

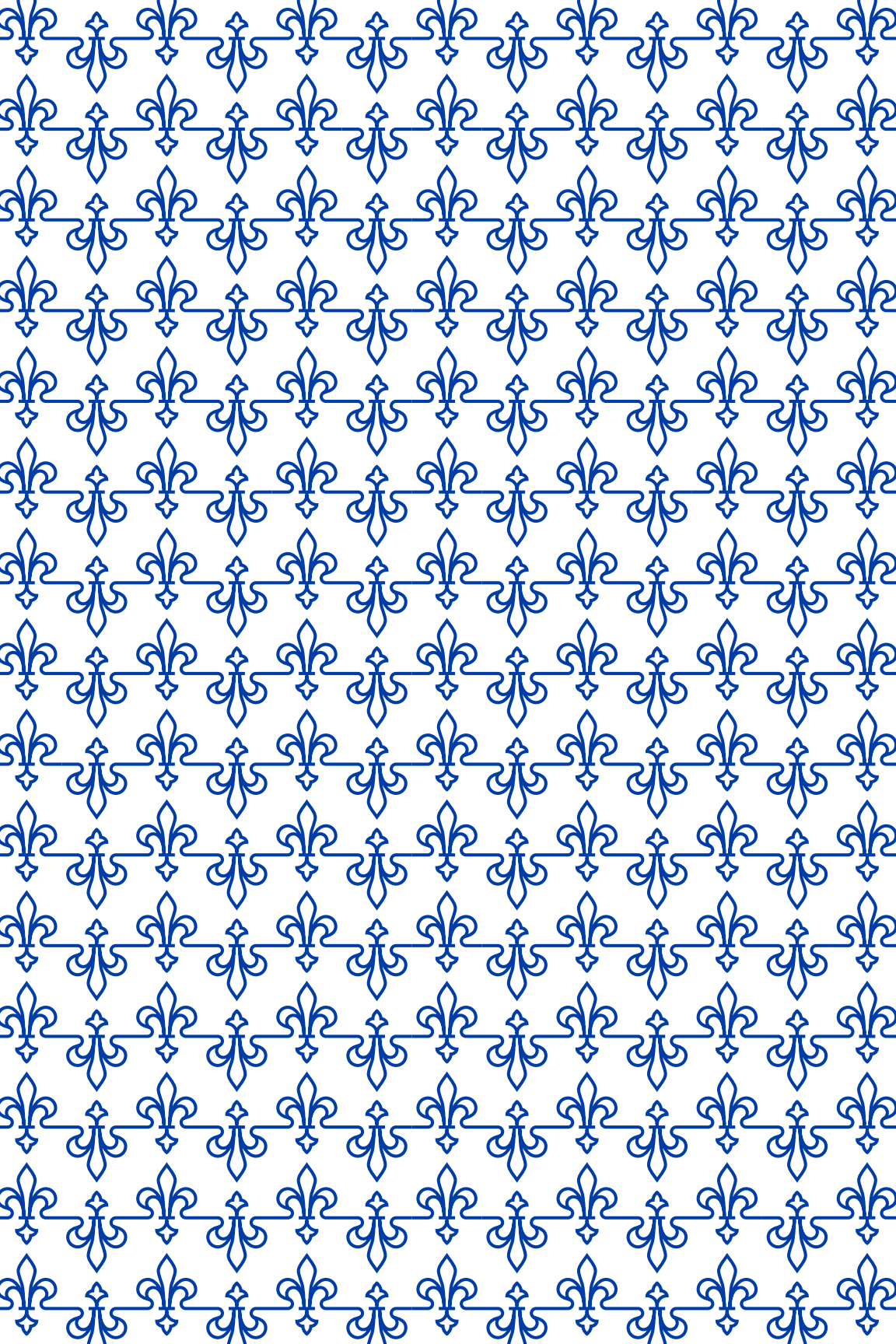
*Saint Louis*

2026 COMMENCEMENT

*University*



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY | SATURDAY, MAY 16 | CHAIFETZ ARENA



# SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY



## COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026  
CHAIFETZ ARENA  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI



# ORDER OF THE PROCESSION

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ALUMNI MERIT  
AWARD  
RECIPIENTS

COLORS AND  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
COLOR GUARD

BEARER OF  
THE MACE

ENDOWED  
CHAIRHOLDERS  
AND PROFESSORS

MEMBERS OF  
THE FACULTY

CANDIDATES  
FOR DEGREES

UNIVERSITY  
TRUSTEES

UNIVERSITY  
EXECUTIVE STAFF  
AND CONSTITUENCY  
LEADERS

ACADEMIC DEANS

CANDIDATES  
FOR HONORARY  
DEGREES

PRESIDENT

ANNOUNCER  
**Troy Hargrove, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Vice President,  
Enrollment Management*



## PROGRAM

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BEARER OF THE MACE  
**Wynne Moskop, Ph.D.**  
*College of Arts and Sciences*

MASTER OF  
CEREMONIES  
**Michael Lewis, Ph.D.**  
*Provost*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM  
**University Singers**

INVOCATION  
**David Suwalsky, S.J.**  
*Vice President, Mission and Identity*

VARSITY SONG  
**University Singers**

SALUTATION  
**Edward J. Feser, Ph.D.**  
*President*

STUDENT ADDRESS  
**Riya Aradhyula**  
*College of Arts and Sciences*

COMMENCEMENT  
ADDRESS  
**James Gunn**  
*Filmmaker*

CONFERRAL OF  
HONORARY DEGREES  
**J. Joseph Adorjan**  
**Hon. Henry Edward Autrey**  
**James Gunn**  
**Mary Haddad, R.S.M.**

# CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES (1818)

**Donna LaVoie, Ph.D., Dean**

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (1836)

**Christine Jacobs, M.D., Dean**

SCHOOL OF LAW (1843)

**Twinette Johnson, J.D., Ph.D., Dean**

COLLEGE OF PHILOSOPHY  
AND LETTERS (1889)

**Randall S. Rosenberg, Ph.D., Dean**

RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (1910)

**Jackson Nickerson, Ph.D., Dean**

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE  
AND ENGINEERING (1927)

**Gregory E. Triplett, Ph.D., Dean**

TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE  
SCHOOL OF NURSING (1928)

**Kristine L'Ecuyer, Ph.D., Dean**

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK (1930)

**Noelle Fearn, Ph.D., Dean**

EDWARD AND MARGARET DOISY  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES (1979)

**Tricia Austin, Ph.D., Dean**

COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH  
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (1991)

**Leslie McClure, Ph.D., Dean**

SCHOOL FOR  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (1996)

**Scott Duellman, Ph.D., Dean**

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION (1998)

**Gary Ritter, Ph.D., Dean**

## BENEDICTION

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**Sue Chawszczewski, Ph.D.**  
*Director of Campus Ministry*

## RECESSIONAL

SPEAKER AND HONORARY  
DEGREE RECIPIENT

JAMES  
GUNN

DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS, CONFERRED ON MAY 16, 2026

Filmmaker James Gunn (A&S '92) began his career at age 12 with an 8 mm camera in hand, chasing his brothers around the woods, making zombie movies. Now widely recognized as a visionary writer, director and producer, he is best known for his work on films including 2025's *Superman* and the *Guardians of the Galaxy* franchise, as well as the Emmy-nominated television series *Peacemaker* he created for HBO Max.

As co-chairman and chief executive officer of DC Studios, Gunn is shaping the future of one of the world's most iconic storytelling franchises, guiding a new era of films and television projects centered on DC's legendary characters.

Throughout his career, Gunn has built a reputation for bringing unconventional, outsider characters to the forefront, often transforming lesser-known comic book figures into globally recognized icons while exploring themes of belonging and redemption.

Gunn credits his time at St. Louis University High School and Saint Louis University as foundational to his creative development. He found his passion for storytelling as a student.

