Jane Lowry  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Teacher Knowledge and Perceptions of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in Urban Secondary Education”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

### February

Erin Bellel  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“What Goes Around Comes Around: Evaluating the Experiences of Reciprocity of Mentors of Pre-Service Teachers with the Presence or Absence of Structured Mentor Training”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Lisa Brosnick  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Leveraging a Community of Practice to Increase Preservice Teachers’ PCK of Active Learning for Science Practices”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Caroline Holley  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Exploring Women’s Experiences of Social Presence in an Online MBA”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Juan Carlos Rivera  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Secondary Mathematics Students’ Perspective on Notetaking and Study Behaviors Using Guided Notes”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Ji-Won Son

Elizabeth Sengupta  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Faculty Perceptions of Delivering Mental Health Care to Multiple Populations Across Treatment Settings”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Cynthia Elizabeth Bruton Thomas  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Exploring Culturally Responsive Teaching in Postsecondary Career and Technical Education and Workforce Development”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Nicole R. Wise  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Exploring the Opportunities and Challenges of Post-Graduation Measures for Educator Preparation: Impact on Accreditation and Continuous Improvement”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

### June

Dima Abass  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Beyond One-Size-Fits-All: Implementing Responsive Instruction Through Diverse Learning Preferences in Undergraduate STEM Education”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Dana Ellen Antonucci  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Spatial Ability as a Cognitive Constraint in Student Mental Model Formation of the Structure and Motion of Matter”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Samuel Abramovich

Brooke Melody Avera  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Changing Teacher Mindsets is Key to Changing Their Interactions with Students and Thus Students Interactions with Mathematics”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Ji-Won Son

Dawn Bartlett  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“A Phenomenological Study of Student Non-Completion in a Compulsory First-Year Seminar”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Kimberly Day Benowski  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Engaged Teaching Strategies and Barriers: Examining Intercultural Competence in Faculty-Student Relationships in Higher Education”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Cathryn Anne Biordi  
Educational Leadership  
*“Social Emotional Learning and School Climate Perceptions”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

Pam Buddendeck  
Educational Leadership  
*“Bridging the Gap Between Screening and Practice: How Kindergarten Educators Use T-CRS Data to Inform Social-Emotional Supports”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

Minonska Castellanos  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*“Understanding First-Year College Students’ Experiences with Mental Health Services in Orange City Public High Schools”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Nicole Marie Coppola  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Partners in Transformation: How Student teaching Shapes Pre Service and Mentor Teachers' Beliefs about Agency, Ownership, and Identity in Mathematics"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Isaak Montana DeMaio  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"The Impact of Frayer Models on van Hiele Reasoning and Proof-Writing in High School Geometry"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Ji-Won Son

Sammy DiSalvo  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Academic Dean Competencies and Preparation: A Study of Pre-Deanship Development and Ongoing Professional Growth at a Research University"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Jeannine Dingman Webster  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Reframing College Success: Cultivating Sense of Belonging for Autistic College Students"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Colleen Mary Duggan  
Educational Leadership  
*"Fostering the Sense of Belonging Among Secondary Students"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

Jessica Teresa FitzSisti  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Culturally Responsive Teaching in Band, Choir, and Orchestra: Teacher and Student Perspectives on Engagement, Motivation, and Inclusion"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Jacqueline Frazier-Polk  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"The Sound of Her Own Voice' A Narrative Case Study on the Impact of Exclusionary Discipline on Black Girls"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Elisabeth Etopio

Angelita Felicia Gamble  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Experiential Learning as a Strategy for Advancing Educational Equity: Addressing Instructional Barriers in Northern Virginia Elementary Schools"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Charlie Garling  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Permission to Play: A Transcendental Phenomenological Study of Adults' Lived Experiences in an Art Museum Play Space"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Meagan K. Harris  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"A Narrative Inquiry into Implicit Bias and Intersectionality in an Urban Public Arts School"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Katherine Hesla  
Educational Leadership  
*"Perceptions of a Multi-Year Literacy Improvement Initiative"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

