



113TH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT

.....
UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY

MAY 9, 2024

GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY
THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

12:30 PM

PRESIDING

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.
President

MACE BEARER

Michael Wortley, Ph.D.
*Associate Professor of Exercise Science and
Chair of the Faculty Assembly*

PROCESSIONAL

“Pomp and Circumstance” Edward Elgar

OPENING

Janice Warner, Ph.D., *Provost*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

“The Star-Spangled Banner” F. Scott Key
John Stafford Smith

Led by Natalie Moradian '26, accompanied by Robert MacReynolds

INVOCATION

Jeffrey Schaffer, *Executive Director of Mission & Ministry*

WELCOME

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., *President*

SALUTE TO THE FACULTY

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., *President*

Conferment of Emeriti Status

Dr. Bertram Okpokwasili, *Professor Emeritus of Business Administration*
Dr. Louise Wootton, *Professor Emerita of Biology*

Presentation of the Virginia Graham '31 Award for Teaching Excellence

This award is presented to a faculty member, nominated by fellow faculty members, who demonstrates outstanding leadership, teaching, and mentoring skills and a strong commitment to inspiring and helping students.

REMARKS ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Michele Teresa Aronica, RSM, Ph.D., *Chair of the Board of Trustees*

PRESENTATION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Sharmay Wood, *Dean of Students*

The **Academic Excellence Award** is presented to the senior who has attained the highest grade point average.

The **Kingdon Gould Jr. Award** is presented to the senior who, in the opinion of fellow classmates, contributed the most to the general welfare of Georgian Court University.

ADDRESS ON BEHALF OF GRADUATES

Kayla Marie Latendresse '24, *B.A. in English Candidate*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Rodrigo A. Colón, Jr. '95, '17, *Owner of Rod Colón Consulting, LLC*

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Janice Warner, Ph.D., *Provost*

Mary Chinery, Ph.D., '86, *Dean of the School of Arts, Sciences and Education*

Jennifer J. Edmonds, Ph.D., *Dean of the School of Business and Digital Media*

Theresa Wurmser, Ph.D., *Dean of the Hackensack Meridian Health School of Nursing and Wellness at GCU*

ALUMNI WELCOME

Stephanie Dalton '94, '02, *President of the Alumni Association*

CLOSING REMARKS

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., *President*

ALMA MATER

"Hail to the Blue and Gold" Alice Pier Kuser '27,
Hermine Carpentier Stein '29, and others

Led by Kayla Latendresse '24, Natalie Moradian '26,
and Priscilla Polizzi '28, accompanied by Robert MacReynolds

RECESSIONAL

"National Emblem March" Edwin Eugene Bagley

TRIBUTE TO JOHN K. LLOYD

John Koons Lloyd, a healthcare executive, Marine veteran, loving husband, and father, passed away on February 13, 2024. Mr. Lloyd served as a member of Georgian Court's Board of Trustees for 12 years, and as Co-CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health, his efforts were essential to establishing the university's nursing program. He leaves an extraordinary legacy of compassion, leadership, and innovation.

Mr. Lloyd's career as a healthcare executive began in 1982 when he was named president of Jersey Shore Medical Center. Over the next 15 years, he collaborated with physicians, trustees, employees, and community leaders to set the hospital on a track to success. As the culmination of that work, in 1997, he led the organization's merger with Ocean Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center to create Meridian Health, where he served as President and CEO—which then became Hackensack Meridian Health, as it is known today.

In 2008, Hackensack Meridian Health and Georgian Court jointly recognized the nursing shortage in New Jersey and the need to improve the health of their communities. Mr. Lloyd worked closely with Georgian Court faculty to address this need by establishing the university's nursing program and the Hackensack Meridian Health School of Nursing and Wellness at GCU.