Born and raised in St. Louis, Gunn got his start in the film industry while pursuing graduate studies at Columbia University. He applied for a part-time job at famed B-movie studios Troma Entertainment and instead was paid \$150 to write the screenplay for the feature *Tromeo and Juliet*. The movie became a cult hit, playing in theaters around the world.

Gunn left Troma to write and star in the 2000 feature film *The Specials*, about a group of superheroes on their day off. The same year, Bloomsbury Press released Gunn's novel *The Toy Collector*. He also co-wrote the nonfiction book *All I Need to Know About*



*Filmmaking I Learned from the Toxic Avenger*, currently in its fifth printing.

In 2004, Gunn wrote the live-action *Scooby-Doo* movie, which grossed over \$300 million worldwide. In 2006, his love for both comedy and horror genres coalesced in his feature film directorial debut, *Slither*, which he also wrote.

In 2010, Gunn directed the independent feature film *Super*. It was an official selection at the Toronto Film Festival, was picked up by IFC Films and became IFC's top-selling film ever on demand.

Gunn rose to global prominence with the *Guardians of the Galaxy* trilogy, one of the most memorable franchises in the Marvel Universe. He wrote and directed

all three *Guardians* films, which grossed a combined \$2.4 billion worldwide. The trilogy was widely praised for its emotional storytelling, distinctive humor and themes of found family.

The franchise won the Critics' Choice Award for Best Action Movie and was nominated for three Academy Awards, two Grammys, two BAFTAs, seven MTV Movie Awards and two People's Choice Awards. Gunn was nominated for a Writers Guild of America Award for Best Adapted Screenplay in 2014.

Most recently, Gunn wrote and directed *Superman*, which grossed over \$618 million at the global box office and received rave reviews from both fans

and critics, who praised its celebration of humanity and kindness in a world that sometimes forgets to value such traits. He is currently developing the film's sequel, *Man Of Tomorrow*, slated for release in 2027.

In 2023, he was named PETA's Person of the Year for using computer-generated imagery to spotlight animal testing cruelty through the character of Rocket Raccoon in *Guardians*, and for encouraging pet adoption. He also filmed a public service announcement in support of the work of Best Friends Animal Society.

*For his outstanding filmmaking career, his passion for storytelling and the enjoyment he has brought to audiences across the world, the degree of Doctor of Fine Arts, honoris causa, will be conferred upon James Gunn.*

## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT



### J. JOSEPH ADORJAN

DOCTOR OF  
COMMERCE,  
CONFERRED ON  
MAY 16, 2026

**J**oseph Adorjan (CSB '63, Grad CSB '67) exhibited a staunch work ethic from the start.

At 14 years old, Adorjan started working at a bakery every day after school and took the early morning shift on Saturdays. In high school, he helped in the cafeteria to earn lunch tokens. He joined the Naval Reserve at age 17. After high school graduation and active duty in the service, he worked for Century Electric to save money for college.

Today, Adorjan is chairman of Adven Capital, a private equity firm. Over the course of his professional life, he has played a central role in guiding both public and private enterprises through periods of growth, strategic transition and operational improvement.

Adorjan's career began in earnest at Emerson Electric Company, where he held numerous leadership positions over his 22-year tenure. As president, he led the successful integration of the Fisher Controls Company into Emerson, helping to establish Fisher-Rosemount as a global leader in process control and instrumentation. He later became executive vice president and vice chairman of Emerson, with broad responsibility for finance, international operations, acquisitions, and government and defense businesses.

Adorjan also served as chairman and chief executive officer of ESCO Electronics Corporation after its formation as an independent, publicly traded company through the spinoff of Emerson's defense business.

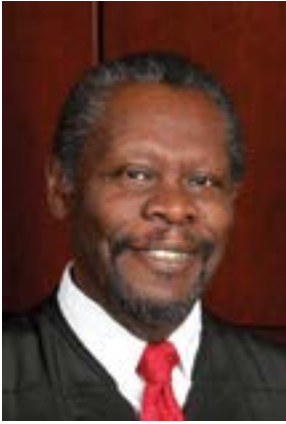
After Emerson, Adorjan was chairman and chief executive officer of Borg-Warner Security Corporation, a global provider of security services with revenues exceeding \$1 billion.