Sang Young Jeong  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Navigating AI integration in Military Language Education: Korean Instructors' Perspective at Defense Language Institute"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Bonnie Kane  
Educational Leadership  
*"Teachers' Perceptions of Project-Based Learning in Rural Secondary School Classrooms"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

Andrea Elise Kellman  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Teaching Text and Algorithm: A Phenomenological Study of Secondary English Educators Confronting AI Ethics, Refining Instruction, and Re-scripting Professional Identity"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Ted Leach  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"All My Friends Are in the Smart People Classes': A Narrative Inquiry into Reading, Identity, and Racial Disparities in Advanced Course Enrollment"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Tai Roslyn Leslie  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Creating resources in school counseling to support dually identifying Latinx LGBTQIA2+ high school students in New York City"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Erik James Lynch  
Educational Leadership  
*"A Design Development Study of Teacher and Parent Perspectives on the Decline of Play-Based Learning in Early Childhood"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

Chelsea Princessa Marshall  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"BIPOC Students' Interpretations of Campus Safety at a PWI: A Phenomenological Study Through the Lens of Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

# Candidates for Degrees

Victoria Mosetti  
Educational Leadership  
*"Understanding Educator Beliefs in Engaging Inclusive Education Practices"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

Kristin Muller  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Exploring the Impact of Integrated Reflection on Student Engineers' Positioning of Engineering Identity in Mock Interviews"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Jennifer R. Noble  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Activating Social, Cognitive, and Teaching Presence Through Structured Interaction in Asynchronous Online Courses"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Kandis Pogoda  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Perceptions of International Programs in the Post-Pandemic and Shifting Sociopolitical Climate"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Michael Policella  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Examining the Alignment Between Doctor of Physical Therapy Classroom Preparation and Clinical Rotations"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Kristin Marie Reetz  
Educational Leadership  
*"Educator Perspectives on Best Practices for Educating Students with Disabilities in Secondary Mathematics Classrooms"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

Fatima A. Sharif  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Bridging Global Perspectives: Student Perceptions of Barriers, Supports, and Opportunities for Inclusive Cross-Cultural Engagement"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Phil Shaw  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Who Could It / I Be Now?' A Phenomenological Study of Undergraduate Writing Center Tutors Co-Designing and Using GAI Tutor Chatbots at A STEM University"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Julie F. Webber  
Educational Leadership  
*"Exploring Educator Perceptions of Feedback and Its Role in Professional Growth and Accountability"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Corrie Stone-Johnson

William Fair Worford  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Learning Through Two Realities: Mirror, Mirror on the Wall—Examining Equity in Virtual Reference Services for Marginalized Students"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Tatiana Zambrano-Merrick  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Exploration of Science Identity in Students in a Problem-Based Learning Focused Three-Dimensional Biology Course"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Yu Zhou  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Two Languages in the Air: Exploring Language Teachers' Perception of Multilingual Awareness and Multilingual Awareness Approach"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Erin Kearney

O. Zotique  
Learning and Teaching in Social Contexts  
*"Cultivating Creativity in Choral Music Education: Insights from Composer-Educators"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

## Doctor of Philosophy

**August**  
Swapna Balkundi  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*"Cyberhate and Academic Outcomes in Adolescents: Is Social Support a Buffer?"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Stephanie Fredrick

Julianna Nicole Casella  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*"School Psychologists' Roles and Experiences with Crisis Prevention and Perceptions of Safety"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Amanda Nickerson

Courtney Siri Copeland  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*"Why They Keep Trying Me?: Experiences of masculinity from African American male student athletes"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Amy Reynolds

Kristen Dellasala  
Curriculum Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Storying Sociology: A Narrative Research Study of Sociology Instructors' Habits and Dispositions in Instructional Contexts"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Mary McVee

Kary A. Dobbs  
Curriculum Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Flips, Flags and Freedom Dance: Shaping Musical Identities of Young Children in the Black Church"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Elisabeth Etopio

Claribel Gonzalez  
Foreign and Second Language  
*"Lost in Translation: Applying Critical Bilingual Literacies to Foundational Literacy Standards"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Erin Kearney

