



# COMMENCEMENT

MAY 16, 2026

HOOD COLLEGE  
*Commencement*  
2026

ORDER OF PROCESSION

ASSISTANT MARSHALS

*Professors Beth Kiester and Erik Messinger*

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

THE COLLEGE FACULTY

SENIOR MARSHALS

*Professors Susan Ensel and Eric Kindahl*

THE COLLEGE TRUSTEES

SPECIAL GUESTS

MACE BEARER

*Professor Amy Gottfried*

THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY



# Commencement

## PROGRAM

### PRELUDE

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#### CHIMES OF THE CARILLON

---

The McCullagh Memorial Carillon

#### PROCESSIONAL

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*Pomp and Circumstance* by Elgar

#### INVOCATION

---

The Rev. Beth O'Malley  
*McHenry Dean of the Chapel*

#### WELCOME

---

Susan Murawski Ganley '79  
*Vice Chair of the Hood College Board of Trustees*

#### INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER

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Deborah D. Ricker, Ph.D.  
*President of Hood College*

#### GRADUATE SCHOOL SPEAKER

---

Angela Lauren Auldridge, DOL'26

#### CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREE

---

President Ricker

#### INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

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President Ricker

#### COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

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Derrick D. Harrigan '07, MBA'14

#### PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES

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April Boulton, Ph.D.  
*Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost*

#### HOODING OF DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES

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Anita Jose, Ph.D.  
*Professor of Management*  
Nisha Manikoth, Ed.D.  
*Director of Doctoral Program*

#### PRESENTATION OF MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

---

Dean Boulton

#### CONFERRING OF MASTER'S DEGREES

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President Ricker

#### ALMA MATER

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(lyrics on page 14)

#### BENEDICTION

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Rev. O'Malley

#### RECESSIONAL

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*To respect all graduates, please remain seated as able for the entire Commencement ceremony,  
and until the platform party, faculty and graduates have recessed.*



## GRADUATE SCHOOL DEGREE RECIPIENTS

The names of these recipients reflect Hood College records as of May 1, 2026.

Students who have successfully completed all degree requirements in the spring term will have their degrees officially awarded on June 5.

### DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**Manasseh Akwetey Adjei Abijah** 

*Organizational Leadership*

Antecedents of the Effective Implementation of Artificial Intelligence in Talent Acquisition: A Quantitative Study

**Danyale M. Corradi** 

*Organizational Leadership*

The Levers of Employee Engagement in a Large Scientific Organization: An Empirical Study

**Smita Padmanabhan** 

*Organizational Leadership*

The Impact of Sustainable Human Resource Management Practices on Employees' Organizational Citizenship Behavior: A Cross-Cultural Study

### DOCTOR OF ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

**Angela Lauren Auldridge**  

*Organizational Leadership*

Opportunities Beyond the Cliff: Exploring the Lived Experiences of Caregivers of Children With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Who Seek Business Creation as a Pathway to Meaningful Employment

**Susan Elizabeth Major** 

*Organizational Leadership*

Lichtenstein's Hypothesis for the Enactment of Generative Emergence: A Methodological Study for Operationalizing the Constructs for Empirical Testing

**Ashley L. McCormack** 

*Organizational Leadership*

The Impact of Supervisory Leadership, Workplace Climate and Individual Characteristics on Follower Creativity in Scientific Labs: A Multiple Regression Study

**Richard Stonebraker**

*Organizational Leadership*

The Fight to End Food Insecurity Through Community Gardens and the Spaces They Create

## GRADUATE SCHOOL DEGREE RECIPIENTS

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### MASTER OF ARTS

**Cheryl Anne Banes**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Rasmus Kristian Konrad Denoke**  
*Humanities*

**Mark A. Devilbiss**  
*Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Behavior*

**Jonathan Michael Gemmell**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Kristine Susan Goad**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Kayli Elizabeth Harling ★**  
*Humanities*

**Griffin Hunt ★**  
*Humanities*

**Luke Owen Garber Jones 🇺🇸†★**  
*Humanities*

**Cornelius C Maher III ≡**  
*Humanities*

**Sarah Marshall 🇺🇸**  
*Humanities*

**Sara Mayer**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Bukola Abiodun Ossai**  
*Humanities*

**Lauren Anna Poor ★**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Ramsey Saah 🇺🇸†**  
*Humanities*

**Catherine Alexandra Vincent**  
*Ceramic Arts*

### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**Ahn Myeng Ju**  
*Business Administration*

