

## ABOUT SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1818, Saint Louis University is one of the oldest and most prestigious Catholic universities in the United States. The University is recognized nationally for world-class academics, life-changing research and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Guided by its enduring Jesuit mission, Saint Louis University offers students a highly rigorous and deeply transformative education that empowers them to become bold, confident leaders. SLU is ranked among the nation's top research universities, and *Wall Street Journal*/Times Higher Education ranks SLU No. 6 among Catholic colleges in the United States.

Inside the classroom, ethics, spirituality and compassion take center stage, while outside of the classroom, SLU students are active volunteers. This dedication to values-based education and social justice has earned the University widespread acclaim and bolstered its status as a character-building college. Today, there are more than 137,000 SLU alumni leading lives of meaning and purpose across the globe.

With an endowment that exceeds \$1 billion, Saint Louis University also is a major catalyst for urban renewal in the heart of a vibrant city. More than a \$1.3 billion in housing, retail and business development is underway in Midtown St. Louis, with SLU in the center of the neighborhood's growth.

Inspired by its pioneering history while firmly focused on its promising future, Saint Louis University continues to move forward with an unwavering commitment to serve a higher purpose while always seeking the greater good.



**SAINT LOUIS  
UNIVERSITY™**  
— EST. 1818 —

### LOCATIONS

St. Louis, Missouri, and Madrid, Spain

### ENROLLMENT

**13,546 students, from all 50 states and 87 countries**

- 8,437 undergraduates
- 5,109 post-baccalaureate students

### MAJORS AND PROGRAMS

**97 bachelor's degree programs**

**82 master's degree programs**

**44 doctoral degree programs**

**48 certificates**

### MOST-TRUSTED INSTITUTION

According to Morning Consult, SLU is No. 5 among U.S. universities most trusted by Hispanic adults and No. 39 among all people surveyed.

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Identified as one of the country's top colleges by *The Princeton Review*, *Fiske Guide to Colleges* and *Forbes* magazine – and as one of the country's top-10 Catholic colleges by Niche and *Wall Street Journal*/Times Higher Education.

### RESEARCH

One of only 16 Catholic universities with a Carnegie Classification of “high” or “very high” research activity.

### SERVICE

80% of SLU students volunteer each year, nearly triple the national average among college students.

*The Princeton Review* ranks SLU as the No. 3 university in the U.S. for community service engagement.

### GLOBAL EXPERIENCE

The Institute of International Education lists SLU among the top-25 U.S. universities for study abroad participation.

### ALUMNI

137,468 alumni living in 50 states and 154 countries

24 alumni clubs across the United States and in four countries

## MARSHALS

THE MARSHALS OF SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY HAVE A CENTRAL ROLE IN THE UNIVERSITY'S MOST SIGNIFICANT ACADEMIC OCCASIONS. THE POST OF MARSHAL IS ONE OF HONOR, WITH MARSHALS APPOINTED BY THEIR COLLEGE OR SCHOOL TO SERVE AS CEREMONIAL LEADERS. MARSHALS WEAR DISTINCTIVE MEDALLIONS INDICATIVE OF THEIR ROLE.

