



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
CONVOCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
COMMENCEMENT 2021





**Candidates for degrees whose names appear in this program  
were applicants for graduation as of March 4, 2021.**



# COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

## CONVOCATION PROGRAM

### **Welcoming Remarks**

Nancy Butler Songer, PhD  
*Dean, College of Education*

### **Student Awards and Recognitions**

#### **Students Graduating Summa Cum Laude**

Breaanna Melanie Torres

#### **Students Graduating Magna Cum Laude**

Christy Kartchner Francis  
Ingrid Karoline Griffiee

#### **Students Graduating Cum Laude**

Lauren E. Edwards  
Grace Anne Healy

#### **Honors Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education**

Tamara N. Haddad

#### **Honors Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education**

Kayla Jean Kelsey

### **University and College Awards and Recognitions**

University of Utah Awards  
College of Education Outstanding Faculty Research Award  
College of Education Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award  
College of Education Outstanding Faculty Service Award  
College of Education Outstanding Social Justice and Transformation Award  
College of Education Outstanding Staff Award  
College of Education Professor Emeritus  
Outstanding Public School Teacher Award

### **Keynote Speaker**

Roderic R. Land, PhD  
*Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences*  
*Salt Lake Community College*

### **In-Person Student Speaker**

Vecencia (Pepper) Bucher  
*Department of Special Education*

Link to the following students' performances:  
<https://education.utah.edu/students/2021-convo-media.php>

Kathryn Blunt, accompanied by Catherine Cummings performing  
"I Dare You" by Kelly Clarkson

David Asman performing Rozhinkes mit Mandlen (Raisins and Almonds)  
(Jewish Lullaby by Abraham Goldfaden)

BreaAnna Torres performing  
"Whenever You Remember" by Carrie Underwood

Josie Proffit performing "Tightrope"

**Announcers**

Camille Dixon

Bill Rogers

## **Recognition of the Class of 2021**

### Graduating Class Profile

Total Graduates	329
Bachelors Degrees	67
Masters Degrees	181
Educational Specialist Degrees	2
Doctoral Degrees	79
Elementary Teaching Licenses	22
Special Education Teaching Licenses	45
Secondary Teaching Licenses	27

### **Keynote Speaker**

Roderic R. Land  
Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Salt Lake Community College

Dr. Roderic Land is the Dean for Humanities and Social Sciences at Salt Lake Community College. Before taking on the role as Dean, he served as the Special Assistant to the Salt Lake Community College President & Chief Diversity Officer for four years.

Having received his PhD in Educational Policy, Organization, & Leadership, Dr. Land committed his life and work to higher education. As an administrator, scholar and activist, he has insisted on bridging the gap between theory and practice. His hands on approach to communities broadly defined, is paramount and largely significant to his research and social agenda. As such, he has taught at the University of Utah in the Department of Education, Culture & Society, and the Ethnic Studies Program.

He has taken his work and gifts seriously. His community involvement is untiring and necessary to his philosophy and work as a scholar, researcher and administrator. He maintains and believes that God has assigned him to this duty, and he humbly works as a servant for God, his students, community, and the many people and organizations he has mentored throughout the years on a national level. His ultimate global impact will resituate the perception of inclusivity and equity in education and society at large.

# COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AWARDS

## **Outstanding Faculty Research and Scholarship Award**

**Robert Zheng, PhD**

Dr. Robert Zheng is a full professor in the Department of Educational Psychology. His research has focused on human cognition and educational technology integration. Specifically, he is interested in understanding the role of cognitive load in technology-based learning, the relationship between multimedia and cognition, and issues in K-16 technology integration. Over time, his research has been enriched and expanded by bringing in different perspectives into technology-based learning. These include cognitive load theory, individual differences, self-efficacy, cognitive and affective aspects in learning, personalization, and so forth.

Dr. Zheng's research has not only contributed to the theoretical advancement in cognitive load, multimedia and cognition, and K-16 technology integration but also influenced practices in applying theoretical frameworks to education in general, and K-16 education in particular. His work has been widely referenced in the areas of cognitive load research, instructional design, web-based learning, and technology integration in schools. Dr. Zheng has authored and edited 12 books, published over 70 refereed journal papers and book chapters, along with 48 national and international conference presentations. He has also actively pursued internal and extramural grants to support his research.

## **Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award**

**Frank Margonis, PhD**

Dr. Frank Margonis is an educational philosopher who focuses on understanding the patterns of social relationships amongst peoples, especially amongst students and teachers. He studies the obstacles to rich relationships and the ways in which some school classrooms are toxic because the race and class relationships pit students against one another. He is particularly fascinated by those educators who teach in powerful ways even though society has placed the students and the educators in tough conditions. Teachers commonly reference the quality of their relationships with students in describing their classroom interactions; for example, they speak of loving their students or of the students trusting them—

they know that rich relationships make substantive learning possible. Frank studies teachers' narratives about learning and teaching to better understand their wisdom regarding the learning relationships that are exciting and fruitful. He also studies philosophers' characterizations of relationships and learning; in the U.S., we inherit philosophical views that underrate the significance of relationships in learning, and so he looks to philosophers that offer alternative conceptions of self and of people's relationships with one another. The knowledge of teachers and philosophers are quite different, so he seeks to meld those understandings, which come from very different vantage points.

