

*Spring  
Commencement Exercises  
of  
Troy University  
One Hundred Thirty-Eighth Annual Session*



*Wednesday, May 21, 2025  
7:00 p.m.  
Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts  
Montgomery, Alabama*

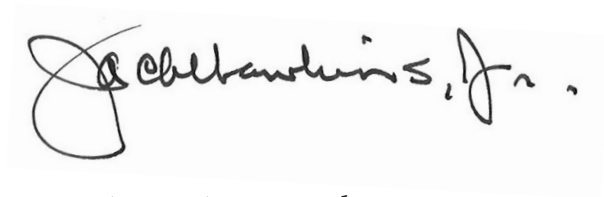
## CHANCELLOR'S WELCOME

Commencement is a monumental day in the life of Troy University. It is the day when years of dedication and hard work are rewarded. It is the day to celebrate achievement. On behalf of the Troy University family around the world, I am pleased to welcome our guests to this important ceremony.

A special word of welcome is in order for the families of our graduates. Many of you have sacrificed a great deal to make this special day possible. Many attending this ceremony have helped shape the values and vision of our graduates. Thank you for supporting and guiding those we honor this day.

Commencement is also a time of reflection. It provides graduates the occasion to look back one last time at their TROY careers before moving forward. I hope our graduates' memories include those special faculty members who have helped them along the way. Our faculty and staff work hard each day to ensure Troy University provides a valuable education experience for our students.

Great universities stir great emotions, especially during special occasions such as commencement. Thank you for sharing this momentous occasion with us. It's an honor to welcome you to Troy University.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jack Hawkins, Jr.", with a stylized initial "J" and a trailing flourish.

Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.  
Chancellor, Troy University

## **TROY UNIVERSITY HISTORY**

Troy University traces its origin to the Troy State Normal School established on February 26, 1887, by an Act of the Alabama Legislature. The normal school or teachers college concept emerged in the nineteenth century as a way to train teachers for the nation's developing educational system. Since its origin as a teachers college, Troy University has continued to expand its mission, increase its degree offerings and periodically change its name to reflect its new activities. On December 14, 1967 Troy State College became Troy State University. Today, the University serves the educational needs of students in Alabama, throughout the United States and around the world. Troy University's graduates number more than 100,000 alumni representing all 50 states and numerous foreign countries. On August 1, 2005, to reflect the merger of its system campuses into a single University, the institution again changed its name and is now known as Troy University.

### ***A Jewel in Downtown Montgomery***

Troy University's Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts originally opened on January 25, 1930, as a "Movie Palace" and Vaudeville house. Known for decades as The Paramount Theatre, countless numbers of patrons not only enjoyed movies and shows in the Theatre, but many couples enjoyed their first date, first kiss or marriage proposal here. There were a number of weddings held on the Paramount's stage! After closing in 1976 (ironically the last feature was *Gone With the Wind*), the theatre was purchased by Troy University, renovated and reopened in 1983 as Troy University's Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts, named for the late Tine W. Davis and his wife Eunice, the major contributors to the restoration effort.

### ***How May We Help You?***

The Davis is a fully-equipped, professional rental theatre. The types of events we are able to handle are very wide-ranging. Having a church cantata and need a larger space? Is your group putting on a play, dance recital, seminar for your employees, awards program, graduation, gospel show, band concert, beauty pageant or fashion show? No problem! The Theatre is located in the heart of historic downtown Montgomery on the campus of Troy University and seats 1200 patrons. With a sound system, lighting system, lecterns, microphones, tele-conferencing capabilities, video projection equipment, folding chairs and tables, we have practically everything you need for your event (except your scenery and costumes).

### ***How Can Your Organization Book the Theatre?***

If you'd like to look at holding your organization's event in the theatre, it can be started with a simple phone call. We will ask for a few details to help you reserve your date, work out all arrangements and send you a contract. Our staff will be happy to help you in any way possible. We are committed to assisting you in making your event a grand success!