Haejin Kim  
Foreign and Second Language  
*“Developing Academic Literacy for First-Year Multilingual College Students: Impacts of Narratives, Project-Based Learning, and Directed Motivational Currents”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Janina Brutt-Griffler

Yi Li-Brown  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*“Navigating Loss in Academia: Attachment Theory and Grief Responses Among College Students”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Scott Meier

Gabriella Elise Martinez  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*“An Ethnographic Approach to Community Based Participatory Research Addressing Mental Health Disparities Among Undocumented Immigrants”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Amy Reynolds

Tracey McNeerney  
Curriculum Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*“Learning Communities: Perceptions and Experiences of Faculty in Designing Multimodal Online Courses”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Mary McVee

Cara Monaco  
Curriculum Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*“Perceptions of Restorative Practices and Restorative Justice: Exploratory Interviews with Administrators, Teachers, and Students in a Rural High School Setting”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Maureen Boyd

Kehinde Oluwatosin Oladele  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*“Yellow Bone Is What He Wants: The Impact Colorism and Social Media Has on Dark-Skinned Black Women’s Mental Health and Self-Esteem”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Amy Reynolds

Gregory Simmons  
Curriculum Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*“It has to be done, but I’m worried: Teachers and Students in the Development, Implementation, and Learning in a High School Black History Course”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. LaGarrett King

Alexandra Smith  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*“A Yoga-Based Eating Disorder Prevention Program for Positive Embodiment: Feasibility and Acceptability Among Middle-School Females”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Catherine Cook-Cottone

Angelica Marie Soto  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*“White-Assumed and Belonging in the Latinx Community: A Qualitative Exploration of Experiences, Identity Negotiation, and Community Engagement”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Amy Reynolds

Nathalie Velasco  
Counseling/School Psychology  
*“At the Crossroads of Identity and Resistance: The Impact of Disclosure and Family Support on Psychological Distress Among Transgender Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Amy Reynolds

## **February**

Janna Elane Carney  
Curriculum Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*“Breaking “The Barriers of Who’s the Better Teacher”: Storytelling as Productive Work in a Teacher Professional Learning Community”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Sameer Honwad

Kristen D’Alessandro Merii  
Language Education and Multilingualism  
*“Heritage, Second and Third Language Learner Discourse: Expertise, Language Ideologies and Learning Gains”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Erin Kearney

Naomi Diaz  
Higher Education  
*“Belonging Beyond the Field and Court: Black Male Student-Athletes’ Academic Support and Holistic Experience”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Stephen Santa-Ramirez

Jillian Dombrowski  
Counselor Education  
*“Exploring the Impact of Cancer Treatment on the Quality of Life in Long-term Oral, Head, and Neck Cancer Survivors”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Amy Reynolds

Patrick J. Fiorenza  
Curriculum Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*“Unpacking AI Literacy: How It Shapes Community College Students’ Perceptions of Career Readiness”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Yunjeong Chang

Iman Lathan  
Educational Culture, Policy and Society  
*“The Secondary Diaspora: Black Women in NCAA Division I Basketball”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Jinting Wu

## **June**

Nesba Adzobu-Armah  
Information Science  
*“Towards Digital Literacy: Curriculum Assessment of Information Literacy in Higher Education Institutions in Ghana”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Heidi Julien

## Candidates for Degrees

Gary Charles Blatto-Vallee  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Language Access, Cognitive Development, and Mathematics Achievement in Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Learners"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Ji-Won Son

Nikki Bosca  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Redefining the Writing Path: Exploring Student and Instructor Perceptions of Generative AI's Impact on First-Year Writing Education"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Tiffany LaSean Bromfield  
Higher Education  
*"A Little Bit of Clout: Community, Mattering, and Career Readiness for Black Women Resident Assistants"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Stephen Santa-Ramirez

Kristina Collier  
Higher Education  
*"Reclaiming the Crown: Black Women, Natural Hair, and Identity Formation in Predominantly White Institutions"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Raechele Pope

Mary DiCioccio  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"How Students Apply Interdisciplinary Math and Music Instruction to Music Performance at a Summer Jazz Camp"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Naomi Thompson