### UNIVERSITY CO-MARSHALS

**John P. Buerck, Ph.D.**

*School for Professional Studies*

**Joanne L. Thanavaro, D.N.P.**

*Valentine School of Nursing*

### COLLEGE/SCHOOL MARSHALS

**RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

**Patricia Bagsby, Ph.D.**

**Ben Benmamoun, Ph.D.**

**Rob A. Boyle, Ph.D.**

**Denise M. Guithues-Amrhein, Ph.D.**

**Debra N. Pike, M.B.A.**

**Christopher H. Thomas, Ph.D.**

**SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARIES**

**Martha H. Allen, M.L.S.**

**Miriam E. Joseph, Ph.D.**

**Katy Smith, Ph.D.**

**Donghua Tao, Ph.D.**

**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

**Christa Jackson, Ph.D.**

**Jessica A. Leonard, Ph.D.**

**Kathryn M. Pierce, Ph.D.**

**Mark M. Pousson, Ph.D.**

**Jon Turk, Ph.D.**

**Maureen A. Wikete-Lee, Ph.D.**

**SCHOOL OF LAW**

**Kerrin M. Kowach, J.D.**

**Yvette J. Liebesman, J.D.**

**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

**Sara H. Barnett, Ph.D.**

**Tyler De Shon, Ph.D.**

**Lauren R. Schwarz, Ph.D.**

**Jamie S. Sutherell, M.D., M.Ed.**

**SCHOOL FOR  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

**Stacy Godlewski, M.S.**

**Matthew J. Grawitch, Ph.D.**

**Troy P. Hargrove, M.B.A.**

**Joe D. Lyons, Ph.D.**

**Srikanth P. Mudigonda, Ph.D.**

**Randy B. Robertson, Ph.D.**

**Shawn W. Steadman, M.Arch.**

**Maria Weber, M.S.**

**Steven L. Winton, Ph.D.**

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE  
AND ENGINEERING**

**Stephen M. Belt, Ph.D.**

**Jenna L. Gorlewicz, Ph.D.**

**Sanjay Jayaram, Ph.D.**

**Chi Hou Lei, Ph.D.**

**Michael Swartwout, Ph.D.**

**TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE  
SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**Christopher R. Hemmer, D.N.P.**

**Joanne C. Langan, Ph.D.**

**Karen S. Moore, D.N.P.**

## SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

## MIDYEAR COMMENCEMENT

—  
DECEMBER 17, 2022



ORDER OF PROCESSION

◆ BEARER OF THE MACE ◆ UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION ◆ ENDOWED CHAIR HOLDERS AND PROFESSORS ◆ MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY ◆ CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES	PRELUDE <b>Commencement Ensemble</b> <b>SLU Mastersingers</b>	ANNOUNCER <b>Troy Hargrove, M.B.A.</b> <i>Associate Dean,</i> <i>School for Professional Studies</i>
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PROGRAM

BEARER OF THE MACE <b>Michael Lewis, Ph.D.</b> <i>Provost</i>	INVOCATION <b>Timothy McMahon, S.J.</b> <i>Rector of the Jesuit Center,</i> <i>SLU Trustee and Pastor of</i> <i>St. Francis Xavier College Church</i>	REMARKS <b>Michael Lewis, Ph.D.</b> <i>Provost</i>
MASTER OF CEREMONIES <b>Anita Borgmeyer, Vice President,</b> <i>Marketing and Communications</i>		COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS <b>Mark E. Ruff, Ph.D.</b> <i>Professor, History, and the</i> <i>2022 Recipient of the</i> <i>Nancy McNeir Ring Award</i>
NATIONAL ANTHEM <b>SLU Mastersingers</b>	VARSITY SONG <b>SLU Mastersingers</b>	<i>Introduced by Robert Bausch,</i> <i>President of Alpha Sigma Nu</i>
	SALUTATION <b>Fred P. Pestello, Ph.D.</b> <i>President</i>	

RECOGNITION OF CANDIDATES

READERS: ELAINA OSTERBUR, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DOISY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND DEBRA PIKE, M.B.A., ASSOCIATE DEAN, CHAIFETZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS		
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES (1818) <b>Donna LaVoie, Ph.D., Dean</b>	RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (1910) <b>Barnali Gupta, Ph.D., Dean</b>	EDWARD AND MARGARET DOISY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES (1979) <b>Bernard Rousseau, Ph.D., Dean</b>
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (1836) <b>Christine Jacobs, M.D., Dean</b>	SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (1927) <b>Scott Duellman, Ph.D., Dean</b>	COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (1991) <b>Ellen Barnidge, Ph.D., Dean</b>
SCHOOL OF LAW (1843) <b>William P. Johnson, J.D., Dean</b>	TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE SCHOOL OF NURSING (1928) <b>Danny Willis, D.N.S., Dean</b>	SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (1996) <b>John P. Buerck, Ph.D., Dean</b>
COLLEGE OF PHILOSOPHY AND LETTERS (1889) <b>Randall S. Rosenberg, Ph.D., Dean</b>	SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK (1930) <b>Noelle Fearn, Ph.D., Dean</b>	SCHOOL OF EDUCATION (1998) <b>Molly Schaller, Ph.D., Associate Dean</b>