*Troy University's Davis Theatre  
251 Montgomery Street  
in Historic Downtown Montgomery, Alabama  
Phone: (334) 241-9567  
Fax: (334) 241-9756  
E-mail: [davistheatre@troy.edu](mailto:davistheatre@troy.edu)*

## **TROY UNIVERSITY DAVIS THEATRE for the Performing Arts**



Paramount Theatre - Circa 1930



Troy University's Davis Theatre - Present



Paramount Theatre - Circa 1959



Troy University's Davis Theatre - Present

# Order of Exercises

May 21, 2025

## Processional

Pomp and Circumstance .....Elgar

Mr. Scot Dyess

(The audience will stand for the Processional  
and remain standing for the National Anthem)

## National Anthem

Ms. Alexis Henson

## Invocation

Ms. Antoinette Pagniaci  
President, Montgomery Campus  
Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society

## Welcome

Mr. James E. Smith  
Interim Chief Operating Officer, Montgomery Campus

## Greetings from Troy University

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr.  
Chancellor, Troy University

## Commencement Address

Col. Shamekia Toliver  
Commander, 42nd Airbase Wing  
Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

## Certification of Candidates

Dr. Kerry Palmer  
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

## Conferring of Degrees

Dr. Hawkins

## Presentation of Candidates

Dr. Robert Vilardi  
Dr. George Crowley  
Dr. Fred Figliano  
Dr. LaGary Carter  
Dr. MaryAnne Templeton

## Presentation of Diplomas

Chancellor Hawkins, Col Toliver & Trustees  
Assisted by Ms. Beth Potts, Campus Registrar

(The audience will stand and remain in place  
for the Alma Mater, Benediction and Recessional.)

## Alma Mater

Led by: Ms. Henson and Mr. Dyess

## Benediction

Ms. Pagniacchi

## Recessional

“March from Aida” ..... Verdi  
Mr. Dyess

Grand Marshal..... Ms. Kim Kerr  
Faculty Marshal..... Dr. Amanda Dunagan  
Ushers..... Members of Gamma Beta Phi Honorary Society

All graduates and their guests are invited to a cake reception immediately following the ceremony in the Gold Room.  
(Second Floor-Whitley Hall)

Graduation honors awarded during the ceremony are as follows:

Summa Cum Laude .....With Highest Honors ..... (overall GPA of 3.80)  
Magna Cum Laude.....With High Honors .....(overall GPA of 3.60)  
Cum Laude .....With Honors ..... (overall GPA of 3.40)

Students wearing white cords indicate academic honors as listed above.

## National Anthem

Oh say, can you see, by the dawn's early light  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
Oh, say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

*Francis Scott Key*

## Alma Mater

### **TROY: A Beacon to the World TROY UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER**

by Robert W. Smith (Class of '79) and Ralph Ford (Class of '86)

Upon the mighty walls of TROY we meet our life-long friends.  
To grow in Knowledge, Truth and Strength, our journey never ends.  
With the promise of the future, and the guidance of the past.  
We pledge our solemn vow to thee, loyal everlast.

So raise our mighty Trojan sword, a beacon to the world.  
Throughout the ages brightly shines, the guiding light of TROY.

PLEASE NOTE: Troy University makes every effort to include the names of degree candidates in this program. Appearance of the name in this program is not official acknowledgment of completion of the degree or diploma indicated.

## ACADEMIC DEGREES

## ASSOCIATE DEGREES

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. Govind K. Menon, Dean

Tiffany Katrice Brooks	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in General Education</i>	
Marquita Glenay Dudley	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in General Education:</i>	
Laura A Gilstrap	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in General Education</i>	
Destiny Jones	Millbrook, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in General Education</i>	
Destiny Mooney	Nashville, Tennessee
<i>Associate of Science in General Education</i>	
Beverly Ann Scott	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in General Education</i>	
Misty Jeanette Vilardi	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in General Education</i>	

### COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Dr. LaGary Carter, Dean

Alexandria Michele Baker	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Lillian P Barnett	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Fantavia Gregnisha Brown	Collirene, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Danielle Caffey	Highland Home, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Jordan Dawson	Coosada, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Chynna Ellis	Las Vegas, Nevada
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
DaCarroll Denise Feagin	Union Springs, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Jessica Elaine Flowers	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Destiny Gosha	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Alisha Joanna Green	Auburn, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	



Angela Green	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Abigayle Morgan Harris	Prattville, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Alexis Tre'nae Harris	Alexander City, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Samantha Lauren Helms	Lapine, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Kacey Jones	Tallassee, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Abby Joy Kamel	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Alyssa Grace Kelley	Millbrook, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Olivia Kyzar	Troy, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Savannah Brooke May	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Emily Grace McElvaine	Elmore, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Chelsea Mitchell	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Sylvia A Ntembe	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Laquinas Perry	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Holly Price	Opelika, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Destinee Roscoe	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Alessandra Russo	Millbrook, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Victoria Hope Thornton	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Antanaisha Kian Toney	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Nadesh Vitale	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
April Michelle Warren	Tallassee, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Chrishanda Camille West	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Kelsey Elisabeth Wilkes	Troy, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	
Nikki Elberta Wimberly	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Associate of Science in Nursing</i>	

# BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. Govind K. Menon, Dean

Shalisha Ciara Austin	Prattville, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	
James Keith Bogard	Billingsley, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Criminal Justice</i>	
Tyson Davis	Millbrook, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Applied Computer Science</i>	
Delphine Danielle Dotson	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	
Anna Joy Dunbar	Moncks Corner, South Carolina
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Anthropology</i>	
Kelsie Patrice Garrett	Fort Deposit, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Sociology</i>	
Pamela Savage German	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	
Theresa Trenise Green	Atlanta, Georgia
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	
Ojedita Lamar Johnson Jr.	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	
Jacquelyn Paige Jones	Winston, Georgia
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: BioMedical</i>	
Jason Lance Jones	Clanton, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Applied Science, Major: Resources and Technology Management</i>	
Tyree Jones	Clanton, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Criminal Justice</i>	
Ronald Erskine Lee	Fortson, Georgia
<i>Bachelor of Applied Science, Major: Resources and Technology Management</i>	
Chaleigh Grace McGalliard (Cum Laude).	Prattville, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Political Science</i>	
Dazzlin La'diamond Millender	Monroeville, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Criminal Justice</i>	
Sansha Richard	Tuscaloosa, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Interdisciplinary Studies</i>	
Sakoria Keyashaii Robinson	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Criminal Justice</i>	
Michael Stephen Wales	Deatsville, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Applied Computer Science</i>	
Brady Logan White (Magna Cum Laude).	Deatsville, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Social Science</i>	

# SORRELL COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dr. Judson Edwards, Dean

Tina Marie Conner	Auburn, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
La'Bre Kenshay Davis	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Hospitality, Tourism, and Event Management</i>	
Elizabeth Henderson	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
Alease Torin Lewis	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
Toria L. Lykes-Combs	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
LaQuita R. Mahan (Cum Laude)	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
Kendra La'daisha Webb	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
Corey Deon McKeller	Miami, Florida
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
Ra'Shad De'vante' Murry	Selma, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
Owen C. Myers	Millbrook, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
David Alan Poole Jr.	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	
Marlee Grace Simpson	Lillian, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Hospitality, Tourism, and Event Management</i>	
Lucretia L. Stallworth Thomas	Camden, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Major: Global Business</i>	

# COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND FINE ARTS

Dr. Michael Thrasher, Dean

Ronald Alexander Whitacre	Birmingham, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: English</i>	

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Fred Figliano, Dean

Mereceeo Jamal Apgar	Fort Mitchell, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Psychology</i>	
Kiarah C. Harris	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Psychology</i>	
Mark Terrance Johnson	Dallas, Georgia
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Psychology</i>	
Michelle Valentina McCoy	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Psychology</i>	
Wynton Jahmal Moore	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Psychology</i>	
Ronald Simmons	Grovetown, GA
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Psychology</i>	
Octavious Jamal Taylor	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Psychology</i>	

## COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Dr. LaGary Carter, Dean

Savannah Kelley Armstrong	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing:</i>	
Mikayla Ivy Holt	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing</i>	
Latavia Mashea' Hunter	Greenville, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing</i>	
Christina Elise Jenkins	Prattville, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing</i>	
Linda Tyson Daniels (Cum Laude).	Elba, Alabama
<i>Bachelor of Science, Major: Human Services</i>	

# GRADUATE SCHOOL

Dr. Mary Anne Templeton

## GRADUATE DEGREES

### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. Govind K. Menon, Dean

Cassandra Lachelle Hill	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Criminal Justice, Major:</i>	
<i>B.S., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama</i>	
David Christopher Lawrence	Prattville, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Computer Science, Major:</i>	
<i>B.S., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama</i>	
Jessica Leigh Smith	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Criminal Justice, Major:</i>	
<i>B.S., Troy University, Troy, Alabama</i>	
Nicole Marie Velez Rodriguez	Moca, Puerto Rico
<i>Master of Science in International Relations - Regional Affairs, Major:</i>	
<i>M.A., American Military University, Charles Town, West Virginia</i>	
William Pou Nunn York	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Criminal Justice, Major:</i>	
<i>B.S., Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	

