

S O U T H E R N

A D V E N T I S T

U N I V E R S I T Y

COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

AUGUST 17, 2023



ILES PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTER
COLLEGEDALE, TENNESSEE



Power for Mind & Soul

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E T O G R A D U A T E S



Dear Graduates,

On behalf of the entire Southern Adventist University family, congratulations on this remarkable milestone! As you leave Southern, I encourage you to love life. That means finding joy in the simple moments, in your relationship with God, in your relationships with others, and while pursuing your God-given passions. Loving life requires a positive outlook and a heart filled with gratitude.

Loving life to the fullest sometimes takes courage. It may move you out of your comfort zone and cause you to encounter uncertainty even while you are pursuing your dreams. It will involve taking risks, learning from failures, and always moving forward.

Loving life becomes most meaningful when you embrace God's specific calling for you as you serve those around you. In 1 Peter 4:10 the Bible says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others." Through God's gift, you will experience life's joys most fully when you seize the opportunities to serve others with compassion.

I pray that Southern has set you on a foundation for loving life. As you depart our campus, let the Bible be your guide—love God, love others, love life, live boldly, cherish moments, nurture passions, embrace challenges, and dare to pursue dreams. God has promised to be with you wherever you go. We look forward to watching what He will do in your life!

Blessings,



Ken Shaw, EdD
President

S E R V I C E S O N T H E W E B



Commencement services can be viewed live online by visiting southern.edu/streaming.

Please silence all electronic devices during programs.

Please do not use airhorns or other noisemakers as they can be harmful and painful to those of our guests with hearing devices.

COMMENCEMENT

Thursday, August 17, 2023, 7 p.m.



Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance Marches Nos. 1 and 4</i>	Sir Edward Elgar
Invocation.....		Rachel Loukota, <i>DNP graduate</i>
Welcome		Paityn Foszcz, <i>AS, BS graduate</i>
Introduction of Speaker.....		Ken Shaw, <i>President</i>
Commencement Address.....	“The Question. Your Response”	Krystal Bishop <i>Professor, School of Education, Psychology, and Counseling</i>
Conferring of Degrees		Ken Shaw, <i>President</i>
Presentation of Degree Candidates		Robert Young <i>Senior Vice President for Academic Administration</i>
		Dionne Felix <i>Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Student Success and Retention</i>
		Frances Johnson <i>Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies</i>
		Karon Powell <i>Director of Records and Advisement</i>
Alumni Association Welcome		Kris Eckenroth <i>Alumni Council Representative, Class of 1999</i>
Benediction.....		Tyler Hodges, <i>MMin graduate</i>
Recessional.....	<i>Rondeau</i>	Jean-Joseph Mouret

Brass Ensemble Conductor: Ken Parsons, *School of Music Associate Professor*

Faculty Assistants: Chanda Daggs, *School of Education, Psychology, and Counseling Assistant Professor*
Candy Dolcy, *School of Social Work Assistant Professor*

Grand Marshal: Kristie Wilder, *University Senate Chair, School of Social Work Professor*

DOCTORATE OF NURSING PRACTICE PROJECTS



A hallmark of the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) is the successful completion of a scholarly project demonstrating the synthesis of the student's experiences, both coursework and practice application. The DNP Project provides the student with a vehicle to demonstrate advanced nursing knowledge in a particular clinical area of practice.

Rachel Loukota *"Preparing Nursing Faculty for Next Generation NCLEX: an Interactive Workshop"*

Lisa Murphy *"A Lifestyle Management Group Coaching Intervention for Fear of Cancer Recurrence in Young Breast Cancer Survivors"*

HONOR CORDS



Gold Cord—*Summa Cum Laude*—3.90+ GPA

Silver Cord—*Magna Cum Laude*—3.75-3.89 GPA

Green Cord—*Cum Laude*—3.50-3.74 GPA

All other colors represent honors societies in the various academic areas.

PHILANTHROPY MEDALLION



Graduates are wearing a gold zipper-pull medallion in honor of the alumni, family, and friends who have donated to the class gift this year.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Ambar Melissa Acevedo Santana, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Daniel Aaron Alfaro.....	BS Health Science
Terry Glenn Bokombe Bokefele	BBA Management [Entrepreneurship]
Lillian Grace Cheneweth, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Paityn Ranae Foszcz, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Isabely Aleska Garcia	BSN Nursing
Lorie Mae Godoy Jefford, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Medical Lab Science
Kaitlyn Simoes Gonsalves, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BBA Management [International Business]; BA International Studies [Spanish]
Kaitlyn Elizabeth Hallock, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA English [Literature]
Vince Hilton Harlequin.....	BBA Accounting
Lindsey Aziku Valdez Imuro, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Jordan Lindsay Leader.....	BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
Jordan Amanda Milano, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Kevin Mogollon Cabellos, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BFA Graphic Design
Eden Orion Sampson.....	BS Information Technology
Nathaniel Philip George Simmons	BBA Accounting
Hananiah Josiah Straughn.....	BA English [TESOL]

ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Dyani Rashelle Copp	AS Graphic Design
Mia Corrin Findorff	AS General Studies
Kari Lynn Nelson Manu	AS General Studies
Logan Daniel Robbins, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Engineering Studies

MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

Luseny Alphonse	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Ilsia Abigail Bonilla	MSW Social Work [School Social Work]
Wendy Lee Boyd.....	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Virginie Marie Cimpaye	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Angie Serena Edwards	MSW Social Work [Crisis/Emergency Management]
Jordan Alexander Esquivel	MSW Social Work [Crisis/Emergency Management]
Enialju Miguel Evans	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Julie Foster	MMin Biblical Counseling
Tyler Edwin Hodges	MMin Biblical Counseling
Valerie Jo Hunt	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Ruben Joseph	MMin Biblical Counseling
Sungeun Kim	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Courtney Krajesty	MSW Social Work [School Social Work]
Daniel C. Kuntz	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Lillian Groft Lopez.....	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Abraham I. Navarro.....	MSW Social Work [Crisis/Emergency Management]
Kaitlyn Janelle Orquia	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Robert L. Overstreet	MMin Biblical Counseling
Samantha Reilly Proulx.....	MSW Social Work [Crisis/Emergency Management]
Yahaira Quirindongo.....	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Jillian Colleen Roberts	MS School Counseling

William Ernest Rogers	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Minda J. Ruba	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Jenny Frances Schulte.....	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Joshua Kyle Simpson.....	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Jami Michelle Williams	MSW Social Work [School Social Work]
Cynthia Marie Work.....	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Lacy Young.....	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

Rachel Ann Loukota	DNP Nurse Educator
Lisa R. Murphy.....	DNP Lifestyle Medicine

The Commencement program does not constitute an official list of graduates.

GUEST GRADUATES

GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

Victor Czerkasij.....	DNP Organizational Leadership
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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

Olin McGraw.....	DMin Urban Ministry
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EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Constance Anja Spano.....	MPA Accounting
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ACADEMIC REGALIA



The color of velvet trim on the hoods represents the area of study. The color of the silk lining represents the university that conferred the degree. The color of the tassel represents the degree of the undergraduate.

Arts, Humanities, Interdisciplinary, Letters.....	White	Outdoor Leadership	Russet
Business	Drab	Physical Education.....	Sage Green
Communication.....	Crimson	Physical Therapy.....	Teal
Education	Light Blue	Public Administration, Foreign Service	Peacock
Fine Arts	Brown	Science.....	Golden Yellow
Law	Purple	Social Work	Citron
Music.....	Pink	Software Engineering.....	Orange
Nursing.....	Apricot	Theology	Scarlet

S U M M A R Y



UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATES—21
(2 HAVE TWO MAJORS OR DEGREES)

MASTER’S GRADUATES—28

DOCTORAL GRADUATES—2

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH
BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Biology and Allied Health.....	3	Health and Kinesiology	2
Business	4	Modern Languages	1
Chemistry.....	1	Nursing.....	2
Computing	1	Visual Art and Design.....	2
English.....	2		

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH
ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Biology and Allied Health.....	2	Engineering	1
General Studies.....	2		

SCHOOLS WITH
MASTER’S DEGREE GRADUATES

Education, Psychology, and Counseling		Nursing.....	5
Counseling	1	Religion.....	4
Education	6	Social Work	12

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

Nursing.....	2
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THE MACE



The mace is a traditional symbol used to communicate and designate authority. The Southern Adventist University mace was crafted in 1986 by John Durichek, a Southern alum. Southern's mace represents its heritage and *raison d'être* (reason for existence). The base is of pine from Jones Hall, built in 1917 and razed in 1985. The main staff is of walnut. The seven rings represent completeness. The four-sided ebony segment is seen as Southern's underlying educational philosophy—balanced mental, spiritual, physical, and social development for each student. The brass flames represent the Holy Spirit.

Bearing the mace is the grand marshal, Rachel Williams-Smith, chair of the University Senate and dean of the School of Journalism and Communication. Her regalia is evergreen, the university's traditional color.

SPECIAL THANKS



Academic Administration
Advancement
Alumni Relations
Ann Shaw (stage decor)
Audio Visual
Blluum Floral and Event Design
(stage flowers)
Campus Safety
Collegedale Police Department
College Press

Energy Management
Financial Administration
Food Services
Graduate and Professional Studies
Marketing and University Relations
President's Office
Quick Print
Records and Advisement
School of Music
Service Department

We extend our gratitude especially to parents, fellow students, and guests.

ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND



October 26-29, 2023

We are excited to welcome you back to the campus of Southern Adventist University to remember your fondest experiences, relive your best memories, and reconnect with fellow alumni from near and far. This fall, we look forward to hosting our featured speaker, Dwight Nelson, '73, and welcoming all of our alumni back to campus to enjoy some of your favorite Homecoming activities, as well as several new events!

Mark your calendars for Homecoming Weekend 2023.

Learn more and register at southern.edu/homecoming.

On behalf of the Alumni Association, congratulations to our newest alumni, the Class of 2023!