



The University of Virginia's College at Wise
COMMENCEMENT

CLASS OF 2020

May 9, 2021 | Carl Smith Stadium | UVA Wise



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COMMENCEMENT

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May 9, 2021

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Dear Graduates,

Congratulations to you, the Class of 2020, for your remarkable achievements.

You have completed the requirements for the baccalaureate degree. This is a formidable task in any year, but especially noteworthy during a pandemic.

You reinvented the college experience during the COVID-19 pandemic, and have moved on to continue your life's journey. I know it has not been easy. Not only have you persevered, you have thrived!

You decided that your undergraduate education is non-negotiable. You remained hopeful and optimistic about your future and the opportunities that lie ahead.

The world has changed in the last year, and your UVA Wise education leaves you better prepared to meet and shape this new world.

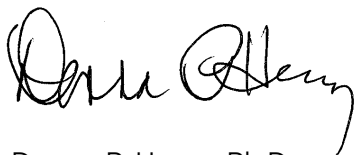
As you embark on your next chapter, be unafraid to express your truest voices and authentic selves; to brave adversity; and to face challenges with both curiosity and grace.

The UVA Wise faculty, staff, boards and your fellow students are honored to have been your dynamic partners on this journey. We look forward to your continued accomplishments and success.

Please stay connected to your friends and mentors through the UVA Wise Alumni Association and continue to play a part in the College and its future.

Again, you have my heartfelt congratulations for fulfilling a long-held goal.

With my very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna P. Henry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "H".

Donna P. Henry, Ph.D.
Chancellor



The Commencement Ceremony

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

“The Star-Spangled Banner”

F. S. Key and J. S. Smith

Hannah W. Ryan — Recorded

THE PROCESSIONAL

Bagpipes — Recorded

Randy D. Stanley ’78

Conner D. Stanley ’16

“Pomp and Circumstance”

Edgar Elgar, arr. by Clare Grundman

The UVA Wise Highland Winds — Recorded

Richard D. Galyean, Director

WELCOME

Donna P. Henry

Chancellor

GREETINGS

M. Elizabeth Magill

Executive Vice President and Provost

University of Virginia

GREETINGS

Lewey K. Lee ’64

Vice Chair, The University of Virginia’s

College at Wise Board

GREETINGS

Anthony Mason Phillips ’21

President, Student Government Association

REFLECTIONS

Telena M. Turner ’20

Honorary Class Speaker

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER

Chancellor Henry

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Brad D. Smith

Executive Chair Board of Directors
Intuit

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Trisha Folds-Bennett

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

AWARDING OF DEGREES

Chancellor Henry

**INDUCTION OF GRADUATES INTO
THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Joseph R. Carico '95

President, Alumni Association

THE ALMA MATER

“Dogwood and Rhododendron”

T. W. Gibson and G. A. Gurney

Hannah W. Ryan, Director

The UVA Wise Concert Choir — Recorded

CLOSING REMARKS

Chancellor Henry

THE RECESSIONAL

“Alleluia” from “Exultate, Jubilate”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, arr. by John Boyd

The UVA Wise Highland Winds — Recorded

Ushers and official Commencement staff are wearing red vests and/or hanging nametags.
Please see an usher if you need assistance.

The Commencement Procession

GRAND MARSHAL

Michael E. O'Donnell

DEPUTY GRAND MARSHAL

Mark W. Clark

POOR FARM SOCIETY MACE

Joshua T. McCray

THE CLASS OF 2020

THE FACULTY

CHANCELLOR'S CABINET

PLATFORM PARTY

FACULTY MARSHALS

John Mark Adrian

Priscilla B. Brame

R. Jeffrey Cantrell '78

Anthony L. Cashio

P. Andrew Cox

Teena M. Fast '90

J. Sanders Huguenin

Benjamin R. Mays '85

Michael R. McNulty

Sabrina Qureshi

Steven Michael Shell '01

Walter H. Smith

Jacob P. Somervell '99

Margie A. Tucker

Commencement Speaker

Brad D. Smith

Smith, executive chairman of Intuit's board of directors, will deliver the virtual keynote address for The University of Virginia's College at Wise 2020 Commencement exercises.

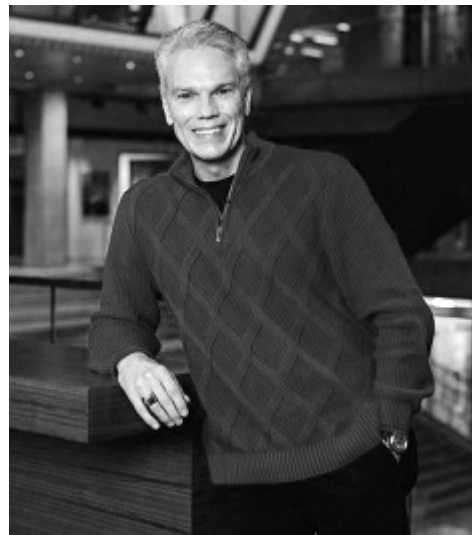
Smith has visited campus as the College worked with Sykes Intuit when the company began operations in Wise County a few years ago.