**Zainab Ahmed A Almohsen**  
*Business Administration*

**Soren Almquist 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Joseph Rosenwald Alston III 🇺🇸🇫**  
*Business Administration*

**Goodnews Ayichi**  
*Business Administration*

**Phyllis E Buchanan 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Katherine Driscoll 🇺🇸★†**  
*Business Administration*

**Artonn Arhoda Edwards ≡**  
*Business Administration*

**John William Fricka 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Storm Fuller 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Troy Fulton 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Madeline Godlove**  
*Business Administration*

**Haley E. Greene 🇫**  
*Business Administration*

**John Thomas Hickey II ★**  
*Business Administration*

**Daniel Horning 🇫**  
*Business Administration*

**Madelyn Hutton 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Majid Khan**  
*Business Administration*

**Brady Leonard 🇺🇸†**  
*Business Administration*

**Tyree Leonard 🇫**  
*Business Administration*

**Rachel Mahoney**  
*Business Administration*

**Tiffany Danielle Manning 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Katherine Przybocki 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Ashutosh Rao**  
*Business Administration*

**K'Lynn Patricia Simmons 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Joris Van Straelen 🇫**  
*Business Administration*

**Brandon Michael Wasitowski**  
*Business Administration*

**DeShaun White 🇺🇸**  
*Business Administration*

**Joel White 🇫**  
*Business Administration*

### MASTER OF FINE ARTS

**Nicole Abuhameda 🇺🇸★†**  
*Creative Writing*

**Johnathan Prentice Alexander 🇺🇸★†≡**  
*Creative Writing*

**Anne Boyer ★**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Jacqueline Douge ★🇫**  
*Creative Writing*

**Emily Elizabeth Holland ★**  
*Creative Writing*

**Sullivan McGee 🇺🇸★**  
*Creative Writing*

**Ryan Daniel McGlone 🇺🇸**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Samantha Nachlas ★**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Isabella Peroni 🇺🇸★🇫**  
*Creative Writing*

**Maui Smith ★**  
*Creative Writing*

**Rosa Maria Torres Rivera**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Jennifer VanWormer 🇫**  
*Ceramic Arts*

**Laurie Anne Ward ★🇫**  
*Creative Writing*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE

**Dominic Nana Addison**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Jeffrey Kofi Adih**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Akintoye Jacob Olu**  
*Management Information Systems*

**Patrick Jackson Alexander 🇺🇸†**  
*Educational Leadership*

**Mohammad Fahad Alghannam**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Darien Emanuel Allison**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Talal Najar Almutairi**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Walla Alshafie**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Consetta L. Ambrose 🇺🇸†**  
*Counseling*

**Christiana Anderson**  
*Counseling*

**Ronah Ankunda**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Rena Leah Arnon**  
*Nutrition*

**Balaji Atmakuri**  
*Information Technology*

**Aqsa Azhar**  
*Biomedical Science*

**Peter Azorsa**  
*Biomedical Science*

**Hillary Aderemi Oluwatumike Babalola**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Abigail Elizabeth Barnett**  
*Biomedical Science*

**Lindsey Mariah Beck**  
*Mathematics Education*

**Ahmet Beklen**  
*Cybersecurity*

**Elizabeth Marie Bender ★†**  
*Curriculum and Instruction*

**Edward Bendert III**  
*Counseling*

## GRADUATE SCHOOL DEGREE RECIPIENTS

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**Paramveer Singh Ravinder Singh Bhullar**  
Cybersecurity

