



Commencement

M A Y 2 0 2 4



WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I offer my formal congratulations to you on the culmination of your years of effort, endeavor, and achievement at the University of Connecticut.

When you cross the stage at commencement, you will become part of a great experiment that began on a hill in Storrs, Connecticut in the fall of 1881, and which today encompasses more than 270,000 fellow Huskies across the globe who are shaping our world in countless ways, from the heights of industry and public service to the daily joys and responsibilities of life in communities both large and small.

I know you will cherish many memories from your time at UConn. Among them will be moments that forged lifelong bonds of friendship at an all-night study session or the stands at Gampel Pavilion; discoveries in the classroom or the laboratory that helped shape and direct your career path; and the feeling of empowerment that comes from joining together with your peers on a service project, political cause, or even raising money for a children's hospital by dancing the night away at HuskyTHON.

These memories will be an inexhaustible treasury for you no matter where your journey leads next, and so will the values that you developed here at UConn: commitment to public service, passion for discovery, and a relentless desire to pursue excellence.

In the years to come, I ask only that you let those values bring you home to UConn. By this, I mean not only attending alumni gatherings and sporting events, but keeping us up to date on your achievements and triumphs, of which there will be many. Your friends, your peers, and your professors will benefit from this, but so will future generations of Huskies, who will look to you as mentors, models, and inspirations.

As you embark on the next chapter in life, I wish you the fulfillment of all the promise a UConn degree brings, and the immeasurable joy that comes with hard-won accomplishment.

Once again: congratulations! Huskies FOREVER!

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Radenka Maric". The script is elegant and cursive.

Radenka Maric
President
University of Connecticut

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

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COMMENCEMENT NOTES

Commencement Day at the University of Connecticut is a time of ceremony and pageantry, embracing traditions dating back to medieval times.

The University of Connecticut was founded as the Storrs Agricultural School in 1881 when the General Assembly accepted a gift of money and land from Charles and Augustus Storrs, natives of Mansfield. In 1893 when it became a land-grant college and officially opened to women, the name was changed to Storrs Agricultural College. As the mission of the institution grew, its name was changed in 1899 to Connecticut Agricultural College, and in 1933 to the Connecticut State College. At first a small but vigorous college with limited undergraduate offerings in agriculture, home economics and mechanical arts, with the development of a university program it became The University of Connecticut in 1939. The Graduate program began in 1935, and in 1949 the University awarded its first doctoral degrees. The regional campuses were established in 1946 to accommodate the influx of veteran students. Today, the University is made up of fourteen different schools and colleges. Through its administrative Divisions, Institutes, and Centers, the University is a Land Grant and Sea Grant College and a Space Grant Consortium Institution, privileged to serve the citizens of the State of Connecticut, and beyond.

Enormous expansion has taken place over the years together

with increased enrollment. Today, the University has an enrollment of over 32,332 students. At Storrs, there are over 19,388 undergraduates and more than 6,334 graduate students, representing some 113 nations.

This May, the University will award over 9,400 degrees. Of these, approximately 5,902 will be Bachelor's degrees, 1,575 Master's degrees, 150 Juris Doctor degrees, 56 Master of Laws degrees, 59 Doctor of Pharmacy degrees, 49 Doctor of Dental Medicine degrees, 98 Doctor of Medicine degrees, 10 Doctor of Musical Arts degrees, 12 Doctor of Audiology, 5 Doctor of Education degrees, 19 Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees, 28 Doctor of Physical Therapy degrees, and 548 Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Also to be awarded are 29 diplomas in Professional Education and 27 Associate's degrees in the two-year Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture.

The Commencement Ceremony, because of the large number of graduates, is divided into separate exercises, by college or school. The Schools of Dental Medicine and Medicine, located in Farmington, and the Schools of Law and Social Work, both located in Hartford, hold their own exercises. The Commencement procession in each of the exercises at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs is heralded by the ceremonial trumpets, acquired especially for the University's commencement.