Georgian Court's partnership with Mr. Lloyd and Hackensack Meridian Health was crucial to the program's success, as they provided GCU with faculty members, advisors, and insight to ensure the program would meet a high standard of nursing education. Since its inception over 15 years ago, the Hackensack Meridian Health School of Nursing and Wellness at GCU has graduated hundreds of students and provided an exceptional hands-on education that equips students for compassionate and successful nursing careers.

As recognition of his extraordinary achievements, Mr. Lloyd received an honorary Doctor of Health degree from Georgian Court in 2016 and delivered the university's Graduate Commencement address.

The Georgian Court community extends our sincere condolences to Mr. Lloyd's family and friends and expresses our deep gratitude for his tireless efforts and dedication to healthcare. May his memory be a blessing, and may we continue to honor his legacy through our shared commitment to education, compassion, and service.

Please turn off all cell phones so as not to interrupt this celebratory but solemn event. We ask that you kindly respect all roped-off areas. Due to state regulations, guests should remain at their seats during the ceremony.

This program is not the official list of graduates; it is based on the information available at the time of publication.

If any items in this program have been displayed incorrectly, please send an email to marketing@georgian.edu so that we can update the online version.

RODRIGO A. COLÓN, JR. '95, '17



With 32 years of experience in Human Resources, recruitment, networking, and career coaching, Rodrigo “Rod” Colón possesses a unique perspective on navigating the complexities of the global job market. Backed by a vast network of over 1 million professionals, he empowers individuals at all stages — students, professionals, and executives — to achieve career success. He seamlessly integrates unconventional but proven networking and career

management strategies with his extensive knowledge.

A sought-after Executive Coach and speaker, Rod leverages his considerable career management experience to share his insights and wisdom gained over the years. He reframes networking as a collaborative process of giving and sharing, urging professionals to relentlessly hone their networking skills and manage their careers with the same dedication as one would their own company: “ME, Inc.”

A published author, Rod champions the importance of networking and building strong relationships through his book, “Win the Race for 21st Century Jobs,” and by hosting the interactive weekly webinar, “Own Your Career Workshop,” for the past decade.

As Director of Talent Development & Leaders in College Programs for HISPA, Rod equips students with essential career tools like public speaking and networking skills, while offering personalized coaching for their professional development. Additionally, for the past ten years, Rod has led the NJ Hispanic Fellows HISPA Leadership Series.

A distinguished graduate of Georgian Court University, Rod holds both a BS in Business Administration and an MA in Pastoral Theology. Recognized for his achievements, he was inducted into their Alumni Court of Honor in 2011. His expertise has been sought after by various media outlets, including ABC-TV “Tiempo,” NEWS12 New Jersey “It’s Your Money,” and BRONXNET “Open.” He has also received recognition in publications including *Nursing 2020 Critical Care*, *LatinTRENDS*, *Princeton Review*, and *the Newark Examiner*. Connect with him online on LinkedIn.

CLASS OF 2024

Candidates for Undergraduate Degrees

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SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Bachelor of Arts

