

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

MAY 7, 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,

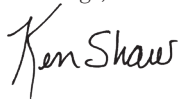
On behalf of every Southern Adventist University employee, I congratulate you on completing your courses of study and receiving your well-deserved degrees. We are proud of you!

We pray that as Southern alumni, you will continue to hold dear the Christian values you have experienced here, that you will excel in your occupations, and that you will continue to listen to and be part of God's calling in your lives, resulting in meaningful service in your churches and communities.

To your loved ones who have provided financial, emotional, and spiritual support, we thank them. The renowned scientist Isaac Newton once wrote that he was able to accomplish so much because he was "standing upon the shoulders of giants." I join you in acknowledging the giants in your lives, the ones who have loved, cared about, and supported you.

You have put in the hard work and completed a job well done. You are now equipped to go and lead. "The Lord bless you, and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance on you, and give you peace" (Numbers 6:24-26).

Blessings,



Ken Shaw
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.

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.

MISSION



Grounded in Jesus Christ and dedicated to the beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, we equip students to embrace biblical truth, embody academic and professional excellence, and pursue Spirit-filled lives of service.

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS



Students of Southern Adventist University will:

- **Spiritual Development**
grow in a vibrant relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, while integrating into their lives Bible-based beliefs and values as understood by the Seventh-day Adventist church.
- **Intellectual Development**
develop a commitment to lifelong learning and demonstrate a mastery of the cognitive skills of critical reasoning, independent thinking, reflective judgment, communication, and creativity needed to confront the issues, ideas, and values of historical and contemporary civilization.
- **Occupational Development**
exhibit excellence and moral leadership in their chosen field of study and/or profession.
- **Individual and Social Development**
develop socio-emotional maturity that will enable them to be effective leaders and contributing members of their churches, families, groups, and communities in a global society.
- **Physical Development**
take responsibility for their own well-being through a health-promoting lifestyle.

GRAND MARSHAL FOR ALL SERVICES



Rachel Williams-Smith, *University Senate Chair, Journalism and Communication Dean and Professor*

COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, May 7, 2023, 9 a.m.



Fanfare.....	<i>Fanfare for the Lord Mayor of London</i>	Sir Arthur Bliss
Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance March, No.1</i>	Sir Edward Elgar
Invocation.....		Katelyn Knight, <i>senior</i>
Welcome		Mackenzie Jezierski, <i>senior</i>
Introduction of Speaker.....		Michelle Norton, <i>senior</i>
Commencement Address.....	“Subscribe Now”	Ken Norton <i>President of Montana Conference of Seventh-day Adventists</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> Tyson Hall <i>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		Eric Dunkel <i>Alumni Associaton Senior President, Class of 1999</i>
Benediction.....		Issac Abraham, <i>senior</i>
Recessional.....	<i>Rigaudon</i>	André Campra

Brass Ensemble Conductor: Ken Parsons, *School of Music Associate Professor*
Faculty Assisting Graduates: Jaclyn Huse, *School of Nursing Professor*
Laura Racovita, *School of Social Work Dean and Professor*

C O M M E N C E M E N T

Sunday, May 7, 2023, 1 p.m.



Fanfare.....	<i>Fanfare for the Lord Mayor of London</i>	Sir Arthur Bliss
Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance March, No.1</i>	Sir Edward Elgar
Invocation.....		Bianca Guarino, <i>senior</i>
Welcome		Esther Manu, <i>senior</i>
Introduction of Speaker.....		Ken Shaw, <i>President</i>
Commencement Address.....	“Upside Down”	Dave Ferguson <i>Senior Pastor of Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists</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> Tyson Hall <i>Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies</i> Karon Powell <i>Director of Records and Advisement</i>
Faculty Honors.....		Ken Shaw, <i>President</i> Robert Young, <i>Senior Vice President for Academic Administration</i>
Alumni Association Welcome		Eric Dunkel <i>Alumni Associaton Senior President, Class of 1999</i>
Benediction.....		Miro Manestar, <i>senior</i>
Recessional.....	<i>Rigaudon</i>	André Campra

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

Faculty Assisting Graduates: Candy Dolcy, *School of Social Work Assistant Professor*
Beth Scott, *School of Nursing Professor*

SOUTHERN SCHOLARS



In addition to maintaining a 3.50 GPA and meeting normal degree requirements, *Southern Scholars* complete a special honors curriculum involving interdisciplinary studies, honors courses, and independent study. This semester, five graduates earned that distinction. The titles of their senior research projects are listed below:

Daniel James Burke	<i>"The Change of Italian and United States Banking Systems in Response to the Global Financial Crisis"</i>
Christina Elizabeth Cannon	<i>"The Sound of the Civil War: Examining the Intersection of Music and Emotion"</i>
Matthew Allen Gano	<i>"The Impact of Floral Diversity on Soil Microbial Community Composition"</i>
Esther Akosua Manu	<i>"College Students' General Knowledge of Africa and Their Willingness to do Business in African Countries"</i>
Marie Ariannee Rodriguez	<i>"The Impact of Soil Disturbance on Soil Microbial Community Composition"</i>

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.

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.

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	Public Administration, Foreign Service	Peacock
Education	Light Blue	Science.....	Golden Yellow
Fine Arts	Brown	Social Work	Citron
Law	Purple	Software Engineering.....	Orange
Music.....	Pink	Theology	Scarlet
Nursing.....	Apricot		

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.

CULTURAL GRADUATION STOLES



The cultural stoles celebrate Southern’s Asian, African/Black Christian Union, European, Latin American, Native American, and Oceania Islanders student groups. They represent the fabric that makes this university a diverse community and spiritual family in faith. “After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: ‘Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb’” (Revelation 7:9-10, NIV).

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Issac Sunil Abraham, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing; AS Chemistry
Isabella Songco Abugan	BS Medical Lab Science
Khelley Catherene Alegrado Cabil, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Marlyn Antwan, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Political Science
Camden Elise Armstrong, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Sports Studies [Management]
Jared Alexander Azevedo, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Xavier Baca	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Dariana Elizabeth Badillo, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BFA Animation [Character Animation]
Jacob Abraham Bahn, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Computer Science
Junyul Baik, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Kevin William Panugao Bartolome, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Kenneth Nathaniel Bautista, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BBA Management [Management]
Shannelle E. Bennett, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Medical Lab Science
Katherine Melissa Berrios	BSN Nursing
Ashley Elizabeth Blake, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Philippe Jonathan Blake, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Mathematics
Kristen Shea Boyd	BSN Nursing
Brittany Eden Braister-Sturgis, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education [Non-Licensure]
Marina Zipporah Brock	BA Archaeology [Near Eastern Studies]
Melissa Renee Buck, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Daniel James Burke, <i>Cum Laude, Southern Scholar</i>	BBA Finance
Christina Elizabeth Cannon, <i>Magna Cum Laude, Southern Scholar</i>	BA History
Alexander Peyton Carelock	BFA Graphic Design
Emily Elizabeth Carvajal, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Psychology [Clinical]
Jonathan Jonas Cerino	BA Psychology
Bo Bae Eunice Cha, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Helen Grace Chikay Chan, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Laura Edith Chavarria	BA Liberal Arts Education [Non-Licensure]
Giselle Chavez	BSN Nursing
Junyoung Cho, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science
Nathan S. Chung	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Sarah Elizabeth Cole, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
Kaleb James Coleman, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Marketing
Briana Lynn Collins, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Noah McKenzie Collins, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Biology
Nicholas Andrew Cox	BA Film Production
Caroline Grace Crank	BS Medical Lab Science
*Bradley Allen Culpepper	BS Health, Physical Education and Recreation
Naomi Beata Daniels, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Political Science
Colton Hart Davis, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Physics
Kaitlyn Grace Deaux, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
Johany Gadyel De Gyves	BA Psychology
Tristan Charles Deschamps, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Computer Information Systems
Brandon Abbade DeSouza, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Kaelin Yuhana Djami, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Kevin A. Djami	BSN Nursing
Dara Storm Domingo, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Karen Dominguez	BSN Nursing
Arian G. Dovald, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Physics
Charles Brandon Bermudez Dugaduga	BSN Nursing
Sierra Paige Dunzweiler	BSW Social Work
Angelyn Marie Edwards	BA Psychology

*Teaching Certificate

Isaac Eh, Cum Laude	BSN Nursing
Isabella Marie Eklund, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
Rafael Antony Encarnacion III	BSW Social Work
Breanna Renee Ermshar, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Robert Nicholas Estrada, Jr.	BSN Nursing
Emma Elisabeth Fenwick, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Erick Samuel Flores	BA English [Literature]; International Studies [Italian]
Jared Lee Freeman	BS Chemistry
Katherine Grace Frykman, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Nicolas Samir Galindo	BS Business Administration
Matthew Allen Gano, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Southern Scholar</i>	BS Biology [Research]
Michael Ross Garcia	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Morgan Justine Garcia, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
Jacob Benjamin Gates	BBA Finance
Laura Catherine Gibbs	BSW Social Work
Gina De Jesus Gonzales	BSN Nursing
Kevin Noel Gonzales	BA Chemistry
Matthew Ryan Gorton	BA International Development Studies
David Nathaniel Graham	BS Business Administration
Camden Scott Griggs, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Film Production
Adriana Bianca Gallego Guarino, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Medical Lab Science
Zarina Jenae Gurley, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Psychology
Jeremy Reese Gustman	BSN Nursing
Sarah Marie Hagan	BBA Marketing
Jeremy Michael Hall, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
McKenzie Renee Hanon, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Nutrition and Dietetics]
Andrew James Delevante Hansbury	BS Computer Science
Alaina Janette Harelimana, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Political Science
Julian Charneco Harrington	BA Religious Studies
Hannah Mae Hayton	BFA Animation [Character Animation]
Meghan Mackenzie Hedges, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Kleber Marsola Hernandes	BS Psychology [Clinical]
Sophia Christine Hernandez	BSN Nursing
Alexander Ryo Hongo, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Janie Lee Hoskinson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Business Administration
Michaela Gabrielle Hounslow, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BFA Film Production
*Brittany Danielle Howard, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA English
Natalie Margaret Hutchins, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education [Non-Licensure]
Allan Evan Hyde	BBA Management [International Business]
Daniel Michael Tae Kang Im, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Jessica Anne Ing, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BBA Management [Management]
Charlotte Erina Ishikawa, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Chemistry
Jordan Elizabeth Jablonski, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Graphic Design
Matthew Louis Jensen, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Computer Science
Mackenzie Renee Jezierski, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Business Administration
David Anthony Johnson, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Biblical Studies
Michelle Kiele Johnson	BSW Social Work
Lilly Catherine Jorgensen	BFA Fine Arts
Yedam Ju, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science
Chelsey Chae-Reen Kang, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Esther Minji Kang	BSN Nursing
Anton James Kannenberg, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Computer Information Systems
John Matthew Kent, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
Collin Andrew Kilmer, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Mathematics

*Teaching Certificate

Abigail Mi-Hyun Kim.....	BSN Nursing
Andrew Bohsuk Kim.....	BS Medical Lab Science
Deborah Sujung Kim, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Dustin Chulyoung Kim, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Joshua Saejin Kim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
Katie Ji-Yun Kim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science
Lucas James Kim, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Madeline Onu Kim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Yongha Joshua Kim	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Katelyn Clair Knight, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Psychology [Clinical]
Geraldine Cheryl-Kimberly Kra, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Ryan Scott Kuczma	BS Business Administration
Katherine Cheyenne Lanagan	BSW Social Work
Lauren Que Lapham, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Hannah Hyemin Lee	BSN Nursing
Elizabeth Legerman, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science
Xin Li, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Thang Sawm Lian.....	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Joseph Jaehwan Lim.....	BA Chemistry
Brayan Lopez, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Religious Studies
*Sydney Noelle Lopez, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education
Nick-Erce Louis	BA Political Science
Sarah Jennifer Luna Manuel, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Mass Communication [Advertising]
Paula Macena.....	BA English [Professional/Writing]
Elodie Nathalia Manalo, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Chemistry
Miro Ioan Manestar, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Computer Science
Jacquelyn Esther Mannerberg.....	BSN Nursing
Esther Akosua Manu, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Southern Scholar</i>	BA International Development Studies
Rachel Trimeracy Marpaung	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Megan Deogracia Marquez, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Research]
Elysse Mastrapa, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Lillian Brylee-Paige Mattox.....	BBA Management [Management]
Marcus Timothy Maynes	BA Film Production
Madison Rose Mehl, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
Dayan Rogelio Mejias	BS Business Administration
Gabrielle Tavares Mendonca, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Nutrition and Dietetics]
Priscilla Mensah.....	BA Art
Grant Austin Milano, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Tahli Jamica Miller Simphson	BSN Nursing
Victoria Lea Mills, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Mass Communication [Writing/Editing]
John Luke Monday	BA Automotive Service Management
Sheila Marie Monrobert	BSN Nursing
Leann P. Montaque	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Hannah Elizabeth Moody, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Ji Won Moon, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Research]
Daniela Alejandra Morales.....	BS Health Science
Juan José Morán.....	BA Mathematics
Heather Megan Morris	BA Liberal Arts Education [Non-Licensure]
Levi Cale Nerness	BSN Nursing
Nickolas Richard Nieves, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Computer Science; BA Graphic Design
Nathan Alexander Norris.....	BT Construction Management
Michelle Ashley Norton, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education [Non-Licensure]
Cody Evan O'Brien.....	BS Kinesiology
Elsie Sun Ah Pak, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA English [Professional/Writing]; AS Allied Health [Pre-Dental Hygiene]

*Teaching Certificate

Andrew Selvan Pakkianathan, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Business Administration
Patricia Kalsey Pakpahan, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Hyun Ah Park, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Jaehyun Park, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Computer Science
Daniel Steven Patil.....	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Aaron Christopher Patterson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Mass Communication [Media Production]
Marisa Lynell Patterson, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Ruben Daniel Pechero-Loewen.....	BS Psychology [Clinical]
Samantha Yulia Pechero-Loewen.....	BBA Accounting
Kelsey Lynette Perez, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Nutrition and Dietetics]
Olivia Grace Perry, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Safiyya Ilyse Phillip, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
Wade Kenneth Pierce	BA Biology
Mileidys Annette Piñero Velez.....	BA English [Literature]
Fernando Gabriel Portillo, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Lauren Rose Azelin Powell.....	BSN Nursing
Xavier Joseph Quiles.....	BA Film Production
Emily Pinheiro Raimundo	BSW Social Work
Raul Eduardo Ramirez, II, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Migdalice Ramos Nieves.....	BSN Nursing
Catherine Marie Vollmer Ray, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Biblical Studies
Nathan Lee Ray	BA Biblical Studies
Gwyneth Kay Reams, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Hannah Xuan Reimche-Vu, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Biology
Madison Priscilla Lane Reinschmidt, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Mass Communication [Writing/Editing]
Adam Robert Reiss	BT Automotive Service Management
Isabella Capistrano Schmiele Ribeiro, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Kinesiology
Marie Ariannae Rodriguez, <i>Cum Laude</i> , <i>Southern Scholar</i>	BS Biology [Research]
Natalie Grace Rouse, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Graphic Design
Obed J. Salazar, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Amber Lynn Adil Salibio, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Edrian Yovany Sanchez.....	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Carlos Fernando Sanchez-Garcia	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Olivia Cheri Sandoval.....	BA Graphic Design
Sara Jaclyn Scarpino, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Art [Therapy]
Conner Reed Schell, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
Camryn Rose Scott, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Katie Elizabeth Scott, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Public Relations
Daniel Gary Scull, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Marketing
Abigail Lizzeth Segovia-Santos, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
Amie Caroline Shelley, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Psychology
Katie Marie Shelley, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Melody Jade Sheppard	BSN Nursing
Melanie Marie Shields.....	BSN Nursing
*Aden Hansel Sikes, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Mathematics
Terrence Joseph Simmons, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA English [Literature]
Jonathan Michael Stuart Sisler	BBA Finance
Sean Rodney Slabbert.....	BSN Nursing
Anyia Isabella Smith, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Stig Alan Soderblom, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BBA Finance
Caleb Andrew Spitalsky, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Finance
Tyler Andrew States, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Religious Studies
Jessica Nicole Stern, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Biology
Gillian Renae Stevenson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing

*Teaching Certificate

Jonathan Tyler Stover.....	BS Business Administration; BA Computer Science
Eric Mingi Suh, Jr., <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Business Administration
Reinhardt Mark Szanto.....	BS Business Administration
Justin Bradley Tanguay, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Arek Zhavier Taylor, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Biology; AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Alexander Wayne Teller, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Management [Entrepreneurship]
Sarah Jane Minar Tobing.....	BSN Nursing
Auriana Lianne Toews, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Wyatt Michael Tracy.....	BA Theology [Ministerial]
*Cadence Catherine Trenchard.....	BA Liberal Arts Education
Erla Trevedan, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Audrey Grace Umali, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Business Administration
Jacob Allen VanBeukering, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Michael T. Vance.....	BBA Accounting
Brandon Gregory VanFossen.....	BS Business Administration
Natasha Enid Varela.....	BSN Nursing
Branyely Vega.....	BSN Nursing
Mariana Dennise Velasquez, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Evelin Nikolaeva Velinova, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BFA Film Production
Emmanuel Monarrez Venegas.....	BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
Hector David Ventura, II.....	BS Business Administration
Jomari Dave Ologenio Viloso, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Marketing
Jack Alexander Wheeler.....	BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Autumn Grace White.....	BS Kinesiology
Tristan Alexander White.....	BBA Management [Management]
Alyssa Marie Wolf, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSW Social Work
David William Wolf, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Religious Studies
Juliana Lauren Wolf.....	BSN Nursing
Erin Aisha Yoon, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Biology
Jonathan Joonsuh Yoon, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
*Kristine Diane Young, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education
Kiersten Sierra Zinke, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Management [Entrepreneurship]

ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Noah Brewer Allen.....	AT Construction Management
Krishna Colleen Bemis, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Bianca Jane Burnett.....	AS Nursing
Davis Jared Cañas Hernandez.....	AS Nursing
Yehun Chai.....	AS General Studies
Zachary Mark Cheneweth, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AT Construction Management
Charlene Renee Chigano.....	AS Nursing
Arantxa Daniela Coa.....	AS Nursing
McCall Amelia Waldrop Crone.....	AS Nursing
Zachary Jonathan Dale, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Sara R. David.....	AS Nursing
Summer Dawn Dekle, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS General Studies
Stephen Curtis DeWitt.....	AS Nursing
D'Rayxa Diaz Vega.....	AS Nursing
Matthew Ruel Dizon.....	AS Nursing
Danica Rachelle Domingo, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Naomi Dufraine.....	AS Nursing

*Teaching Certificate

Aviella Eliana Lynn Eugene, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Ji Lian Firman, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Emily Annelise Freeman, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AT Construction Management
Kristin Kay Freeman	AS General Studies
Amanda Suzanne Green, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Nathan S. Griswold, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Madison Kay Guzowski Thompson	AS Nursing
Rahel Jolynn Haley.....	AS Nursing
Levi Leroy Hanson.....	AS General Studies
Ashley Miller Harper, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Alyssa Michelle Harriman, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Mikenna Eve Healy	AS Nursing
Lindsey Abigail Howard	AS Nursing
Dakota Andrew Ilchuk, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AT Construction Management
Condrasheera Joao	AS Nursing
Jehlyssa Karina Junei Kennedy	AS Nursing
Jonathan Martin Klingbeil	AS Accounting
Goohyuk Kwon, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Eunice J. Lee	AS Nursing
Makenna Elyse Lunde, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Gabrielle Faith Macri, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Julianna Rose Magan, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Allied Health [Pre-Speech Language Pathology & Audiology]
Olivia Kay Mairs	AS Nursing
Jordyn Elizabeth McLean, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Emily Denise Meadows, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Arabella Faith Merryman	AS Nursing
William Collins Mitchell, Jr.	AT Construction Management
Dafni Katherine Montenegro	AS Nursing
Samuel David Mosher.....	AS Business Administration
Joey Yonathan Naibaho.....	AS Nursing
Justin Christopher Neal-Gillett.....	AS Nursing
Eden Emerson Nerness	AS Allied Health [Pre-Dental Hygiene]
Daniel H. Oh	AS Physical Therapist Assistant
Diana Carolina Ortiz	AS Nursing
Gabrielle Ray Patrick, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Brianna Perdomo	AS Nursing
Kamryn Brianna Perez, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Ronald Josue Perez	AS Nursing
Netanya Bela Phan, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Brianne Piyebulmal.....	AS Nursing
Michael Falon Potter	AA Religion [Bible Instructor]
Zachariah James Franz Reich.....	AS Nursing
Nina Reno.....	AA General Studies
Deicy Sanchez, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Elizabeth Kerstin Shrode, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Wella Danelle Slough.....	AS Nursing
Conner Garrett Thall, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Abby Nichole Tishaw	AS Nursing
Anna Rose Tomanelli	AS Nursing
Abigail Vega.....	AS Nursing
William Blake Wallace	AS Nursing
Hamilton Taylor Will, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Brandon Joseph Zepeda, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AT Construction Management

MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

BreeAn Danyel Adams	MSW Social Work [School Social Work]
Rence Arroyo	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Jacob Abraham Bahn	MS Computer Science
Darrin Allen Bartell	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Lauren Nicole Brackbill	MSEd Literacy Education
Crystal Cara Branch	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Jade Shavaun Bromfield	MBA Management
Kaitlyn Mellise Cannon	MSW Social Work [School Social Work]
Kenith Shane Dacus	MBA Computer Information Systems
Angela Nebila Delgado	MSEd Literacy Education
James Weston DuVall	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Candace Shae Granger	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Wendy Lee Hall	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Davin Louis Hammond	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Rachel Delaney Harris	MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling; School Counseling
Jesse Robert Snow Hines	MS Computer Science
Kelli R. Holliday	MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
William Iverson	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Kelly Layne Jennings	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Madison Macomber	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Chelsea Elizabeth Manasco	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Miro Ioan Manestar,	MS Computer Science
Adele Eve Marsh-Inglish	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Melissa Ann Miller McDonald	MSEd Literacy Education
Jacob de Jesus Moreno Sequera	MMin Evangelism and Ministry
Clayton Edward Neil	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Roshney Puthankalam	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Dawn Ritzenthaler	MBA Management
Dana Michelle Smith	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Marlise Andrea Stephens	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Hope Valera	MSEd Literacy Education
Jordon Antony Williams	MBA Accounting

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

Lizeth Joanna Rego Banuchi	DNP Lifestyle Medicine
Sylvia Ann Bozeman	DNP Lifestyle Medicine

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

GUEST GRADUATES

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

Matthew Raymond Dewar	BBA Accounting
-----------------------------	----------------

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

Laurie Stankavich	PhD English
-------------------------	-------------

NORTHCENTRAL UNIVERSITY

Joelle Wolf	PhD Nursing Education
-------------------	-----------------------

S U M M A R Y



UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATES – 316
(14 HAVE TWO MAJORS OR DEGREES)

MASTER’S GRADUATES – 30 (3 HAVE TWO EMPHASES OR DEGREES)

DOCTORAL GRADUATES – 2

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Biology and Allied Health.....	40	History and Political Studies	7
Business	43	Journalism and Communication.....	5
Applied Technology.....	3	Mathematics	4
Chemistry.....	8	Modern Languages	1
Computing	9	Nursing.....	43
Education and Psychology		Physics.....	2
Education	8	Religion.....	16
Psychology.....	9	Social Work	15
English.....	6	Visual Art and Design.....	16
Health and Kinesiology	16		

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Biology and Allied Health.....	12	General Studies.....	5
Business	2	Nursing.....	51
Applied Technology.....	6	Physical Therapist Assistant.....	1
Chemistry.....	1	Religion.....	1

SCHOOLS WITH MASTER’S DEGREE GRADUATES

Business	4	Nursing.....	10
Computing	3	Religion.....	1
Education and Psychology		Social Work	3
Counseling	3		
Education	9		

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

Nursing.....	2
--------------	---

P R E S I D E N T ' S A W A R D S F O R T E A C H I N G E X C E L L E N C E



Passionate about educating others as well as expanding her own learning experiences, Professor **Krystal Bishop**, EdD, demonstrates an exceptional level of commitment to her students, who qualify “the time, dedication, and care she shows [as being] like none other. You can tell she loves teaching and pours her heart into it.” She is a “great adviser and always willing to help.”

Bishop received her early preparation for teaching on the same campus she now serves, graduating from Southern Missionary College in 1975 with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education. Committed to making education special for all children, she completed a master’s degree in learning disabilities and a doctorate in special education at the University of South Florida.

Following 20 years in the educational system of the Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists that included serving as associate superintendent of education, Bishop returned to Southern 1996 and joined the teaching faculty in the School of Education and Psychology. She is also director of the Teacher Education Program. One peer champions Bishop for “huge impacts in both the public and private sectors. She makes a difference in every life she has the opportunity to engage with.”

Complementing her impressive contributions within classroom settings, Bishop also writes for educational journals, advocates for literacy, and serves as a liaison for county, state, and regional programs. Her professional affiliations include the International Literacy Association and the National Council for Teachers of English. Presenting at conferences and conducting workshops in areas related to education and spiritual life are additional interests for this unparalleled professor.

Previously honored by Southern as Adviser of the Year (2010) and with the President’s Award for Teaching Excellence (2011) and the Distinguished Service Medallion (2022), Bishop especially appreciates the privilege of being a spiritual mentor to her students and advisees.

Once again celebrating her remarkable legacy of impacting and caring for generations of educators in training, Southern Adventist University is pleased to present Krystal Bishop with the President’s Award for Teaching Excellence.

F O R E X C E L L E N C E I N S C H O L A R S H I P



Hailed for teaching and research expertise, Professor **Sunia Fukofuka**, PhD, has an impressive academic and professional career that spans the globe, including Australia, Fiji, India, Kenya, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Ukraine, and the United States. He joined Southern’s School of Business in 2017.

“Sunia reaches students academically and challenges them to think critically about subjects,” notes a fellow professor. “He also incorporates a biblical worldview into his teaching—not a separate thought at the beginning, not a worship thought at the end, but as a part of the body of knowledge being presented. His courses challenge students to be better versions of themselves.” Another peer describes Fukofuka as “often conducting informal research and constantly developing conclusions.”

Fukofuka has received awards from the International Association of Multidisciplinary Research as best researcher (2014), from CPA Papua New Guinea for distinguished achievement (2006), and as teacher of the year (2003) in Tonga. He is a resource speaker and trainer in qualitative and quantitative research for the Philippines Association of Institutional Research and one of the founding executives of the Asian Qualitative Research Association.

A prolific author, Fukofuka's most recent articles address research for practical theology, the integration of faith and learning, and ways to improve effective teaching. Additionally, he is co-authoring a book titled *Principles of Management* that is under contract with a publisher.

Currently, Fukofuka serves as a reviewer for the *Journal of Management and Organization* published by Cambridge Press as well as for the *International Forum Journal* published by the Graduate School of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies, where he was employed prior to Southern. He willingly chairs dissertations for many faculty members and humbly prays that his life is a blessing to all with whom he interacts, giving God the glory for leading in his life and thanking his wife and six children for their sacrifices and support.

In recognition for extraordinary commitment in his ongoing quest for knowledge and growth in skills and experience, Southern Adventist University is pleased to present Sunia Fukofuka with the President's Award for Excellence in Scholarship.

FOR COMMITMENT TO STUDENT SUCCESS



Born and raised in Northern California, **Conni Cash** moved to Tennessee and joined the School of Nursing in 1997. As office manager, organization and patience are her superpowers, and cohorts of nursing majors praise her skills, attributing them as vital to their achievements. "She is always making sure [we] are prepared for the next semester, for graduation, and for certification exams," one notes.

"She is literally the backbone of the nursing program," another insists. "The staff and the students would be lost without her. She can answer any question or direct you to the person with the answer. She's kind and always bright and cheery. She helps us navigate everything: getting all of our documentation, completing papers, finding classrooms—she's just amazing. I don't think I would have had everything together without Mrs. Cash."

Both faculty and staff describe Cash as "thoughtful, intelligent, and knowledgeable" as well as "a pillar on which the School of Nursing stands." She stops what she's doing each time a person approaches her and makes that "need her highest priority—always and with efficiency and a smile. Her juggling act in the front office and as the face of nursing has been one of Christ-like joy and beauty every day." A "steady, calm force," Cash has learned and retained hundreds of students' names during her 25 years of service, and "there is nothing she doesn't know or can't fix." One peer has always wanted a T-shirt with the slogan: "I don't ask Google; I ask Conni."

Cash is married to her high school sweetheart, and they have two daughters, both nurses in the area, as well as two grandchildren.

Southern Adventist University is pleased to recognize Conni Cash as a true champion for those pursuing careers in the field of nursing and to honor her with the President's Award of Excellence for Commitment to Student Success.

D I S T I N G U I S H E D S E R V I C E M E D A L L I O N S



Southern alum **Robert Benge**, '77, PhD, joined the School of Health and Kinesiology in 1998 and has served as dean for the past 10 years. Described by fellow faculty as having a “Texas-sized heart” and living the motto “Service, not fame,” he is known for helping, encouraging, and inspiring students, colleagues, and community members alike. “His philanthropy knows no bias because he truly cares about people.”

In addition to his administrative duties, Benge teaches numerous classes—including Basic Swimming, CPR, First Aid, Fly Fishing, Lifeguard Training, Secondary Methods of Physical Education, Softball, Statistics, Tennis, and Water Safety Instructor—all while supervising internships for student teachers and wellness majors. His quiet, efficient work ethic begets long days and sometimes weekends running multiple facilities and activity spaces, and he is frequently found doing pool maintenance on Saturday nights. He donates the majority of his teaching salary back to the university.

Benge’s other acts of servant leadership include transporting busloads to Nashville hockey games, providing suppers for students and friends in the Culinary Arts Program kitchen, organizing formal Christmas luncheons for his team, and directing/organizing various triathlons in the area. He also is an associate deacon at Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists on campus.