"Brad has rural West Virginia roots and brings a forward looking perspective that will be inspirational for our graduates," Chancellor Donna Henry said.

Smith served as Intuit's president and chief executive officer from 2008 to 2019, where he successfully led the company's transformation from a desktop software company to a global, cloud-based product and platform company. He has been a board member since January 2008 and became chairman of the board of directors in January 2016.

Before being named CEO, Smith was senior vice president and general manager of Intuit's Small Business Division, which included the portfolio of QuickBooks, Quicken and Payroll products. Previously he led the company's Consumer Tax Group, which produces TurboTax, the nation's leading consumer tax preparation software. He began his Intuit career leading the Accountant Central community, cultivating relationships and delivering services for accounting professionals.

Smith earned his master's degree in management from Aquinas College in Michigan and a bachelor's degree in business administration from Marshall University in West Virginia. Smith is on the board of directors at SurveyMonkey and serves as chairman of the Nordstrom board of directors.



Honorary Class Speaker

Telena M. Turner

Telena Turner is the honorary student speaker for the Class of 2020. Although the pandemic delayed the in-person commencement, Turner, a native of Haysi, Virginia, is eager to walk across the stage.

Turner received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies and has a minor in English Literature. The first-generation college student was summa cum laude.

While at UVA Wise, Turner was an undergraduate teaching assistant in rhetorical criticism and a Peake Honors Freshman Mentor. She also served as a resident advisor in the Office of Housing and Residence Life.



Turner participated in undergraduate research at UVA Wise. She presented research at the National Communication Association titled *You're Funny, I like You: Clapback Marketing and Consumer Perceptions of Brand Credibility and Authenticity*. She presented at the National Council on Undergraduate Research in Georgia on the topic of *Deconstructing Binaries: Analyzing a Message from The Foundation for a Better Life*. She also presented at national conference in Edmond, Oklahoma.

A student member of the UVA Wise Board, Turner was a chapter president in the National Society of Leadership and Success, a Student Ambassador, editor of the *Jimson Weed*, and was a member of the Darden Society.

Turner is now at James Madison University working toward a master of arts in communication and advocacy with a strategic communication concentration.

She is also working as a marketing intern with the Adult Learning Program of Wise County Public Schools since February 2020.

Candidates for Degrees

James Winston Adams III

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Norton, Virginia

Michael Lee Adams

Bachelor of Arts
English Literature
Boykins, Virginia

Nathaniel Kyle Aguirre

Bachelor of Science
Software Engineering
Wise, Virginia

Mary Ibukunola Akinosi

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Fairfax, Virginia

Ronald Allen

Bachelor of Science
Environmental Science
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Jessica Dawn Apgar

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Elliston, Virginia

Audrey Kaylen Armstrong

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Prince George, Virginia

Kaylee Rhea Austin

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Appalachia, Virginia

Cole Andrew Bailey

Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Suffolk, Virginia

Jonathan Calvin Bailey

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Suffolk, Virginia

Logan Stuart Baker

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Biochemistry
Clintwood, Virginia

Olivia Brooke Baker

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Gate City, Virginia

Carrie LeAnne Barnett

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Pound, Virginia

Jacop Barnett

Bachelor of Science
Management Information Systems
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Abigail Barry

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Coeburn, Virginia

Aron Bartley

Bachelor of Science
Software Engineering
Jenkins, Kentucky

Melissa Dawn Bartley

Bachelor of Science
Biology
Jenkins, Kentucky

Rashelle Paige Barton

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Clintwood, Virginia

Daryian James Basco

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Suwanee, Georgia

Haley Elizabeth Belcher

Bachelor of Science
Accounting / Business Administration
Big Rock, Virginia

McKayla Rae Benson

Bachelor of Arts
Business Administration
Dryden, Virginia

Paige Amanda Blackford

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Purcellville, Virginia

Jonathan Kevin Lawrence Blackwell

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Norton, Virginia

Zane Anthony Blair

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Whitesburg, Kentucky

Nikeshia J. Bolling

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Keokee, Virginia

Matthew Morton Boshears

Bachelor of Science
Computer Science /
Software Engineering
Locust Grove, Virginia

Savanah Brooke Bowen

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Duffield, Virginia

Sarah Grace Boyd

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Vansant, Virginia

William David Boyle

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science /
Software Engineering
Alexandria, Virginia

Marquis Dae'Shawn Braimer

Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Grand Prairie, Texas

Isabella Faith Branham

Bachelor of Arts
Government
Coeburn, Virginia

Matthew Timothy Branham

Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Wise, Virginia

Chase Kelton Brock

Bachelor of Arts
Government
Pound, Virginia

Patrick Andrew Brooks

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Coeburn, Virginia

Carey C. Brown

Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Hurley, Virginia

Schylar Bryant

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Coeburn, Virginia

Rachel Nicole Burchette

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Danville, Virginia

Dawson Clarence Cagle

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Seagrove, North Carolina

Alex Ryan Cantrell

Bachelor of Science
Biochemistry
Wise, Virginia

Lauren Brooke Carico

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Castlewood, Virginia

Carli Cheyenne Cassell

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Duffield, Virginia

Tannor Cates

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Norton, Virginia

Maggie Iris Chafin

Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Honaker, Virginia

Raechel Denise Clark

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

McKenzie Clay

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Mathematics
Coeburn, Virginia