## **Outstanding Early Career Faculty Teaching Award**

**Jennifer Taylor, PhD**

Dr. Jennifer Taylor is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Psychology. Her research largely focuses on how we can make teaching more effective. She strives to infuse social justice and advocacy within her classes by providing her students with hands-on experiences that capitalize on the skills they are developing to support those in the community. Dr. Taylor has partnered with her students to offer workshops in the community for Latinx adolescents, first-generation college students, DREAMERS, survivors of domestic violence, those in recovery from addictions, and single mothers. Dr. Taylor

strives to make learning engaging and meaningful through the use of green screens and online mini-lectures, "application challenges," which offer ideas to immediately apply what students are learning, and the nurturance of self-reflection and critical thinking skills. She encourages her students to always remain curious, keep humble about what they do and do not know, and always seek answers and to ask even more questions. Her goal as a professor is to inspire students to think beyond the textbook, apply course concepts to other courses and life experiences, and develop the skills necessary for a lifelong love of learning.



## **Outstanding Faculty Service Award**

### **Paula Smith, PhD**

Dr. Paula Smith is a developmental psychologist with expertise in school-based prevention in middle and high schools. Her primary research interests lie at the intersection of schools and juvenile justice systems—the school-to-prison pipeline, juvenile justice, restorative justice, and access to mental health resources. Secondly, she is also the Principal Investigator of a research initiative to improve the quality of doctoral socialization for Black graduate students that addresses the ways in which anti-Black racism permeates academia.

Professionally, Paula is a Board Member for the Society of Prevention Research, the National Prevention Science Coalition, and the Chair of the Utah Prevention Research Group. She advocates for socially just and equitable policies and practices in PK-12 schools and other youth-serving agencies.

## **College of Education Outstanding Social Justice and Transformation Award**

### **Erin A. Castro, PhD**

Dr. Erin L. Castro is an Associate Professor of Higher Education at the University of Utah and Co-Founder/ Director of the University of Utah Prison Education Project, an on-site initiative providing college coursework and programming at the Utah State Prison in Draper. She directs the Research Collaborative on Higher Education in Prison where she investigates a number of projects, including: federal Pell grant restoration, criminal and disciplinary history questions in college admissions, the national directory of higher education in prison programs, and myriad issues related to equity and quality in prison higher education.

She was a strategic organizing member of the Alliance for Higher Education in Prison (launched in 2016) and served as part of the Re-Entry and Education Advisory Committee for the Lumina Foundation from 2019-2020. She is a founding executive co-editor for the Journal of Higher Education in Prison (launched in 2020) and her work has been published in journals such as Harvard Educational Review and Journal of College Student Development. Dr. Castro routinely teaches and learns inside prisons and affectionately holds the title of Mamá for a tiny human named Emilio.

## **Outstanding Staff Award**

### **James Logue**

Born in Montana and raised by educators in Wyoming, Jim Logue studied music at Casper College (WY), Berklee College of Music (MA), and after performing in various bands, eventually earned his Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies at the University of Utah. Jim started his IT career at the University of Utah Law Library as its first Systems Administrator. He later worked as an IT Administrator for seven years in the advertising field

but returned to academic computing as the sole IT staff at the University of Wyoming's campus Casper branch. Jim joined the University of Utah College of Education in 2015 and has enjoyed supporting the faculty, staff, and students over the years. In his spare time, Jim dabbles in gardening, culinary exploration and hopes to travel internationally again.

## UNIVERSITY OF UTAH AWARDS

### **Distinguished Researcher Award and the James McCune Smith Award of Veneration William Smith, PhD**

Dr. William A. Smith is a full professor and department chair of Education, Culture & Society at the University of Utah. He also holds a joint appointment in the Ethnic Studies Program (African American Studies division) as a full professor. He has served as the Associate Dean for Diversity, Access, & Equity in the College of Education (2007-2014) and a Special Assistant to the President as the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Faculty Athletics Representative (2007-2013) at the University of Utah. Dr. Smith is the co-editor (with Philip Altbach & Kofi Lomotey) of the book, *The Racial Crisis in American Higher Education: The Continuing Challenges for the 21st Century* (2002). The 2nd Revised edition of *The Racial Crisis in American Higher Education* was recently published with all-new chapters. In 2018, he received the College of Education's Faculty Service Award for Outstanding Research & Scholarship. In 2020, Dr. Smith was awarded the Spencer Foundation's Mentor Award and the University of Utah's Distinguished Graduate & Postdoctoral Scholar Mentor Award. In 2021, Dr. Smith was once again awarded one of the University of Utah's highest honors with the *Distinguished Professor Award for Scholarly Research* and the Black Faculty & Staff's highest award, the *James McCune Smith Award of Veneration*. His research focuses on his theoretical contribution of Racial Battle Fatigue, which is the cumulative emotional, psychological, physiological, and behavioral effects that racial micro-level aggressions and macro-level aggressions have on racialized Targets of White Supremacy. He summarizes this definition by saying that it is a repetitive race-related stress injury. Dr. Smith's work has appeared in such prestigious journals as the *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, *Journal of Negro Education*, *Harvard Educational Review*, *Educational Administration Quarterly*, *American Educational Research Journal*, *Journal of Minority Achievement, Creativity, and Leadership*, *Spectrum: The Journal of Black Males*, and *American Behavioral Scientist*, to name a few. He received his undergraduate and master's degrees from Eastern Illinois University (BA in psychology and MS in counseling psychology), and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (educational policy studies, sociology/social psychology of higher education).

### **Graduate School Distinguished Mentor Award and the Malcolm X Award of Social Justice Laurence Parker, PhD**

Dr. Laurence Parker is a professor in the Department of Educational Leadership & Policy (ELP) and an associate dean in the Honors College. His research and teaching focus is on social justice leadership in K-16 education policy. He also has expertise in critical race theory and educational leadership applied to disrupting the normalization of failure with students. "I am honored and humbled to receive this award from the Graduate School but really it was the students whom I have worked with over the years who deserve this. I am glad to have served as a mentor along their educational and professional journey. One of my mentors told me as I prepared for my first faculty position that as a mentor, you are judged for how much more your students accomplish than you. I have lived by these words for and with the students in the College of Education and the ELP Department."