Caitlin Ann Broderick [†]	Amanda Lee Kronmiller
Tommaso Emanuele Parlanti [‡]	Faiga B. Lieberman [†]
Jasmin Victoria Shaheed	Kaylia Mighty
Rifky Wagschal	Kayla Marie Newman
Khali Antonio Smith [‡]	Fruma Rotstein [†]
Ethan Doyle [‡]	Stephanie Abad
Rebecca Madison Jankowski	Aryanna Arce
Cody A. Kromer	Niya Ruth Barden
Tiffany Lynn Parajon [‡]	Vittoria Bertini [‡]
Kaitlyn Elizabeth Stufft	Nicole Diana Biase [‡]
Angela G. Sulfaro [†]	Nicole Bonilla [‡]
Zahniyyah Tarry [‡]	Kaylee Camens
Mariann Vazquez	Ariana Baye Cohan [‡]
Erika Catalina Viveros-Garcia [‡]	Alyecia Craig-Woods
Kea'Azah Williams	Madison Rylee Cummins
Sofia Grace Atilas	Destani Marie Diaz [^]
Sarah Patricia Francis Cotter	Heather Rose Dibartolomeo [‡]
Jada Meusa [‡]	Olivia Rose Drago [†]
Michaela Lauren Ryan	Aubrey Elizabeth Dressler [‡]
Niyah Gwen Kimberly Salley	Sierra Rose Ferraro
Hailey Nicole Gorman [‡]	Tricia Fiordimondo [^]
Sophia Iovanella	Bianca Rosa Garofano
Kayla Marie Latendresse	Jessica A. Gustafson [‡]
Alysha A. Sagona	Caitlin Hendricks
Ayla Renee Schroeffer	Courtney Hendricks
Alexis M. Serpico [†]	Jayda Taylor Jones
Gabriela Hana Traynor [^]	Gabrielle LaFalce
Corinne Vergari	Meaghan Lewis [‡]
Edgar Ramirez	Kaysie Louro [‡]
Nahomi Z. Roldan [^]	Genna Catherine Lubischer
Michael R. VanderGoot	Jessica Marie Markunas
Nnamdi Achebe	Nylene Franchesca Mateo [‡]
Avigail Afergan [†]	Lisa Y. McPherson [‡]
Malka Esther Babad [‡]	Desirea M. Medina [†]
Lisa Capurso [^]	Angelica Julianne Realt
Mia Nicole DeRuitter	Kayla Frances Rein [†]
Meagan Marie Fornicola	Breana Meilinn Rodriguez [‡]
Avigail Kahan	

Emily Rosenzweig‡
Gabrielle Ann Serkus
Madison Elisabeth Shear
Rachel A. Sherlis
Frances Anne Simmers
Kyle Spector
Alexandra Nicola
Baiocchi Suarez‡

Bachelor of Science

Jennifer Matthews
Krzysztof Paczesny°
Gabriele Marija Balkius
Emma Jean Force

Aaliyah Imani Thorpe
Natalie Marie Torres
Miranda Rayne Wells‡
Miranda Adelina Ruperto†

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Tam Thi Thanh Pham

Diana Carolina Gallego
Ryan Peter Cupo^
Gianna Maryann Connorst
Mike Thomas‡

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND DIGITAL MEDIA

Bachelor of Arts

Courtney Fenty
Juquan Eugene Grier
Carley Polchak
Tyler Ross Towns^
Kevin Anthony Tombs

Bachelor of Science

Mesha Jaslynn Bellamy‡
Nayelis Delgado
Liam Patrick Dunn
Adriana Bella Mungo
Tallen Alexander Smith
Jenna Morgan Tracy‡
Stephanie Triana‡
Emily Michelle Bouer
Erika Carrasquillo‡
Jacqueline Marie Cherry+
Katherine Mary Clemente
Ryan Joseph Dautrich
Sierra Rose Emmett
Jessica Dana Ford
Andrea Garza
Patrick John Gull
Justin Michael Iannarone^
Valerie Lori Kaufmann‡
Nasir Tulan McLean^
Salomon Abraham Nachum
Casey Truman Segda

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Jillian Romero
Michael Angelo Torres

Ava Simont‡
Olivia Mae Szajdecki
Michael George Bronner
Sotirios Gkosdis
Ibrahim Madad
James J. McGinley, Jr.^
Jack Mathew Milne
Christopher James Pinckney^
Xavier Demaine Seals
Ava C. Smith
Alyssa S. Herrera
Stefany Vasquez
Alexandra Rae DePietro‡
Amber P. Mason
Vaughn Peter Meehan
Gianna Marie Nardini^
Caralee Arnisa Richardst
Michael Sciacca
Jimmy Woo, Jr.^
Clint Bernard Wright, Jr.^

