# Spring Graduate Commencement Recognition

May 12, 2020



On behalf of the Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions, let me be the first to congratulate you on earning an advanced degree. Your years of hard work, dedication and sacrifice have paid off, and we are happy to celebrate this important milestone with you. Your commitment to your chosen healthcare field in pursuing this degree allows you to make your unique impact on the nation's healthcare.

I'm sorry that we can't be together in person to recognize you individually for your accomplishments. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the University System of Georgia determined it was not safe to hold large scale events at this time, and Georgia State University must honor that decision. However, we plan to invite you back to campus to celebrate in the future once it is safe to do so.

In the meantime, we celebrate your accomplishments with you, your family and friends via a special website and program. You are still graduating now, just without the pomp and circumstance. Your degrees are being conferred at your spring or summer graduation date. Diplomas are mailed to you approximately 6 to 8 weeks after the conferral, which follows the university's regular schedule for graduation.

Please take a moment to look through the website, review the program booklet and click through the social media link that recognizes the degree candidates. Send this website link to friends and family and share your accomplishments on the Lewis College's social media platforms as well as on your own.

You and your fellow graduates join the vast body of the Georgia State University alumni as well as the more than 12,000 Lewis College graduates at all degree levels in health informatics, nursing, nutrition, occupational therapy, physical therapy and respiratory therapy. We know you will be successful in your future.

As you leave this campus, both physically and virtually, take with you not only the knowledge you have gained but also your compassion, ingenuity, enthusiasm and resolve. Stay in touch with the Lewis College and share your professional accomplishments. Since a professional network is critical to your careers, also stay in touch with each other. Never give up your goal of helping patients stay well and providing competent and compassionate care to them during times of pain and illness.

Best wishes,

Huanbiao Mo, Ph.D.

Interim Dean and Professor

# **Spring and Summer degree candidates\***

#### Doctor of Nursing Practice

Dena Bass
Lauren Bibin
Karene Boone
Merlyn Clarke
Daniel Geller
Cynthia Humenic
Heather Jones
Denise Josephs
Susan Laird
Allison Leppke
Lisa Lowe
Mimi Merriman
Anita Rich
Kelly Schnellinger

# Doctor of Physical Therapy

Alexandra Adams David Velez Arce Kara Carmichael David Chang Ellen Chong Elizabeth Dalal\*\*+ Mackin D'Amico Emma Davis\*\*+ Christina Dehnke Kristen Dillon Zachary Dunkle Elisha Fried Shelby Gutierrez Kelsey Harris Andrew Henney Olivia Hoey Hannah James\*\*+ Nathan Kelley Caleb Kutsche

Anna Langhorne

Hector Mallar Caroline Malone Ava Motakef Emily Nash Linh Nguyen+ Madeleine O'Callaghan\*\* Kelsey Pelletier Charles Payne Powell Thomas Peyton Seabolt Samantha Shay Megan Sims Cara Smith Thomas Eric Summerford Luke Tidwell\*\* Margaret Tikhonovsky Benjamin Von Schuch David Walker\*\*+ Grace White\*\*+ Alison Wilson

#### Master of Science – Nursing

Abigail Woodard

Ryan Wright

Nicole Acheampong\*\*\*
Shawnta Bennett\*\*\*
Brooke Brown
Joy Cheuvront
Hannah Christopher
Julie Freeman
Nia Griffin\*\*\*
Lindsey Lavin
Hayley Miller\*\*\*
Cynthia Moore
Julie Quach
Precious Steeples-Davis
Leslie Thomas
Briyanna Whittaker
Carol Wingfield

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<sup>\*</sup>Some students listed will have degrees conferred later in the year due to clinical requirements postponed by COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Master of Science in Health Sciences – Nutrition

Dashia Antunes
Ivanna Betancourt
Chelsi Brown
Laura Brown\*\*
Casie Cuneio
Jessica-Kim Danh\*\*
Karla DeSantos
Camira Hill
Marisa Little
Susanne MacKinnon
Susana Morphis
Lucas Tesina

