



# TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

## *Fall Commencement*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2020

PERSHING ARENA

10:00 A.M. AND 1:30 P.M.

# BOARD OF GOVERNORS

**Jennifer Kopp Dameron**

*Chair*

**K. Brooks Miller, Jr.**

*Vice Chair*

**Sarah Burkemper**

*Secretary*

**David Lee Bonner**

**Philip J. Christofferson**

**Cheryl J. Cozette**

**Nancy Gingrich**

**Mike McClaskey**

**Jim O'Donnell**

**Abigail Smeltzer**

*Student Representative*

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

## MUSICAL PRELUDE

The music for commencement is provided by the Truman Brass Quintet under the direction of Eric Dickson, Assistant Professor of Music.  
*Pomp and Circumstance* – Edward Elgar, arr. Bill Holcomb, Jr.

## PROCESSIONAL

Grand Marshal  
K. Scott Alberts, *Professor of Statistics*

## PLATFORM PARTY

Susan L. Thomas, *President of the University*  
Janet L. Gooch, *Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost*  
Jeremy Mapp, *Commencement Speaker*  
Rachel Jacobs, *Student Speaker (10:00 a.m. ceremony)*  
Emily Goerlich, *Student Speaker (1:30 p.m. ceremony)*  
Reader  
Jay Self, *Professor of Communication*

## **THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

*Star Spangled Banner* — Francis Scott Key, arranged by Arthur Goldstein

Vocal Soloist

Jack McFarling, *senior computer science and music (general) major*

## **WELCOME, OPENING REMARKS, AND INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER**

President Thomas

## **COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

Jeremy Mapp

## **RECOGNITION OF FACULTY HONOREES**

Provost Gooch and President Thomas

Andrea Wiedermann Davis, *Instructor Emerita in French and German*

Jia-Yuan (Jason) Lin, *Professor Emeritus of Business Administration*

Carol A. Lockhart, *Research and Instruction Librarian Emerita*

David G. Murphy, *Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Religion*

John Neitzke, *Professor Emeritus of Computer Science*

Lloyd W. Pflueger, *Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Religion*

## **INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER**

Provost Gooch

## **STUDENT ADDRESS**

Rachel Jacobs (10:00 a.m.)

Emily Goerlich (1:30 p.m.)

## **RECOGNITION OF HONOR STUDENTS**

Provost Gooch

## **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

President Thomas

## PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Provost Gooch

Reader

Jay Self

### **10:00 a.m. Ceremony**

Candidates for the Degree Bachelor of Science

### **1:30 p.m. Ceremony**

Candidates for the Degree Bachelor of Arts

Candidates for the Degree Bachelor of Fine Arts

Candidates for the Degree Bachelor of Music

Candidates for the Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Candidates for the Degree Master of Accountancy

Candidates for the Degree Master of Arts

Candidates for the Degree Master of Arts in Education

## TURNING OF TASSELS AND CLOSING REMARKS

President Thomas

## AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

arranged by Roger Cody

Jack McFarling

### *America the Beautiful*

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain

For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!

America! America! God shed his grace on thee,

And crown thy good with brotherhood

From sea to shining sea.

## RECESSIONAL AND POSTLUDE

*Quintet No. 1, Mvt. III* – Victor Ewald

## JUNIOR MARSHALS

The Junior Marshals, robed in white, serve as escorts during the Commencement ceremony.

# COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

## JEREMY MAPP



Dr. Jeremy Mapp is the assistant principal at Keysor Elementary School in Kirkwood, Mo. A two-time alumnus of Truman State University, Mapp earned a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology in 2010, followed by a Master of Arts in Elementary Education degree in 2012.

Mapp started his career with six years of service as an elementary school teacher in the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District located in St. Louis County. From 2014-2018, he and his wife, Rachel (Richardson) Mapp ('10), served as house parents at Joe's Place, a nationally acclaimed program through the MRH School District that provides homeless teenage boys in the area a supportive environment while encouraging a positive future. They lived on site, managed the property and oversaw the well-being of as many as six teenage boys living at the house.

Since July 2018, Mapp has served in his current role as assistant principal at Keysor Elementary School. He earned his Ed.D. in educational leadership from Maryville University in 2019.