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts

Samantha Adem^
Ashley Michelle Alessi‡
Liana-Rose Trinidad Cabactulan‡
Casey Morgen Donofrio^
Jennifer Lynn Freyer
Lily Elizabeth King‡
Rhiannan Ocello
Alanah Abigail Ramos
Caitlin Elizabeth Sadowski^
Bridget Leigh Sheehan‡
Emily Diane Shroyer
Alyssa Christine Almerigotti^
Nicolas George Babic
Andrew Richard Diaz
Erik Valentine Janicki‡
Andrew Nicolosi
Guadalupe Galicia-Ocotl^
Isabella Rose Inchausti^
Catherine Rose Johnson
Mary Katherine Clara
McNamara‡
Aliya Canfield‡

Kelsey Grace Naclerio^
Guinevere Kimberly Nikitin^
Lucy A. Brennan‡
Isabella Nicole Castillo
Anthony Castriciano
Gabrielle Valentina Digangi‡
Nicole Marie DiGiovanni
Brianna Christine Giblock‡
Yanely Bohorquez Gonzalez
Elaina R. Lacqua‡
Deanna N. Little^
Lauran Schwerthoffer
Madison Elisabeth Shear^
Shea Lynn Marie Sutton
Jordan D. Corde‡

Bachelor of Science

Brielle Bisogno‡
Emily Grace Clayton
Kyle Tanner Harms^

HACKENSACK MERIDIAN *HEALTH SCHOOL* OF NURSING AND WELLNESS AT GCU

Bachelor of Arts

Melissa T. Binoya‡
Elizabeth Cornejo
Alison Dempsey†
Jessica L. Ketterman
Rachael Wakene Mshindani

Venecia Munoz
Cielo Murrell‡
Hannah Catherine Rommel^
Jordan Shai Watson

Bachelor of Science

Michael Sean Angelos^
Davin Alden Baldock
Rachel Ann Behar‡
Alina S. Chant†
Kelsey Taylor Endreson
Tanner James Handerhan
Thomas C. Heegan‡
Garrett Kenny
Casey Nicole Korman
Dominick Daniel Lagano
Joseph Michael Liberatore
Mathias Madersbacher
Emily Masterson

Lucas L. Moreira‡
Gabiella Paccione
Remi Nicole Reinhardt
Jadalynn Rodriguez
Joseph Rocco Sauchelli
Leticia Maya Da Silva
Sam William Thombs
Izabella Tjarks^
Elizabeth Ann Worden
Aya Abdo
Brittany Rose Gable
Thomas Ryan Perro

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Viktoria Akramova‡
Gabiella Stephanie Anderson
Jennifer Anderson‡
Caitlin Lauren Bart
Yachet Bernath
Kayla Bibat
Cheryl Biderman
Tova Malka Boiangiu°
Deanna Lorraine Bubrowiecki‡
Emily Mae Buonocore†
Nicolle Marie Matos Castillo‡
Cara Cool Catalano
Amy Marie Cmielewski†
Reannah Marie Cooper
Alexa Ann Coromilas‡
Carolyn Ann Creamer°
Stephanie S. Danias‡
Tiffani DePietro†

Katlin Kelly Dolan°
Kaitlin Aileen Dooney
Lindsey Cheyenne Duarte‡
Jackalyn Ann Durante°
Chelsea Theresa Eareckson°
Merna Fayez Ekladioust‡
Nancy Ellen England†
Deena Enock°
Rachel Lee Ferguson°
Naomi Fischman
Deborah Gitel Frankel
Sarah G. Freimark
Rochel Fuerst
Josh Gager†
Lisamarie Gallegost‡
Eliana Camille Garcia†
Samantha Ellen Garcia†
Lisa Grazioli‡