Savannah Cochran

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Jonesville, Virginia

Adriana Faith Coleman

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Sociology
Haysi, Virginia

Maverick Tilden Coleman

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Grundy, Virginia

Hannah Faith Colley

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Wise, Virginia

Troy Anthony Colley

Bachelor of Science
Biochemistry
Vansant, Virginia

Carly Coyle

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Midlothian, Virginia

Charna Nicole Davis

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Jonesville, Virginia

Evan Paxton Davis

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Accounting / Business Administration
Floyd, Virginia

Kaitlynn M. Davis

Bachelor of Arts
Theatre
Colonial Heights, Virginia

Colton Lee Deaderick

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Gate City, Virginia

Patrick Wayne Deel

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Coeburn, Virginia

Cole Dickenson

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Wise, Virginia

Makenzie Katherine Dickenson

Bachelor of Science
Sociology
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Catherine H. Dina

Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Alexandria, Virginia

Amanda Paige Dockery

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Duffield, Virginia

Dylan Blake Dockery

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
COLLEGE HONORS
Bachelor of Science
Mathematics
Norton, Virginia

Katherine Rebekah Dotten

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Wise, Virginia

Gregory James Duncan

Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Centreville, Virginia

Tajh Ny'rec Eason

Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Hampton, Virginia

Valerie Grace Edwards

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
English Literature
Haysi, Virginia

Samuel Mark Eger

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Chemistry / Mathematics
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Vallen Elizabeth Ellis

Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Norton, Virginia

Daniel Bryce England

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Wise, Virginia

John Avery Fansler

Bachelor of Arts
Business Administration
Weber City, Virginia

William Dale Farmer

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Music
Hillsville, Virginia

Olivia Grace Fast

CUM LAUDE
CHANCELLOR'S MEDAL
Bachelor of Science
Biochemistry
Pound, Virginia

Alyssa Janell Ferguson

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
History
Nickelsville, Virginia

Collin Michael Fields

Bachelor of Science
Computer Science /
Software Engineering
Lakeland, Florida

Dustin Allen Miller Fields

Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Wise, Virginia

Nathan Fields

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Norton, Virginia

Christina Marie Fleming

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Wise, Virginia

Scott Timothy Foor

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Psychology / Sociology
Front Royal, Virginia

Jarrold Logan Lee Gardner

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Wise, Virginia

Kendra Shae Gilmore

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Pound, Virginia

Elsa Lina Girardo

Bachelor of Arts
Art
Alexandria, Virginia

David Clayton Goodman

Bachelor of Science
Biology
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Olivia Katherine Green

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Fort Blackmore, Virginia

Michael John Grennell

Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Abingdon, Virginia

Brittany Nichole Hall

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Norton, Virginia

Hurley Alexander Hamm

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Coeburn, Virginia

Bryce Lynn Harty

Bachelor of Science
Software Engineering
Culpeper, Virginia

Chloe Madison Maleah Hayes

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Clintwood, Virginia

Emily Anne Helton

Bachelor of Arts
History
Lebanon, Virginia

Harley Jade Hess

Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Honaker, Virginia

Walter Jacob Hill

Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Clintwood, Virginia

Dezmon Hopkins

Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Manassas, Virginia

Julia Hoy

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Vienna, Virginia

William Trace Hughes

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Grundy, Virginia

Lakota James Dillard Ison-Crisp

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Pound, Virginia

Deanna Lee Jackson

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Marion, Virginia

Faith Jackson

Bachelor of Science
Biology
Coeburn, Virginia

Kyra Cheyene Jessee

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Weber City, Virginia

Austin Blake Johnson

Bachelor of Science
Accounting / Business Administration
Norton, Virginia

Makayela Nichole Johnson

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Lebanon, Virginia

Michael Reed Justice

Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Hurley, Virginia

Ciara Rae Kain

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration /
Management Information Systems
Leesburg, Virginia

Lane Scott Kealey

Bachelor of Science
Software Engineering
Bristol, Virginia

Briana Elizabeth Kerr

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Sociology
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Kristopher Wade Kestner

Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Saltville, Virginia

Melodie Breane Kiser

Bachelor of Science
Mathematics
Castlewood, Virginia

Diana Ofosuah Koduah

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Centreville, Virginia

Skyler Steven Kuehnel

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
History
Newport News, Virginia

Morgan E Lancaster

Bachelor of Arts
Theatre
Windsor, Virginia

Ashton James-Lee Laney

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Wise, Virginia

Daniel Isaac Laughlin

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Bristol, Virginia

Nolan Leonard

Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Abingdon, Virginia

Christopher Nathaniel James Lewis

Bachelor of Science
Software Engineering
Hiltons, Virginia

Victoria M. Lewis

Bachelor of Arts
English Literature
Duffield, Virginia

Emily Joy Livingston

Bachelor of Science
Biology
Wise, Virginia

Kelly Elizabeth Long

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Pennington Gap, Virginia

Justin Matthew Lovell

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Dylan Matthew Luttrell
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Woodford, Virginia