# THE GRADUATES

*The Commencement program is a roster of candidates, not an official list of graduates. Appropriate degrees and honors will be awarded to candidates who successfully complete all requirements by established deadlines.*

## BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Nicholas Alexander Craven, Design  
Alexis Jade Fraley, Creative Writing  
Jessica Krieger, Creative Writing  
Madeline Antoinette McDermott, Creative Writing  
Abigail K. Monteith, Creative Writing  
Lillie Anne Richards, Creative Writing

## BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Joseph Long-Khang Ha, Music Emphasis Groups (BM)

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Lauren Curtis  
Chase Fuller Freidel  
Brianna Michelle Hagstrom  
Allison Kuhner  
Oanh Ngo  
McKenzie B. Simmons  
Brandon Lee Thurman

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

Dale Alan Bagley, English  
Samantha Berkelman, Theatre  
Shaun Elizabeth Cannedy, Sociology/Anthropology and  
Psychology  
Caroline Anevey Casey, Psychology  
Kayla JoAnn Clay, Communication  
Kaylee Ann Collins, Communication Disorders  
Caroline Costello, Spanish (Also BS)  
Dusty Donald Davis, English  
Hannah Faith Easley, English  
Chetanaé Y. Ellison, Psychology and Art  
Haley Ericksen, English  
Cara Gallagher, Political Science  
Emily Rachelle Garth, Modern Language (Also BS)  
Emily Elise Goerlich, Communication Disorders  
Lacy Alexandra Gorenflo, English  
Alyssa Marie Gornal, Psychology  
Tyler John Hanson, Liberal Studies  
Emily Rose Hayes, Psychology  
Wyatt Hensel, Theatre

Anna Christine Hess, Communication Disorders  
Allyson Horst, Communication Disorders  
Legacy Grace Huff, Communication Disorders  
Aubrey Hughes, Communication  
Alexus James, Psychology  
Austin James Kiolbasa, Biology  
Jillian Rose Kolbe, History  
Sarah J. Kuper, Psychology  
Katherine Hannah Maier, English  
Allison Marbry, English (Also BS)  
Dominique Martinez, Communication  
Michael Gordon Massey, Business Administration  
Emily Danielle Masters, Political Sci & Intl Relations  
Samantha Matthews, English  
Faith Abigail McDaniel, Communication  
Nicholas Murphy Messina, English  
Phoebe Elise Moberg, Economics  
Adam Christopher Moran, Communication  
Abby Leigh Mueller, Sociology/Anthropology  
Danielle Gabri Nahm, Romance Language  
Randhi Shiran Perera, Philosophy & Religion (Also BS)  
Nicholas Frank Puleo, Sociology/Anthropology  
Maguire Joseph Radosevic, Economics (Also BS)  
Naomi Elizabeth Raible, Communication Disorders  
Lauren Ashley Reed, History  
Hailey Elizabeth Rupprecht, English  
Katherine Anne El Koury Sandefur, English  
Elsa Deliana Schenk, Biology  
Alina Sergienko, Business Administration  
Maura Clare Shimmens, English  
Jacklyn Kaylei Sidenstricker, English  
Madison Simmons, Communication  
Shana Christine Snyder, Business Administration  
Rui Song, Business Administration  
Olivia Rose Sontheimer, Psychology and  
Sociology/Anthropology  
Harper Stephens, English  
McGwire Stroud, Political Science  
Natsumi Sugimoto, Political Science  
Mariah Danyell Thompson, Business Administration  
Rachel Elizabeth Thompson, Communication  
Gabrielle Twehus, Communication  
Kjia Joye Underwood, Modern Language (Also BS)  
Serena Qu Ping Venezia, History  
Pengfei Wang, Physics  
Yaqing Wang, Business Administration  
Samantha Paige Welch, Psychology