With 50 years of experience as an American Red Cross lifeguard and water safety instructor, Benge has served local communities as a coach, commissioner for youth sports, fundraising coordinator, and sports official. For more than two decades, he has voluntarily directed timekeeping while organizing all of Ooltewah Middle School’s track and field home meets. Additionally, he instructs groups in First Aid CPR/AED without accepting a fee.

Benge graduated from Southern in 1977 with a bachelor’s degree in health, physical education, and recreation, and then earned a master’s degree in health education at Virginia’s Old Dominion University in 1986. In 2001, he received his doctorate in physical education from the University of New Mexico. A former elementary physical education specialist, Benge has 46 years of teaching experience in health and physical education.

His professional affiliations include Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society; Society of Health and Physical Educators; USA Triathlon; and Tennessee Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance. On campus, Benge chairs the Employee Wellness Committee, participates as a member of the Alumni Committee as well as the Faculty Promotions Committee, and is the beloved sponsor of the Southern Striders running club. He regularly trains for and participates in sprint triathlon events.

For an exemplary record of leading by example in giving his time and talents to employees and students on campus as well as to members of the community, Southern Adventist University is pleased to recognize Robert Benge as a worthy recipient of the Distinguished Service Medallion.



Associate Professor **Stephanie Guster**, MSW, in the School of Social Work is cited by her peers for spiritual leadership, a positive mindset, and an exceptional work ethic, among other impressive qualities. She exemplifies a life lived as the hands and feet of Jesus, constantly seeking out the overlooked and those in need and providing knowledge, compassion, encouragement, and comfort. Both thoughtful and prayerful, Guster has become a true friend to many across campus and throughout the local community.

A licensed clinical social worker in both Tennessee and Georgia, Guster holds a master's degree in social work from Ohio State University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Andrews University in Michigan. Her background includes providing clinical services in hospice and bereavement. Prior to joining Southern's faculty, Guster first served as an adjunct professor while also working as a school social worker in Dalton, Georgia, city schools.

While serving as senior adviser to Southern's president, Guster invited employees to participate in lunchtime "cultural conversations" focused on diversity and other social issues. In collaboration with senior administration, these monthly dialogues led to many thought-provoking and growth experiences for colleagues. One faculty member described the events under Guster's guidance as a "safe space to talk through important topics," and many benefitted from her lessons in listening actively with grace and love.

Guster has a reputation for exceeding what is required of her in fostering professional relationships with students and colleagues, often forming friendships and caring for needs outside of the classroom. These extra and often long hours are a "huge witness" to other professors. One observed Guster "spending a great deal of time with a vision-impaired student during an activity, not only helping her navigate but also explaining content and strengthening that personal connection." Additionally, Guster plays a key role in passionately advocating for the Feed My Sheep food pantry for those on campus facing food insecurity.

Initiating field trips to the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama, Guster goes "above and beyond" in coordinating logistics, recruiting students, and fostering awareness and understanding about the significance of the museum and the history of civil rights in the United States. An advocate of environmental justice, she also champions alleviating food deserts through agricultural start-ups and home gardening.

As school board chair, Guster freely gives her time at Avondale Seventh-day Adventist School in downtown Chattanooga. She enthusiastically supports social work students striving to begin careers in schools and enjoys mentoring others into the profession. She recently used her skills to benefit Collegedale Academy, housed on the university campus, with crisis intervention services, assisting conference officials, local principals, faculty, and parents with valuable proficiency. Her volunteer efforts in uncharted territory encompassed debriefing and counseling with staff, drafting communication, sharing resources with families, coordinating counseling support, and serving as a crisis response supervisor—all while being "graceful with her words" through a very difficult and painful experience.

For her shining example in modeling the gentleness and kindness of Christ while committing both her heart and expertise to classrooms and to the community, Southern Adventist University is pleased to present Stephanie Guster with the well-deserved Distinguished Service Medallion.

SPECIAL THANKS



Academic Administration
Advancement
Alumni Relations
Audio Visual
Blluum Floral and Event Design (stage florals)
Campus Safety
College Press
Energy Management
Financial Administration
Food Services
Graduate and Professional Studies

Landscape Services
Marketing and University Relations
President's Office
Quick Print
Records and Advisement
School of Journalism and Communication
School of Music
Service Department
Student Development
Village Market

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!