Dylan Thomas Mabe
COLLEGE HONORS
Bachelor of Arts
English Literature / History
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Landon Gregory Mance
CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Richlands, Virginia

Jordan Michelle Matlock
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Nickelsville, Virginia

Hayley Brooke McCarty
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Coeburn, Virginia

Devon Chase McConnell
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Gate City, Virginia

Marshall Seth McGlothlin
CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Rosedale, Virginia

Jonathan Alex McNew
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Duffield, Virginia

Joseph Michael McNulty
MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Music
Cedar Bluff, Virginia

Matthew David Medlin
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Kingsport, Tennessee

Aya Jamil Melhem
CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Rockvale, Tennessee

Dakota Lee Messer
CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Chemistry
Norton, Virginia

Morgan Milligan
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Bridgewater, Virginia

Khrista Mackenzie Moïse
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Grundy, Virginia

Melanie Renea Morris
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Appalachia, Virginia

Kendall Victoria Morse
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Environmental Science
Bumpass, Virginia

Yesid Antonio Mosquera Perea
Bachelor of Science
Economics
Bassett, Virginia

Chandler Blake Mullins
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Clintwood, Virginia

Dalton Scott Mullins
CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Castlewood, Virginia

Daniel Wayne Mullins
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Clintwood, Virginia

Kayla LeeAnn Mullins
Bachelor of Arts
Spanish
Coeburn, Virginia

Kayla McKenzie Mullins
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Clintwood, Virginia

Tre Michael Mullins
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Wise, Virginia

Russell A. Mullins
Bachelor of Arts
Government
Castlewood, Virginia

Breanna Michelle Napier
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Blackwater, Virginia

Thomas Allan Noble
Bachelor of Arts
History
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Christol Estrella Norris
CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Katie Laura Nunley
CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Chemistry
Abingdon, Virginia

Obumneme Eric Okenchi
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Richmond, Virginia

Sadra Marie Owens
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Pound, Virginia

Trevor Austin Owens
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Lebanon, Virginia

Tyler Shane Owens
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Clinchco, Virginia

Emily Palmer
Bachelor of Science
Chemistry
Coeburn, Virginia

Christopher Sean Parks
Bachelor of Science
Management Information Systems
Nickelsville, Virginia

Madeline Emily Alexis Parks
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Honaker, Virginia

Malik Haggai Pearson
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Henrico, Virginia

Tristan C. Peccerelli
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Guatemala

Shauna RaeAnn Peck
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Honaker, Virginia

William Boone Pendergraph
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Alexandria, Virginia

Matthew Luke Presley
MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
North Tazewell, Virginia

Katie Elizabeth Pritchett

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Dry Fork, Virginia

Kalyn Jani Purtee

Bachelor of Science
Accounting / Business Administration
Saint Paul, Virginia

Perenelle Ada Quinn

Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Wise, Virginia

Joshua Richard Rasimowicz

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Mouth of Wilson, Virginia

Luke Alan Rhoton

Bachelor of Science
Biology
Duffield, Virginia

Kasey S. Rife

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Haysi, Virginia

Jonathan Chase Robbins

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Jennifer Ann Roberts

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Duffield, Virginia

Kiana Hope Roman

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Honaker, Virginia

Addison Noelle Rouse

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Rose, Virginia

Allison McKenzie Salyer

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Virgie, Kentucky

Muntsier Adil Sharfi

Bachelor of Science
Management Information Systems
Bristow, Virginia

Alexis Sierra Sheehan

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
King George, Virginia

Alyssa Lauren Shell

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Music
Wise, Virginia

Mallory Paige Shell

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Mathematics
Wise, Virginia

Cody Shepard

Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Pennington Gap, Virginia

Jordan Shepard

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Pennington Gap, Virginia

Bethany Hope Smith

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Pounding Mill, Virginia

Hannah Elizabeth Smith

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Coeburn, Virginia

Maria Nicole Smith

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Chesapeake, Virginia

Kelsey Lynn Snow

Bachelor of Arts
Biology
Unionville, Virginia

Clinton Presley Solomon

Bachelor of Science
Chemistry
Wise, Virginia

Matti-Jo Morgan Spivey

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Weber City, Virginia

John William Stamper

Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Lebanon, Virginia

Amber Danielle Stanley

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Clintwood, Virginia

Kendra Brydie Mae Stanley

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Clintwood, Virginia

Travis Clayton McKaulley Stanley

Bachelor of Arts
Government
Wise, Virginia

Brittany Paige Stapleton

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Coeburn, Virginia

Haley Elizabeth Statzer

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Wise, Virginia

Jeremiah Caleb Statzer

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Castlewood, Virginia

Noah Cade Steele

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
St. Paul, Virginia

Dustin Cain Stiltner

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
History
Maxie, Virginia

Lauren E. Tankersley

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Duffield, Virginia

Alisha Dawn Taylor

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Nickelsville, Virginia

Casey Brent Taylor

Bachelor of Arts
Interdisciplinary Studies
Staunton, Virginia

Tehya Nicole Faith Terrell

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Atkins, Virginia

David Lee Thomas III

Bachelor of Arts
Biology
Goodview, Virginia

Alejandro M. Tremols

Bachelor of Arts
History
Annandale, Virginia

Dennis Jordan Trospen

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Wise, Virginia

Courtney Paige Tucker

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Abingdon, Virginia

Sarah Kaitlyn Tucker

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Abingdon, Virginia

Jordon Matthew Turner

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Berryville, Virginia

Telena Marie Turner

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
COLLEGE HONORS
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Haysi, Virginia