**Sai Vivek Bolisetty**  
Cybersecurity

**Ryley Bolyard**  
Nutrition

**Claudiane Boussougou**  
Cybersecurity

**Oliver Parris Brady**  
Counseling

**Emma Cecilia Brenecki**  
Environmental Biology

**John Nolan Brewer III** ☞  
Management Information Systems

**Ngoc Bui** ★  
Computer Science

**Timothy James Burdette**  
Counseling

**Alisa Canney**  
Counseling

**Kathryn Elizabeth Cautero** ☞ ★  
Counseling

**Nadya Lynn Chacón** ★  
Educational Leadership

**Aritra Chowdhury**  
Health Informatics

**Jason Cabel Ciemielewski**  
Bioinformatics

**Hannah Clampitt** ☞ ‡  
Curriculum and Instruction

**John William Cochran** ★  
Educational Leadership

**Aislinn G. Cohen** ★  
Biomedical Science

**Katherine Corcoran**  
Multidisciplinary Studies

**Jamilet Cordon**  
Bioinformatics

**Austin Counterman** ☞ ★ ‡  
Information Technology

**Matthew Joseph Oahnming Curran**  
Computer Science

**Nicholas D'Abbraccio**  
Cybersecurity

**Michael Vincent Deschenes**  
Biomedical Science

**Stephanie King Desmond**  
Counseling

**Collin Dunnam**  
Nutrition

**Alyssa Joyce Eby** ★  
Curriculum and Instruction

**Owen Michael Ellington** ☞ ‡  
Biomedical Science

**Ian E. Emanuel** ☞  
Environmental Biology

**Sarah Elizabeth Escobar**  
Mathematics Instructional Leadership

**Tamsyn Ann Evezard** ★ ☞  
Computer Science

**Kavitha Fernando** ☞ ★ ☞  
Nutrition

**Julianne Michelle Foster** ★  
Educational Leadership

**Melissa Alexandra Fowler** ☞  
Cybersecurity

**Jason Francis**  
Counseling

**Paris Franklin**  
Counseling

**Brie Justine Frazier** ☞  
Multidisciplinary Studies

**Samyuktha Gandhi**  
Computer Science

**Ira Garrett**  
Cybersecurity

**Brittany N. Gates** ☞  
Counseling

**Allison Givens**  
Counseling

**Brooke Ellen Gooding** ☞ ☞  
Environmental Biology

**Bryan S. Goodman**  
Counseling

**Candice Mosby Grant**  
Counseling

**Jacqueline Suzanne Gross**  
Counseling

**Berkan Guven** ☞  
Computer Science

**Jennifer Halsey** ★  
Multidisciplinary Studies

**Deanna Harmon**  
Mathematics Education

**Gabriella Taryn Hanna Harris** ★ ‡  
Mathematics Education

**Jona Brooke Harris** ★  
Educational Leadership

**Kailyn Harris** ‡  
Nutrition

**Rachel Harris**  
Biomedical Science

**Brian Paul Holland**  
Biomedical Science

**Brianne Hollister** ★  
Mathematics Instructional Leadership

**Andrea Holt** ☞ ‡  
Cybersecurity

**Chelsea Dee Humphries**  
Educational Leadership

**Victoria Isleib**  
Counseling

**Desha April Jenkins**  
Counseling

**Christoph Geovany Johnson** ★  
Health Informatics

**Paige Nicole Johnson**  
Counseling

**Mariama Regina KaiKai**  
Counseling

**Venkata Krishna Kandalai**  
Health Informatics

**Karangula Rishitha**  
Computer Science

**Rachel Jeanette Kirkland**  
Counseling

**Emily Jo Kisner** ★  
Computer Science

**Therese Klein** ★  
Mathematics Education

**Jennifer Knowles** ★  
Counseling

**Hannah Elizabeth Koehler**  
Environmental Biology

**Patricia Kolias**  
Educational Leadership

**Christina Thida Kong** ☞ ★  
Computer Science

**Morgan Elizabeth Krauel** ☞ ★  
Mathematics Education

**Susan Denise Krutis** ★  
Counseling

**Sai Niharika Kukatla**  
Computer Science

**Akuratiya Gamage Damindu Channa Kularathne**  
Cybersecurity

**Mariana Latorre Castro**  
Counseling

**Long H Le**  
Biomedical Science

**Brianna Leprevost**  
Counseling

**Danielle Landes Leskoski**  
Multidisciplinary Studies

**Sophia Elizabeth Lethbridge**  
Educational Leadership

**Ben Edward Love** ☞ ☞  
Counseling

**Brian Keith MacDonald** ☞  
Mathematics Education

**Christopher Robert MacDowell** ★ ☞  
Information Technology

**Durgakshara Maddur**  
Computer Science

**Jeremy Zagoria Mandel**  
Counseling

**Aditi Marathe**  
Computer Science

**Nicholas Masucci Bicho** ☞ ☞  
Counseling

**Leah McGinnity** ★  
Curriculum and Instruction

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<b>Shannon May McGoe</b> ★ <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Abraham Joseph Olsson</b> 🏠 ‡ <i>Health Informatics</i>	<b>Demyra Ka'Shaun Selby</b> <i>Cybersecurity</i>	<b>Summer Taylor</b> <i>Counseling</i>