In addition to corporate leadership, Adorjan has been deeply engaged in civic and educational initiatives. He is a trustee emeritus of Saint Louis University, having served as a member and chairman of the board of trustees for more than 25 years. In 2005, he was appointed Honorary Counsel General of Hungary, and in 2007, he formed a nonprofit scholarship program, the Hungarian-Missouri Educational Partnership. His civic support extends across numerous organizations, including the United Way of Greater St. Louis, the Missouri Council for a Better Economy, and Grand Center Inc.

Adorjan earned his bachelor's degree in economics and a master's in commerce from Saint Louis University.

*For his considerable contributions to business, education and the community, and for his sustained commitment to leadership and service, the degree of Doctor of Commerce, honoris causa, will be conferred upon J. Joseph Adorjan.*

## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT



### HON. HENRY EDWARD AUTREY

DOCTOR OF LAWS,  
CONFERRED ON  
MAY 16, 2026

The Hon. Henry Autrey (A&S '74, Law '77) has more than done justice to the promise of his Saint Louis University education. In nearly four decades on the bench, he has endeavored to protect the rights of all and ensure justice for all, especially the powerless and disadvantaged.

Autrey was born in Mobile, Alabama, but his family soon moved to St. Louis, seeking more opportunity and a better quality of life.

He became part of the first graduating class of De Smet Jesuit High School in St. Louis and went on to Saint Louis University to earn undergraduate and law degrees.

His professional life began as a prosecutor in the Office of the Circuit Attorney for the City of St. Louis. Between 1977 and 1986, Autrey tried over 60 felonies to verdict. He also established the circuit attorney's first Child Abuse Unit and was instrumental in coordinating the various agencies responsible for the safety and welfare of children. He also was part of the circuit attorney's Rape Trial Task Force.

In 1986, Autrey became an associate circuit judge for St. Louis' 22nd Judicial Circuit. In 1997, he was appointed a circuit judge. He was a member of the Missouri Trial

Judge Education Committee, a faculty member of the Missouri Judicial College, a member of the Gender Bias Committee of the Missouri Bar Association and a member of the Oversight Committee for Legal Services of Missouri.

He also taught as an adjunct professor at SLU School of Law from 1991 to 1997.

In 2002, President George W. Bush nominated Autrey to be a United States district judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, a position he continues to hold. He chairs several committees and presides over the Project Gang Re-entry Initiative Program.

Autrey has served on numerous boards of directors, including for Senior Home Security, the St. Louis Area Foodbank, Human Energies Inc. and Aid to Victims of Crime.

A member of Phi Beta Kappa, Autrey graduated *magna cum laude* from Saint Louis University with a bachelor's degree in political science. He earned a Juris Doctor from Saint Louis University School of Law in 1977.

*For his steadfast, lifelong commitment to the pursuit and protection of justice, the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, will be conferred upon Henry Autrey.*

## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT



**SR. MARY  
HADDAD, R.S.M.**

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**DOCTOR OF  
PUBLIC SERVICE,  
CONFERRED ON  
MAY 16, 2026**

**S**r. Mary Haddad, R.S.M., leads with the heart of a servant, one who is wholly committed to caring for the sick, the impoverished, the most vulnerable.

During nearly four decades of professional life, Haddad (Grad SW '93), a member of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, has worked in health care, social service and education. Today, she is president and chief executive officer of the Catholic Health Association of the United States.

Since 2019, Haddad has led CHA's mission to support and advance the health ministry of the Catholic Church in the United States with its network of hospitals, long-term care facilities and community health centers — the largest group of nonprofit health providers in the nation. She oversees operations at the association's Washington, D.C., and St. Louis offices.

Haddad leads CHA's strategic planning and develops initiatives to support member organizations in providing high-quality, accessible healthcare to people of all ages, races, faith traditions and ethnic groups.

