



DAKOTA WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

Commencement

Mitchell, S.D.

May 8, 2022
1:30 p.m. • Corn Palace

Commencement

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Faculty Marshals
President, Pastor, Honored Guests and Speakers
Administration
Faculty
Junior Marshals
Candidates for Degrees

*The audience will please rise as the procession enters
and remain standing (as you are able) until after the invocation.*

PROCESSIONAL*.....Wesleyan Band
“Pomp and Circumstance” *Edward Elgar* Dr. Bethany Amundson
Arr. Joseph Probstakoff Conductor

INVOCATION*.....The Rev. Eric Van Meter
Campus Pastor

WELCOME.....Dr. Daniel Kittle
President

COMMENCEMENT AND THE ACADEMY.....Dr. Joseph Roidt
Provost

CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES

Dr. Daniel Kittle Mrs. Theresa Kriese
President Executive Vice President

HONORARY DOCTORATES

Dr. Carol Nogle Lucas – Doctor of Science
Wayne and Mary Puetz – Doctor of Humane Letters

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS.....Mrs. Valerie Melmer '83
“It Made All the Difference” *Co-founder and Hospitality Director*
Leadership South Dakota

SPECIAL MUSIC.....Senior Highlanders
“The Heart Sings On” *Joseph M. Martin* Dr. Clinton Desmond
Conductor
Mrs. Erin Desmond
Pianist

CLARKE AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE.....Dr. Joseph Roidt
John Clarke Provost
Presenter

** audience please stand if able*

RECOGNITION OF FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS.....Dr. Daniel Kittle
President

CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND PRESENTATION OF ACADEMIC HOODS

Dr. Daniel Kittle
President

Dr. Joseph Roidt
Provost

The presentation of academic hoods provides Dakota Wesleyan University graduates with an opportunity to recognize the faculty or staff member who has played a particularly significant role in their Wesleyan experience.

Graduates who are present at Commencement are listed alphabetically by the name of the faculty or staff member who will present the academic hood.

Associate of Arts

Hunter William Planansky

Mr. Joel Reinesch
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

Bachelor of Arts

Aybree Katherine Pitman

Ms. Kitty Allen
Vice President of Institutional Advancement

Makenna Marie Reich
Hannah Marie Wehlander

Dr. Bethany Amundson
Assistant Professor of Instrumental Studies

Christopher Joseph Zanotto

Mr. Chris Aschemann
Associate Head Track and Cross-Country Coach

Trayven Jacob Boellstorff

Dr. Krista Belanger
Assistant Professor of Communication

Trey Thomas DeCroock
Hayden Joseph Schmidt

Mr. Ross Cimpl
Head Football Coach

Zackary Dee Satterwhite

Dr. Ashley Digmann
Assistant Professor and Chair of Education

Ronae Joyce Klein
Patience Lane Teboe

Dr. Barbara Duffey
Associate Professor of English

Kalub Skyes Carmichael
Lia Lehua Guigui

Dr. Sean Flynn
Professor of History

Devany Anne Farris

Mr. Thomas Gulledge
Adjunct Professor of Sport, Exercise and Wellness

Justena Marie Amiotte
Maren Faith Buffington
Jordan LuAnn Glanzer
Kamryn Lynette Harrop
Kelsi Davis Hart

Mr. Kyle Herges
Associate Professor of Digital Media and Design

Nathan Robert Rupprecht

Mr. Kyle Hobbs
Director of TRIO Student Support Services

Jennifer Kay Sweetman

Mr. Elwin Hohn
Physical Plant Custodian

Jacob Morgan Parker

Mr. Trevor Joiner
Assistant Football Coach

Zachary Allen Besler
Mariah Rose Houtcooper
Sawyer Joe Charles Hughes
Riley John Kurtenbach
Delanie Nicole Larson
Donald Paul Yackley

Dr. Anne Wessels Kelly
Professor of Psychology

Kyllie Alejandra Ramirez

Mr. Derek Lien
Head Softball Coach

Michaela Faythe Herman

Dr. Joan Lubben
Professor of Mathematics

Jonathon Glenn Freeman

Mr. Daniel Miller
Professor of Theatre

Cole Roland Halouska

Mr. Casey Mouw
Head Wrestling Coach

Josephine Czarina Desirae Bardsley

Ms. Dixie Nolz
Central Services Coordinator

Brennan Parker Bence
Jett Demyron Evans

Dr. L. Brian Patrick
Professor of Biology

Austin Rae Hughes
Lily Rose Miner
Donald Jackson Rediger
Chance William Sorensen
Hannah Jane Traster

Mr. Joel Reinesch
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

Mary Margaret Niedzwiecki
Isaias Felix Pio

Mr. Dustin Wheeler
Director of Residence Life

Mason Loren Larson

Mr. Matt Wilber
Head Men's Basketball Coach

Bachelor of Science

Ace Albert Zorr

Ms. Mary Alexander
Director of Financial Aid

Heather Laura Kayser
Haylee Rae Mork

Ms. Kelly Bottum
Adjunct Professor of Education

Jacob Michael Becker

Ms. Randi Christensen
Associate Professor of Athletic Training

Miles John Davis
Jimmie Ray Garewal
Daniel Lloyd Libolt

Mr. Ross Cimpl
Head Football Coach

Sydnee Jennifer Foster

Ms. Erin Desmond
Assistant Professor of Voice and Piano

Jenna Marie Helget
Emma Mae Paul

Dr. Ashley Digmann
Assistant Professor and Chair of Education

Morgan Renae Taft

Dr. Barbara Duffey
Associate Professor of English

Trisha Kaye Eason

Ms. Paige Gau
Assistant Professor of Nursing

Jess Renae Huber

Ms. Stephanie Gelderman
Instructor of Education

Caleb Joseph Crist
Hong Goo Riu
Taylor Yvonne Sprecher
Devan Shaine Weelborg

Dr. Diana Goldammer
Assistant Professor of Management

Jada Lee Campbell

Mr. Thomas Gulledge
Adjunct Professor of Sport, Exercise and Wellness

Brooke Marie Bauer
Ashley Jo Bostic
Marie Margaret Engbrecht
Rebecca Lynn Gonnerman
Jocelyn Marie Goodman
Chelsea Anne Halls-Schmoll
Jersee Mae Johnson
Darla Joy Langenhorst
Phyllis Mariah Siemonsma
Sara Nicole Marian Tillma
Jessica Joy Voss
Amanda Brooke Waite

Dr. Tracy Hadler
Associate Professor of Nursing

Christian Manuel Alvarez

Mr. Kyle Hobbs
Director of TRIO Student Support Services

Megan Rae Hinker

Mr. Thomas Hoek
Director of Student Life

Tayven Thomas Aga
Kaylie Marie Zens

Ms. Megan Hullinger
Associate Professor of Nursing

Sally M. Chau
Michelle Gonzalez-Peralta
Haley Marie Lippert
Jessica Storevik-Korn
Miranda Ann Vore

Ms. Jessica Jarding
Associate Professor of Nursing

Daulton Joseph Wilcoxon

Mr. Ben Johnson
Assistant Baseball Coach

Morgan Mae Osthus
Courtney Marie Roth
Vanessa Kay Stevens
Caitlyn Sue Weins

Dr. Donna Johnson
Associate Professor of Special Education

Devin Renae Blindauer

Ms. Theresa Kriese
Executive Vice President

Adriana Elizabeth Thomason

Mr. Derek Lien
Head Softball Coach

Cole Lloyd Barthel

Dr. Joan Lubben
Professor of Mathematics

Davis Carl Anderson
Delilah Elaine Ann Brinker
Carter Thomas Gullickson
Tate Matthew Larson
Dylan Patrick Vosberg

Ms. Christine Mauszycki
Associate Professor of Accounting

Kailey Marie Feiner
Emily Lynn McDonald
Jeffrey Thomas Schuch
Trevor Allen Sprik

Dr. Bethany Melroe Lehrman
Associate Professor of Chemistry

Jilian Elizabeth Ebert
Luke Joseph LeMay
Andrew John Weber

Dr. David Mitchell
Professor Emeritus

Tarek James Benton
Jaden Marcus Bloemendaal
Chandler Cole Fredericksen
Mikayla Lynn Heirigs
Jasmine Marie Johnson
Lane Mark Kessler
Lanna Jean Lane

Dr. Todd Muehler
Associate Professor of Business and Finance

Brendan C. Kamerzell
Hijke Pretorius

Dr. L. Brian Patrick
Professor of Biology

Kayla Rae Picht
Sage Katherine Pulse
Holly Jo Van Wyk

Ms. Stacey Patzlaff
Associate Professor of Nursing

Gavin James Zomer

Mr. Russell Pick
Director of Golf

Preston Murphy Hanson
Cole Christopher Hellie
Joel Isay Sanchez
Garrett Thomas Shanley

Mr. Scott Schmidt
Assistant Professor of Business

Vanessa Lynne Burger
Skyler Ann Ducheneaux
Cassidy Marie Gosmire
Kaitlyn Nicole Greenhoff
Laura Kay Hare
Kaylee Joan Hart
Kaylee Jae Kirk
Brendan Michael Langbehn
Emily Jo Lord
Allison Rae McElveny
Miranda Kay Voelker

Ms. Renée Schroeder
Assistant Professor of Nursing

Rocky L. Guevara Benitez
Luis Andres Lescure Samudio

Mr. Brady Van Holland
Head Men's Soccer Coach

Caleb Lorenz Waldner

Ms. Denise Van Meter
Associate Campus Pastor

Jacob Gregory Hammons

Dr. Daniel Wagner
Professor of Athletic Training

Jadie Karon DeLange
Maddison Jasper Sparks

Ms. Tressa Wede
Assistant Professor of Education

Koln Allen Oppold
Gary Dale White

Mr. Matt Wilber
Head Men's Basketball Coach

Jack Walter Peurrung

Ms. Kristy Zink
Academic Success and Career Services Coordinator

Master of Arts in Education

Sarah Elena Brandt
Emily Rose Brunsing
Jason James Cerny
Caitlyn Kay Graf
Charles Arthur Hart V
Cole Joseph Knippling
Kyah Renee Nettum
Nicholas C. Olson
Renaë Alane O'Meara
Matthew Ryan Paez
Leah Marie Rempp
Tristen Marie Turnis
Trisha Nichole Zyrowski

Ms. Melissa Weber
Assistant Professor of Education

Master of Athletic Training

Cameron Rick Quigley

Mr. Charles Dubanoski
Head Baseball Coach

Jayden Renee Bormann
Elisebeth Marie Dickson
Teah Lavon Serr

Dr. Lana Loken
Professor of Athletic Training

Patrick Joseph Starr II

Mr. Travis Olsen
Instructor of Athletic Training

Jadean Pauline Nelson
Will Jacob Steineke

Dr. Daniel Wagner
Professor of Athletic Training

Master of Business Administration

Dominick Raymond Warmbein

Mr. Ross Cimpl
Head Football Coach

Aaron Eric Ehler
Holly Maureen Lunde
Justyne Leigh Noelle Shoenrock
Leslie Anna Stephens
Trevor Scott John Wilkinson

Dr. Diana Goldammer
Assistant Professor of Management

Ryan Lee Lenger

Ms. Christine Mauszycki
Associate Professor of Accounting

Matilyn Mo Kerr

Ms. Fredel Thomas
Vice President for Admissions and Marketing

Matthew Dane Franks
Lara Yvonne Ziegler

Dr. Alisha Vincent
Associate Provost for New Program Development

ALUMNI WELCOME.....Jory Hansen '07, '09
Director of Development

BENEDICTION*.....The Rev. Eric Van Meter
Campus Pastor

RECESSIONAL*.....Wesleyan Band
"Moving at the Speed of Sound" *Mark Lortz* Dr. Bethany Amundson
Conductor

Following Commencement, faculty and graduates will recess to the Corn Palace Plaza and parking lot (immediately south of the building). Please remain standing until they have fully recessed, and then join us for light refreshments and fellowship.

In the event of inclement weather, faculty and graduates will recess through the lobby.

FACULTY MARSHALS

Dr. Joan Lubben, Professor of Mathematics
Mr. Joel Reinesch, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

Thank you to the women's basketball team for serving as junior marshals and ushers.

The Grad Team is pleased to provide this complimentary photography service for each graduate who crosses the stage during the Commencement ceremony.

** audience please stand if able*

2021-22 DWU Graduates

A complete list of graduates and degrees

Associate of Arts

- Hunter William Planansky Criminal Justice
Ronald Lee Shape Business Administration

Bachelor of Arts

- + Ronaldo Acosta Behavioral Science
- Justena Marie Amiotte Magna Cum Laude Digital Media and Design
- Josephine Czarina Desirae Bardsley Psychology
- Cole Lloyd Barthel Cum Laude Mathematics
- Brennan Parker Bence Theatre
- Zachary Allen Besler Cum Laude Psychology
- Trayven Jacob Boellstorff Communication
- Maren Faith Buffington Digital Media and Design
- Kalub Skyes Carmichael Digital Media and Design
- Trey Thomas DeCroock Biology
- Jett DeMyron Evans Biology
- Devany Anne Farris Sport, Exercise and Wellness
- Sydnee Jennifer Foster Magna Cum Laude Theatre
- Jonathon Glenn Freeman Summa Cum Laude Theatre
- Jordan LuAnn Glanzer Summa Cum Laude Music
- Lia Lehua Guigui Summa Cum Laude Digital Media and Design
- Cole Roland Halouska Cum Laude History
- Kamryn Lynette Harrop Criminal Justice
- + Kelsi Davis Hart Psychology
- Michaela Faythe Herman Summa Cum Laude Digital Media and Design
- Mariah Rose Houtcooper Mathematics Education
- Austin Rae Hughes Magna Cum Laude Psychology
- + Sawyer Joe Charles Hughes Criminal Justice
- Ronae Joyce Klein Magna Cum Laude Psychology
- + Riley John Kurtenbach English Education
- Delanie Nicole Larson Psychology
- Mason Loren Larson Psychology
- + Lily Rose Miner Cum Laude Psychology
- Mary Margaret Niedzwiecki Cum Laude Criminal Justice
- Jacob Morgan Parker History
- Isaias Felix Pio Psychology

* Summer 2021 graduates

+ Fall 2021 graduates

• Summer 2022 graduates

	Aybree Katherine Pitman		Psychology
	Kyllie Alejandra Ramirez		Psychology
+	Donald Jackson Rediger	Cum Laude	Criminal Justice
	Makenna Marie Reich		Religious Studies
	Nathan Robert Rupprecht		Sport, Exercise and Wellness
	Zackary Dee Satterwhite	Magna Cum Laude	History Education
+	Hayden Joseph Schmidt		Digital Media and Design
	Chance William Sorensen		Criminal Justice
+	Jennifer Kay Sweetman		Psychology
•	Patience Lane Teboe		English
	Hannah Jane Traster		Criminal Justice
			Behavioral Science
+	Danita Marie VandenHoek	Cum Laude	Organizational Leadership
+	Hannah Marie Wehlander	Cum Laude	Music Education
	Donald Paul Yackley	Magna Cum Laude	Psychology
	Christopher Joseph Zanotto		Sport, Exercise and Wellness

Bachelor of Science

	Tayven Thomas Aga	Cum Laude	Nursing
	Christian Manuel Alvarez		Business Administration
	Davis Carl Anderson	Summa Cum Laude	Accounting
	Cole Lloyd Barthel	Cum Laude	Accounting
+	Brittany Lee Bauer	Cum Laude	Nursing
+	Brooke Marie Bauer	Cum Laude	Nursing
	Jacob Michael Becker		Sport, Exercise and Wellness
•	Tarek James Benton		Business Administration
+	Nicole Marie Berger	With Distinction	Nursing
	Devin Renae Blindauer		Accounting
+	Jaden Marcus Bloemendaal		Business Administration
+	Ashley Jo Bostic	Magna Cum Laude	Nursing
+	Delilah Elaine Ann Brinker		Accounting
	Vanessa Lynne Burger		Nursing
•	Jada Lee Campbell		Sport, Exercise and Wellness
+	Sally M. Chau	Cum Laude	Nursing
•	Caleb Joseph Crist		Entrepreneurial Leadership
+	Ethan Hunter Scott Davis		Business Administration
	Miles John Davis		Entrepreneurial Leadership
	Jadie Karon DeLange	Magna Cum Laude	Elementary Education
	Skyler Ann Ducheneaux		Nursing
	Trisha Kaye Eason		Nursing
+	Jilian Elizabeth Ebert		Business Administration
+	Marie Margaret Engbrecht		Nursing
+	Emily Christine Erickson		Nursing
+	Kailey Marie Feiner		Biochemistry
	Sydnee Jennifer Foster	Magna Cum Laude	Elementary Education

* Summer 2021 graduates

+ Fall 2021 graduates

• Summer 2022 graduates

	Chandler Cole Fredericksen		Business Administration
+	Jimmie Ray Garewal		Behavioral Science
+	Rebecca Lynn Gonnerman		Nursing
+	Michelle Gonzalez-Peralta		Nursing
+	Jocelyn Marie Goodman	Cum Laude	Nursing
	Cassidy Marie Gosmire	Magna Cum Laude	Nursing
	Kaitlyn Nicole Greenhoff		Nursing
•	Rocky L. Guevara Benitez		Business Administration
•	Carter Thomas Gullickson		Business Administration
	Jacob Gregory Hammons		Sport, Exercise and Wellness
	Preston Murphy Hanson		Entrepreneurial Leadership
	Laura Kay Hare		Nursing
	Kaylee Joan Hart	Magna Cum Laude	Nursing
+	Mikayla Lynn Heirigs		Business Administration
	Jenna Marie Helget	Summa Cum Laude	Elementary Education
	Cole Christopher Hellie	Cum Laude	Business Finance
+	Megan Rae Hinker	Cum Laude	Business Administration
+	Jess Renae Huber	Summa Cum Laude	Elementary Education
	Jasmine Marie Johnson	Cum Laude	Accounting
+	Jersee Mae Johnson	Magna Cum Laude	Nursing
•	Brendan C. Kamerzell		Wildlife Management
	Heather Laura Kayser	Summa Cum Laude	Elementary Education
+	Lane Mark Kessler		Business Administration
	Kaylee Jae Kirk	Cum Laude	Nursing
	Lanna Jean Lane		Business Administration
	Brendan Michael Langbehn	Cum Laude	Nursing
+	Darla Joy Langenhorst	Magna Cum Laude	Nursing
	Tate Matthew Larson		Entrepreneurial Leadership
	Luke Joseph LeMay		Business Administration
+	Luis Andres Lescure		Business Administration
+	Daniel Lloyd Libolt		Business Administration
+	Haley Marie Lippert	Summa Cum Laude	Nursing
	Emily Jo Lord		Nursing
	Bennett Sebelius Lundy		Entrepreneurial Leadership
+	Emily Lynn McDonald	Summa Cum Laude	Biochemistry
	Allison Rae McElveny	Cum Laude	Nursing
	Haylee Rae Mork	Magna Cum Laude	Elementary Education
	Koln Allen Oppold	Summa Cum Laude	Biology
	Morgan Mae Osthus	Summa Cum Laude	Elementary Education
	Emma Mae Paul	Summa Cum Laude	Special Education
•	Jack Walter Peurrung		Business Administration
	Kayla Rae Picht		Nursing
•	Hijke Pretorius		Wildlife Management
	Sage Katherine Pulse	Cum Laude	Nursing
+	Makenzie Lynn Revell		Nursing
+	Hong Goo Riu		Entrepreneurial Leadership

* Summer 2021 graduates

+ Fall 2021 graduates

• Summer 2022 graduates

+ Courtney Marie Roth	Magna Cum Laude	Elementary Education Special Education
• Joel Isay Sanchez		Entrepreneurial Leadership
+ Chelsea Anne Schmoll	Cum Laude	Nursing
+ Jeffrey Thomas Schuch	Summa Cum Laude	Biochemistry
• Garrett Thomas Shanley		Business Administration
+ Sarah Marjeanne Sieg	With Distinction	Nursing
+ Phyllis Mariah Siemonsma	Magna Cum Laude	Nursing
+ Maddison Jasper Sparks	Summa Cum Laude	Elementary Education
+ Taylor Yvonne Sprecher		Business Administration
+ Trevor Allen Sprik	Cum Laude	Biology
+ Vanessa Kay Stevens	Magna Cum Laude	Elementary Education
+ Jessica Anne Storevik	Magna Cum Laude	Nursing
+ Morgan Renae Taft	Cum Laude	English Education
+ Adriana Elizabeth Thomason	Cum Laude	Entrepreneurial Leadership
+ Sara Nicole Marian Tillma	Summa Cum Laude	Nursing
+ Holly Jo Van Wyk		Nursing
+ Miranda Kay Voelker		Nursing
+ Miranda Ann Vore		Nursing
+ Dylan Patrick Vosberg		Accounting
+ Jessica Joy Voss		Nursing
+ Amanda Brooke Waite		Nursing
+ Caleb Lorenz Waldner		Business Administration
+ Andrew John Weber	Cum Laude	Business Administration
• Devan Shaine Weelborg	Summa Cum Laude	Business Administration
+ Caitlyn Sue Weins	Cum Laude	Elementary Education
+ Gary Dale White	Cum Laude	Business Administration
+ Daulton Joseph Wilcoxon		Entrepreneurial Leadership
+ Kaylie Marie Zens	Magna Cum Laude	Nursing
+ Gavin James Zomer		Business Administration
+ Ace Albert Zorr	Cum Laude	Wildlife Management

* Summer 2021 graduates

+ Fall 2021 graduates

• Summer 2022 graduates

Master of Arts in Education

- Jodi Lynn Abshire Educational Policy and Administration
- Brandon Blide K-12 Principal
- Sarah Elena Brandt English as a New Language
- + Emily Rose Brunsing English as a New Language
- Jason James Cerny K-12 Principal
- Joseph Michael Dinan Educational Policy and Administration
- Michael Eric Eisenbarth Athletic and Activities Administration
- Caitlyn Kay Graf English as a New Language
- * Charles Arthur Hart V Educational Policy and Administration
- Cole Joseph Knippling K-12 Principal
- + Ana Victoria Kolbach Educational Policy and Administration
- + Melissa Anne Moynahan Educational Policy and Administration
- + Kyah Renee Nettum K-12 Principal
- + Terrell Emanuel Newton Educational Policy and Administration
- + Nicholas C. Olson K-12 Principal
- Renae Alane O'Meara English as a New Language
- Matthew Ryan Paez Educational Policy and Administration
- Leah Marie Rempp English as a New Language
- Christine Dawn Townsend English as a New Language
- + Tristen Marie Turnis English as a New Language
- Trisha Nichole Zyrowski Educational Policy and Administration

Master of Athletic Training

Jayden Renee Bormann	Athletic Training
Elisebeth Marie Dickson	Athletic Training
Jadean Pauline Nelson	Athletic Training
Cameron Rick Quigley	Athletic Training
Teah Lavon Serr	Athletic Training
Patrick Joseph Starr II	Athletic Training
Will Jacob Steineke	Athletic Training

* Summer 2021 graduates

+ Fall 2021 graduates

• Summer 2022 graduates

Master of Business Administration

•	Andrew John Bartel	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Desiree Lynn Sharp Brumit	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Cade Phillip Carpenter	Strategic Leadership
•	Bradley Scott Dean	Strategic Leadership
•	Temple Charlene Diehl	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Aaron Eric Ehler	Strategic Leadership
+	Kellen Anthony Erpenbach	Strategic Leadership
	Jennifer Lynn Essary	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
	Matthew Dane Franks	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Shawn Christopher Franssens	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Alyssa Nicole Garcia	Strategic Leadership
•	Joshua James Garry	Strategic Leadership
•	Jami Lyn Gates	Strategic Leadership
+	Matilyn Mo Kerr	Strategic Leadership
•	Kyle Winfield Kiner	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
	Ryan Lee Lenger	Strategic Leadership
•	Holly Maureen Lunde	Strategic Leadership
•	Caden Jack Milmine	Strategic Leadership
•	Shyloe Hailey O'Neal	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Jeffrey Michael Otterman	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Elsie Lisbeth Quintanilla Perez	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Nicholas Francis Salentine	Strategic Leadership
•	Jacob Dean Schafer	Strategic Leadership
•	Justyne Leigh Noelle Shoenrock	Strategic Leadership
+	Scott Lee Sitts	Strategic Leadership
•	Leslie Anna Stephens	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Sarah Jane Mitchell Thornhill	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Jonathan Lee Vehar	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
•	Dominick Raymond Warmbein	Strategic Leadership
•	Reece Allen Weber	Strategic Leadership
•	Trevor Scott John Wilkinson	Strategic Leadership
•	Lane Cotton Winn	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders
	Lara Yvonne Ziegler	Nonprofit Administration for Ministry Leaders

* Summer 2021 graduates

+ Fall 2021 graduates

• Summer 2022 graduates

Dr. Carol Nogle Lucas

Honorary Doctor of Science

DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

May 8, 2022

From the time of her birth in Aberdeen, S.D., through a career filled with scientific exploration, teaching and publishing, to a notable position as a professor emeritus at one of the nation's most prestigious public universities, Dr. Carol Nogle Lucas has pursued discovery through education and research in a career that has spanned more than six decades.

Dr. Lucas graduated from Dakota Wesleyan University in 1961 with a major in mathematics and minors in chemistry, Spanish and education. After two years of teaching high school for both Mitchell High School and the U.S. Army Education Center in Furth, Germany, Dr. Lucas earned a master's degree in math at the University of Arizona, and a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering and mathematics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. An important turning point in her career was the time she spent at Cargill Inc. This was her first introduction to computers when the industry was transitioning from vacuum tubes to transistors, her main area of research and teaching. Dr. Lucas was Cargill's first female hired as a systems analyst, joining a team of 11 men.

After several fellowships and experiences across an array of disciplines, she joined the faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she eventually ascended to the rank of full professor and served as one of the first female department chairs of a biomedical engineering program in the nation.

Dr. Lucas enriched her career with memberships in professional societies; countless committees at the university, state, national and international level; and several community organizations. Those community organizations include Amity United Methodist Church and the Charles House Association, both in Chapel Hill, where she currently serves as a community advisory council member for the agency which provides residential housing and adult care.

Dr. Lucas' lengthy and impressive curriculum vitae outlines her roles as a reviewer, an accomplished academic administrator, a classroom teacher and the recipient of many honors and awards, including DWU's Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Healthcare, Fitness and Sciences in 2010.

She has served as a presenter and panelist at the National Science Foundation where she currently holds an EXPERT appointment in the Engineering Biology and Health Cluster; the Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental and Transport Systems; and the Directorate for Engineering. Her list of publications, articles, short papers and abstracts spans more than 25 pages. She also worked to secure more than two dozen grants totaling millions of dollars in research funding.

As "Carol," she is a mother to Sean and Wendy; a sister to Marlene Nogle, also a DWU graduate and supporter; and a friend to many, including a longtime friendship with her first DWU roommate, Jeanine Bleeker, of Mitchell. Today, she says she has the best job ever as grandmother to Laura, Ellie, Lucas, Evie and Brooks.

With her dedicated commitment to academic excellence, unparalleled research skills and breadth of publications that will be referenced for generations, Dr. Carol Nogle Lucas is a much-admired alumna of Dakota Wesleyan and a significant contributor to the body of knowledge in the field of biomedical engineering.

In recognition of your contributions to science and groundbreaking work as a trailblazer for women, it is our great privilege to present you with an Honorary Doctor of Science.



Daniel R. Kittle

Daniel R. Kittle, Ph.D.
President

Wayne and Mary Puetz

Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters
DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

May 8, 2022

In 1969, Wayne Puetz, born in Whittier, Calif., and Mary Andert, born in Currie, Minn., not only made a commitment to serve one another as part of their marriage ceremony, but also promised to serve others for the remainder of their lives. The examples of generosity and service set by their parents and many others influenced and formed their decision to work together as a couple into their future.

Three weeks before their wedding, Wayne lost his sight due to multiple sclerosis. Through trust, a strong faith in God and recommendations to seek natural alternative treatments, Wayne regained his sight. His healing and recovery led the couple to open the Wayne and Mary Health Food Store, selling wholesome and organic foods, vitamins, supplements and natural remedies in 1970 at the young ages of 22 and 23. Today, we know this business as WM Nutrition, which is currently directed and managed by their children in Mitchell.

Wayne and Mary eventually sold the health food stores to Wayne's cousin, Randy Reinartz, in 1977. And at that point, Wayne joined his parents, Clarence and Josephine, in the family's construction business. By the mid-1980s, Wayne had become president of the company, and Mary began her career as an interior designer. The couple succeeded in securing many opportunities to design and construct high-quality, affordable facilities to meet the needs of their clients. The long list of facilities Puetz Design + Build have constructed includes commercial offices, churches, schools, hospitals, banks and more in Mitchell and across the state and beyond.

Throughout their many years working together, Wayne and Mary have been strong supporters and advocates for many community organizations, serving on boards and sharing their time and resources. Many local organizations have benefited, including Holy Family and Holy Spirit parishes, the Catholic Community Foundation of Eastern South Dakota, Mitchell Area Safe Place, Mitchell Area United Way, the City of Mitchell Bike Trail Advisory Board, the Mitchell Tennis Association, the Mitchell Area Development Corporation, Focus 2020, Associated General Contractors of South Dakota and many others. They have also assisted with many extracurricular activities and sports when their children and grandchildren were actively involved. Wayne served as a longtime board member for Dakota Wesleyan University, and both Wayne and Mary are enthusiastic fans of all things "Tigers" – academics, athletics, music and theatre.

In December 2021, Wayne and Mary celebrated 52 loving years of marriage. They have experienced the tremendous joy of having raised four children who brought incredible spouses into the family and added 15 exceptional grandchildren. Daughter Amy and her husband, Ken, have eight children. Daughter Emily and her husband, Sam, have two daughters. Daughter Melanie along with her husband, Scott, have a daughter and two sons. Son Mark and his wife, Katie, have two children.

Wayne and Mary are grateful to all who have enhanced their businesses with a multitude of opportunities to serve. They offer their own humble gratitude to Dakota Wesleyan University for allowing them to transform the landscape of the campus with many of the new spaces, including the DWU/Avera Sports and Wellness Complex, the George and Eleanor McGovern Library, the Glenda K. Corrigan Health Sciences Center, the DWU Theatre, the Alumni Welcome Center, Dakota Hall and the new School of Business, Innovation and Leadership.

In recognition of your many years of faithful service to your church and community, the legacy of building and growth you have established on the Dakota Wesleyan campus, and the support and devotion you have shown to your family and many friends, it is our great privilege to present you each with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.



Daniel R. Kittle

Daniel R. Kittle, Ph.D.
President

About the Speaker

Valerie Fosness Melmer

Valerie Fosness Melmer, a 1983 graduate of Dakota Wesleyan University, was born and raised in Mitchell, S.D. Her roots are deeply intertwined with Dakota Wesleyan's history. Her grandparents, parents and siblings are all products of Wesleyan. In her family, there are a total of 150 years of marriages that began at DWU.

Valerie is married to Rick, a Dakota Wesleyan 1979 graduate; and is also a mom to her children, Tara, Megan and Sean; a "mother-in-love" to Ross, Jerry and Kristi; and a grandmother to eight darling grandchildren.

During the time that Rick's career in K-12 and higher education was blooming and growing, the Melmer family moved six times. Valerie served as a substitute teacher in many of those communities. She was fortunate to serve as the South Dakota Legislative Page Program adviser during their years in Pierre, S.D.

Rick and Valerie are co-founders and operators of Leadership South Dakota. The program accepts 40 leaders annually from across South Dakota, preparing them for leadership roles at the community and state levels. They have found joy in doing this last season of meaningful work together.

In their free time, you will find Valerie and Rick taking long walks and long rides on bike trails in Sioux Falls, S.D.



Mission Statement

As an inclusive educational community, Dakota Wesleyan University provides a transformative learning experience that cultivates enduring intellectual growth, ethically grounded leadership, intentional faith exploration, and meaningful service.

Our Mission is informed by our four values of learning, leadership, faith, and service. We implement our values as follows:

LEARNING: We prepare students for meaningful careers in the context of a liberal arts education, which fosters adaptability, creative and critical thinking, artistic expression, experiential learning, innovation, collaboration, and a deeper understanding of our global community.

LEADERSHIP: We challenge all members of our university community to be leaders of character who maximize their strengths in their personal and professional lives. We recognize that students can develop and display leadership skills throughout the entirety of their collegiate experiences.

FAITH: As an engaged, faith-affirming community, we embrace John Wesley's Christ-centered model of uniting knowledge, reason, and vital faith in curricular and cocurricular activities. We challenge students to examine their own values, while respecting the diversity on campus and throughout the world.

SERVICE: We inspire and empower our students, faculty, and staff to make a difference through creative, genuine service. Rooted in our Methodist heritage, service is a natural extension of our nurturing community.

Distinguished Scholars

The Distinguished Scholar pins are presented to outstanding students in the various departments at Dakota Wesleyan University. Selections are made by the departments and are based on academic performance and achievement.

Davis Anderson	Harmon W. Brown Scholar (Accounting)
Cole Barthel	Levi Asa Stout Teaching Scholar (Mathematics)
Sydney Foster	Mary Wing Scholar (Dramatics)
Jonathon Freeman	Mina Hager Scholar (Music)
Cassidy Gosmire	Nursing Alumni Scholar (Mitchell Campus)
Lia Guigui	J. Leonard Jennewein Scholar (History)
Kamryn Harrop	Oscar Howe Scholar (Digital Media and Design)
Michaela Herman	Levi Asa Stout Teaching Scholar (Mathematics Education)
Austin Hughes	Bishop Thomas Nicholson Scholar (Criminal Justice)
Ronae Klein	Badger Clark Scholar (Literature)
Riley Kurtenbach	Betty Oldenkamp Scholar (Nonprofit Administration)
Mary Niedzwiecki	Arthur Lloyd Freeloze Scholar (Speech)
Koln Oppold	Bishop Everett Palmer Scholar (Biology)
Emma Paul	Matthew D. Smith Scholar (Elementary Education)
Zackary Satterwhite	James A. VanKirk Scholar (Friends of the Middle Border)
Zackary Satterwhite	Matthew D. Smith Scholar (Secondary Education)
Chelsea Schmoll	Nursing Alumni Scholar (Sioux Falls Campus)
Jeffrey Schuch	Hilton Ira Jones Scholar (Chemistry)
Adriana Thomason	Entrepreneurial Leadership Scholar
Devan Weelborg	L.G. Druschel Scholar (Business Administration)
Donald Yackley	Bonnie J. Messer Scholar (Psychology)
Christopher Zanotto	Gordon Fosness Scholar (Sport, Exercise and Wellness)
Ace Zorr	Wildlife Management Scholar

Academic Degrees

Bachelor degree candidates graduating with honors are classified as **summa cum laude** (3.85 GPA), **magna cum laude** (3.70 GPA) or **cum laude** (3.50 GPA) based on cumulative grade point averages at the conclusion of the fall semester. Honors are signified with gold honor cords. Bachelor degree candidates who have completed only 39 to 59 credit hours of graded coursework at DWU with an institutional cumulative GPA of 3.8 or higher graduate **with distinction** in their given field. Associate degree candidates who have earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50 earn the distinction **with honors**.

Significance of Academic Hoods

The academic hood, worn around the graduate's neck, identifies the degree earned as well as the college or university awarding the degree. The size and shape of the hood signify the degree earned (i.e. bachelor's or master's). The satin field and chevron (i.e. the colors of the hood's lining) represent the university's or college's colors. The velvet edge indicates the discipline in which the student has earned his or her degree.

- Bachelor of Arts – White
- Bachelor of Science – Gold
- Master of Arts in Education – Light Blue
- Master of Business Administration – Drab
- Master of Athletic Training – Sage

2021-22 Marching Order by College

Faculty Marshals: Dr. Joan Lubben and Mr. Joel Reinesch

Chief Administrators

Daniel Kittle, Ph.D.
Theresa Kriese, MBA
Joseph Roidt, Ph.D.
Kitty Allen, M.S.A.
Fredel Thomas, MBA

Other Administrators

Derek Driedger, Ph.D.
Alisha Vincent, Ed.D.

Campus Pastor

Eric Van Meter, M.Div.

Professors Emeriti

Zelma Buchholz, M.Ed.
Joseph Ditta, Ph.D.
Michael Farney, Ph.D.
Michael McGreevy, Ph.D.
David Mitchell, Ph.D.
Robert Tatina, Ph.D.
Rochelle Von Eye, Ed.D.

Donna Starr Christen College of Healthcare, Fitness and Sciences

DEAN

Bethany Melroe Lehrman, Ph.D.

PROFESSORS

Tim Mullican, D.A.
Michael Catalano, Ph.D.
Daniel Wagner, Ed.D.
Lana Loken, Ed.D.
Joan Lubben, Ph.D.
L. Brian Patrick, Ph.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Paula Mazzer, Ph.D.
Jessica Jarding, M.S.N.
Tracy Hadler, DHPE
Alexis Becker, M.L.S.
Randi Christensen, M.A.
Megan Hullinger, M.S.N.
Stacey Patzlaff, M.S.N.
Matthew Zens, D.P.T.

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

Penny Tilton, DNP
Renée Schroeder, M.S.N.
Kayla Miller, Ph.D.
Paige Gau, M.S.N.

INSTRUCTORS

Travis Olsen, M.A.
Matt McManus, M.A.

College of Arts and Humanities

DEAN

Vincent Redder, Ph.D.

PROFESSORS

Sean Flynn, Ph.D.
Daniel Miller, M.F.A.
Clinton Desmond, D.M.A.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Joel Allen, Ph.D.
Kyle Herges, M.F.A.
Barbara Duffey, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

Krista Belanger, Ph.D.
Erin Desmond, M.M.
Derric Ludens, M.A.
Bethany Amundson, D.M.A.
Samantha Dunn, Ed.D.

Ron and Sheilah Gates College of Business, Education and Social Science

DEAN

Anne Wessels Kelly, Ph.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Randall Sprung, M.S.W.
Laurie Langland, J.D.
Donna Johnson, Ed.D.
Todd Muehler, J.D.
Christine Mauszycki, M.P.A.

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

Ashley Digmann, Ed.D.
Tracy Dice, M.S.
Joel Reinesch, M.A.
Melissa Weber, Ed.S.
Diana Goldammer, Ed.D.
Rhonda Pole, M.A.
Scott Schmidt, M.A.
Tressa Wede, M.A.
Jessica Carr, M.A.
Clifford Chamberlain, MBA

INSTRUCTOR

Stephanie Gelderman, M.S.



Learning, leadership, faith and service

DWU is an equal opportunity employer and provider.