<b>Sydney Kehoe McGurk</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Kayla Orcutt</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Noor Seth</b> <i>Environmental Biology</i>	<b>Yenly Carolina Tellez Lopez</b> <i>Counseling</i>
<b>Ryan Thomas Elia Merow</b> 🏠 <i>Computer Science</i>	<b>Isabelle Hope Ouimette</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Kate Sharbaugh</b> <i>Nutrition</i>	<b>Amelia Whiting Theobald</b> <i>Counseling</i>
<b>Andrew Miller</b> ★ ‡ <i>Mathematics Education</i>	<b>Umut Omer Ozkaya</b> <i>Information Technology</i>	<b>Jacob E Shemer</b> <i>Environmental Biology</i>	<b>Chandana Sathwika Uppaluru</b> <i>Computer Science</i>
<b>Katherine Mary Rose Miller</b> <i>Nutrition</i>	<b>Yaelin Yonisia Pereira Rivas</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Sara Majid Shibil</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Santana Velasquez</b> 🏠 🏠 <i>Environmental Biology</i>
<b>Yugesh Modem</b> <i>Information Technology</i>	<b>Joseph Adedotun Phillips</b> <i>Management Information Systems</i>	<b>Shreeya Krishna Shiva</b> <i>Computer Science</i>	<b>India Dennis Walters</b> 🏠 ★ 🏠 <i>Environmental Biology</i>
<b>Karen Moss</b> ★ <i>Multidisciplinary Studies</i>	<b>Samuel Pierre</b> 🏠 ‡ <i>Biomedical Science</i>	<b>Shayar Shrestha</b> ★ 🏠 <i>Computer Science</i>	<b>Alexandria Waters</b> <i>Mathematics Education</i>
<b>Guru Sai Pavan Kumar Mothukuri</b> <i>Management Information Systems</i>	<b>Scott Edward Pincikowski</b> ★ 🏠 <i>Environmental Biology</i>	<b>Karnelius Sindhu</b> <i>Cybersecurity</i>	<b>Calvin William Webber</b> 🏠 <i>Biomedical Science</i>
<b>Zachary Moxley</b> ★ <i>Computer Science</i>	<b>Jena Pinkard</b> <i>Nutrition</i>	<b>Guru Srikar Sistla</b> <i>Computer Science</i>	<b>Ellie Katherine Welsh</b> ★ 🏠 <i>Environmental Biology</i>
<b>Sai Bharadwaj Mukkera</b> <i>Computer Science</i>	<b>ShaNiece Pinkston</b> <i>Nutrition</i>	<b>Autumn Diana Smith</b> 🏠 <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Michael Alan West</b> <i>Counseling</i>
<b>Michael Joseph Murphy</b> <i>Bioinformatics</i>	<b>Samantha Jordan Plinke</b> 🏠 <i>Curriculum and Instruction</i>	<b>Courtney Smith</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Jaken Whipp</b> 🏠 ★ ‡ <i>Computer Science</i>
<b>Chaitanya Nagaboina</b> <i>Computer Science</i>	<b>Aravind Poola</b> <i>Information Technology</i>	<b>Sophia Smith</b> ‡ 🏠 <i>Environmental Biology</i>	<b>Levi White</b> 🏠 <i>Counseling</i>
<b>Britney Hanna Naylor</b> 🏠 <i>Educational Leadership</i>	<b>Allison Qing W. Radin</b> ★ <i>Environmental Biology</i>	<b>Han Soe</b> <i>Management Information Systems</i>	<b>Amanda Katelyn Wise</b> <i>Biomedical Science</i>
<b>Toya Newman-Piermarini</b> <i>Educational Leadership</i>	<b>Dana M. Ruyter</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Sarina Angela Sofia</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Todd Benjamen Young</b> ★ <i>Bioinformatics</i>
<b>Christine Thao Thi Thu Nguyen</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>William Guilford Saccardi Jr</b> ★ <i>Curriculum and Instruction</i>	<b>Muiz Oluwatosin Sokunle</b> <i>Management Information Systems</i>	
<b>Duong Nguyen Baker</b> ★ <i>Bioinformatics</i>	<b>Vinay Samineni</b> <i>Computer Science</i>	<b>Madeline Soypher</b> ★ <i>Educational Leadership</i>	
<b>Isaac Tom N'jai</b> <i>Information Technology</i>	<b>Ivoneide Santos White</b> <i>Multidisciplinary Studies</i>	<b>Carolyn M. Stanek Lucy</b> <i>Counseling</i>	
<b>Fabrice Tazocha Nkondem</b> <i>Cybersecurity</i>	<b>Susmita Sapkota</b> <i>Biomedical Science</i>	<b>Patrick Streifel</b> <i>Counseling</i>	
<b>Kate Noffsinger</b> <i>Counseling</i>	<b>Michael David Scarborough</b> <i>Cybersecurity</i>	<b>Ansley Austin Suarez</b> ★ <i>Multidisciplinary Studies</i>	
<b>Thet Nwe Nyi</b> <i>Biomedical Science</i>	<b>Alaina Schippers</b> <i>Biomedical Science</i>	<b>Ashley Renee Taylor</b> <i>Counseling</i>	