She directs CHA's national advocacy initiatives to protect life; promote the well-being of communities; address social determinants and disparities; develop new models of health delivery; protect Medicaid,

Medicare and other vital safety net programs; and create a just health system that works for everyone. She develops and administers programs in advocacy, mission, sponsorship, ethics, community benefit, leadership development, ministry formation, international outreach and relationships with Catholic Church leaders.

Haddad has served on numerous governing boards and committees, including the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Coalition to Strengthen America's Healthcare, and the advisory board for the Center for Theology and Ethics in Catholic Health. She was part of the regional leadership of the Sisters of Mercy, St. Louis.

Haddad received a master's degree in business administration in healthcare from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota; a Master of Social Work from Saint Louis University; and a bachelor's in education from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. She is a member of Alpha Sigma Nu, the honor society of Jesuit higher education.

*For her passionate leadership and the utmost attention to human dignity in pursuit of high quality, affordable healthcare for all, the degree of Doctor of Public Service, honoris causa, will be conferred upon Sr. Mary Haddad.*

## THE MACE BEARER: WYNNE MOSKOP, PH.D.



It is with great honor that Saint Louis University names **Wynne Moskop, Ph.D.**, as mace bearer for the 2026 commencement exercises.

Moskop is a professor of political science. She is interested, broadly, in the relationship between politics and ethics, especially in American political thought; Aristotelian political friendship; and Jane Addams as practitioner and theorist of political friendship. Her book *Jane Addams on Inequality and Political Friendship* was published by Routledge in 2020.

Moskop started as an assistant professor of political science and American studies at SLU in 1990 and later was secondary faculty in women's and gender studies. She served multiple terms as chair of political science and as director of graduate studies for the department.

She has been honored by the University many times, including with the SLU Women's Commission and St. Louis YWCA Women Leaders Award, the Women's and Gender Studies Founders Award, and the Faculty Senate John A. Slosar Shared Governance Award.

Moskop earned a bachelor's degree from DePauw University and a master's degree and doctorate in political science from The George Washington University.

## THE SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY MACE

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The Saint Louis University mace represents the Catholic, Jesuit and urban influences that distinguish the University. Commissioned in 1987, the SLU mace is an outward sign of the president's authority and is seen at all University formal academic occasions.

Handcrafted in bronze by a St. Louis artisan, the mace is 30 inches long, topped by a Christian cross that is supported by the SLU seal. Beneath these elements are two wolves at a cauldron, a symbol from the coat of arms of the House of Loyola, from which descended St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus.

The entire crown of the mace rests upon three fleurs-de-lis taken from the royal standard of King Louis IX of France, after whom both the University and the City of St. Louis are named. The names of every SLU president are inscribed on the handle.

The origins of the mace as a symbol trace back to medieval times, when churchmen would carry clublike staffs into battle because the use of swords was forbidden under biblical injunction. Today, maces are seen most often at university ceremonies and as part of the pageantry of European governmental functions.



## UNIVERSITY 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 MARSHALS

**Joanne C. Langan, Ph.D.**  
*Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing*

**Alex A. Ocasio, Ph.D.**  
*University Writing Services*

### COLLEGE/SCHOOL MARSHALS

#### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

**Elena Bray-Speth, Ph.D.**  
**Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.**  
**Lisa M. Willoughby, Ph.D.**

#### SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**William Bowey, Ph.D.**  
**Adam Merando, M.D.**

#### SCHOOL OF LAW

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

#### RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

**Rob A. Boyle, Ph.D.**  
**Debra N. Pike, M.B.A.**  
**Christopher H. Thomas, Ph.D.**

#### SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

**Stephen Belt, Ph.D.**  
**Sanjay Jayaram, Ph.D.**  
**Gajapriya Tamilselvan, Ph.D.**  
**Michael Swartwout, Ph.D.**  
**Brent Znosko, Ph.D.**

#### TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE SCHOOL OF NURSING

**Karen Cuvar, Ph.D.**  
**Alison Kuhn, D.N.P.**  
**Samantha Marquard, D.N.P.**  
**Michelle Papachrisanthou, D.N.P.**  
**Karen Scaglione, D.N.P.**

#### SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

**Shannon Cooper-Sadlo, Ph.D.**  
**Brandy R. Maynard, Ph.D.**

#### EDWARD AND MARGARET DOISY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

**Uthayashanker Ezekiel, Ph.D.**  
**Julie Howe, M.B.A.**  
**Rita Heuertz, Ph.D.**  
**Lori Jones, Ph.D.**  
**Elaina F. Osterbur, Ph.D.**  
**Tim R. Randolph, Ph.D.**  
**Christine M. Werner, Ph.D.**

#### COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

**Kathleen Gillespie, Ph.D.**

#### SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

**Meegan Bell, M. Eng.**  
**Matthew J. Grawitch, Ph.D.**  
**Srikanth P. Mudigonda, Ph.D.**  
**Maria Weber, M.S.**

#### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**Jeannine Butler, Ed.D.**  
**Karen Hall, Ed.D.**  
**Christa Jackson, Ph.D.**  
**Donna Jahnke, Ph.D.**  
**Jessica Leonard, Ph.D.**

#### UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

**Martha H. Allen, M.L.S.**  
**Miriam E. Joseph, Ph.D.**

## ALUMNI MERIT AWARDEES

ON MAY 15, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY RECOGNIZED THIS YEAR'S ALUMNI MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS. MANY OF THOSE HONORED ARE SPECIAL GUESTS AT TODAY'S COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY, SETTING A STRONG EXAMPLE OF SERVICE AND SUCCESS FOR THE 2026 SLU GRADUATES.

### **Lisa Van Amburg, J.D.**

(Law '75)

*Retired judge, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District*

### **Steven "Jay" Bowman, D.M.D.**

(Grad Dentistry '93)

*Owner and orthodontist, Kalamazoo Orthodontics*

### **Alexander G. Garza, M.D.**

(Grad Public Health '03)

*Chief community health officer, SSM Health*

### **William P. Hopfinger**

(Doisy '78)

*Business development consultant, SSM Health Physical Therapy*

### **Michael Isaacson**

(Arts and Sciences '86,

Grad Business '96)

*Artistic director and executive producer, The Muny*

### **Dean F. Kappel**

(Grad Social Work '75)

*Retired president and CEO, Mid-America Transplant*

### **Martin J. Lyons Jr.**

(Business '88)

*Chairman, president and CEO, Ameren Corporation*

### **Stephen C. Peiper, M.D.**

(Med '77)

*Peter A. Herbut, M.D., Professor and chair emeritus, Thomas Jefferson University*

### **Virginia Purcell**

(Arts and Sciences '66,

Grad Education '72)

*Retired educator, community volunteer*

### **Marilyn Schallom, Ph.D.**

(Nursing '83, Grad Nursing '90)

*Research scientist, director of the Nursing Science Doctoral Degree Program, Barnes-Jewish College Goldfarb School of Nursing*

### **William L. Smith Sr., Ph.D.**

(Parks '63)

*Emeritus professor and senior scientist, University of Wisconsin*

### **2026 PIONEER AWARD**

*Awarded posthumously*

### **Anita Lyons Bond**

(Arts and Sciences '50)

*Civil rights activist*

## MUSICIANS AND CHORUS

### COMMENCEMENT ENSEMBLE

Director: **Robert Hughes, Ph.D.**

*Professor of Music*

#### VIOLINS

Valerie Galiano-Rouge

Amy Pennington

Colin Somers

Essence Williams

#### VIOLAS

Victor Humphrey

Nathan Staicoff

#### CELLOS

Katrina Churchill

Stevie Potter

### UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Director: **Jon Garrett**

*Instructor of Music*

Lizbeth Alvarez

Sophie Ayre

Michael Bauer

Samara Cardozo

Alex Champa

Jacob Friedman

Mary Goodhart

Sarah Hymes

Austin Kellogg

Isaac Angelo Layugan

Steve Looten

Natalie Mall

Maichi Nguyen

Amoolya Pandurangi

Ankita Pandurangi

Andrew Rubi

Suna Tabag

Donell Torres

Mollie Torres

Vishal Vaheesan

Ittimum Zahir

## LOCATIONS

St. Louis, Missouri,  
and Madrid, Spain

## GLOBAL EXPERIENCE

SLU students wishing to study abroad have access to 41 partner programs on six continents, in addition to SLU's own degree-granting campus in Madrid.