### **Maya Angelou Award of Innovation Paula Smith, PhD**

See bio in Outstanding Faculty Service Award.

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION PROFESSOR EMERITUS

### **Michael L. Hardman, PhD**

#### **Also awarded Dean Emeritus, College of Education**

Dr. Michael Hardman has been a faculty member in the Department of Special Education since 1974. During his tenure at the University of Utah, he was appointed a University Distinguished Professor; Dean of the College of Education; University Interim Senior Vice President (Provost); University Chief Global Officer; President, University of Utah Asia Campus Board of Directors; and Chair of the Departments of Special Education and Teaching and Learning. He has been a prolific and influential scholar in education and public policy, including appointments as the Matthew J. Guglielmo Endowed Chair at California State University, Los Angeles; Visiting Senior Scholar at Cambridge University, England; Senior Education Advisor and Kennedy Fellow to the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation; Legislative Staff in the United States Senate; the Governor's Representative to the California Advisory Commission on Special Education; President of the Higher Education Consortium for Special Education; and a member of the Board of Directors for several international organizations.

### **John McDonnell, PhD**

Dr. John McDonnell joined the faculty in the Department of Special Education in fall of 1984. His research agenda focuses on the development and validation of curriculum and instructional strategies to support students with severe disabilities in inclusive educational and community environments. Dr. McDonnell has published numerous journal articles, book chapters, and books. He has obtained over 16 million dollars in federal and state funding to support his research and outreach activities.

Beyond his research, Dr. McDonnell has been actively involved in outreach to advocates, parents and families, and professionals throughout the state of Utah. This work focused on developing model programs in several

As a faculty member, Dr. Hardman published extensively with colleagues and students in international and national journals, and co-authored ten college textbooks. He directed numerous international and national demonstration training/research projects in education policy and reform, teacher quality, professional development, inclusive education, and preparing tomorrow's leaders in special education.

Among his accomplishments as Dean, Dr. Hardman, in collaboration with college leadership, faculty, and staff, led the fund-raising efforts for the new Beverly Taylor Sorenson Arts and Education Complex; established the Urban Institute for Teacher Education and the Center for Science and Math Education; and enhanced the college's diversity efforts, including the appointment of the first Associate Dean for Diversity.

school districts to establish and support neighborhood school programs for K-12 students and comprehensive school to community transition programs for young adults. During his career, he and his colleagues have provided in-service training and technical assistance to teachers and administrators in 39 of Utah's 41 school districts.

Dr. McDonnell has also served in a number of leadership roles during his career including as Interim Dean of the College of Education, Associate Dean for Faculty Research Support, Department Chair, and as the Program Coordinator for the endorsement program in severe disabilities.

### **Janice A. Dole, PhD**

Dr. Dole has enjoyed a long and productive career in the college and department, beginning with her appointment to the Department of Educational Studies in 1988. She began as Assistant Professor and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1991. She transferred to the Department of Educational Psychology where she became Professor in 2008. Across these departments and over 33 years, she has been a central figure in the Reading and Literacy program and served as its program director for many of those 33 years. Over the last five years of her career, she has dedicated her professional efforts on behalf of the Urban Institute of Teacher Education in the College of Education and has assisted in efforts to strengthen and promote the teacher education program. Dr. Dole has authored over 100 articles, book chapters, and scholarly presentations, participated

in numerous state and national committees and organizations, and spearheaded various state and national initiatives on reading reform. A recipient of the College of Education Faculty Service Award and the College of Education Distinguished Scholar Martin Luther King Award, she has provided service to the departments (e.g., program director, student committees), college (e.g., Associate Chair of Teaching and Learning), and university. In addition to the many literacy courses she has taught, she has provided mentorship to doctoral students, guiding them through their dissertations and co-authoring numerous articles and book chapters with them.

### **Douglas J. Hacker, PhD**

Dr. Hacker has enjoyed a long and productive career in the Department of Educational Psychology and has been a central figure in our Reading & Literacy and Learning Sciences programs. He joined the department over 20 years ago in 1999. He has more than 60 refereed articles, book chapters, books, and conference proceedings in addition to over 50 peer-reviewed papers at professional meetings. According to Google Scholar, his body of work has been cited over 6,300 times since 2000. He has served on numerous editorial boards for top-tiered journals and for several years was an Associate Editor of the Journal of Educational Psychology. Over the past two

decades, he has provided service to the department (e.g., designer and director of the Instructional Design and Educational Technology (IDET) program, director for Reading & Literacy, Learning Sciences, and M-Stat programs, and member of numerous student committees), college (e.g., Chair of Teaching/Learning and member of numerous college committees), and has served on various committees at the university level. In addition, he has taught a number of courses on writing theory and instruction, metacognition, and statistics over his career and provided advising and mentorship to countless students.

### **William R. Jenson, PhD**

Dr. William Jenson has enjoyed a long and productive career in the Department of Educational Psychology, and he has been a central figure in our School Psychology program since he joined the department in 1983. He has more than 100-refereed articles and 30 book chapters, and numerous books, programs, and conference papers. He has provided service to the department (e.g., Chair from 1990-2000, program director, student committees) as well as the college

and university, serving on various committees over his close to 40-year career. In addition, he has taught a number of courses in our department and provided advising and mentorship to countless students.

In 2015, he won the University of Utah's Innovation and Impact award for his research and work with children with disabilities and their families.

## Outstanding Public School Teacher Award

### **Robert Durham, MAEd Teacher, East High School**

Rob Durham attended the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA from 1997-2001. During this time, he was a member of the William and Mary Rowing team. In 2001, he graduated from William and Mary with a BS in Biology and Environmental Science. Rob was also accepted into the William and Mary College of Education where he was accepted into a master's degree program.