**ACADEMIC HONOR SOCIETIES**

**KAPPA DELTA PI  
(Education)**

Lindsey Mariah Beck  
Morgan Elizabeth Krauel  
Smita Padmanabhan  
Ansley Austin Suarez

**CHI SIGMA IOTA  
(Counseling)**

Consetta L. Ambrose  
Oliver Parris Brady  
Timothy James Burdette  
Kathryn Elizabeth Cautero  
Stephanie King Desmond  
Paris Franklin  
Brittany N. Gates  
Allison Givens  
Bryan S. Goodman  
Candice Mosby Grant  
Desha April Jenkins

Paige Nicole Johnson  
Mariama Regina KaiKai  
Rachel Jeanette Kirkland  
Jennifer Knowles  
Susan Denise Krutis  
Brianna Leprevost  
Ben Edward Love  
Jeremy Zagoria Mandel  
Nicholas Masucci Bicho  
Shannon May McGoey  
Kayla Orcutt  
Sarina Angela Sofia  
Autumn Diana Smith  
Carolyn M. Stanek Lucy  
Patrick Streifel  
Yenly Caroline Tellez Lopez  
Michael Alan West  
Levi White

**PHI KAPPA PHI  
(All Majors)**

Kayli Elizabeth Harling  
Carolyn M. Stanek Lucy  
Shannon May McGoey  
Shayar Shrestha  
Laurie Anne Ward  
**DELTA MU DELTA  
(Business)**  
Ahn Myeng Ju  
Katherine Driscoll  
Artonn Arhoda Edwards  
Storm Fuller  
John Thomas Hickey II  
Madelyn Hutton  
Tiffany Danielle Manning

**UPSILON PI EPSILON  
(Computer Science)**

Ronah Ankunda  
Nay Linn Aung  
Miltiade Dieffi Tchifou  
Georgia Esipila  
Benerjee Evana  
Emily Jo Kisner  
Christina Thida Kong  
Alexey Kresin  
Akuratiya Gamage Damindu  
Channa Kularathne  
Roari Manderson  
Isaac Njai  
Han Soe

**HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT**



**DERRICK D. HARRIGAN '07, MBA'14**  
**DOCTOR OF LAWS**

You are a dedicated public servant and stalwart champion of your alma mater.

A proud double Blazer, you earned your Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Hood College in 2007 and returned to earn your MBA in 2014. Since graduating, you have not strayed far from Hood, serving on the Alumni Executive Board and as a reunion class chair. In 2022, you joined the Hood College Board of Associates, serving as vice chair and now as chair of this crucial organization.

Under your leadership, the Board of Associates has been thriving. You have recruited new members, awarded more than \$50,000 in scholarships to students, disbursed nearly \$100,000 in professional development grants to faculty and raised nearly half a million dollars for the College. You have taken a proactive role to collaborate with Hood's senior leadership, expanding the Board of Associate's reach both on campus and within the surrounding Frederick community.

But beyond all the committees, meetings and fundraising efforts, your impact has perhaps been most profoundly felt in the relationships you have built with our students. From donating your Hood ring to a rising senior to offering career counseling and referrals, you are truly invested in paying it forward to the next generation. You have often said that former President Ronald Volpe and former Dean of Students Olivia White were instrumental in helping you persevere through your own struggles—now, you carry forth their legacy by supporting the students who need it most.

Professionally, you have been a longtime employee of Montgomery County Government, working to shape fiscal policy that affects more than one million Marylanders. The work you do is not easy, but it is a major component of what makes the State of Maryland such an amazing place to live and learn.