Savannah Janine Wheeler, Sociology//Anthropology  
Daniel Zeigler, Communication

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

Sammantha Allwood, Exercise Science  
Chase Anderson, Computer Science  
Shelby Anderson, Psychology  
Sudip Aryal, Computer Science  
Cameron D. Banks, Biology  
Brandon Lane Barr, Linguistics  
Mikah Nikole Belitz, Justice Systems  
Hannah Bennett, Psychology  
Dallas James Bernhoester, History  
Emma Rhey Berthold, Business Administration  
Taylor Mackenzie Bittle, History  
Jason Boedeker, Biology  
Steven A. Bradbury, Justice Systems  
Caleb Andrew Bruemmer, Accounting and  
Business Administration  
Skylar Buechel, Communication Disorders  
Madeline Li-Shr Campbell, Exercise Science  
Tianqiong Chen, Accounting  
Alyssa Renée Cluck, Biology  
Timothy Cobb, Mathematics  
Angelique Collinge, Sociology//Anthropology  
Liam Collins, Business Administration  
Sara Mae Colyer, Exercise Science  
Caroline Costello, Political Science (Also BA)  
John Matthew Crow, Computer Science  
Taylor Marie Daniel, Biology  
Matthew Aaron Davis, Accounting  
Brianna Michele Dean, Communication Disorders  
Ethan Debrecht, Political Science  
Austin Jacob DeVecchi, Justice Systems  
Reecha Sapkota Dixit, Health Science  
Reena S. Dixit, Health Science  
Nicholas Dodson, Mathematics  
Lac Tam Duong, Biology  
Danika D. Eaker, Accounting and Business Administration  
Mikayla Marie Eason, Psychology  
Alleigh Michelle Emmendorfer, Sociology//Anthropology  
Jameson Wyatt Fishel, Exercise Science  
Aiyana Patricia Tanski French, Biology  
Andrew F. Galbraith, Biology  
Emily Rachele Garth, Economics (Also BA)  
Ashim Gautam Upadhaya, Computer Science  
Jeremy Neal Gibson, Exercise Science  
John Giesey, Political Science  
Cooper Wayne Giles, Accounting  
Heyang Gong, Business Administration  
Keegan Good, Agricultural Science  
Jakob Carter Gray, Exercise Science  
Colin Griffin, Accounting

Brianna Michelle Grotts, Communication Disorders  
Alexander Cole Gustafson, Computer Science  
Aaron Cleveland Hall, Business Administration  
Connor Alan Harms, Exercise Science  
Trenesha Nasha Hayes, Justice Systems  
Jacob William Hearst, Mathematics and Computer Science  
Jacob Heisserer, Accounting  
Allison Hellebusch, Agricultural Science  
Alexa Gabrielle Hernandez, Exercise Science  
Garrit Hanne Hicks, Exercise Science  
Jack William Hiegel, Statistics  
Chloe Hollander, Exercise Science  
Lillian Hollowood, Psychology  
Hayden Von Veltheim Holt, Biology  
Jessalyn Leann Hultz, Exercise Science  
Logan Hunt, Linguistics  
Brandon Michael Inqli, Computer Science  
Zackary D. Irvin, Exercise Science  
Rachel Jacobs, Exercise Science  
Caleb James, Health Science  
Brandon J. Jones, Business Administration  
Dakota P. Jones, Exercise Science  
Amanda Michele Kapp, Accounting  
Sotiria Karanikolas, Psychology  
Trinajoy Karanja, Health Science  
Nathan A. Keleher, Mathematics  
Emilee Kendall, Psychology  
Usna Mohammed Ariz Khan, Biology  
Lucas Alan King, Statistics  
Margaret Ann King, Psychology  
Kayla Michele Kinzle, Psychology  
Shanley Marie Kliethermes, Exercise Science  
Cameron Mitchell Knese, Chemistry  
Allison Kufta, Biology  
Makayla A. Lewis, Agricultural Science  
Pengcheng Li, Agricultural Science  
Rebecca Light, Justice Systems  
Weining Liu, Accounting  
Zhengxun Ma, Computer Science  
Tabitha Amber Mabery, Business Administration and  
Health Science  
Grace Elizabeth Maddox, Psychology  
Lasitha Yasendra Madurawala Don Vithanage, Accounting  
and Business Administration  
Shukuru Mambo, Justice Systems  
Allison Marbry, Computer Science (Also BA)  
Hayley Martino, Liberal Studies  
Robert Gerald Masek, Computer Science  
Emily Maxine Massman, Sociology//Anthropology  
Megan Elizabeth McCart, Psychology  
Justin E. McKenney, Chemistry  
Mackenzie Nicole Meyer, Justice Systems  
Elaine Kara Miller, Biology  
Kyle Miller, Accounting