THE PROCESSIONAL BANNERS

College and School of Agriculture	Maize
School of Business	Drab Green
Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning	
Bachelor of General Studies	Maroon
School of Dental Medicine	Lilac and Gold
Neag School of Education	Light Blue
College of Engineering	Orange
School of Fine Arts	Brown and Pink
The Graduate School	
Masters Candidates	Blue, White and Gold
Doctor of Philosophy	Gold
School of Law	Purple
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Navy and Yellow
School of Medicine	Green and Gold
School of Nursing	Apricot
School of Pharmacy	Green
School of Social Work	Citron

The Academic Procession is led by the Bearer of the Mace, followed by the faculty. The University Marshal, identified by his Baton, follows the President, together with the speaker, the Board of Trustees, vice-presidents, deans, and other University officials. The Mace is presented at the center of the stage while members of the platform party enter and take their places. Once the Mace is placed on the stand, it signals the beginning of the ceremony.

The Academic Gowns, Hoods and Regalia represent more than elegance or colorful attire. Academic caps and gowns continue a tradition which reaches far back into the early days of the oldest universities of the Middle Ages. The early European universities were founded by the church; the students, being clerics, were obliged to wear prescribed gowns and caps at all times. Caps and gowns were once common forms of clothing and were retained by the clergy when the laity adopted more modern dress. Hoods are lined with the official color of the college or university which conferred the degree. The velvet edging of the hood varies in length for bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees. The color represents the appropriate degree. The tassel for the bachelor's and master's degree may be of color distinctive to the degree, and the tassel for the doctoral degree may be made of gold thread. The gown and hood of the University Marshal were made specifically for University ceremonies in the official colors of national flag blue and white. The Processional Marshals wear blue velvet "beefeater" hats.

The Mace is presented at all academic ceremonies. In medieval times maces were weapons of warfare, but today a mace is "a staff borne by, or carried before, a magistrate or other dignitary as an ensign of his authority." It is the emblem and symbol of the President's authority to administer the University. This mace was first used at the Inauguration of President Homer D. Babbidge, Jr. on October 20, 1962. It was designed by Nathan Knobler, former head of the Department of Art. The University's early seal, executed in beautiful wood carving, appears on both faces. A penny dated 1881 is affixed to it, to commemorate the date of the University's founding.

The Baton, carried by the University Marshal, was specifically designed for ceremonial activities at The University of Connecticut and was first used at the Commencement in 1968. The Office of Marshal can also be traced back to the medieval period, and the Baton is a symbol of the Marshal's authority. This Baton has silver mountings and is surmounted by a representation of the University's former seal in enamel, which itself incorporates the coat of arms of the State of Connecticut. The University Marshal, carrying the Baton, follows the Mace

Bearer as they lead the academic procession into and out of the place of ceremony.

The Silver Collar/Medallion, worn by Radenka Maric, President, was first used in 1964, at the time of the University's Silver Anniversary. Each link on the collar represents one of the University's Schools or Colleges and consists of a cloisonné circle engraved with an appropriate design for the particular school and enameled with its traditional school or college colors. Hanging from the chain is a large silver medallion containing the University's early seal.

The Awarding of Degrees at the University of Connecticut is accomplished by a threefold process. First, the candidates for degrees of each respective school or college are presented by the University Marshal. The candidates proceed to the front, receive their diploma covers, are congratulated by their administrative officers, and return to their seats. Second, the School or College Marshal then officially presents the candidates to the Dean who acknowledges the candidates and declares the appropriate degree. Third, when all candidates have been duly presented, the President of the University (or the highest ranking official of the University in attendance) formally confers the appropriate degree. This is accomplished verbally at the time that they speak the words:

"By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Trustees of The University of Connecticut, and in accordance with the procedures and regulations of the University, I confer upon you the Associate's Degree, appropriate Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree, Sixth Year Diploma, or degree of Doctor for which you have been presented at this One Hundred and Forty Fifth Commencement of The University."

The Recessional of the officials and faculty is once again led by the Mace Bearer and University Marshal. The graduates, along with the audience, are requested to remain seated until the recessional is concluded.

COMMENCEMENT

ORDER OF EXERCISES

SCHOOL OF LAW
55 Elizabeth Street, Hartford
Sunday, May 12, 2024 – 10:30 A.M.

PROCESSIONAL FLAG BEARERS

Chelsea Connery '24, *Juris Doctor, Day Division*
Bron Tamulis '24, *Juris Doctor, Evening Division*
Maureen Nasieku Kosen '24, *Master of Laws, Energy and Environmental Law*
Alexis Morales-Fresse '24, *Master of Laws, Governance, Risk Management and Compliance*
Sabba Salebaig '24, *Master of Laws, Human Rights and Social Justice*
Hannah Louise Lauer '24, *Master of Laws, Insurance Law*
Bjarne Bennet Wiese '24, *Master of Laws, U.S. Legal Studies*
Ehren Robert Cahill '24, *President, Student Bar Association*

SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM Shae Alexis Heitz '24

INTRODUCTION
Paul Chill '85
Clinical Professor of Law and Chief Marshal

WELCOMING REMARKS Eboni S. Nelson *Dean, School of Law*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Stephen B. Bright
Former president of the Southern Center for Human Rights and
Harvey L. Karp
Visiting Lecturer at Yale Law School

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
Jessica Rubin
Associate Dean for Experiential Education and Clinical Professor of Law, School of Law

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES
Dr. Gladis Kersaint
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Perry Zirkel '76 Distinguished Teaching Award Presentation
by Eboni S. Nelson
Dean, School of Law
to Bethany Berger
Wallace Stevens Professor of Law

STUDENT REMARKS
Guliko Matcharashvili '24, *Master of Laws*
Gretchen Yelmini '24, *Juris Doctor, Evening Division*
Olaleye Onikuyide '24, *Juris Doctor, Day Division*

ALUMNI WELCOME
P.J. Cimini '95
President, The University of Connecticut Law School Alumni Association, Inc.

RECESSIONAL

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COMMENCEMENT

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SCHOOL OF LAW COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Stephen B. Bright

Stephen Bright teaches at the law schools at Georgetown and Yale, was the longtime director of the Southern Center for Human Rights, where he tried death penalty cases before juries in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi, and argued capital cases

in the state and federal courts. He is the author, with James Kwak, of *The Fear of Too Much Justice: Race, Poverty, and the Persistence of Inequality in the Criminal Courts* (2023).

THE SCHOOL OF LAW

JURIS DOCTOR

Alexandria Abacherli
Nolyn Allen
Kobe Marcellous Amos
Ernest Lucian Andreoli III
Jennefier Banos Vale
Henry Bareiss
Jenna Lynn Bator
Portia Marie Baudisch
Eric M. Benoit
Alexander Morton Berne
Robert Louis Bertekap III
Nicolas Raymond Berube
Radhika Shreyas Bhagat
Kashvi Nimish Bhatt
Sreya Bhattaru
Amy Elizabeth Bissonnette
Ashley Lynn Blair
Valerie Christine Bonifield
Keith Joseph Brown Jr.
Spencer Buckley
Ruth Marston Burke
Ehren Robert Cahill
Sean Michael Carey
Andrea Penne Catania
Matthew Joshua Chacko
Nathaniel Gregory Chmura
Jonathan Tyler Clark
Max Clayton
Jack Joseph Cole
Jacob Noel Comment
Chelsea Connery
Casey Marie Corvino
Joshua Connor Crow
Christina Cruz
Alejandro Israel Cuenca Egas
Jacqueline Yvonne Siefert Cushing
Brianna Lee Cyr
David Nicholas Del Prete
Marissa Denison
Erin Elisabeth Dennehy
Catherine Elizabeth Depino
Meghan M. Diamond*
Sophia Julia Dibbini
David Lucas Dickerson
Gina Marie DiVito
Katelyn Ruth D'Ouille
John Patrick Dudley
Henry Duong
Chloe R. Dysart
Corey D. Evans

Jillian Lee Fernandes
Jill Flanigan
Zachary Saul Flashman
Matthew J. Forcino
Taylor V. Friel
Sarah Frostbutter
Laurane Elizabeth Joan Fumex
Nicole Emma Gagnon
Kathleen Anne Gibbons
Justin Glaser
Benjamin Ryan Godley
Marc Joseph Goldner
Brooke Victoria Gravante
Stephanie C. Greer
Clare Elizabeth Hebert
Shae Alexis Heitz
Andrew Joseph Higgins
Eleanor Mariona Hirschman
Yong Ki Hong
Jessica Nicole Houser
Brittany Monique Faith Jones
Olivia Shay Jones
Kevin Matthew Jordan
Ali Kaba
Trent Robicheau Kaisen
Lauren Elizabeth Kidd
Kendall Eileen Grace Kirk
Benjamin Michael Kline
Lauren Stephany Klobutcher
Michael Kozlov
Kiana Laude
Peter Maxwell Leff
Luann Way-Ann Liang
Liana Henderson-Semel Linaldi
Yaoyue Liu
Hannah Grace Livezey
Kevin E. Lizon
Joyce Alyce Lopes*
Anthony Edward Lozier
Thomas Magnuson
Philip Nicholas Mainiero
Stefanie McArdle
Kevin Benneyan McCauley
Caroline Ross McCormack
Robert Michael McCormick
Ryan Thomas McGrenery
Megan Celeste Medlicott
Ariana Danielle Monson
Margaret Murolo
Devon Julia Myer

Matthew Howard Nanci
Michael Vincent Nanfito
Brian Wrinn Nelson
Sophia Ruth Nelson
Alisandra Jacqueline Nicolay
Colleen Kelly Olsen
Olaleye A. Onikuyide
Madeline Grace Paine
Nicole H. Palmieri
Christine Srima Perera
Lily Maria Pickett
Allan Arthur Quade
Alexandra Elizabeth Quental
Samantha A. Rodriguez
Cheyenne Marguerite Rogers
Daniel Franklin Ross
Pearl L. Rourke
Stephanie Loren Roviroso
Brice Alexander Russo
Matthew Joseph Saladino
Rachel Sandor
Madison Mae Schettler
Ian Douglas Sheldon
Anthony Shoji Shimamoto
Olta Shkempi
Autumn Nicole Siegel
Florence Tiffanie Brooke Simon
Taylor Dean Skirvin
Andrew Weston Stephens
Bron C. Tamulis
Corey L. Thomas
Sukriti Thomas
Christian Tippins
Caitlin Grace Tzimirotas
Esangubong Mfon Sandy Udoh
Joslin Tracy Valiyaveettil
Renee L. Varga
Julia Rose Vassallo
Taylorann Parker Vibert
Torsten David Voigt
Alona Voronova
Caitlin Mary Walsh
Jillian Irene Warren
Alyssa Marie Wessner
Michael Justin Whitelaw*
Charles David Wilber
Janelle Nicole Williams
Gillian Samantha Wilson
Gretchen D. Yelmini
Tatiana Rose Yevin

* Candidate for Two Degrees

THE SCHOOL OF LAW

MASTER OF LAWS

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Pearl Baffour Addo
F Michele Cooper

Claudius Felix Karich
Maureen Nasieku Kosen

Colleen Kelly Olsen

GOVERNANCE, RISK MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

Ahmadou S.B. Bojang

Shawn Gordon Lisle

Alexis Morales-Fresse

HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Sara Jasim Ali Abdulla
Fatou Ibrahim Darboe
Enrique Lopez Ramirez

Guliko Matcharashvili
Emmanuel Chinkou Malieny Mawut
Isioma Cynthia Osakwe

Sabba Salebaigi

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Min Ju Kim
Sungwon Kim
Tae Hyoung Kim
Hee Bum Lee

KwangSu Lee
Kyu Seok Park
Yujung Park
Minyoung Shin
Eunji Yeo

DOCTOR OF THE SCIENCE OF LAW

Anni Dai

Doctoral Dissertation: Climate Change and Renewable Energy Deployment in China: Renewable Portfolio Standard and Feed-in Tariff from a Comparative Perspective

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