Terrance Sawyer Turner

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Wise, Virginia

Jeremy Lee Vanover

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Wise, Virginia

Matthew Stephen Vaughn

Bachelor of Arts
Biochemistry
Springfield, Virginia

Alyssa Danielle Vipperman

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Norton, Virginia

Jonathon T. Vipperman

Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Norton, Virginia

Joshua William Waller

Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Wytheville, Virginia

Nathan Andrew Ward

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Norton, Virginia

Cynita Michelle Webb

Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Jared Nathaniel Webb

Bachelor of Arts
English Literature
Pennington Gap, Virginia

Courtney Faith Welch

Bachelor of Arts
Art
Saint Paul, Virginia

Anthony Michael Wertz

Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Appalachia, Virginia

Ciaran M. Wheatley

Bachelor of Science
Biochemistry
Glade Spring, Virginia

Drew Elgen Williams

Bachelor of Arts
Environmental Science
Wise, Virginia

Emily Dawn Williams

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Gate City, Virginia

Lauren Sue Williams

Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Richmond, Virginia

Taylor Rose Woodlief

Bachelor of Science
Sociology
Lebanon, Virginia

Hayden Cody Allen Woods

Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Haysi, Virginia

Ashley Mae Woolridge

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Theatre
Marion, Virginia

Jordan Tyler Young

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Courtney MeShea Younger

CUM LAUDE
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Martinsville, Virginia

Graduation with Academic Distinction

Students graduating with honors are distinguished by the wearing of gold tassels with the Honors charm. Grade point averages for honors status include courses completed at The University of Virginia's College at Wise as well as coursework transferred from other institutions. For purposes of this publication only, honors designations are based on all coursework completed.

Summa Cum Laude ("With highest honor")
3.900-4.000 grade point average

Magna Cum Laude ("With high honor")
3.700-3.899 grade point average

Cum Laude ("With honor")
3.500-3.699 grade point average

Chancellor's Medal for Undergraduate Research

The College recognizes and honors students who have attained a high level of scholarship as undergraduates. To that end, the Chancellor's Medal is awarded annually to a student who has demonstrated excellence in the pursuit of knowledge beyond the classroom. To be eligible for the Chancellor's Medal, a student must have been nominated by a faculty mentor in response to an exceptional project, and members of the Undergraduate Research Council must have judged the student's work to be particularly meritorious and deserving of public recognition.

Olivia Fast was awarded a Fellowship in Natural Science in 2018 to evaluate the biological activity of polynuclear ruthenium organometallic compounds in human cells. Ruthenium compounds are seen as an attractive alternative to platinum-based anti-cancer chemotherapeutic drugs. In order to conduct her research, Fast learned how to culture the human cell lines used in her project and developed high-throughput strategies to evaluate bioactivity, including a technique to use immunofluorescence microscopy to rapidly identify damaged DNA in cells. Among the challenges she needed to overcome was the necessity to perform highly repetitive measurements both extremely accurately and precisely without the use of robotic devices. Compounding the experimental difficulty, many of the compounds tested were photosensitive, requiring Fast to work under low-light conditions. She also had to become adept at team management. Fast coordinated research activities with the chemistry students synthesizing the ruthenium compounds, while also training and supervising a pair of Upward Bound students who assisted in collecting the fluorescence microscopy data.

Fast found the ruthenium-based compounds attack DNA in non-cancerous cells; however, they are not significantly cytotoxic. As such, these types of molecules have potential for further investigation as anti-tumor agents, possibly with lower off-target activities. Fast's findings have been published in two manuscripts in peer review scientific journals, including a first-author manuscript published in the journal *Bioscience Reports*. The magnitude of accomplishment for an undergraduate student to publish a peer-reviewed manuscript in the biomedical sciences, a field absolutely dominated by large R1 research universities, cannot be overemphasized. Importantly, these findings add to the critical basic-science knowledgebase that major pharmaceutical companies rely on as they develop pipelines for new drug development.

Fast has disseminated her research through presentations at various events. She was selected for oral presentations at the 2019 National Meeting of the American Chemical Society and 2019 Southeast Regional Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges Research Symposium, and a poster presentation at the Eastman-NETSACS Student Research Symposium. In all cases, Fast has projected a confident and professional presence and has served as an excellent ambassador of the UVA Wise undergraduate research program to the greater world. Additionally, through her scholarly activities, She has become a powerful inspiration and role model for junior scientists in general and female scientists specifically.