Hannah Halberstam
Brianna Harris-Bissell†
Shannon Kelly Healy‡
Shifra Breindel Hercenberg
Malka Hershkowitz
Melanie Hobbis†
Chaya Kahan
Avraham N. Kaufman†
Kirsten Frances Kologinsky°
Abigail Kopec
Malka Kraus
Louise Mae Labang‡
Sara Lerman
Kristina Lompado†
Madison Lynn Lopez‡
Lauren Kathleen Maas
Connor W. Maher°
Elina Makna°
Brian Mavrinas†
Brooke Ann Mcateer
Brittany A. Mendez‡
Sarah Mermelstein
Natalie Alondra Millan
Ciarah Illona Minnig
Angelina Rose Monaco‡
Jenna Mooney‡
Jacqueline Morales-Puebla
Jenna Lillian Morelli†
Matthew Moro
Alexandra Maria Napoli°
Caitlin B. Nelson
Kathlanda K. Nelson†
Brianna Antonia Nespoli
Chana Neumann

John Anthony Nicolosi‡
Ifunanya Okoro°
Zach Ray Orpurt°
Michelle Ottensoser
Anisha Palermo†
Benjamin Robert Palermo°
Emma Peterson†
Kristen May Pinto‡
Emily Gabrielle Prael
Rachel Presser
Jenny Ramos‡
Hannah Reznik
Molly K. Richards°
Joelle M. Rivera
Samantha Ann Rodriguez
Elizabeth Castrillon Roldan
Rachel Rosmarin
Miriam Rotberg
Yehudis Rubenstein
Madison Schleifer†
Debra Shaps
Sevryn Raymond Shelesky
Michael Spitzer°
Vanessa M. Stansen°
Katie Baker Starkey°
Cathrine Camilla Szymanik
Shanna Marie Tyson‡
Laura Umanasolano
Sabrina M. Valerio°
Grayce A. Velez‡
Yehudis M. Weg
Shmuel Wolff°
Megan N. Zaccardo
Christopher J. Ziolkowski†

Bachelor of Social Work

Brittney Grace Caruso[^]
Azucar Marion Miller[^]
Karina Bravo
Bianca Cicchino
Kallie Lynn Davison[‡]
Shaneece Donique Francis
Carmela Gambella
Dorcas Gbeve-Hill
Michael Shane Gleisberg

Cassey Gross
Alexa R. Kowalski
Sandra Lipovetsky
Jessica A. Olvera[‡]
Erica Adrienne Partenfelder
Alicia Yasmine Perez
Angelina Santorelli
Lillyann Vogel
Markita Shanee Williams[†]

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[†] Degree conferred August 2023 [‡] Degree conferred December 2023
[°] Degree conferred February 2024
[^] Degree anticipated to be conferred in August or December 2024

SPECIAL UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

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Faculty grant awards in recognition of outstanding ability and achievement in the student's major field.

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

ARTS AND VISUAL STUDIES

First Award in Art Sister Tam Pham
Honorable Mention Award in Art Jordan Corde

BIOLOGY

First Award in Biology Gabriele Balkius

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

First Award in Criminal Justice Rebecca Jankowski
Honorable Mention Award in Criminal Justice Erika Viveros-Garcia

DANCE

First Award in Choreography Sofia Atilas
Most Accomplished
Dancer Award Niyah Salley

ENGLISH

First Award in English Kayla Latendresse
Honorable Mention Award in English Sophia Iovanella
Ocean County Cultural and Heritage
Commission Award in History/English Kayla Latendresse

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

First Award in Interdisciplinary Studies Catherine Johnson

HISTORY

First Award in History Michael VanderGoot
Honorable Mention
Award in History Nicolas Babic and Andrew Diaz

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

First Award in Computer Information Systems Khali Smith

MATHEMATICS

First Award in Mathematics Aliya Canfield

PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING

First Award in
Psychology Frances Simmers and Miranda Wells
Honorable Mention Award
in Psychology Yanely Bohorquez Gonzalez

WORLD LANGUAGES

First Award in Spanish Andrea Garza

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND DIGITAL MEDIA

*School of Business and Digital Media Executive Advisory
Council Emerging Leader Award* Tallen Smith