He deferred his acceptance to work for a company that provided industrial water treatment and purification for power plants, factories, and mining operations. During the next year, he traveled around the country working at a variety of locations. This job provided an invaluable science-based career experience, but Rob wanted to return to education and started the master's program. He graduated from William and Mary in 2003 with an MAEd in secondary science curriculum and instruction.

His first teaching job was at Patrick Henry High School (PHHS) in Hanover County, VA. He worked at PHHS for 3 years and taught a variety of classes including Pre-IB and IB Chemistry. In 2006, Rob

moved to Salt Lake City and was hired to teach at Mueller Park Jr. High (MPJH). While at MPJH, he taught 9th grade Earth Science and Biology and also coached boys' and girls' basketball, wrestling, and track. In 2007, he was awarded teacher of the year by the student body and in 2012 he was awarded teacher of the year by the faculty and staff of MPJH. In 2012, Rob was hired to teach at East High School, where he still teaches today. At East, Rob has taught Biology, Chemistry, Astronomy, AP Environmental Science, and is the sponsor for the East High Environmental Club. He has also served in several non-teaching roles at East. Rob has led the Professional Learning Community (PLC) program and has also served as the School Improvement Committee (SIC) chair. Rob enjoys teaching at East because of its exceptional faculty and staff and its diverse student body. Rob feels fortunate because he has found a career that he enjoys. He loves teaching and looks forward to going to school every single day. The past 18 years of his teaching career have been very meaningful and rewarding and he looks forward to many more.

## **Scholarship Recipients 2020-2021**

### **Ada Roper Memorial Scholarship**

Alissa Harris  
Grace Healy

### **Brian W. Campbell and Susan L. Morrow Scholarship for Research in Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Studies**

Halleh Hashtpari

### **C. Kay Allen Endowed Scholarship**

Nile Brandt

### **C. Verl Benzley, Jr. Endowed Teaching Scholarship Fund**

Brett Smith

### **Council for Investment in Education Scholarship**

Madeleine Kelly

### **David Snow Bennion Memorial Endowed Scholarship**

Michelle Wilde

### **Departmental Scholarship (T53-Urban Institute for Teacher Education)**

Meghan Allen  
Brooklyn Davis  
Aurie Durham  
Gabrielle Thompson  
Chantelle Zamora

### **Dr. Cecelia H. Foxley Endowed Scholarship Fund**

Karen Stovall

### **Dr. D.H. Christensen & Catherine Dean Christensen Memorial Scholarship**

Kayla Odom

### **Dr. Suzanne Wade, EdD Scholarship for Single Parents Earning Graduate Degrees**

Brigida Deleon

### **Edith E. Myers Endowed Scholarship**

Amira Trevino  
Kaitlyn Urry

### **Elmo R. & Frances Bennion Morgan Endowed Scholarship**

Adebimpe Deji-Olatunde

### **Etta Lou Cowles/Rose Scholarship**

Kortney Arveseth

### **Faye and Charolette Bryner Scholarship Fund**

Tamara Haddad

### **Geneva C. Nelson Memorial Scholarship**

Hailey Dansie

### **George C. Bolon Committee Scholarship**

Mariana Ramiro-Gomez

**Grayson and Seth Jenson Memorial Scholarship**

Paige Dubrow

**Harker-Ferguson Endowed Scholarship**

Lisa Seward

**Herbert I. and Elsa B. Michael Foundation Graduate Student Scholarship**

Baraa Arkawazi

**Hermelinda B. Pompa Endowed Scholarship**

Armando Martinez

**J. George Jones, Jr. & Velma Rife Jones Memorial Fund**

Elizabeth Samann

Amanda Shepard

**John Vernon Harry & Shizuko Nakagawa Harry Scholarship**

Meghan Allen

**Joseph and Evelyn B. Rosenblatt Scholarship**

Tyler Davenport

**Lydia Anna Soeffner Memorial Scholarship**

Porter Birchum

**Marjean Larson Ballard Scholarship**

Paola Sendejas

**Mark & Connie Woodland Scholarship**

Faith Jackson

Madeleine Kelly

**Mary Elizabeth Baum Hanks Endowed Scholarship**

Bethany Brooks

Aurie Durham

Luz Hernandez Zamudio

**Math/Science/Foreign Language**

Brooklyn Davis

Brandon Kohler

Mitchell Poen

Mia Rossmango

Chantelle Zamora

**Melba G. Arnesen Memorial Scholarship**

Makayla Kimball

**Milan S. Papulak Memorial Scholarship**

Rachel Ellis

**Milton Bennion Scholarship**

Wendy Dau

**Paulette O. Poudras Scholarship Fund**

Samantha Loya

**Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship**

Nile Brandt  
Shane Pearson

**Robert Sevy Scholarship for Math and Science Majors**

Brandon Koohler  
Mitchell Poen

**Ron McBride Foundation Play for Life Scholarship**

Gabriela Gonzalez  
Benjamin Ratcliff

**Rulon M. and Golda L. Richards Endowed Scholarship**

Brooklyn Davis

**Ruth H. Lundgren Endowed Scholarship**

Bethany Brooks

**Shirley L. & Kathelyne Oswald Evans Endowed Scholarship**

Brigida Deleon  
Shane Pearson

**Steffensen Cannon Scholarship**

Camera Chea  
Kona Eldredge  
Annette Maldonado

**Sylvia Harrie Memorial Scholarship**

Jared Dale

**Teacher Recruitment Scholars**

Dallin Higgs  
Kaitlyn King  
Flor Mejia  
Shakira Mosqueda  
Paola Sendejas  
Stephanie Shin  
Miriam Flores

**Ted & Kay Packard Endowment for Graduate Scholarship**

Erin Buttars

**The Family of Mary Jane Bosley Endowed Scholarship**

Juliette Ainsworth  
Emily Epstein  
Lisa Seward

**The Hilda Christensen Larsen Endowed Scholarship for Sensory Impairments**

Tara Pursel

**The M. Lynn and Katherine S. Bennion Endowed Scholarship**

Julia Triplett

**The Maestros Para Los Niños Endowed Scholarship Fund**

Flor Mejia



**The Pamela C. Petuskey Endowed Scholarship Fund**

Amy Pace

**The Roald F. & Della J. Campbell Fellowship**

Sean Edwards

**Thomas D. Dee III & Candace Cartwright Dee Endowed Teaching Assistantship**

Mackenzie Schueler

Lauren Martone

Amando Martinez

Victoria Wills

**William C. Nutting Scholarship**

Elsa Cuellar

Gladys Sang

**William M. Stewart School Graduate Scholarship**

Jack Collum

**Winifred Dyer Memorial Endowed Scholarship**

Stephanie Morgan

**Zua Neff Endowed Scholarship Fund**

Valerie Corder

Jessica Ogden

**Terrel H. Bell Scholarship**

Austin Bond

Bethany Brooks

Brandilin Pitts

Brandon Kohler

Brittney Nelson

Cierra Snow

Don Ly

Emma Jackson

Farzaneh Kian

Flor Mejia

Gabriela Thompson

Gerardo Hernandez

Grace Healy

Hailey Dansie

Jessica Ogden

Juliette Ainsworth

Justin Martinez

Kati Schroeder

Luz Hernandez Zamudio

Madison Wolfe

Makayla Kimball

Morgan Nelson

Paola Sendejas

Rachel Ellis

Rachel Pratt

Sal Scott

Samantha Barton

Shae Howell

Shane Pearson

Valerie Corder

## **Students Graduating in Secondary Education**

### **Undergraduate Degrees**

Meghan Allen  
Maria Ashkin  
Sabrina Baldassari  
Matthew Berrett  
Rachel Caruso  
Nain Christopherson  
Brooklyn Davis  
Harriet Everett  
Jaden Ford  
Brandon Gilligan  
Levi Hawes  
Natalie LanGarcia-Guzman  
Chucky Pham  
Mitch Poen  
Kylie Reece  
Jenavi Saenz  
Amy Shaw  
Mary Stratford  
Keaton Tanner  
Chantelle Zamora

### **Graduate Degrees**

Tiara Cook  
Johanna Durham  
Logan Garside  
Paula Nelson  
Rachel Lee  
Erin Sanislo  
Josh Whitlock

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

Amoakoh, Josephine, Education, Culture and Society  
Arvizo, Joel, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Askings, Diana Christine, Educational Psychology  
Burton, Brian Charles, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Carattini-Ruiz, Analis, Education, Culture and Society  
Coleman, Olivia Nicole, Special Education  
Connor, Rosie Marie, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Conradi, Lyndsey Aiono, Special Education  
Crossland, Sean Patrick, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Dalley, Branden J, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Dembe, Aaron, Educational Psychology  
Dries, Kelly Elizabeth, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Eyraud, Kevin E, Education, Culture and Society  
Fletcher, Jennifer Marie, Special Education  
Garcia, Juan José, Education, Culture and Society  
Guerrero, Valerie A, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Havlik, Katherine Loras, Educational Psychology  
Hunter, Rebecca, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Innis, Anne Kathryn, Education, Culture and Society  
Jensen, Natalie Marie, Educational Psychology  
Juarez, Anita, Education, Culture and Society  
Kauppila, Sheena Ann, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Kramer, Ashley Seitz, Education, Culture and Society  
Lehman, Erica Lily, Educational Psychology  
Leu, Sandra, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Luna, Diego Taber, Education, Culture and Society  
Manning, Loni Avalon Rose, Education, Culture and Society  
Marshall, Darren Alfred, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Medina, Rudy, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Nandkeshwar, Pamela Pranpatie, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Nguyen, Tammy T, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Niang, Amadou, Education, Culture and Society  
Piper, Daniel, Education, Culture and Society  
Potts, Andrew Carlos, Educational Psychology  
Rodgers, Kenna Leigh, Educational Psychology  
Ryan, Joanna Hanes, Special Education  
Schwartz, Rebecca Anne, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Silva, Elizabeth, Education, Culture and Society  
Snowball, Julie Felt, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Solis, Silvia Patricia, Education, Culture and Society  
Stokes Fuoco, Kristen Lynn, Special Education  
Sykes, Eliot Bryant, Education, Culture and Society  
Tolbert, Malynda S., Special Education  
Tongaonevia, Ulysses, Education, Culture and Society  
Yamashita, Momoko, Educational Psychology

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Doctor of Education**

Becherini, Bryan Grant, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Blunt, Kathryn M, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Bradshaw, Erika S, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Cairo, Daniel King, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Cole, Camille, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Davis, Bobbi L, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Deji-Olatunde, Adebimpe Idowu, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Deleon, Brigida, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Dunford, Cindi, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Fillmore, Steven Rex, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Fletcher, Rachel Virginia, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Gonzales, Antonio, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Griswold Koffi, Teshia Beatrice, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Guido, Robert Vincent, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Harnsberger, Daniel, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Herd, Katrina, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Higgins, Nichole T, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Martz, Chandra, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Phillips, Sydney Allyse, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Reinhardt, Gregory Michael, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Robinson, D. McKay, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Sanders, April Nicole, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Sloan, Danielle Kauerz, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Taft, Marilyn Brick, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Walch, Nathan Foster, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Watts III, Denzil Eugene, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Watts, Matthew Russell, Educational Leadership and Policy