Alexander Bryce Mitchell, Biology  
 Todd Anthony Mitchell Jr., Biology  
 Abby Nicole Moore, Communication Disorders  
 Zoe Kathryn Moore, Computer Science and Mathematics  
 John Paul Myers, Accounting  
 Adelaide Nanney, Psychology  
 Payton Elizabeth Ness, Psychology  
 Bennett Thomas Nowotny, History  
 Morgan Nute, Psychology  
 Blake William Oliver, Mathematics  
 Garrett L. Olson, Accounting  
 Cleve Kinda Opiyo, Health Science  
 Marco Antonio Ortiz, Accounting  
 Kylie Elizabeth Ostermeyer, Psychology and Justice Systems  
 Milan Pandey, Chemistry  
 Kala Rose Pangelinan, Health Science  
 Dhara Rajesh Patel, Biology  
 Breanna Patterson, Agricultural Science  
 Randhi Shiran Perera, Psychology (Also BA)  
 Gavin Dean Pettig, Justice Systems  
 Michelle Phung, Accounting  
 Andrew Poelzl, Accounting  
 Maranatha Rose Prenger, Agricultural Science  
 Tyler Jones Pursell, Computer Science  
 Maguire Joseph Radosevic, Mathematics (Also BA)  
 Michael D. Rau, Business Administration  
 Sneha Ravikumar, Biology  
 Mallory Anna Reed, Exercise Science  
 Meredith M. Roach, Exercise Science  
 Noah Timothy Roettger, Accounting  
 Madeline Roth, Psychology  
 Alyssa Rowbottom, Exercise Science  
 Dante Kenneth Ruffin, Mathematics  
 William Franklin Ruman, Computer Science  
 William Richard Rumpf, Agricultural Science  
 Shreeya Rupakheti, Computer Science  
 Zachary Salmon, Computer Science  
 Rose Schmitt, Exercise Science  
 Natalie Ann Schodl, Biology  
 Jack Edward Schrimpf, Psychology  
 Jordan Maxwell Siegel, Exercise Science  
 Sydney Nicole Slosson, Exercise Science  
 Kaylee Elizabeth Smith, Accounting  
 Rebekah K. Smith, Business Administration  
 Alexander Joseph Sweeney, Computer Science  
 Andrew Christopher Teuscher, History  
 Madison Rae Thomason, Communication Disorders  
 Ryan Thompson, Psychology  
 Helen Marie Timpe, Health Science  
 Chandler To, Computer Science  
 Matthew Joseph Tokars, Accounting  
 Zachary Townsend, History  
 Linh My Tran, Accounting  
 Katherine Lynn Turner, Psychology  
 Kija Joye Underwood, Justice Systems (Also BA)  
 Mak Marie Yangyu Valentine, Justice Systems  
 Natalie Valentine, Biology  
 Detrik Venvertloh, Accounting  
 Brian Michael Walker, Computer Science  
 William Edward Wallace, Exercise Science  
 Maya Wasserstrom, Psychology  
 Nathan Bradley Weeks, Accounting and  
 Business Administration  
 Mason Jeffrey Wilcox, Biology  
 Benjamin Williams, Psychology  
 Tori Isabelle Wisely, Justice Systems  
 Grace Makenzie Woodland, Business Administration  
 Audrey Woods, Health Science  
 Logan Glen Woolf, Exercise Science  
 Samantha Holly Workman, Biology  
 Madeline G. Wright, History  
 Anqi Yang, Linguistics  
 Tianyi Yang, Agricultural Science  
 Matthew J. Yankowitz, Business Administration  
 Hua Yuan, Accounting  
 Emma Louise Zahner, Psychology  
 Alissa Zofia Zeglen, Sociology/Anthropology

## **MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY**

Alexandra Gregory  
Ryan William Gudeman  
Isabel Kurzban  
Jennifer Marie Petersen

## **MASTER OF ARTS**

Kylie Lynn Albrecht, Communication Disorders  
Adriana Dimon Arabas, Communication Disorders  
Kaitlan Marie Head, Communication Disorders  
Reed McBroom, Leadership  
Andrea Joyce Newburry, Communication Disorders  
Katelyn Elizabeth Poston, Communication Disorders  
Christopher Alex Ramey, Music  
Sara Ann Seifert, Leadership  
Jordyn Richae Tipton, Communication Disorders  
Shiloh Paige Wilson, Communication Disorders