ACCOUNTING

First Award in Accounting Tallen Smith

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

First Award in Business Administration Olivia Szajdecki

Honorable Mention Award in

Business Administration Sierra Emmett

FINANCE

First Award in Finance Sotirios Gkosdis

Honorable Mention Award in

Finance Jack Milne

MANAGEMENT

First Award in Management Alyssa Herrera

Honorable Mention Award in

Management Stefany Vasquez

MARKETING

First Award in Marketing Jimmy Woo

Honorable Mention Award in

Marketing Michael Sciacca

DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

First Award in Digital Communication Courtney Fenty

Honorable Mention Award in

Digital Communication Carley Polchak

GRAPHIC DESIGN AND MULTIMEDIA

First Award in Graphic Design

and Multimedia Jillian Romero

First Award in Digital Design Kevin Tombs

Ocean County Cultural and Heritage

Commission Award in Graphic/Digital Design Kevin Tombs

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION

First Award in Education Emily Shroyer

Honorable Mention

Award in Education Emily Clayton and Lauran Schwerthoffer

HACKENSACK MERIDIAN *HEALTH* SCHOOL OF NURSING AND WELLNESS AT GCU

EXERCISE SCIENCE

First Award in Exercise Science.....Emily Clayton
*Honorable Mention Award
in Exercise Science*.....Joseph Sauchelli

HEALTH PROFESSION STUDIES

*First Award in Health
Profession Studies*.....Rachael Wakene Mshindani
*Honorable Mention Award in
Health Profession Studies*..... Jordan Watson

HEALTH SCIENCES

First Award in Health Sciences.....Brittany Gable
Honorable Mention Award in Health Sciences.....Aya Abdo

NURSING

*First Award in Nursing/Richard Hader
Academic Excellence Award*..... Katlin Dolan,
Shannon Healy, and Joelle Rivera
*John K. Lloyd BSN Graduate
Nurse Leadership Award*..... Emily Prah
*Rosemary E. Jeffries Mercy Core
Values Award in Nursing*.....Jennifer Anderson,
Yachet Bernath, and Hannah Reznik
*Catherine McAuley
Spirit of Nursing Award*.....Nicolle Matos Castillo and
Laura Umanasolano

SOCIAL WORK

First Award in Social Work.....Carmela Gambella
*Mercy and Social Justice Award
in Social Work*..... Bianca Cicchino and Lillyann Vogel
*Outstanding Performance in Field Award
in Social Work*.....Shaneece Francis and Cassey Gross

SOROPTOMIST INTERNATIONAL OF TOMS RIVER

This volunteer service organization for professional women awards one senior who has been accepted into a graduate school program for the following semester.

Melissa Binoya

KAPPA GAMMA PI NATIONAL CATHOLIC COLLEGE GRADUATE HONOR SOCIETY

The administration selects members from among undergraduate students graduating with scholastic distinction, outstanding service, and leadership.

Jennifer Anderson
Sarah Cotter
Leticia Da Silva
Ryan Dautrich
Sotirios Gkosdis
Rebecca Jankowski
Kayla Latendresse
Adriana Mungo
Lillyann Vogel
Rachael Wakene Mshindani

THE PRESIDENT'S MEDALLION

The President's Medallion, which is also called the lavalier, depicts the seal of the university on the front and the cross of the Sisters of Mercy on the reverse. It is worn by the president at official university functions of high solemnity, such as the Inauguration, Convocation, and Commencement. The seal of Georgian Court University features the Cross of Christ, which symbolizes true Christian character. This character is enlightened by the lighted lamp and illustrates the virtues of truth and goodness. These virtues are fostered through the Book of the Arts and Sciences by which Georgian Court students achieve intellectual development. The lion signifies moral and physical fortitude united by the laurel wreath, the Greek symbol of victory and triumph.

The name of the school is inscribed in English, accompanied by the founding date, 1908.

Bonitas, Disciplina, Scientia—goodness, discipline, and knowledge—are the virtues through which Georgian Court graduates will triumph in the formation of their characters.