Therefore, be it resolved, for your advocacy of students, your steady leadership in the Board of Associates and your dedication to uplifting the State of Maryland, the Board of Trustees of Hood College hereby confers upon Derrick D. Harrigan '07, MBA'14, the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, with all the rights, honors and privileges appertaining thereto. Given under the seal of Hood College, Frederick, Maryland, on this, the sixteenth day of May, two thousand twenty-six.

## ACADEMIC DRESS

The custom of wearing academic dress has been handed down from the Middle Ages. In the medieval universities of Europe, where many scholars were also clerics, flowing gowns were standard dress. The hood was originally a cowl attached to the gown, which could be slipped over the head for warmth in the poorly heated buildings of that era.

Today, of course, the cap, gown and hood are purely symbolic and are worn only during academic ceremonies. But each piece of this regalia has a special meaning.

**THE CAP.** The black mortarboard cap with tassel is standard attire for graduates of American colleges and universities. The square cap came into use during the 16th century, and authorities differ on its meaning. One states that it was square to resemble the books that characterize scholars; another suggests that it was derived from the master workman's mortarboard; and a third says that it symbolizes the quadrangular shape of the campus of Oxford, where the cap originated. Those holding the doctorate wear a gold tassel, while all others usually wear a black tassel.

**THE GOWN.** The cut of the gown distinguishes among holders of the bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. The bachelor's gown is worn closed and has long, pointed sleeves, while holders of the master's degree wear the gown open with the arms worn through slits in the elbows of the sleeves. The doctor's gown, worn open, has full, bell-shaped sleeves with three horizontal bars stitched across the upper arm.

**THE HOOD.** It is the hood draped from the shoulders that offers the most information about its wearer. By looking at colors and length, one can determine the highest degree held by the wearer, the academic field and the college or university from which the degree was earned.

The inner lining of the hood identifies the institution where the individual earned the degree. Hood College graduates wear a hood lined with blue and grey, the traditional colors of the College.

The bachelor's and master's hoods are of the same design, pointed at the base. The bachelor's hood is three feet long with a three-inch border. The doctor's hood is four feet long, of fuller shape and rounded at the base, and the border is five inches wide.

The color of the velvet trim on the hood indicates the field of study in which the degree was earned. Hood awards degrees in Arts (white), Science (gold) and Science in Nursing (apricot) at the bachelor's level; Arts (white), Business Administration (drab), Fine Arts (brown) and Science (gold) at the master's level; and Business Administration (drab) and Organizational Leadership (citron) at the doctoral level. The academic colors are often repeated on the three horizontal bars stitched across the upper sleeve and the velvet panel draped around the neck of holders of the doctorate.

### **RIBBONS, CORDS, MEDALLIONS, CLOTH STRIPS.**

Many Hood graduates are wearing ribbons or emblems of academic achievement, including completion of the Hood College Honors Program, Departmental Honors or membership in an honor

society. The colors of the cords, medallion and cloth strip symbolize membership in various organizations:

### **ACADEMIC HONORS**

*Cords of black and red* = Pi Sigma Alpha, the national honor society in political science

*Cords of blue* = Alpha Mu Alpha, the national honor society in marketing

*Cords of blue and silver* = Psi Chi, the international honor society in psychology

*Cords of blue, white and red* = Pi Delta Phi, the national honor society in French

*Cords of navy blue and white* = Gamma Sigma Epsilon, the national honor society in chemistry

*Cords of royal blue and gold* = Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international honor society in economics

*Cords of green* = Student-athletes

*Cords of green and medallion* = Chi Alpha Sigma, the national college athlete honor society

*Cords of jade green and violet* = Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society in education

*Cords of gold and red* = Sigma Delta Pi, the national honor society in Spanish

*Cords of gold, white and red* = Alpha Lambda Delta, the national honor society for first-year students

# HOOD COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT 2026

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*Cords of purple and gold* = Delta Mu Delta, the international honor society in business

*Cords of cardinal red* = Tischer Scholars, students who have written and presented Departmental Honors papers

*Cords of cardinal red and black* = Sigma Tau Delta, the national honor society in English

*Cords of Madonna red and light blue* = Phi Alpha Theta, the national honor society in history

*Cords of red and green* = Beta Beta Beta, the national honor society in biology; red is for zoology and leaf green is for botany

*Cords of red and purple* = Alpha Epsilon Delta, the national honor society in pre-health

*Cords of red and white* = Lambda Pi Eta, the national honor society for communication arts