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Educational Specialist**

Martz, Cameron David, Educational Psychology  
Zmudka, April Lauren, Educational Psychology

**Candidate for the  
Degree of Master of Philosophy**

MacKay, Meade Batchelder, Special Education

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Master of Education**

Acosta, Chelsie Joy, Education, Culture and Society  
Adams, Taylor D, Educational Psychology  
Ahmad, Kamaal Saleem, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Alcala, Ana Patricia, Education, Culture and Society  
Andreasen, Andrew Leoanrd, Special Education

Antonini, Amy F, Special Education  
Asman, David, Education, Culture and Society  
Aylsworth, Niccole, Special Education  
Bardsley, Alexander B, Educational Psychology  
Barkdull, Ian, Educational Psychology  
Barstow, Rylee Jean, Special Education  
Berg, Kate Allison, Special Education  
Bird, Madaline C, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Bishop, Tobi Corynne, Educational Psychology  
Bowen, Aubrey, Special Education  
Boyd, Maleia Monterey, Special Education  
Boynton, Alexandra Alana, Education, Culture and Society  
Brown, Ashton Kyle, Special Education  
Bruett, Carter Timothy, Educational Psychology  
Bucher, Vecencia, Special Education  
Caputo, Heloisa, Educational Psychology  
Casper, Melissa Mae, Education, Culture and Society  
Choice, Haley Rachel, Educational Psychology  
Christensen, Kati Jo, Special Education  
Cohen-Pope, Scout, Education, Culture and Society  
Cole, Norma Elizabeth, Education, Culture and Society  
Coleman, Brinna Leanne, Special Education  
Cook, Tiara Deseray, Education, Culture and Society  
Coombs, Ashley N, Educational Psychology  
Cota, Kelly Nance, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Daly, Megan E, Educational Psychology  
Davenport, Tyler Jay, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Del Castillo Hernandez, Luz Celeste, Special Education  
Demke, Meegan Suzanne, Special Education  
Despain, Sacha, Education, Culture and Society  
Duchene, Catherine Susanne, Educational Psychology  
Durham, Johanna Bowman, Education, Culture and Society  
Durkes, Alexa Nicole, Educational Psychology  
Einerson, Amber Lynn, Special Education  
Ellis, Rachel Elizabeth, Special Education  
Epstein, Emily Rose, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Fisher, Renee Christine, Educational Psychology  
Fowkes, Kimberly S, Special Education  
Francis, Emily Marie, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Franssen, Rebecca, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Frazier, Karilyn Elizabeth, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Freeman, Londyn, Education, Culture and Society  
Gallagher, Colleen Elizabeth, Education, Culture and Society  
Gardner, Andrea Marie, Special Education  
Gerowitz, Jessi, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Goddard, Marci, Special Education  
Grant, Andrea, Educational Psychology  
Gray, Cathy, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Gruebele, Krisztina, Special Education  
Gunter, Billi K, Educational Psychology  
Hallums, Tiyana Kekaulani, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Harding, Victoria Zouapaj, Educational Psychology  
Hardman, Katie Jean, Educational Psychology  
Harley, Carolyn, Educational Psychology  
Harper, Lezlie Huntsman, Education, Culture and Society  
Harward, Kelton, Educational Psychology  
Haskell, Shea Lyn, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Hatfield, Skylar Diane, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Healy, Tierra Kaylene, Special Education  
Hernandez, Jessica Aundrea, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Hoang, Ina Lam, Educational Psychology  
Hogan, Courtnee, Special Education  
Holcomb, Sean Rosemary, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Howard, Penny, Special Education  
Humelsine, Ariana Rose, Special Education  
Ivey, Vicki A, Special Education  
Jacketta, Danielle, Educational Psychology  
Jensen, Rylee, Educational Psychology  
Johnson, Brianna, Educational Psychology  
Johnson, Danielle Marie, Special Education  
Johnson, Nicole E, Educational Psychology  
Johnson, Tamara Alice, Educational Psychology  
Johnston, Teresa T, Educational Psychology  
Jones, Caitlin R, Education, Culture and Society  
Kaffer, Raymond, Educational Psychology  
Kenney, Ray Ramos, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Kingsdale, Julia, Education, Culture and Society  
Kirby, Heather Joy, Educational Psychology  
Kirk, Lindsey Lee, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Kjesbo, Rose Louise, Educational Psychology  
Konte, Aichatou, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Lathem, Abigail Louise, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Laudie, Taylor Dale, Special Education  
Lee, Melanie Ellen, Education, Culture and Society  
Lueck-Wheeler, Jennifer N, Education, Culture and Society  
Luna, Feliz Leticia, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Lundquist, Grace Griffin, Educational Psychology  
Lundy, Keely McCulla, Educational Psychology  
Ma, Ching Yin, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Mabey, Libby, Educational Psychology  
Magana, Carolina, Educational Psychology  
Maldonado, Annette F, Educational Psychology  
Matheson, Kyanne Marie, Special Education  
Mathis, Sara Nicole, Educational Psychology  
McCloud, Brian James, Educational Psychology  
McLeod, Phillip Marcel, Special Education  
McPartlin, Jacob, Educational Psychology  
Miller, Lindsley Michele, Special Education  
Moorer, April Emily, Educational Psychology  
Morgan, Stephanie M, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Morgart, Jonnie Rebecca, Education, Culture and Society  
Muller, Abigail, Education, Culture and Society

Nelson, Kaylen Walton, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Nelson, Paula Romney, Education, Culture and Society  
Niupalau, Alisi Mateitalo Hoamofaleono, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Nor, Fadumo Mohamed, Special Education  
Odom, Kayla Anne, Special Education  
O'Maley, Kacie, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Palmer, Andrea, Educational Psychology  
Palmer, Saige Rachel, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Passey, Jordan Reed, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Pati, Kehaolani Aliitasi, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Penn, Katherine Rebecca, Special Education  
Peterson, Amanda Christina, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Petty, Raquel Ann, Special Education  
Plummer, Mccall Lorin, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Pollock, Michelle, Educational Psychology  
Proffit, Josie, Educational Psychology  
Pugh, Deborah Lynne, Special Education  
Ramjoue, Adrian, Educational Psychology  
Ranney, Kimberly Martha, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Reece, Brittany Ann, Educational Psychology  
Rich, Daniel B, Educational Psychology  
Richards, Debra Fisher, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Ruelas, Vanessa, Education, Culture and Society  
Ruiz, Alejandro E, Educational Psychology  
Sage, Michele P, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Saldivar, Ana Rosa, Educational Psychology  
Schaaf, Madison, Special Education  
Schiel - Hair, Alexandra Katarina, Special Education  
Schuller, Pamela Ruth, Education, Culture and Society  
Selis, Emma Christine, Special Education  
Seward, Lisa Marie, Special Education  
Shaw, Melodie Kay, Educational Psychology  
Silcox, Ashley, Educational Psychology  
Smith, Jolynn Marie, Educational Psychology  
Smith, Tatum, Educational Psychology  
Stevens, Sierra Rose, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Strain, Diane Le, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Taboada, Kenny, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Talakai, Kelani, Special Education  
Tezak, Jill Anne, Special Education  
Thompson, Tera, Special Education  
Thornton, Lise Marie, Education, Culture and Society  
Tomlinson, Jay Ryan, Educational Psychology  
Trejo, Beatriz, Education, Culture and Society  
Urry, Kaitlyn Donna Cooper, Special Education  
Van Dam, Joshua S, Educational Psychology  
Van Gils, Kimberly Kleinman, Educational Psychology  
Vierig-Scott, Tristen Leigh, Special Education  
Warmouth, Kelli Nicole, Educational Psychology  
Wasilewski, Allison Joy, Special Education  
Watson-Hall, Javante, Educational Leadership and Policy

Westover, Katee Buckley, Special Education  
Whitlock, Joshua Paul, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Wilde, Blythe Christine, Special Education  
Wilde, Michelle, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Wilkinson, Mary Elizabeth, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Williams, Jessica, Education, Culture and Society  
Williams, Jr., John Agbayani, Education, Culture and Society  
Wright, Kylie Elizabeth, Educational Psychology  
Yang, Danielle Paige, Special Education  
Yang, Yan, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Yates, Sydnee Celeste, Education, Culture and Society  
Yazzie, Antonieta Merene, Educational Psychology  
Yery, Cassandra Lynn, Special Education  
Ziebarth, Carolynne Madeira, Special Education

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Master of Science**

Francom, Rachel C, Educational Psychology  
Orr, Matthew Patrick, Educational Psychology

**Candidate for the  
Degree of Master of Statistics**

Potts, Andrew Carlos, Educational Psychology

**Candidate for the  
Degree of Honors Bachelor of Arts**

Haddad, Tamara N, Elementary Education

**Candidate for the  
Degree of Honors Bachelor of Science**

Kelsey, Kayla Jean, Elementary Education

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Bachelor of Arts**

Brooks, Bethany Lauren, Elementary Education  
Carlson, Talina Diane, Elementary Education  
Coleman-Houghton, Harper Li, Elementary Education  
Devey, Kaylie Raye, Elementary Education  
Robles, Jaileen, Elementary Education

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Bachelor of Science**

Atkinson, Natalie Lynn, Special Education  
Banks, Ashleigh Nicole, Elementary Education  
Barlow, Joshua Dylan, Elementary Education  
Barton, Kortnee Brynne, Special Education  
Barton, Samantha Nicole, Elementary Education  
Bench, Cortney Raquel, Elementary Education  
Borceguin, Sandybell, Elementary Education  
Bracken, Brooklyn, Elementary Education  
Brain, Savannah Kathryn, Elementary Education  
Bucher, Vecencia, Special Education  
Butler, Cami Joyce, Elementary Education  
Byington, Savanna C, Elementary Education  
Cavazos Cuellar, Elsa Leticia, Special Education

Chlystek, Stephanie Sarah, Elementary Education  
Crandall, Annika Marie, Elementary Education  
Culine, Natalie Marie, Elementary Education  
Dunn, Marissa Dawn Bradshaw, Special Education  
Durham, Aurie Francis, Elementary Education  
Edwards, Lauren E\*, Elementary Education  
Eggleston, Jenna Marie, Elementary Education  
Francis, Christy Kartchner\*\*, Special Education  
Galindo, Kate Janeelizabeth, Elementary Education  
Glasscock, Hannah Alexis, Elementary Education  
Gonzalez, Daniela, Elementary Education  
Griffee, Ingrid Karoline\*\*, Elementary Education  
Hall, Leah Danielle, Elementary Education  
Harden, Kayla Marie, Elementary Education  
Harper, Jenny A, Elementary Education  
Healy, Grace Anne\*, Elementary Education  
Hunt, Karen, Elementary Education  
Jolley, Paige Diane, Special Education  
Kian, Farzaneh, Special Education  
Koken, Chloe Rae, Special Education  
Lacker, Kyle Morgan, Elementary Education  
Liu, Johnson, Elementary Education  
Lunt, Ellie Jane Cummings, Special Education  
Martin Del Campo, Andrew Ryan, Special Education  
Moffitt, Dustin Lloyd, Special Education  
Nelson, Morgan Taylor, Special Education  
Ogden, Jessica Colleen, Special Education  
Ossana, Sally Rebeka Blossom, Elementary Education  
Parker, Sydne Dallas, Elementary Education  
Porter, Amelia, Elementary Education  
Prince, Jacqueline Racquel, Elementary Education  
Probst, Grant Jefferson, Special Education  
Rindlisbacher, Amanda, Elementary Education  
Russo, Holly Katherine, Elementary Education  
Samann, Elizabeth M, Special Education  
Sang, Gladys Cherop, Special Education  
Sposeto, Amber Lydia, Elementary Education  
Taylor, Amy Lynn, Special Education  
Thompson, Gabriela, Elementary Education  
Torres, Breaanna Melanie\*\*\*, Elementary Education  
Wilson, Ramsey Kaye, Special Education  
Winchester, Parker Rae, Elementary Education  
Wolfe, Madison Paige, Elementary Education  
Woodruff, Kendra Charlotte, Elementary Education  
Wren, Kennede Elizabeth, Elementary Education  
Zamora, Courtney Alexis, Elementary Education

## **Certificates**

### **Candidate for the Graduate Certificate in Community College Leadership and Teaching**

Haskell, Shea Lyn

### **Candidate for the Graduate Certificate in Statistics**

Orr, Matthew Patrick

## **Honor Societies**

### **Students Elected to the Honor Society of Beehive**

Bruett, Carter Timothy  
Sloan, Danielle Kauerz

### **Students Elected to the Honor Society of Golden Key**

Blunt, Kathryn M  
Bruett, Carter Timothy  
Jensen, Natalie Marie  
Sloan, Danielle Kauerz  
Snowball, Julie Felt

### **Student Elected to the Honor Society of Phi Beta Kappa**

Dunford, Cindi

### **Students Elected to the Honor Society of Phi Eta Sigma**

Adams, Taylor D  
Bruett, Carter Timothy  
Kjesbo, Rose Louise  
O'Maley, Kacie  
Sloan, Danielle Kauerz  
Thornton, Lise Marie

### **Students Elected to the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi**

Burton, Brian Charles  
Davenport, Tyler Jay  
Dries, Kelly Elizabeth  
Hunter, Rebecca

### **Students Elected to the Honor Society of Pi Alpha Alpha**

Nguyen, Tammy T  
Snowball, Julie Felt

### **Student Elected to the Honor Society of Psi Chi**

Schaaf, Madison

### **Students Elected to the Honor Society of Sigma Alpha Pi**

Bardsley, Alexander B  
Jacketta, Danielle  
Schaaf, Madison

\*\*\*Summa Cum Laude

\*\*Magna Cum Laude

\*Cum Laude

**CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES WHOSE NAMES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION ARE APPLICANTS FOR  
SUMMER 2021 GRADUATION AS OF MARCH 4, 2021**

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

Eichelberger, Carrie Ann, Special Education  
Greenberg, Kevin, Educational Psychology  
Gunnerson, Keith Chris, Educational Psychology  
Merced-Morales, Kritzianel, Educational Psychology  
Noel, Natalie A., Educational Psychology  
Silberman, Magenta, Educational Psychology  
Wright, Hannah Michael, Educational Psychology

**Candidates for the  
Degree of Master of Education**

Arce, Laura, Special Education  
Bucher, Vecencia, Special Education  
Casanova Lopez, Tatiana Tidgi, Special Education  
Lee, Rachel Gloria, Educational Leadership and Policy  
Mcbeth, Katelyn Erin, Special Education  
Mudrow, Cierra Snow, Special Education  
Riches, Juli Ann, Special Education  
Saavedra, Theresa, Special Education  
Scott, Sally Ann, Special Education  
Smedley, Breanne Hope, Special Education  
Wood, Aimee Chanel, Special Education

**Candidate for the  
Degree of Bachelor of Arts**

Christensen, Matthew L, Elementary Education

# Educators, Tenacious and United

By: Vecencia (Pepper) Bucher

Educators wish the best for the youth

In truth,

We build essential roots,

We guide their upbringing,

The next leaders of our country,

Is what we can produce

Our job,

Giving the best education we can convey

We will see them struggle and learn,

But succeed just as we have today

For over a year we have pushed,

Persevered through

What may be the most difficult education

experience,

And been able to pursue

Together we have still

Given our youth academics

Through more experiences than an epidemic

Losses, protests, and natural disasters

We mustn't forget these other factors

As a state and nation

We have been through suffering

But together we are recovering

We are here,

We arose

That is what this convocation shows

Even with what we've been through

Us being here today,

Shows what we can do

I have hope this will continue

And I am confident education we provide

Will be anew

So, let's honor these graduates,

Sitting here are groups of two,

Class of 2020

Your congratulations are overdue

Class of 2021

We congratulate you too

Congratulations to those receiving

Bachelors, masters and doctorate degrees,

And to the teaching licensees

These accomplishments brought us,

New various ways of learning

These accomplishments taught us,

New various ways of teaching

However, we must thank

All the others as well

Professors, faculty,

And education department personnel

We know it was a difficult conversation

To agree upon today's convocation

Some feared of disunity

But you gave us opportunities

Even when it seemed impossible

As a department we became unstoppable

So, we thank your efforts

And all that you've done

In order for us to be here

And celebrate as one

Traversed this rough path as a college

We cannot forget to acknowledge,

Our friends and family

Whom which we astound

We couldn't accomplish

Without them around

Look around these stands

See that together

We make the strongest strand

Setting our minds to anything

Accomplishing what we've shown

But don't ever forget

We're not in this alone

To the future we now look

Together, not forsook

Hold on to what we've endured

And we can be ensured

As educators we are a community

So, we leave today showing unity