THE UNIVERSITY MACE

The history and tradition of the mace is rooted in medieval times. Over time the mace was used for royal ceremonial purposes and eventually became intertwined with the idea of a scepter, made with precious metals and encrusted with jewels. The mace evolved into a symbol of authority, order, and pomp in academic ceremonies, reflecting the mission and values of the institution. A new mace was crafted for Georgian Court after the institution became a university in 2004.

The university mace symbolizes the commitment of the faculty and administration of the university to excellence in education, and to the Mercy core values of justice, respect, integrity, service, and compassion. The fluted walnut staff bears the gold seal of Georgian Court surrounded by blue enamel, which is positioned above a bronze plate engraved with the Mercy core values. The mace is proudly carried by the mace bearer, traditionally the incoming chair of the Faculty Assembly.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

Today's academic regalia has its origins in medieval English custom, where styles of gowns, mortars, and hoods conveyed the loyalties, disciplines, and achievement levels of the wearers. These academic costumes arrived in America in the 1700s and have been made uniform by two 20th-century examinations by a commission for the American Council on Education.

The color of the gown is commonly black, with no trim for the bachelor's or master's degrees. The doctor's gown is faced along the front with broad velvet panels and has full bell-shaped sleeves each bearing three horizontal bars of velvet; it may be worn open or closed. The bachelor's gown has pointed sleeves in contrast to the master's gown, which is distinguished by the long oblong sleeve with a square cut. The hood worn around the neck and draped down the back displays the colors of the institution which awarded the degree, as well as the colors of the degree subject. Bachelor's degree hoods are optional. Tassels for caps or mortars are black, though gold is most often worn by those with doctoral degrees. The cords, sashes, and stoles worn by some of the graduating students are provided by the academic honor societies or programs to which they belonged. The colors and lettering of the honor regalia are those of the honor society or program.

The official Georgian Court University gown is worn by the president, trustees, honorary degree recipients, and Commencement speaker. The royal blue gown is embellished with black velvet panels on the front, on which the Georgian Court University seal is embroidered in gold, and black velvet chevrons on the sleeves. The hoods are Georgian Court's school colors of blue and gold, and the black velvet tams are adorned with gold silk tassels.

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

- 1963** John F. McCarty
1964 The Hon. Margaret Chase Smith
1966 Helen Hayes
1967 The Hon. Mildred Barry Hughes '23
1973 The Most Reverend George W. Ahr, S.T.D., D.D.
1975 Loretta Young
George Gallup Sr.
George Gallup Jr.
1976 Ralph Nader
1980 Buckminster Fuller
1982 The Hon. Alan J. Karcher
1983 Rosemary Haughton
Gov. Thomas H. Kean
The Hon. James J. Howard
1984 Rev. J. Bryan Hehir
1985 Mary Alice Williams
1986 The Hon. Theodore J. Lebreque
Hortense Kessler Green
Col. Guion S. Bluford Jr.
1987 Mary Little Parell
1988 Joyce Carol Oates
1991 Dorothy K. Light
Daniel P. Weadock
Douglas E. Johnson
1992 Deborah P. Wolfe, Ed.D.
1994 Mary Higgins Clark
1995 Mary Ann Martin
Jay Cleveland Harbeck
Edward B. Connolly
1996 H. George Buckwald
1997 The Most Reverend John Charles Reiss, D.D., J.C.D.
1999 Mary Loretta Snite Dillon '37
Kingdon Gould Jr.
2000 Helen F. Boehm
Lucille Bongiovanni
Jack Ford
2001 Laurence M. Downes
Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.
JoAnne Kane
The Hon. Robert W. Singer
2002 Dorothy J. Marron '36
The Hon. Christopher Smith
Msgr. Leonard R. Toomey
2003 Bruce Feiler
Hirair Hovnanian
Eleanor Weisbrod '44
2004 Joseph Buckelew
Joyce Armstrong Carroll, Ed.D., '59
2005 Virginia S. Bauer
Ellen Mullane Gallagher '64
Gerald R. Gallagher
2006 Rosalie Bertell, GNSH, Ph.D.
Marlene Lynch Ford, J.D., '76
Ruth B. Mandel, Ph.D.
2007 Elizabeth Christopherson
Mary E. Morris Powell '45
Zeni Fox, Ph.D.
2008 Margaret Cleary '51
María Elena González, RSM
Patricia B. Licuanan, Ph.D.
Anne Milgram, J.D.
Grace Nolan, RSM, '57
The Hon. Eugene D. Serpentelli, J.S.C.
2009 Rev. Daniel Berrigan, SJ
Rev. Ann Struthers Coburn '72
Judith M. Persichilli
The Most Reverend John M. Smith, J.C.D., D.D.
Mary C. Sullivan, RSM, Ph.D.
2010 Barbara Ellen Black, D.P.S.
The Hon. Honora O'Brien Killgallen, J.D., J.S.C., '82
Kevin Ryan, J.D.
2011 Helen Hanna Casey '71
Major General Maria Falca-Dodson
Assemblyman Joseph R. Malone III
Tim McLoone
2012 Richard Hader, R.N., Ph.D., FAAN, CHE, NE-BC, CPHQ
The Hon. Rochelle R. Hendricks
William R. Johnston
Elizabeth Schmalz Ferguson