### SORRELL COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dr. Judson Edwards, Dean

Ahran Kim Bardolf Fawcett	Pyeongtaek, South Korea
<i>Master of Business Administration</i>	
<i>B.A., Kyonggi University, Suwon, Korea</i>	
Kimberly Arlene Campa	Los Angeles, California
<i>Master of Science in Management</i>	
<i>B.A., Brandman University, Santa Monica, California</i>	
Brandon Lamar Chesson	Shorter, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Sport Management</i>	
<i>B.S., Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Tawana Edwards	Mobile, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Human Resource Management</i>	
<i>B.S.B.A., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama</i>	
Brandon Holman	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Management</i>	
<i>B.S., Troy University, Troy, Alabama</i>	
Austin James Robbins	Prattville, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Management:</i>	
<i>B.S., Troy University, Troy, Alabama</i>	

# COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Fred Figliano, Dean

Emilomo Jennifer Angulu	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Counseling, Major: Clinical Mental Health</i>	
<i>M.S., University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria</i>	
Ashley Macon Ashford	Notasulga, Alabama
<i>Master of Science, Major: Adult Education</i>	
<i>B.S., Troy University, Troy, Alabama</i>	
TaWanna Dickens Brooks	Birmingham, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Counseling, Major: Clinical Mental Health</i>	
<i>B.S., Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Angelica Burke	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Education, Major: School Counseling</i>	
<i>M.S.C.E., University of West Alabama, Livingston, Alabama</i>	
Kimiya Ife Harris	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Counseling, Major: Clinical Mental Health</i>	
<i>B.S., Troy University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Lisa Dianne Jarvis	Birmingham, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Education, Major: Gifted Education</i>	
<i>B.S., University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama</i>	
Aynthia Latraie Merrill	Miami, Florida
<i>Master of Science, Major: Adult Education</i>	
<i>M.S.W., Troy University, Dothan, Alabama</i>	
Cafferty Caldwell Owen	Prattville, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Psychology, Major:</i>	
<i>B.S., Troy University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Standrea Patterson	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Master of Science, Major: Adult Education</i>	
<i>B.S., Amridge University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Denise Shawntel Randall	Hope Hull, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Counseling, Major: Clinical Mental Health</i>	
<i>M.A., South University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Jessica Stewart	Brunswick, Georgia
<i>Master of Science, Major: Adult Education</i>	
<i>B.S., Troy University, Troy, Alabama</i>	
Sonya Ophelia Taylor	Millry, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Education, Major: School Counseling</i>	
<i>Ed.S., Troy University, Troy, Alabama</i>	
Christopher David Vaughn	Arab, Alabama
<i>Master of Science, Major: Adult Education</i>	
<i>B.S., Athens State University, Athens, Alabama</i>	
Kaitlyn Elizabeth Wilson	Montgomery, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Counseling, Major: Clinical Mental Health</i>	
<i>B.A., Lipscomb University, Nashville, Tennessee</i>	



# COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Dr. LaGary Carter, Dean

Normekia C. Braggs	Tuscaloosa, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Nursing:</i>	
<i>B.S.N., Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama</i>	
Brekendria Davis	Tuscaloosa, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Nursing</i>	
<i>B.S.N., Chamberlain University, Addison, Illinois</i>	
Christina Marie Dunn	Tallassee, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Nursing</i>	
<i>B.S.N., Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Olivia Grayson Davis	Pine Hill, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Nursing</i>	
<i>B.S.N., Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama</i>	
Samantha Haney	Wetumpka, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Nursing</i>	
<i>B.S.N., Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Michelle Honaker Kitchens	Pike Road, AL
<i>Master of Science in Nursing</i>	
<i>B.S.N., Troy University, Troy, Alabama</i>	
April Mack	Moundville, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Nursing</i>	
<i>B.S.N., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama</i>	
Terri Melissa Vaughan	Pell City, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Nursing</i>	
<i>B.S.N., Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama</i>	
Sylvia Anne Wyatt	Pinson, Alabama
<i>Master of Science in Nursing</i>	
<i>B.S.N., South University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	

# EDUCATION SPECIALIST

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Fred Figliano, Dean

Latorya Hawthorne	Greenville, Alabama
<i>Education Specialist, Major: School Counseling</i>	
<i>B.M.E., Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	
Tyquaun Demetrius Kendrell Porter	Opelika, Alabama
<i>Education Specialist, Major: Instructional Leadership and Administration</i>	
<i>M.Ed., Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama</i>	

## **The Origin and History of Academic Regalia**

The wearing of academic regalia goes back a long way, to the 12th century. Everyone wore “gowns”—long robes—in those days, and for a very good reason: to keep warm. When the styles finally changed, professional people alone wore the gown as a visible token of their profession.

The hood came along in the 13th century. Originally it was called a “chaperon,” and was a kind of pointed bag with an oval opening for the face. It went through several phases, including one as a turban, before it settled down to its present shape and function, the latter being an indicator of rank as shown by color combinations.