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION**

Courtney Atwell, Elementary Education  
Hayley Brotherton, Elementary Education  
Zachary Aaron Gaines, History/Social Science  
Allison Theresa Kaltmayer, Elementary Education  
Kara Marie Mackenzie, Elementary Education  
Adam Robert McCann, Music  
Melissa Kay Merkel, Elementary Education  
Christina Meyer, Elementary Education  
Gloria Mitchell, Music  
Meaghan Therese Monahan, Elementary Education  
Kyle David Rieger, Music  
Paul Kenneth Rueschhoff, Music  
Sean Robert Schierbecker, Music  
Emily Rose Schwend, Elementary Education  
Alysse Morgan Tarantino, Elementary Education  
Celine Williams, Elementary Education

# RECOGNITION OF HONOR GRADUATES

## UNIVERSITY HONORS

*Undergraduate students receiving a baccalaureate degree with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.50 or above will have the degree conferred with honors. Honor graduates will wear special insignia during commencement. University Honors are awarded based on the following overall grade point averages:*

### **Summa Cum Laude**

*3.90 - 4.0 GPA*

Caleb Andrew Bruemmer  
Kaylee Ann Collins  
Emily Elise Goerlich  
Alexander Cole Gustafson  
Anna Christine Hess  
Jack William Hiegel  
Brandon Michael Ingi  
Rachel Jacobs  
Margaret Ann King  
Jessica Krieger  
Allison Kufra  
Sarah J. Kuper  
Emily Maxine Massman  
Faith Abigail McDaniel  
Abby Nicole Moore  
Zoe Kathryn Moore  
Abby Leigh Mueller  
Maguire Joseph Radosevic  
Lauren Ashley Reed  
Hailey Elizabeth Rupprecht  
Maura Clare Shimmens  
Ryan Thompson  
Chandler To  
Mason Jeffrey Wilcox

### **Magna Cum Laude**

*3.75 - 3.89 GPA*

Shelby Anderson  
Dale Alan Bagley  
Alyssa Renée Cluck  
John Matthew Crow  
Andrew F. Galbraith  
Garrit Hanne Hicks  
Legacy Grace Huff  
Jessalyn Leann Hultz  
Zackary D. Irvin  
Amanda Michele Kapp

Sotiria Karanikolas  
Lucas Alan King  
Allison Marbry  
Emily Danielle Masters  
Garett L. Olson  
Kylie Elizabeth Ostermeyer  
Kala Rose Pangelinan  
Nicholas Frank Puleo  
Naomi Elizabeth Raible  
Meredith M. Roach  
Dante Kenneth Ruffin  
Olivia Rose Sontheimer  
Mariah Danyell Thompson  
Linh My Tran  
Gabrielle Twehus  
Natalie Valentine  
Nathan Bradley Weeks  
Logan Glen Woolf  
Emma Louise Zahner  
Alissa Zofia Zeglen

### **Cum Laude**

*3.50 - 3.74 GPA*

Sammantha Allwood  
Brandon Lane Barr  
Timothy Cobb  
Taylor Marie Daniel  
Dusty Donald Davis  
Hannah Faith Easley  
Chetanaé Y. Ellison  
Jameson Wyatt Fishel  
Alexis Jade Fraley  
Aiyana Patricia Tanski French  
Cara Gallagher  
Emily Rachelle Garth  
Ashim Gautam Upadhaya  
John Giesey  
Cooper Wayne Giles  
Heyang Gong

Lacy Alexandra Gorenflo  
Alyssa Marie Gornval  
Brianna Michelle Grotts  
Joseph Long-Khang Ha  
Brianna Michelle Hagstrom  
Connor Alan Harms  
Emily Rose Hayes  
Lillian Hollowood  
Trinajoy Karanja  
Usna Mohammed Ariz Khan  
Kayla Michele Kinzle  
Shanley Marie Kliethermes  
Jillian Rose Kolbe  
Zhengxun Ma  
Elaine Kara Miller  
Phoebe Elise Moberg  
Payton Elizabeth Ness  
Blake William Oliver  
Dhara Rajesh Patel  
Michelle Phung  
Noah Timothy Roettger  
Madeline Roth  
William Richard Rumpf  
Shreeya Rupakheti  
Jack Edward Schrimpf  
Alina Sergienko  
McKenzie B. Simmons  
Sydney Nicole Slosson  
Natsumi Sugimoto  
Alexander Joseph Sweeney  
Andrew Christopher Teuscher  
Rachel Elizabeth Thompson  
Helen Marie Timpe  
Kjia Joye Underwood  
Brian Michael Walker  
Savannah Janine Wheeler  
Benjamin Williams  
Madeline G. Wright  
Hua Yuan