Graduation with College Honors

Students graduating with College Honors have successfully completed the Peake Honors Program, maintaining a 3.500 grade point average. In addition to their regular major requirements, the program requires students to take three interdisciplinary honors seminars, attend eight honors cultural events and produce a capstone project with the faculty mentor of their choice.

Dylan Blake Dockery

Dockery's first project, under the guidance of Michael Potter, was a paper that examined European mathematical developments in the 15th and 16th centuries and sought to answer the question: was there a mathematical Renaissance? For his second project, Dockery researched the tableware and diet of medieval peasants under the direction of John Mark Adrian. He then tried his hand at carving traditional wooden vessels (bowl, spoon, trencher) and baking the dark rye bread that peasants typically ate.

Dylan Thomas Mabe

For his first project, Mabe collaborated with other UVA Wise history students to research and document three early 20th Century lynchings in Wise County. The project, under the direction of Tom Costa, resulted in a campus presentation and an online article published through James Madison University. Mabe's second project—the creation of a polished script for a half-hour comic performance—required him to work closely with Michael McNulty on the nuances of comic subject matter, writing, style, and delivery. It will be performed in the fall.

Telena Marie Turner

Along with classmate Montana Hill, Turner worked with Jenn Murray to conduct historical research on World War II era battleships. The students then applied these insights into practice by writing their own murder mystery "script" (plot, characters, rules, etc.) that was enacted by 17 honors students. For her second project, Turner explored Paradise Lost's epic appropriations of the traditional Great Chain of Being under the direction of John Mark Adrian. Her resulting paper argued that Milton significantly modified received notions in order to emphasize Satan's physical and spiritual degeneration.

Academic Regalia

The wearing of academic costumes is a custom that originated in the universities of the Middle Ages when a warm gown and hood were useful for scholars and clerics in unheated buildings. Patterned after monks' robes and made of heavy wool, students and teachers were required to wear the distinctive gowns at all times. Over time, academic robes evolved to signify degree and rank.

Until the Civil War, students at most American universities wore caps and gowns daily. These varied in design until a uniform code for academic regalia was adopted in 1895 that is still followed today.

At that time it was decided that all robes would be black; bachelor's gowns with long sleeves; master's gowns with longer sleeves, closed at the ends with slits through which the arms may be extended; and the doctor's gown faced down the front with black velvet and three bars of velvet across the long full sleeves. In some cases, the color of the gown is that of the university conferring the degree and the velvet may be black or of a color that symbolizes the degree held by the wearer.

The hood is the most distinctive feature of academic attire. Hoods are lined with the official colors of the institution from which the wearer earned the degree and the velvet border indicates the academic field of the degree. The size of the hood also indicates degree. A master's degree hood is 3.5 feet long with a three-inch-wide colored border. The doctor's hood is four feet long with a five-inch-wide colored border.

The head covering most commonly used in the United States is the square "mortarboard." Some universities use berets, while other countries use a variety of styles. Tassels on the caps worn by faculty may be black or of a color indicating the degree. Those who hold a doctorate may wear a soft tam or large beret with a gold tassel. It is traditional for degree candidates to wear their tassels on the right and for those holding degrees to wear them on the left. Graduates transfer their tassels to the left after conferring of the degrees by the Chancellor.

Disciplines and their Colors

ARTS, LETTERS, HUMANITIES

White

ACCOUNTING, BUSINESS, COMMERCE

Drab

COMMUNICATIONS, JOURNALISM

Crimson

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Midnight Blue

ECONOMICS

Copper

EDUCATION

Light Blue

ENGINEERING

Orange

FINE ARTS

Brown

FORESTRY, CONSERVATION

Russet

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION, PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Sage Green