BENEDICTION

**Rev. Stephen J. Lamkin, M.S., M.Div.,** *Assistant Director, Pre-College,*  
*Access and TRIO Programs, and Itinerant Elder, African Methodist Episcopal Church*

RECESSIONAL

THE MISSION OF SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

The Mission of Saint Louis University is the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity. The University seeks excellence in the fulfillment of its corporate purposes of teaching, research, health care and service to the community. It is dedicated to leadership in the continuing quest for understanding of God’s creation and for the discovery, dissemination and integration of the values, knowledge and skills required to transform society in the spirit of the Gospels. As a Catholic, Jesuit university, this pursuit is motivated by the inspiration and values of the Judeo-Christian tradition and is guided by the spiritual and intellectual ideals of the Society of Jesus.

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY VARSITY SONG

VERSE 1 Heirs of a royal name, Dear 'Varsity, For aye our faith and love We pledge to thee.	VERSE 2 Great is thy noble heart, Tender and true, Show us thy loyalty Saint Louis U!	VERSE 3 Truth and nobility Thy halls enshrine, Guarding the hallow'd name Forever thine.
Guardian of truth and light We always knew, Thou, whom the years have crowned, Saint Louis U?	Bear we with pride and love Thy White and Blue, Sweet are thy memories, Saint Louis U!	May we with heart and hand Through life renew Thy noble victories, Saint Louis U!
REFRAIN All hail, Saint Louis U! Valiant and strong Noble old 'Varsity Hark to our song;	[REFRAIN]	[REFRAIN]  Composed by Alfred G. Robyn (1860-1935) Original lyrics by Paul L. Blakely, S.J. (1880-1943) Lyrics adapted by Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.
Proudly our colors fly Brave White and Blue, Loud let the chorus swell, Saint Louis U!		

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

The colorful attire worn by graduates, faculty, trustees and officers of the University has historic roots in the distant medieval past. Dressed in cap and gown, the graduates and their professors are part of a long tradition that dates back to Paris and Bologna, Italy, to Oxford and Cambridge, England, in the days of their Catholic glory.	THE HOOD The hood at first seems to have been worn over the head and attached to the gown. When the skullcap was introduced, the hood was retained but detached and worn much as it is today. Each degree (bachelor’s, master’s, doctoral) has its special hood, which varies in length and, for the doctor, also in pattern. The color or colors lining the hood are those of the college or university that granted the wearer’s degree. For example, Saint Louis University is known by blue chevron on a field of white. The colored velvet binding or edging of the hood, in different widths for bachelor, master and doctor, is determined by the field of study.
The exact origins of several parts of the academic garb are a bit of a mystery. Because medieval students enjoyed the status of cleric during their university years, one might guess that their attire found its inspiration in the clerical dress of medieval times. The gown seems to be an adaptation of the robe of friar or priest; the hood, of the monk’s or friar’s cowl; and the mortarboard cap of today recalls the skullcap of days when tonsured heads needed protection against the drafts of medieval classrooms.	THE CAP The cap, or mortarboard, has become the universally accepted style for colleges and universities in the United States. Many European institutions still retain distinctive forms of academic headdress.
Academic attire began to appear on U.S. campuses in the late 1890s. Since that time, its use has become universal for solemn university functions, and its pattern is highly uniform.	THE TASSEL The tassel is perhaps the most iconic souvenir of academic attire. The doctor, following graduation, has the right to wear a gold tassel on the mortarboard; black, however, is perfectly proper and perhaps more common. A practice of varying the color of the tassel on the others has gained acceptance: arts, white; science, gold-yellow; philosophy, dark blue; education, light blue; business, drab; nursing, apricot; technology and engineering, orange; hospital administration, salmon; public administration, peacock blue; social work, citron; law, purple; medicine, green; theology, scarlet; and allied health professions, mint green.
THE GOWNS The gowns are three in number and styling. That of the bachelor is a yoked, closed-front garment with long pointed sleeves; that of the master has sleeves long and closed but slit just above the elbow to allow the forearms to protrude; the gown of the doctor has full, bell-shaped sleeves. Only the doctor’s gown is trimmed — with velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on each sleeve.	