## HONORS SCHOLARS

*General honors in arts and sciences are awarded to graduating seniors who have completed five specially designated courses. At least one course must be from the areas of mathematics, science, humanities, and social science. Only grades of "A" and "B" may count toward the General Honors grade point average requirement of at least 3.50 in those five courses and students must have an overall grade point average of 3.50.*

Maguire Joseph Radosevic

## DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

*Departmental honors in the major are available in several disciplines for outstanding majors who have achieved distinction as determined by measures specific to the Departmental Honors Program. Students meeting the requirements for Departmental Honors will have their transcript annotated.*

### **Agricultural Science**

William Richard Rumpf

### **Communication**

Rachel Elizabeth Thompson

### **Communication Disorders**

Kaylee Ann Collins  
Emily Elise Goerlich  
Anna Christine Hess  
Abby Nicole Moore

### **Computer Science**

Alexander Cole Gustafson  
Brandon Michael Ingli  
Alexander Joseph Sweeney

### **English**

Dale Alan Bagley  
Allison Marbry  
Maura Clare Shimmens

### **Exercise Science**

Jessalyn Leann Hultz  
Rachel Jacobs  
Shanley Marie Kliethermes  
Meredith M. Roach  
Sydney Nicole Slosson  
Logan Glen Woolf

### **Health Science**

Trinajoy Karanja

### **Linguistics**

Brandon Lane Barr

### **Modern Languages**

Emily Rachelle Garth  
Kjia Joye Underwood

### **Music with Emphasis Groups**

Joseph Long-Khang Ha

### **Psychology**

Sotiria Karanikolas  
Margaret Ann King  
Olivia Rose Sontheimer

### **Sociology/Anthropology**

Emily Maxine Massman  
Abby Leigh Mueller  
Nicholas Frank Puleo  
Olivia Rose Sontheimer  
Alissa Zofia Zeglen

### **Statistics**

Lucas Alan King

# MESSAGE TO NEW ALUMNI

Congratulations! During this challenging year, you have persevered to complete your years of hard work developing your academic talents as well as your evolution as an individual who is capable of affecting change in your community. Your rigorous liberal arts and sciences education positions you to be a multi-perspective problem solver in a time of great challenges for the world that requires critical thinking across silos of degrees. We know that you worked hard, but also know you built friendships and memories that helped develop you into the person you are today.

While campus life has changed in the last several months, know your friendships, experiences, and learning do not belong to any one location. You do not take your next steps alone. The Alumni Association is about maintaining old and creating new connections with fellow Bulldogs. With more than 62,000 Bulldogs worldwide, we carry our Truman teachings near and far. The Truman experience is irreplaceable, so join us. You can find alumni groups located across the country:

|            |                          |                              |
|------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Arizona    | Iowa                     | Omaha                        |
| California | Kansas City              | Springfield, Missouri        |
| Chicago    | Mid-Atlantic (D.C. area) | St. Louis                    |
| Colorado   | Mid-Missouri             | Upper Northeast (CT, NJ, NY) |
| Dallas     | Northeast Missouri       | Wichita                      |

Even if you are not able to join an alumni group in one of these areas, please connect with us through social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram). As times change, we have also changed, hosting our first completely virtual event this spring and expanding the events through Homecoming. We challenge you to spread your Truman story and build an increasingly stronger network of Bulldogs for future generations.

As you join other Truman alums throughout the world, we believe you will find the same benefits that we do: an amazing network of people that share the indescribable experience of a Truman education.

Be proud of your accomplishments, you have worked hard and earned this incredible achievement! Welcome to the next chapter of your life and your continued opportunity to fulfill the Bulldog Forever legacy. Congratulations on your many triumphs. We can't wait to hear what comes next!

Bulldog Forever,  
  
Natalie Gerhart ('07)  
President  
Alumni Association Board of Directors

# COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

## THE UNIVERSITY

In 1867, Joseph Baldwin returned to Missouri from Indiana, looking for a location to open a school to educate teachers. On September 2, 1867, Baldwin opened the North Missouri Normal School and Commercial College in Kirksville. In 1870, Baldwin's school became the First District Normal School of Missouri, the first in the state's new normal school system, dedicated to the education of teachers for the public schools.

At the close of the 1869-70 academic year, the Normal School graduated its first class of 15 men. The Commencement program was held in the auditorium of the Cumberland Academy building on Friday, June 24, 1870. President Joseph Baldwin preached the sermon and T. A. Parker, state superintendent of schools, delivered the address.

Today, Missouri's statewide public liberal arts and sciences university celebrates its Fall Commencement with approximately 300 men and women graduating with bachelor's and master's degrees. Although the people, the campus, the mission, and the name of the University have changed during the last 153 years, the traditions of the commencement ceremony have remained intact.

## THE DRESS

The academic costume worn today is the dress of the medieval secular clergy with a few alterations introduced by 16th century Protestant reformers. The intellectual revival of the 12th century gave impetus to the founding of the European universities. Students in these institutions were clerks; thus, they wore the dress of the secular clergy. In the 16th century, Protestant reformers, who associated academic habits with popery, adopted more civilian gowns.

The oldest article of academic wear was the robe, which was a loose gown. The habit, a tunic with short, wide sleeves, was worn over the robe. A hood lined with fur or inexpensive skins could be gathered around the neck or pulled up on the head as a turban. Finally, there were three kinds of caps worn: the round cap, reserved for doctoral dignity; a round cap with strings tied under the chin, worn by jurists; and the square cap. Universities such as Oxford made the square cap official; however, secular universities adopted the Tudor bonnet still worn by doctors of law, medicine and music.

American academic costume was not established until 1895. It consists of three types of gowns, three styles of hoods and two kinds of cap tassels. The bachelor's gown has long, pointed open sleeves with no ornamentation. The master's gown has even longer sleeves, which are closed at the bottom but feature openings about halfway down for the hands. The doctor's gown has full-length lapels of velvet and bell-shaped sleeves with three horizontal velvet bars. The color of caps and gowns is usually black; however, some universities feature doctoral gowns of distinctive colors, such as Harvard's crimson and Yale's deep blue. Many schools outside the United States have also adopted colorful gowns.

The doctor's hood is the longest and fullest among the degrees. The major field of study can be determined from the velvet facing on the hood according to the following color scheme: white, the arts; gold-yellow, science; purple, law; apricot, nursing; green, medicine; sapphire, business administration; lemon, librarianship; scarlet, theology; and dark blue, philosophy.

The hood is lined with silk in the colors of the institution which granted the degree. Truman's masters graduates, for example, wear a purple and white-lined hood. The faculty at Truman State University represent doctoral-granting institutions around the world. A few of their hood colors are the blue and white of Duke, the orange and black of Princeton, the crimson of Harvard, and the scarlet of Oxford.

The candidates for graduation wear black caps to which are attached tassels of colors illustrative of their degrees:

White: Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, Master of Accountancy, Master of Science, Master of Arts in Education

Brown: Bachelor of Fine Arts

Yellow-Gold: Bachelor of Science

Apricot: Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Pink: Bachelor of Music, Master of Music

The medallions worn by some of the undergraduate degree candidates signify the designation of "honor graduate." There are three levels of honors based on a student's cumulative grade point average (GPA): a bronze medallion on a white ribbon signifies Cum Laude, a GPA of 3.50 to 3.74; a silver medallion on a purple ribbon signifies Magna Cum Laude, a GPA of 3.75 to 3.89; and a gold medallion on a purple and white ribbon signifies Summa Cum Laude, a GPA of 3.90 to 4.00. Final honors will be determined after all grades have been received and may be adjusted from those awarded for Commencement.

The academic procession is led by the Grand Marshal. The Grand Marshal carries the University Mace which symbolizes the academic corporate body of scholars possessing its own jurisdiction and legally constituted authority. The mace is made of Missouri black walnut and is decorated with purple and white tassels, and is topped with the University seal. Following the Grand Marshal are the platform guests dressed in doctoral robes with hoods featuring the purple and white colors of the University. Following the Marshal are the degree candidates aligned according to the degrees granted. The University faculty are brightly attired in the academic dress of their degree-granting institutions.

Junior marshals appear throughout the procession dressed in white robes and caps. They are Truman students who help form the procession and seat the commencement participants.

## COMMENCEMENT PREPARATIONS

*Special recognition goes to the following for commencement preparations and arrangements:*

Academic Affairs Office  
Advancement  
Athletics  
Blue Key Honor Society  
Communication Department  
Graduate Office  
Information Technology Services  
Music Department  
Physical Plant

President's Office  
Public Relations  
Public Safety  
Publications  
Registrar's Office  
Sodexo  
Student Access and Disability  
Services Office  
Student Union