# Master of Occupational Therapy

Ryan Albright Rachel Baek Allycyn Boudreau Scott Buie Christina Carroll Mariam Chandler Tommi Cooley Samantha Cubbler Nathalie Cuestas Caroline Fickling Lindsey Giles Hollis Griffies Anna Hicks Caroline Homer Brittany Marquis Valerie Martinez de Ubago Tyrone McDuffie Kelsey McNeely Noopur Parekh Gabrielle Parks Jade Perry Amirah Pittman\*\* Olivia Portner Samantha Price\*\* Alexa Rager Rachel Rice Taylor Robinson\*\* Morgan Ryder

Douglas Sands Kyle Schufreider Summer Shelton Eileen Simpson Allison Smith Reeves Turner Katlyn Wahn Anna Wendt Zoe Williams\*\* Midori Zarzour

#### Master of Science in Health Sciences — Respiratory Therapy

Mousa Alabbad Wael Alanezi Saleh Hassan Aldeghrir Amani Aldarwish Ibraheem Alghumgham Mouaid Aljehani Tahrah Almatrood Ahmed Almutairi Ghadeer Alawaywi Hassan Althabet Malik Abdulmalik S Althobiani Nasser Alwadai Mohammed Alzahrani Erica Armstrong++ Cherry Bryant Steven Ehrhardt Miranda McCoy Kimberly Nguyen\*\*++ Sherwin Niles Chloe Odell Tamethia Perkins Amber Prickett Kimberly Temple

\*\* Member of Alpha Eta Honor Society

+ Member of Delta Phi Tau

Honor Society

++ Member of Lambda Beta

Honor Society

\*\*\* Member of Sigma Theta Tau

Honor Society

#### Dr. Huanbiao Mo, Interim Dean

# Dr. Lynda Goodfellow, Senior Associate Dean for Academics

Dr. Regena Spratling
Associate Dean and Chief Nursing Officer

Dr. Sujay Galen
Department Chair, Physical Therapy

Dr. Doug Gardenhire
Department Chair, Respiratory Therapy

Dr. Kinsuk Maitra
Department Chair, Occupational Therapy

Dr. Anita Nucci Interim Department Chair, Nutrition

Dr. Cedric Truss
Director, Health Informatics

# **Academic Programs**

#### Health Informatics

Graduates of this interdisciplinary program between the Lewis College and the J. Mack Robinson College of Business serve as a liaisons between IT professionals and clinical end-users of technology. Both an Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies in Health Informatics degree and a new Master of Science in Health Sciences with a concentration in Health Informatics are offered.

#### Health Sciences

This interdisciplinary program prepares undergraduates applying to graduate programs in rehabilitation sciences, such as occupational therapy and physical therapy. Coursework tailored to the students' needs, guarantees they take the exact prerequisites necessary for the graduate program, saving the student time and money.

#### Nursing

The School of Nursing offers nursing degree programs at the associates', bachelor's, master's and doctorate levels, and has educated more than 6,000 nurses since 1968. The graduate nursing program maintains a 97 percent pass rate average on the APRN examinations for the past five years.

#### Nutrition

The Department of Nutrition strives to improve nutrition in the community by providing its graduates with a strong educational foundation and counts nearly 2,000 alumni from its bachelor's, master's and coordinated master's degree programs. The licensing examination pass rate for nutrition graduates is 100 percent for 2019.

#### Occupational Therapy

The Department of Occupational Therapy offers the Master of Occupational Therapy and enrolled its first cohort of students in the program in January 2017. The licensing examination pass rate for the first cohort of OT graduates is 100 percent.

#### Physical Therapy

The Department of Physical Therapy offers a clinical entry-level doctorate in physical therapy (DPT), and a dual DPT/PhD program, which prepares physical therapists for clinical excellence and the pursuit of scholarly activities that contribute to the body of scientific and clinical knowledge. The PT program holds exceptional national licensure exam first-time pass rates, and has graduated over 1,500 since 1968.

#### Respiratory Therapy

Respiratory therapy professionals provide a wide scope of lifesaving and lifesupporting care in cooperation with physicians evaluating, treating and caring for patients with breathing disorders from premature infants to the elderly. Georgia State's respiratory therapy program proudly possesses a 100 percent first-time pass rate on the National Certification Examination for more than seven years.