- 2013** Mary Patrice Brown, J.D.
The Hon. Frank J. Guarini, J.D.
Amy Joseph Habib '60
The Most Reverend David M.
O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D.
- 2014** The Hon. Thomas F. Kelaher, J.D.
Maryann Cusimano Love, Ph.D.
Tracey Severns, Ed.D.
Francis X. Wentworth Jr.
- 2015** Mary Louise Miller, RSM, Esq.
Karen Schneider, RSM, M.D.
Father Alphonse Stephenson
Robert J. Wicks, Psy.D.
- 2016** John R. Garbarino
John K. Lloyd, FACHE
Rose Martin, RSM
Maria Cordis Richey, RSM,
Ph.D., '50
- 2017** Deacon James J. Knipper '15
Adam Lowy
Richard Rohr, OFM
Barbara Williams, RSM, '63
- 2018** Elisabeth Fontenelli
Jon F. Hanson
Triantafillos Parlapanides,
Ed.D., '00
- 2019** Brian Gagnolati, FACHE
Justice Anne M. Patterson, J.D.
Michael A. Pontoriero,
M.D., FACS
- 2021** Annie Hanna Cestra '73
Marlene Laó-Collins
- 2022** Robert C. Garrett, FACHE
- 2023** Father Gregory Boyle
Carol Stillwell

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2023–2024

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Michele Teresa Aronica, RSM, Ph.D., *Chair*
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OUR MISSION

Georgian Court University, founded by the Sisters of Mercy of New Jersey in 1908 and sponsored by the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas since January of 2007, provides a comprehensive liberal arts education in the Roman Catholic tradition. The university has a special concern for women and is a dynamic community committed to the core values of justice, respect, integrity, service, and compassion, locally and globally.

Georgian Court University provides students with:

- a curriculum broad enough to be truly liberal, yet specialized enough to support further study and future careers;
- an environment for the entire university community to grow through shared educational, cultural, social, and spiritual experiences; and
- the will to translate concern for social justice into action.

ALMA MATER

“Hail to the Blue and Gold”

Hail to the Blue and Gold
Dear Georgian Court
'Mid stately pines so old
Ideals you brought to us
Of honor and loyalty,
Faith staunch and true;
We pledge fidelity and love
To you.

So through the years to come
Your name will be
Symbol of faith and love
And constancy, dear G.C.!
Here in these hallowed halls
Pledge we anew
Our hearts' devotion to the
Gold and Blue.



GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY
THE MERCY UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY