

Commencement

SUMMER / FALL SEMESTER 2024



PENN STATE ABINGTON

December 20, 2024



PennState



National Anthem

by Francis Scott Key

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming;
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Alma Mater

by Fred Lewis Pattee

For the glory of old State,
For her founders, strong and great,
For the future that we wait,
Raise the song, raise the song,

Sing our love and loyalty,
Sing our hopes that, bright and free,
Rest, O Mother dear, with thee.
All with thee, all with thee.

When we stood at childhood's gate,
Shapeless in the hands of fate,
Thou didst mold us, dear old State,
Dear old State, dear old State.

May no act of ours bring shame
To one heart that loves thy name,
May our lives but swell thy fame,
Dear old State, dear old State!

To Our Graduates and Guests

Ceremony Notes

We welcome you to the summer/fall 2024 commencement exercises for the Abington College of The Pennsylvania State University, instituted July 1, 1997. Because of this distinction, the Abington College is permitted to award its own degrees as reflected in this program. Students from other colleges within Penn State may have elected to process at Abington College's commencement, but their diplomas reflect their colleges at University Park or other locations.

Commencement exercises at the various locations of the University were instituted in 1971 for candidates for the associate degree. Candidates for the baccalaureate degree have been able to receive their diplomas at commencement exercises at a location other than University Park since 1976.

As commencement is the solemn but joyful climax of the graduates' years of study, it is an important and meaningful occasion to the University, its students, faculty, and staff. In keeping with this feeling, guests and participants are requested to avoid unnecessary conversation or moving about during the exercises. Only authorized press and University photographers are permitted in the aisles to take pictures while the exercises are in progress. Family and friends of the graduates may take photos during the ceremony but are asked to do so from their seats.

This program is correct as of the December 11, 2024, publication date. If you have a question about a name, degree, or distinction listed, please contact the Office of Strategic Communications and Community Engagement at pfd101@psu.edu.

About Penn State Abington

The Abington College of the Pennsylvania State University was formerly the site of The Ogontz School and Junior College. In 1950, when the historic girls' school had concluded its 100th academic year, the grounds, original buildings, and library were given to The Pennsylvania State University by the late Abby A. Sutherland, owner and principal.

The new Ogontz Center of Penn State opened in September 1950 with 225 students. An equal number of students continued at the previously established Swarthmore Center, which was discontinued in 1951. In order to better reflect its position in the community, Penn State Ogontz was renamed Penn State Abington-Ogontz in 1995.

Beginning July 1, 1997, upon completion of its forty-sixth academic year, the Abington-Ogontz campus became Penn State Abington College. As a degree-granting college, it continues its commitment to the land-grant concept of providing practical and liberal education in response to the needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Penn State Abington currently enrolls 2,899 students in credit courses, principally from Philadelphia, Montgomery, and Bucks counties, who are served by 157 full-time and 131 part-time faculty members. Both baccalaureate and associate degree programs can be completed through the Abington College.

About Penn State University

Chartered in 1855 as the Farmers' High School, Penn State opened in 1859 with a faculty of four teaching sixty-nine students, eleven of whom graduated in 1861. In 1862, Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Land-Grant Act, offering each state free public land for a college where "the leading objectives shall be to teach... agriculture and the mechanic arts in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes..." Renamed the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania, in 1863 Penn State was designated Pennsylvania's land-grant institution by the Legislature of the Commonwealth. From that beginning, Penn State has grown to be a distinguished university of 87,995 students with a full-time faculty of 6,354 at twenty-four locations and online.

Growth was rapid after the Civil War. In 1871, the first women were admitted. In 1874, the name was changed to the Pennsylvania State College. Curricula were added, the college was reorganized into schools, and new buildings were erected. In 1953, Penn State's name was changed to The Pennsylvania State University in formal recognition of what it long since had become – one of the leading universities of the nation.

As the land-grant institution of Pennsylvania, Penn State has developed a complex of statewide facilities and services to fulfill its mandate to provide education for the citizens of the Commonwealth "at times and places convenient to them." The extensive development of the statewide system of Penn State locations has enabled the University to offer a wide range of needed services – not only to the young, but also to a growing number of adults seeking continuing education.

Major research projects are conducted in each of the academic colleges of the University and its intercollege research institutes, centers, and laboratories. Research and development expenditures totaled \$1.337 billion in 2023-2024.

The University has conferred more than 950,000 degrees since its founding. Of the living alumni, 402,876 live and work in Pennsylvania. The Penn State Alumni Association – a powerful network of 173,027 members – is the largest dues-paying alumni association in the world.

Program

Academic Processional

Please rise, if you are able

Pomp and Circumstance, Sir Edward Elgar

National Anthem

Please remain standing,
if you are able

Members of the Penn State Abington Choir
The Star Spangled Banner, Francis Scott Key

Welcome

Alexa Morley
Student Marshal

Opening Remarks

Gary Liguori, Ph.D.
Chancellor

Commencement Address

Marvin H. Johnson Jr., B.S. ('84 Marketing)
Penn State Abington Advisory Board
Chief Learning Officer, Merck (Retired)

Presentation of Pennsylvania Legislative Citation

The Honorable Benjamin V. Sanchez
State Representative, 153rd Legislative District

Welcome to the Penn State Alumni Association

Leilani Fox, B.A. ('04 Corporate Communication)
President, Penn State Abington Alumni Society Board

Special Recognition

Schreyer Scholars
Matthew A. Fury, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.
Interim Vice Chancellor

Conferring of Degrees

Dr. Liguori
Associate, Baccalaureate, and Master's Degrees
Dr. Fury

Closing Remarks

Saranya Ananth
Student Marshal

Dr. Liguori

Alma Mater

Please rise, if you are able

Members of the Penn State Abington Choir

Recessional

Please rise and remain standing,
if you are able

Trumpet Voluntary, Henry Purcell

Academic Processional

Abington College Marshal

Glenn Sterner, B.S., M.A., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Criminal Justice
Chair, Abington College Faculty Senate

Student Marshals

Saranya Ananth
Alexa Morley

Faculty Marshals

Friederike Baer, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.
Professor of History
Division Head for Arts and Humanities

Judith Ozment, B.S., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Interim Division Head for Science and Engineering

Candidates for Associate Degrees

Associate in Arts

ABINGTON COLLEGE

Andy Lee

Associate in Science

ALTOONA COLLEGE

Daniel Lim

Candidates for Baccalaureate Degrees

Bachelor of Arts

ABINGTON COLLEGE

Dara Alston	Rokiatou Diall	Nicholas Jaryi	Phoebe Mattia
Brett Bittner	Nalani Diaz	Matthew Jordan	Darius May
Aidan Blanchfield	Phillip Diouf	Jamina Kapel	Isabella McMahon
Safisah Brown	Alexander Donado	Evan Keebler	Deborah Michel
Grace Burns	Camille Fleming	Michael Keith	Jorssy Perez Garcia
Ryan Callaghan	Nicole Gablein	Liam Kelleher	Mildred Petit-Frere
Maddison Campbell	Kathryn Gaughens	John Kemble IV	Robert Ra
Tatiana Campos-Teixeira	Kieran Gibbons	David Kenney	Kiara Reynoso
Olivia Condran	Cassidy Hall	Emily Lang	Maria Rodriguez
Kellianne Crawford	Sukainah Hasan	Evan Lechowicz	Selah Rodriguez
Ilyana Dawkins	Casey Houska	Haley Lynch	Yihad Safi
Miriam DiAgostino	Zackary Howard	Sean MacKay	Jake Schalki

Subject to completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

Bachelor of Arts (continued)

ABINGTON COLLEGE (CONTINUED)

Kirsten Seif	Talia Thimodo	Anaiah Todd	Loren Zalzman
Elisa Steinhardt	Taylor Thorpe	Rawan Zalzala	Nicole Zehner

COLLEGE OF THE LIBERAL ARTS

Dianne Padilla Rodriguez	Karley Souza
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Bachelor of Science

ABINGTON COLLEGE

Alina Adany	Karen Daly	Paul Jensen	Khoa Nguyen
Sedra Adel	Treasure Davis	Angela Jobi	Love Divine Onwulata
Fathi Ahmed	Joshua Delva	Ashley John	Grant Palmieri
Mansib Ahmed	Daniel DiCredico	Harkaran Kaur	Aishwarya Panchal
Osama Aljamal	Phillip Diouf	Michael Kret	Dhruvesh Patel
Skyler Ammon	Melanie Dykes	Joshua Kurek	Dhruvi Patel
Saranya Ananth	Dylan Einhorn	Mahir Labib	Dravya Patel
Jocelyn Andino	Zachary Einhorn	Fibianca LaSpina	Kishan Patel
Setareh Atighechi	Frederick Emmitt IV	Andre Lawrence	Kunj Patel
Margarita Badalyan	Aaron Feinberg	Jonathan Lee	Nidhi Patel
Zachary Bandurick	Ana Fejzaj	Kevin Lee	Parth Patel
Katherine Banis	Brandon Feldman	Tyisha Lester	Sanchit Patel
Alexander Beltz	Victor Fiori II	Xiang Liu	Sweta Patel
Timothy Bender	Stephen Friel Jr.	Diane Mathew	Elena Piel
Jessie Bezak	Nicholas Gahman	Steve Mathew	Joseph Porrino
Joseph Bianco	Matthew Gardner	Joshua McCollum	Lindsey Purdy
Donovan Biedermann	Kristina Ginaldi	Nathan McGill	Kirsten Quinn
Clay Blockinger	Leonard Gipson	Maria Mignogno	Nora Quriashy
Victor Bulaya	Joshua Gonzales	Robert Miller	Husham Rasheed
Benjamin Caine	Neil Guarino	Kazuyoshi Miyazaki	Keira Rhoads
Fabiana Cajamarca	Samantha Guinter	Marissa Moio	Robert Roccamo
Kenneth Chambers Jr.	Jack Haggard	Anthony Moleski	Dito Sakhokia
Ali Chatha	Blake Hall-Taylor	Cole Moleski	Muhammad Salah
Brandon Chen	Hamza Haroun	Corey Moleski	Fareda Salem
Haiquan Chen	Xavier Harrison	Nuzhat Moniruzzoha	Gregory Salisbury
ZeJun Chen	Ryan Hartigan	Alexa Morley	Makayla Savior
Joseph Chessario	Elton Hasani	Kyle Murphy	Frank Scaltrito
Mohamed Chikani	Emad Hassan	Mohammed Mustafa	Zachary Schrader
Israel Coleman Jr.	Jawad Haydar	Michaela Nahill	Pooja Shah
Laura Contreras	John Heil	Austin Navarro	Matthew Sheridan
Stephen Covone	Mihirkumar Hirpara	Daeja Newman	Samantha Sherman
Renee Crozier	Rose Hounkpatin	Catherine Nguyen	Atik Sheth

Subject to completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

Bachelor of Science (continued)

ABINGTON COLLEGE (CONTINUED)

William Shusterman	Thomas Sullivan	Dinesh Umasankar	Summer Widgins
John Simpson	Shadia Sumi	Kartik Upadhyay	Myles Wiggins
Kevin Skinner	Noor Sweidan	Mark Vernachio Jr.	Destini Wilson
Zakhar Sorkin	Christopher Taylor	Andy Wang	Alexandra Worrall
Daniel Soroka	Christo Thankachan	David Weisman	Charles Wynn
Veronika Spizzirri	Ted Thep	Zachary Whitaker	Dev Zaveri
Christian Steffe	Joshua Trainor	Terron Whitsett Jr.	Ewen Zhuo
Brandon Strong	Khanh Truong	Kira Wible	Brandan Zielinski

BEHREND COLLEGE

Saif Alkaabi

CAPITAL COLLEGE

Katsiaryna Bakun	Matthew Grant	Naria Rey Alvarez	Natasha Rojas
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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE

Mae Dumont

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Kaylee Brady	Chaneiry Cruz Hernandez	Khushi Patel
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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Marc Danese

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Chenhao Li	Tyesha Wilson
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COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Mailisa Williams

COLLEGE OF THE LIBERAL ARTS

April Fleisher	Satwinder Singh
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EBERLY COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Tim Alves-Aivado	Emma Routhier
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INTERCOLLEGE

Michael Melair	Anasazi Vargas-Laborde
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ROSS AND CAROL NESE COLLEGE OF NURSING

Joanne Coakley

Subject to completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

Candidate for Master's Degrees

Master's of Artificial Intelligence

GREAT VALLEY SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Nicholas Gahman

Special Recognition

Honors Group

This group is made up of those students who have completed the required number of credits at the University and who are in the top 12 percent of their graduating class in their college. The 12 percent is divided into 2 percent "summa cum laude," 4 percent "magna cum laude," and 6 percent "cum laude." A student's distinction level is determined on the final cumulative grade point average in the semester in which the degree is conferred. Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of minimum criteria, distinction may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Osama Mustafa Aljamal	Frederick Emmitt IV	Liam John Kelleher	Kirsten Seif
ZeJun Chen	Nicholas Paul Gahman	Alexa Brooke Morley	

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Saranya Ananth	Phillip Diouf	Emily Lang	Kevin Stuart Skinner
Margarita Badalyan	Brandon David Feldman	Kazuyoshi Miyazaki	Dinesh Umasankar

CUM LAUDE

Mansib Syed Ahmed	Kristina Marie Ginaldi	Dhruvesh Ramyavadan Patel	Karley Souza
Setareh Atighechi	Paul William Jensen	Nidhi S. Patel	Rawan Zalzal
Dylan Einhorn	Ashley Elizabeth John	Samantha Sherman	
Zachary Einhorn	Xiang Liu	Atik Sheth	

Schreyer Scholars

Schreyer Scholars are graduates of the Schreyer Honors College, which is widely recognized as one of the foremost undergraduate honors programs in the United States. They must complete a culminating thesis, and those who graduate with this honor receive the Scholars Medal.

Saranya Ananth	"Community Interventions for Cervical Cancer in South Asian Female College Students"
Setareh Atighechi	"Addressing Inequities: The Role of Medical Education on Maternal Mortality"
Margarita Badalyan	"Consumer Knowledge and Perception of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) In Food Products"
Nicholas Gahman	"Hard-Soft Data Fusion for Human Activity Recognition"

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Nicholas J. Rowland

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Kelley M. Lynch

GOVERNOR'S NON-VOTING REPRESENTATIVE

Evan A. Myers

Leadership

Pennsylvania State University

President	Neeli Bendapudi, B.A., M.B.A., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost	Tracy Langkilde, B.S., Ph.D.

Abington College

Chancellor	Gary Liguori, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Academic Affairs	Matthew A. Fury, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. Interim Vice Chancellor
Athletics	Erin Foley, B.S., M.Ed. Director
Commonwealth Campus Relations	Theresa Giardino, B.A. Regional Senior Director
Development and Alumni Relations	Karen Weiss Jones, B.A. Director
Enrollment Management and Retention	Whitney Arjun, B.A., M.S., Ed.D. Director
Finance	Daniel Meuleners, B.S., M.B.A. Financial Officer
Human Resources	Melinda Kennedy, B.A., M.Ed. Regional Strategic Partner
Inclusive Excellence	Boni Wozolek, B.A., M.A.T., Ph.D. Director
Online and Information Technology	Lindsay Wood, B.S., M.S. Director
Strategic Communications and Community Engagement	Patrick Dunne, B.A. Director
Student Affairs	Gina D'Amato-Kaufman, B.A., M.S. Director

You're a Lion for life...



**PennState
Alumni Association**

...and you belong in the Alumni Association.

Congratulations on your graduation!
You've earned your place in the largest
and most powerful alumni network in
the world.

The Penn State Alumni Association
connects you to the global community
of more than 775,000 Penn Staters
and keeps your connection to
Dear Old State strong. It also includes
more than 30 benefits, including exclusive
discounts, access to our local chapters,
and members-only networking and
career services.

Watch the mail for your welcome kit and
make the most of your complimentary
one-year membership.

Benefits of Belonging



**Local
Connections**



**LionPerks
Discounts**



**Career
Resources**



Networking



**Exclusive
Content**



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