NANCY MCNEIR RING AWARD RECIPIENT

SPEAKER  
MARK E. RUFF, PH.D.



**Mark E. Ruff, Ph.D.,** professor of history, is the 2022 recipient of the Nancy McNeir Ring Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Ruff joined Saint Louis University in 2004.

Ruff majored in history at the University of Buffalo, graduating in 1991. He earned his master’s (1992) and doctorate from Brown University (1999) in modern German history and modern European history. Throughout his academic career, Ruff has displayed an interest in Germany. He has conducted research, written numerous articles, and edited volumes on the country and its history.

Ruff has earned many honors and awards throughout his career, including multiple SLU Housing and Residence Life Faculty Excellence in Teaching Awards, several grants and multiple fellowships.

Garcia said he sees teaching as an extension of Christian mission and hospitality.

“We give with no expectation of anything in return. We provide solace and care for those in need academically or emotionally,” he said. “And though we do this out of duty and Christian mission, it is nonetheless exceptionally rewarding when students appreciate what we do not just in the classroom but in providing formation and when we learn that we have had a positive impact on them and the paths they choose.”

In keeping with tradition, members of Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit honor society that sponsors the teaching award, review nominations for the Nancy McNeir Ring Award and select the recipient each year.

Ruff was a unanimous selection by the Alpha Sigma Nu executive board, which wrote: “Dr. Ruff serves students on SLU’s campus to the highest degree by cooking homemade dinners for his classes, supporting students’ mental, physical and academic health, and educating students from all academic backgrounds. His achievements as an academic and researcher speak for themselves, but his commitment to his students is truly exceptional.”

*Established in 1966, the Nancy McNeir Ring Award was named after the University's first dean of women, who was known for her devotion to students. It is presented annually to a member of the faculty who displays a special dedication to students both inside and outside the classroom. It is the only student-initiated and sponsored teaching award at SLU that encompasses all colleges and schools of the University.*

MUSICIANS  
AND SINGERS

COMMENCEMENT  
ENSEMBLE

Director: **Robert Hughes, Ph.D.**  
*Professor of Music*

VIOLINS

Serina Daniels  
Zsasha Easley  
Maxwell Gao  
Emily Haar  
Riley Lubbers  
Henry Meiners  
Athulya Nair  
Sonny Palakollu  
Colin Somers

VIOLAS

Jacob Wilfong  
Amy Pennington

CELLOS

Katrina Churchill  
San Kwon  
Chris Lau  
Yennhi Phan

MASTERSINGERS

Director:  
**David Kowalczyk**  
*Instructor of Music*

Matthew Blade  
Kathleen Dolan  
Hayden Eckstein  
Marissa Gibbons  
Kristine Hervey  
Evelyn Maruszak  
Isaac Angelo Layugan  
Gavin Martin  
Gerard Pena  
Clara Reyes  
Enrique Berazaluce Riojas  
Valerie Rosqueta  
Sophia Siminow  
Benjamin Walsh  
Ittmum Zahir