## SERVICE

1.5 million hours of service are completed by the SLU community annually. Seventy-two percent of students volunteer each year.



# ABOUT SLU

Founded in 1818, Saint Louis University is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious Catholic research institutions. Rooted in Jesuit values and its pioneering history as the first university west of the Mississippi River, SLU offers students a rigorous, transformative education that challenges and prepares them to make the world a better place.

As a nationally recognized leader in research and innovation, SLU is a Research 1 (R1) university, advancing groundbreaking, life-changing discoveries that promote the greater good.

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

SLU ranks as one of the country's top colleges by *The Princeton Review*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *U.S. News & World Report* – and as the No. 11 “Best Catholic College in America.” (Niche)

## R1 STATUS

With \$65.1 million in externally funded research expenditures, SLU's R1 status places the University in an elite group of U.S. research universities.

## ALUMNI

SLU's new graduates join more than 142,000 alumni who lead lives of meaning and purpose around the world.

## ENROLLMENT

SLU educates 13,307 students from all 50 states and 93 countries. SLU-Madrid's fall enrollment reached 1,285 students from 89 countries.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH

With an endowment that exceeds \$2.02 billion, SLU is a major catalyst for urban renewal in the heart of a vibrant city. More than \$2 billion in development is underway in Midtown St. Louis, with SLU in the center of the neighborhood's growth.



## MASCOT

The University's unique mascot, the Billiken, is a mythical good-luck figure who represents "things as they ought to be."

## ATHLETICS

An NCAA Division I institution, SLU is a member of the Atlantic 10 Conference and competes in 18 sports. Recent successes include men's basketball advancing to the second round of the NCAA Championship.

## EXECUTIVE STAFF

**Edward Feser**

*President*

**Michael Lewis**

*Provost*

**Ellen Barnidge**

*Vice President, Research*

**Amy Bollinger**

*Vice President,  
Marketing and Communications*

**Kyle Collins**

*Vice President and  
Chief Information Officer*

**Jean Marie Cox**

*Vice President,  
Enrollment Management*

**Jessica Evenson**

*Vice President,  
Compliance and Ethics*

**Katherine Galvin**

*Chief of Staff*

**Matt Goodwin**

*Vice President,  
Student Development*

**David Heimburger**

*Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer*

**Christine Jacobs**

*Vice President, Medical Affairs,  
and Dean, School of Medicine*

**William P. Johnson**

*Vice President and Rector,  
SLU-Madrid*

**Michael Lucido**

*Vice President,  
Facilities Services*

**Mickey J. Luna**

*Vice President,  
Human Resources*

**Sheila Manion**

*Vice President, Development*

**Chris May**

*Director,  
Athletics*

**Rochelle Smith**

*Vice President and  
Chief Belonging Officer*

**David Suwalsky, S.J.**

*Vice President,  
Mission and Identity*

**Danielle Uy**

*Vice President and  
General Counsel*

## CONSTITUENCY LEADERSHIP

**Grace LoPiccolo**

*President,  
Student Government Association*

**Chris Luebbert**

*Chair,  
Staff Advisory Committee*

**Joe Lyons**

*President,  
Faculty Senate*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Eric Engler**