As for the mortarboard (also called cap and originally “Biretta”), its origin is not so well documented. Some say it was derived from the master workman’s actual mortar board. Others say it began at Oxford, and was named for that school’s quadrangular campus. The best guess is that, inasmuch as university men in the Middle Ages wore close-fitting skull caps inside the cold and draughty buildings and put the soft square biretta on over the skull cap when they went outdoors, the mortarboard resulted from combining the two into a single head covering.

The degree colors are appropriate to the category of the degree, rather than to the scholar’s major subject. For example, the appropriate color for degrees in Arts and Letters is white; in Business, drab; in Education, light blue; in Law, purple; in Music, pink; in Nursing, apricot; in Philosophy, dark blue; in Theology, scarlet; in Science, golden yellow. These colors are used for the trim of all hoods and may be used for the velvet facing and sleeve bars on doctors’ gowns and tassels on bachelors’ and masters’ caps. The institutional colors, with which the hoods are lined, indicate the university or college granting the degree. The colors for Troy University are cardinal and black.

Academic regalia have survived the changes and upheavals of the centuries. Long, long ago, they identified the scholar, the learned student, the seeker after truth. At Troy University, they still do.



# **TROY UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Her Excellency, Kay Ivey  
*Governor of Alabama, President, ex officio*

Karen E. Carter, *Birmingham*

Edward F. Crowell, *Montgomery*

Gerald O. Dial, *Lineville*

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C. Charles Nailen, Jr., *Dothan*

Freddie Thomas, *Birmingham*

C. Gibson Vance, *Montgomery*

Cam Ward, *Montgomery*

Student Member, President, *Troy University SGA*

Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D., *Secretary*

## RETIRING FACULTY AND STAFF

Troy University wishes to pay tribute to the following faculty and staff members retiring during the current scholastic year:

**Sandra Atkins**

Senior Deputy Athletic Director  
Troy

**David Gandy**

Associate Director  
Panama City

**David Hoover**

Associate Professor  
Montgomery

**Jacquelyn Ketchum**

Director of the Coleman Center  
Dothan

**Stephen Miciak**

Enrollment Manager  
Florida

**Cynthia Mote**

Dispatcher/ Clerk  
Troy

**Marilyn Perkins**

Course Scheduling Specialist  
Troy

**Sylvie Rhodes**

Admissions Counselor  
Tampa

**Donna B. Riley**

Benefits Administrator  
Troy

**Patrick Rossi**

Professor  
Troy

**Gregory Ruediger**

Associate Professor  
Dothan

**Marcella Shirley**  
Technology Coordinator  
Troy

**Virginia Leah Sims**  
Administrative Secretary  
Troy

**Wanda Spradley**  
Help Desk Technician  
Troy

**Lillis Sullivan**  
Departmental Secretary  
Troy

**Suzanne Tew-Washburn**  
Associate Professor  
Phenix City

**Donald Lee Vardaman**  
Associate Provost for Academic Affairs  
Troy

Alumni Affairs

100 Highland Avenue  
Troy, Alabama  
36082

334-670-3318  
334-670-5622 FAX



Dear Graduate,

Congratulations to you on your graduation. After years of study, dedication and commitment you have succeeded in meeting your goal of earning a degree from Troy University. Congratulations as well to your family and friends who are here with you celebrating this very important day.

On behalf of the Troy University Alumni Board, we welcome you to the ranks of the more than 173,000 TROY alumni worldwide. Your accomplishment today demonstrates the motto established by Troy University at the founding in 1887 - "Educate the mind to think, the heart to feel and the body to act".

The Troy Alumni Board is giving you a free one-year membership in the Alumni Association. You will be eligible for member benefits provided by the Alumni Association and connections to other TROY graduates wherever your new career takes you in the United States or abroad. For more information on membership or other questions you may have, please call the Office of Alumni Affairs at (334) 670-3318.

As you celebrate your graduation we hope you remember your time at TROY and make plans to come back often to visit the campus. Your TROY story is important to share with others as the University continues to grow with more degrees to address the changing economic environment and job opportunities.

Your Alumni Association is committed to continue to provide scholarships for students and to provide a helping hand to graduates as they enter the workforce. Your relationship with TROY and your fellow graduates is important to the Alumni Board and the numerous alumni chapters. We hope you will become an integral part of the Troy University Alumni Association and/or a local chapter.

Again, congratulations and welcome as the newest alumni of Troy University!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosemary Elebash".

Rosemary Elebash  
President  
Troy University Alumni Association