LIBRARY SCIENCE

Lemon Yellow

MATHEMATICS

Science Gold

MUSIC

Pink

NURSING

Apricot

ORATORY, SPEECH

Silver

PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Dark Blue

PSYCHOLOGY

Gold

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNMENT

Peacock Blue

PUBLIC HEALTH

Salmon Pink

SCIENCE

Science Gold

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Citron

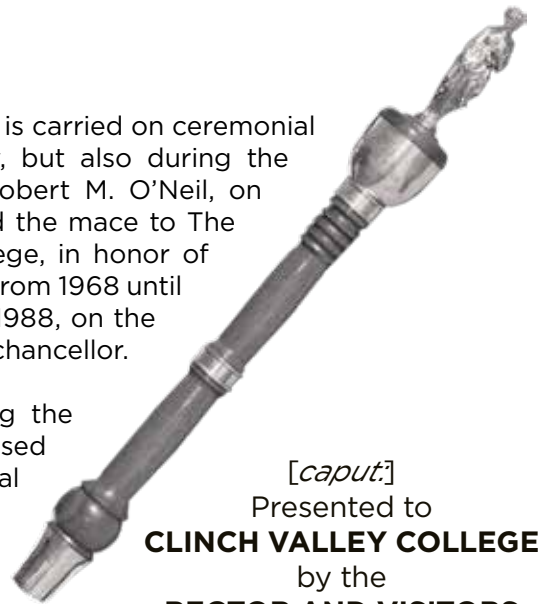
The College Mace

The College Mace is a symbol of the authority of the chancellor. It is carried on ceremonial occasions, most notably during the commencement ceremony, but also during the inauguration of a chancellor. University of Virginia President Robert M. O’Neil, on behalf of the University’s rector and Board of Visitors, presented the mace to The University of Virginia’s College at Wise, then Clinch Valley College, in honor of Chancellor Emeritus Joseph C. Smiddy, who served as chancellor from 1968 until his retirement in 1985. This mace was presented on October 14, 1988, on the occasion of the inauguration of Jim A. Knight as the College’s third chancellor.

The College Mace is of the short-staffed variety carried during the academic processions of universities since the late Middle Ages. Used in medieval times for breaking armor, the mace acquired a ceremonial function in 13th-century France as a symbol of secular authority.

The UVA Wise mace is a product of the careful handiwork of John J. Owen, the University’s vice president for development emeritus. Mr. Owen carved the columna, or shaft, of the mace from a length of circassian walnut obtained from a lumber mill in Alexandria, Virginia. He designed the shaft of the mace to mimic the curves of the leg of a Sheridan card table constructed in Salem, Massachusetts, in the 1800s and fashionable during the time of U.Va.’s founder, Thomas Jefferson.

Mr. Owen constructed the mace’s caput, or head, from a sterling Jefferson Cup. Likewise, the mace’s two nodi and one membrum terminale are, respectively, two sterling napkin rings and a sterling jigger. Text engraved on the sterling portions of the mace reads as follows:



[caput:]
Presented to
CLINCH VALLEY COLLEGE
by the
RECTOR AND VISITORS

[upper nodus:]
In Honor of
Chancellor 1968 - 1985
JOSEPH C. SMIDDY

[lower nodus:]
Excellence in Education

[membrum terminale:]
University of Virginia

The Poor Farm Society Mace

The University of Virginia’s College at Wise has the distinct honor of having two maces. The “Poor Farm Society Mace” was presented to the College in 1988 by the Poor Farm Society in memory of William B. Cohen, a longtime benefactor who championed fund-raising efforts for the Chapel of All Faiths. It is the College’s original ceremonial mace.

The Poor Farm Society Mace is carried by the Darden Society representative and leads the graduating class in the Commencement procession. It was first used during the inauguration of former Chancellor Jim A. Knight on October 14, 1988.

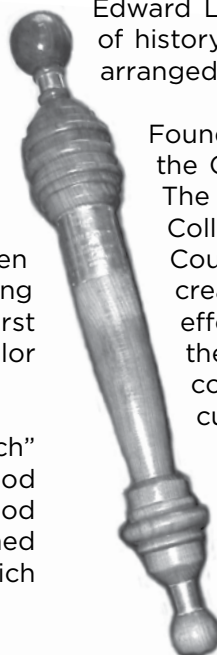
Crafted by Norton resident William “Butch” Hutchinson, the mace is fashioned from wood harvested from a black walnut tree that once stood near the Lila Vicars Smith House. The mace is adorned with two silver rings and a small silver plaque, which bears an inscription in honor of Mr. Cohen.

Barbara M. Short, who served the College for more than 30 years, suggested that the institution needed an official mace to replace the ceremonial “wand”

that had been carried for many years. The late Edward L. “Buck” Henson Jr., professor emeritus of history and founder of the Poor Farm Society, arranged for the mace to be constructed.

Founded in 1982, the Poor Farm Society is the College’s first development organization. The group is named for the site on which the College was established, the former Wise County Poor Farm. The Poor Farm Society was created to lend support to the organizational efforts of the Alumni Association, promote the College through personal contacts and community activities, and enhance the cultural and intellectual life at the College.

Professor Henson, a member of the University of Virginia’s prestigious Raven Society, was also responsible for founding the Darden Society at the University’s branch campus in 1964. Membership in the Darden Society, the oldest honor society at UVA Wise, is based on high scholarly achievement and intellectual promise.



The Medallion

The Medallion is worn by the chancellor as a symbol of office during formal academic events.

The current Medallion was commissioned in 2002 and purchased through a gift from the University of Virginia. First used in the inauguration of former Chancellor Steven H. Kaplan, the Medallion was crafted to reflect the institution's name change from Clinch Valley College of the University of Virginia to The University of Virginia's College at Wise.

The Medallion is a representation of the College Seal struck on oxidized bronze and is worn suspended from a chain. Each banner link honors the current Chancellor, previous Chancellors, the original college name, the years the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Nursing degrees were first awarded, and undergraduate research distinction. It is formally presented by the University of Virginia Rector to the Chancellor of the College during his/her inauguration.



The University of Virginia's College at Wise

The University of Virginia's College at Wise, founded as Clinch Valley College of the University of Virginia, exists because of the bold vision of many extraordinary individuals. They dared to dream about bringing higher education to the residents of Southwest Virginia by building a college on what had been the Wise County Poor Farm.