Samantha Didrichsen  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Losing Joy: Understanding the Phenomenon of Burnout in Early Childhood Special Educators"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Claire Cameron

Nicholas Anthony Emmanuele  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"A Mixed Methods Comparison of Student Reader Self-Concept and Disability Perceptions among Adolescents with and without Specific Learning Disabilities in Reading"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Ryan Rish

Dawn M. Grzan  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Faculty Communities of Practice: Planning to Practice"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Tiffany Karalis Noel

Michael A. Heflin  
Higher Education  
*"An Exploration of the Sense of Belonging and Self-Efficacy Among African American Male College Students at a Predominantly White Institution"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Raechele Pope

Joshua C. Hine  
Higher Education  
*"To Make Our Lives Better": Student-Parents and Graduate Education in the Era of Neoliberalism"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Margaret Sallee

Dawnavyn James  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Nyame Biribi Wo Soro: Portraits of Hope in an African-Centered Elementary School"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. LaGarrett King

Renee Mapp  
Educational Culture, Policy and Society  
*"Narrating Degree Attainment Journeys of Aid Recipients: Students' Self-Defined Pathways to Academic Success"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Jinting Wu

Preston Martin  
Educational Psychology and Quantitative Methods  
*"Academic Resilience Across Borders: Cultural Influences on Eighth-Grade Students' Success in TIMSS 2023"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Jaekyung Lee

Aiko Minematsu  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Teacher Narratives from the In-between: Language Teacher Agency in the Ecology of Transnationalism and English Language Teaching in Japan"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Erin Kearney

Alisha Oropallo  
Information Science  
*"Health Information Behavior in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Trust Formation and Technology Acceptance in Healthcare Chatbots for Chronic Wound Management"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Jianqiang Wang

Jill E. Paolini  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"Exploring Student Perceptions of Classroom Climate: Relative to Demographics, Engagement, and Performance - In U.S. University Precalculus Classrooms"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Ji-Won Son

Adam G. Pilipshen  
Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning  
*"An Application of the I-AER Framework to Understand OER Effectiveness at Community Colleges"*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Samuel Abramovich

Peter Patrick Smith  
Educational Culture, Policy and Society  
*“College Men at the Intersection of  
Masculinity and Spirituality”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Nathan Daun-  
Barnett

Wei Wang  
Educational Psychology and Quantitative  
Methods  
*“The Direct and Indirect Role of  
Information and Communication  
Technology in K-12 Students’  
Mathematical Achievement: A Cross-  
National Study”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Sunha Kim

Yuejia Wang  
Educational Culture, Policy and Society  
*“Unraveling the Education-Job Pipeline  
of Chinese International Graduates in  
the United States with Temporary Work  
Visas”*  
Committee Chair: Dr. Jinting Wu



# UB Alma Mater

*Music by UB Students in 1903.*

*Lyrics adapted by UB students 2006 for contemporary*

## **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)*



## The University Mace

Designed to tell the story of the university and the Niagara Frontier, the mace was fashioned by California silversmith Hudson Roysner. It was used for the first time in the 1962 general commencement.

The mace is silver with accents of lapis and howlite to represent the university's colors. It is topped by a miniature walled structure representing the City of Buffalo. Engraved atop the city are three arrows bound together, symbolizing the unity of UB and the city.

A band encircling the head of the mace bears the founding dates of the 13 divisions that composed the university in 1962.

The UB arms appear on the front of the head. On the back are the arms of the United States. The discovery of Lake Erie in 1669 by Louis Jolliet and early explorations by Robert de La Salle are symbolized on the left side of the head. A crest on the right side symbolizes the university's role as a dynamic center of human growth and welfare.

The wild rose, the state flower, is depicted in a floral motif at the top and bottom of the mace's head. Encircling the collars at each end of the shaft are three wavy lines representing intellect and water—the latter a reference to the Niagara River and Great Lakes.

The motto "University and City: Community" is lettered in Latin around the knob of the shaft.

With roots dating back to medieval times, the mace has evolved to be a symbol of enlightened authority. The mace bearer is traditionally the chair of the university's Faculty Senate.



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**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.