*Cords of silver and royal blue* = Hood College Honors Program

*Cords of violet, gold and lavender* = Pi Mu Epsilon, the national honor society in mathematics

*White ribbon with burgundy meander pattern* = Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society

*Cords of gold* = 4PLUS Program

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

*Cords of old gold* = Ionic Society, the honor society of service to Hood

*Cords of gold and silver and medallion* = Mortar Board National Senior Honor Society, which recognizes academics, leadership and service to the College

*Kente cloth strip* = A symbol of unity and achievement worn by Diversity Council

*Athletic stoles* = worn by student-athletes

*Cords of apricot and navy* = Hood Enactus

*Cords of citron* = Student Social Work Organization

*Cords of green and yellow* = First-generation students

*Cords of forest green and kelly green* = Hood Environmental Action Team (HEAT)

*Cords of kelly green, light blue and red* = Global Citizens Club

*Cords of old gold and maroon* = Hood College Archaeology Club

*Cords of old gold, crimson and apricot* = Hood College Clay Club

*Cords of lilac and light blue* = Student-Led Peer Advocacy for Healthy Relationships and Consent (SPARC)

*Cords of maroon* = Hood College Choir

*Cords of maroon, old gold and silver* = Hood College Choir Exec

*Cords of maroon and Yale blue* = History Club

*Cords of navy* = Blazer Radio

*Cords of navy and light blue* = Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

*Cords of peacock* = Campus Activities Board

*Cords of peacock and white* = Hood College Student Musical Theatre

*Cords of pink* = Hood Dance Ensemble

*Cords of purple* = Buddy Club

*Cords of purple and white* = InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

*Cords of purple and white* = Wisteria Literary Magazine

*Cords of red and green* = African and Caribbean Student Union

*Cords of red and silver* = Free Radicals Chemistry Club

*Cords of red and white* = Rotaract

*Cords of red, white and gold* = Pre-Health Club

*Cords of red, white and Yale blue* = Hood College Democrats

*Cords of red, white and Yale blue* = Veterans/Active-Duty Military

*Cords of red, white and Yale blue* = Veterans Student Organization

*Cords of silver* = Commuter Council

*Cords of white* = Urban Outlet

*Cords of white and maize* = Psychology Club

*Cords of Yale blue* = Student Government Association

*Cords of Yale blue and apricot* = Least Squares Math Club

*Cords of Yale blue and gold* = Student Education Association

*Cords of Yale blue, kelly green and white* = Sustaining Hood

*Cords of Yale blue and yellow* = Hood College Circle K

*Cords of red, white and silver* = All About M.E.

*Yale blue and silver* = The Blue and Grey newspaper

*Cords of navy, Yale blue and light blue* = Class Council

*Cords of light blue* = Hoodlum Steppers

*Cords of light blue and silver* = Nursing Club

## THE MCCULLAGH MEMORIAL CARILLON

Our digital carillon system, installed in the Coffman Chapel, made its debut for the 2023 Commencement events. The carillon was a gift from R.J. McCullagh III, Ph.D., in memory of his aunts Jessie McCullagh Smith, Class of 1909; Helen McCullagh McCutcheon, Class of 1914, P'40; and Amy McCullagh Davis, Class of 1922.

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## COMMENCEMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Flags representing each academic department will be set up on the lawn between the Pergola and Alumnae Hall ([map on page 12](#)). Following the ceremony, professors will gather by the flag representing their department for photos.

## COMMENCEMENT PHOTOGRAPHY (SEVERE WEATHER PLAN)

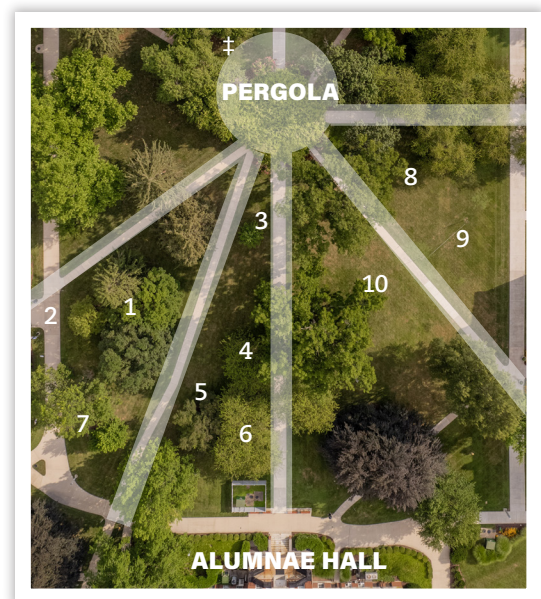
If severe weather occurs and faculty and students are not able to use the Quad following the ceremony, faculty will be in the following locations:

- **Hodson Science and Technology Center, Atrium**
  - Biology
  - Computer Science and Information Technology
  - Chemistry and Physics
  - Mathematics
  - Nursing
- **Whitaker Campus Center**
  - President
  - Blaze
  - Business
  - Counseling
  - English and Communication Arts
  - Psychology
  - Legacy Photo Station (second floor)
- **Coblentz Dining Hall**
  - Art and Archaeology
  - Education
  - History
  - Humanities
  - Music
- **Blazer Hall (first floor classroom)**
  - Global Languages and Cultures
  - Political Science, Global Studies,
  - Law and Criminal Justice

## COMMENCEMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Following the ceremony, faculty members will be available for pictures by their department flags (locations by number on photo below). President Ricker will be near the Pergola. Legacy photos will be on north side of the Pergola.

- 1. Art and Archaeology**  
Ceramic Arts, M.A., MFA
- 2. Education**  
Curriculum and Instruction, M.S.  
Educational Leadership, M.S.  
Education, Multidisciplinary Studies, M.S.  
Reading Specialization, M.S.
- 3. Nursing**  
Health Informatics, M.S.  
Nutrition, M.S.
- 4. Biology**  
Biomedical Science, M.S.  
Environmental Biology, M.S.
- 5. Mathematics**  
Mathematics Education, M.S.  
Mathematics Instructional Leadership, M.S.
- 6. Computer Science and Information Technology**  
Bioinformatics, M.S.  
Computer Science, M.S.  
Cybersecurity, M.S.  
Information Technology, M.S.  
Management Information Systems, M.S.
- 7. Counseling**  
Counseling, M.S.  
Interdisciplinary Studies in Human Behavior, M.A.
- 8. Humanities**  
Humanities, M.A.
- 9. The George B. Delaplaine Jr. School of Business**  
Business Administration, MBA, DBA  
Organizational Leadership, DOL
- 10. English and Communication Arts**  
Creative Writing, MFA



‡ Legacy Photo Station

## CEREMONY ETIQUETTE

Tickets are required for entry, including young children and babies, to comply with fire code regulations and capacity. Live streaming is available on the College's YouTube channel.

Seating on the floor of the arena is reserved for graduates, faculty and accessibility needs. We ask all guests to remain in their seats during the ceremony to ensure a safe and smooth process. We have several professional photographers positioned to capture each graduate's special moment as they cross the stage.

Following the ceremony, please remain in your seats under the platform party and graduates have recessed. Graduates can meet their faculty on the Quad.

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## PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

*PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS FROM HOOD COLLEGE AND CRVNKA PHOTOGRAPHY WILL BE CAPTURING THIS YEAR'S COMMENCEMENT, INCLUDING:*

- Formal portrait of graduates in regalia prior to walking across the stage.
- Posed portrait of graduates on stage with President Ricker.
- Candid moments before, during and after the ceremony.

All images will be delivered in a single online gallery that will be published via PhotoDay by *Wednesday, May 20, at noon EST.*

Each graduate will receive one free digital download (no purchase necessary). Details on how to claim your photo, along with full FAQ, are available at: **hood.edu/commencement**.

If you have not received notification of your photos being ready, cannot find your photos or if your photos are attributed to the wrong graduate, contact **cavalier@hood.edu**.



# *Alma Mater*

(THOSE WHO ARE ABLE ARE ASKED TO STAND.)

*High tower above us, thy columns so fair,  
Gleaming white in their calm majesty;  
Thus long have they battled the wild storms of time  
And will stand in the years yet to be.  
Though we wander afar from thy sheltering walls,  
Borne along on life's rough surging sea,  
Yet our hearts, Alma Mater, unchanging and true  
Will be loyal and faithful to thee.  
Hood College, above thy dear green ivied walls,  
How fond memories cluster and twine,  
There are friendships so golden that bind us to thee,  
Preparation for life, too, was thine.  
May we never forget thy lessons so true  
But honor and praise thy dear name.  
In our joys and our tears, in our triumphs and fears  
May our lives e'er be worthy of thee.*

*Gertrude B. Hoy, Class of 1912*