*Chair*

**Marian Mehan**

*Vice Chair*

**Akberet Boykin-Farr**

**Thomas Buchanan**

**Marilyn Bush**

**Richard Chaifetz**

**Joseph Conran**

**Jerome Dwyer**

**Jimmie Edwards**

**Edward Feser**

**Michael Garanzini, S.J.**

**Andrew Hoog**

**John Johnson**

**Paul Kalsbeek**

**Arindam Kar**

**Jessie Knight**

**Joe Koenig**

**James Lally**

**Timothy Lannon, S.J.**

**Timothy McMahan, S.J.**

**Michael McMillan**

**Joseph McShane, S.J.**

**Ron Mercier, S.J.**

**Robert O'Loughlin**

**Amy Rodrigues**

**Rex Sinquefield**

**Philip Steele, S.J.**

**Holden Thorp**

**Martha Uhlhorn**

**Trudy Busch Valentine**

**Robert Vitale**

**Perry Vyas**

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 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.

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 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.

## 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 as a separate piece 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 CAP

The cap, or mortarboard, has become the universally accepted style for U.S. colleges and universities. Many European institutions still retain distinctive forms of academic headdress.

## THE TASSEL

The tassel is perhaps the most iconic souvenir of academic attire. The doctoral graduate can wear a gold or black tassel on the mortarboard. However, varying the color of the tassel based on the field of study has gained acceptance throughout academia.

*Colors include:*

**Allied health professions:** Mint green

**Arts:** White

**Business:** Taupe

**Education:** Light blue

**Hospital administration:** Salmon

**Law:** Purple

**Medicine:** Green

**Nursing:** Apricot

**Philosophy:** Dark blue

**Professional studies:** Maroon

**Public administration:** Peacock blue

**Science:** Gold-yellow

**Social work:** Citron

**Technology and engineering:** Orange

**Theology:** Scarlet

## SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY “VARSITY SONG”

### VERSE 1

Heirs of a royal name,  
Dear Varsity,  
For aye our faith and love  
We pledge to thee.

Guardian of truth and light  
We always knew,  
Thou, whom the years have  
crowned,  
Saint Louis U!

### REFRAIN

All hail, Saint Louis U!  
Valiant and strong  
Noble old Varsity  
Hark to our song;

Proudly our colors fly  
Brave White and Blue,  
Loud let the chorus swell,  
Saint Louis U!

### VERSE 2

Great is thy noble heart,  
Tender and true,  
Show us thy loyalty  
Saint Louis U!

Bear we with pride and love  
Thy White and Blue,  
Sweet are thy memories,  
Saint Louis U!

### REFRAIN

All hail, Saint Louis U!  
Valiant and strong  
Noble old Varsity  
Hark to our song;

Proudly our colors fly  
Brave White and Blue,  
Loud let the chorus swell,  
Saint Louis U!

### VERSE 3

Truth and nobility  
Thy halls enshrine,  
Guarding the hallow'd name  
Forever thine.

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;

Proudly our colors fly  
Brave White and Blue,  
Loud let the chorus swell,  
Saint Louis U!

Composed by Alfred G. Robyn (1860-1935)  
Arranged for choir by Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.  
Original lyrics by Paul L. Blakely, S.J. (1880-1943)  
Lyrics adapted by Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.

As part of Saint Louis University's bicentennial celebration in 2018, SLU reintroduced the “Varsity Song,” which served as the University's *alma mater*. Previously it was last performed in the 1960s. Aaron Johnson, D.M.A., associate professor of music, adapted the lyrics and arranged the music for four-part choral performance.

Alfred G. Robyn (1860-1935), composer, organist and pianist, composed the music for the “Varsity Song” in 1909, the year he received an honorary degree from SLU. He was a prolific composer, credited with having written approximately 300 works, some of which were subsequently used in motion pictures. Robyn's connection to SLU traces back to his father, a German immigrant, who was also a composer and musician and taught for several years at SLU.

The original lyrics were written by Paul L. Blakely, S.J. (1880-1943). Blakely entered the Society of Jesus in 1897. He completed his studies at SLU and was ordained in 1912. He was a professor of literature at SLU from 1906 to 1909 and later became the associate editor of *America* magazine.



# 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, healthcare 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.



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