A division of the University of Virginia, UVA Wise is an example of the determination and perseverance of the citizens of Southwest Virginia. Before the College was established, there were no public colleges in Virginia west of Radford. Higher education was simply out of reach for most residents of Virginia's Appalachian Mountains.

When local residents Fred B. Greear, William A. Thompson, Kenneth P. Asbury, affectionately known as "the three Wise men," and others made their case to University of Virginia President Colgate Darden for establishing a college in Wise, the Commonwealth of Virginia supported the cause by offering \$5,000 to open, staff and operate the "experiment in higher education" for the first year.

Local supporters donated more than \$6,000 to furnish and equip the classrooms. Wise County donated property and the first of two sandstone buildings, remnants of the county's poor farm, to house the first classes. All of these events happened in the winter of 1954. The first class of 109 full-time and 116 part-time students began their studies on September 20, 1954, a mere nine months after the dream of establishing a college originated during discussions on a snowy December 17 evening at The Inn at Wise.

Many of the first classes of graduates went on to the University of Virginia or other senior institutions and became some of the region's most successful professionals. As more graduates of Clinch Valley College expressed their desire to stay closer to home to complete their baccalaureate degrees, the College began the process to become a four-year undergraduate institution. The College first granted Bachelor of Arts degrees in June 1970. Bachelor of Science degrees were first awarded in 1973. Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees were first awarded in 1996.



Crockett Hall, part of the former Wise County Poor Farm, was the College's original building when opened in 1954. It served as a classroom, administration offices, library, and a dormitory.

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Laura Faye Robinson '01

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Andy Scott '05

Judy D. Shortt '79

Jeannie N. Stallard '80

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Valerie S. Lawson '87, *Vice Chancellor for Advancement & Alumni Engagement*

UVA Wise Alumni Association Board

2019-2020

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Santana L. Vasquez '07, *President-elect*

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Phillip L. Blevins Jr. '13	Benjamin R. Mays '85
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Valeri J. Colyer '83	Duane A. Miller '94
Sheila B. Cox Combs '72	Jonathan E. Mullins '07
Sharon S. Daniels '88	Morgan L. O'Quinn '06
Christopher D. Davis '99	Stephen L. Orange '09
Linda Q. Dishner '71	Rhonda M. Perkins '73
Brian D. Falin '99	Jack C. Phelps Jr. '75
Phyllis P. Hatcher '75	Robert H. Sage '79
Hunter Hess '19	Corey Sanchez '13
Fran G. Hunt '80	Cathy L. Sandidge '71
Joshua V. Justice '07	Madison L. Savarese '14
John H. Kilgore Jr. '85	Jared W. Stallard '07
Kellen M. Larkin '19	Kathy T. Stewart '77
James R. Lawson '94	William N. Stokes Jr. '74
Luke R. Layne '07	Aryca D. Wynn '11

Donna P. Henry, Chancellor

Valerie S. Lawson '87, Vice Chancellor for Advancement & Alumni Relations

Marvin W. Gilliam Jr., Board of Visitors Representative

Anthony Mason Phillips '21, Student Representative

Alumni Association Letter



Dear Class of 2020,

On behalf of The University of Virginia's College at Wise Alumni Association, we congratulate you on your perseverance this past year. We recognize that this past year has been incredibly difficult for you, your fellow classmates, families and friends. While spending the last quarter of your senior year of college under COVID-19 restrictions was not part of your plans, you can be proud of this great accomplishment. We are pleased that we are finally able to celebrate your achievement as a college graduate!

The Alumni Association exists to support the goals and mission of UVA Wise and to be a valuable lifelong resource for all alumni. The Alumni Association also hosts a variety of engagement events for current students and alumni. Please mark your calendar for Alumni Homecoming Weekend 2021 on October 2, 2021. You will find information about other events on the College and Alumni Association Facebook and other social media pages, the UVA Wise web page and in the *UVA Wise Magazine* so please be sure to stay informed.

We look forward to each of you becoming an active member of the Alumni Association, joining your regional chapter and returning "home" to UVA Wise often in the years to come. Stay in touch by visiting us online at www.uvawise.edu/alumni, @UVaWiseAlumni on social media, by email at alumni@uvawise.edu, or by calling us a (276) 328-0128.

Yours in service,

Valerie S. Lawson '87
Vice Chancellor for Advancement
& Alumni Engagement

Joseph R. Carico '95
2019-2020 President
Alumni Association

The Alma Mater

Dogwood and Rhododendron

Music and lyrics by T. W. Gibson and G. A. Gurney

'Mid the dogwood and rhododendron,
That good land of mine;
Where the Cavaliers and the Pioneers
Set our college up beside the Lonesome Pine,
There we will, forever, be singing the praise
Of the dogwood and rhododendron
And Clinch Valley Days.

And the dogwood and rhododendron
on good land did thrive,
As the Cavaliers and the Pioneers
in these mountain lands for better lives did strive.
So we will forever remember our ties
to Clinch Valley our mother college
And UVA Wise.

Chorus:

Dear old Clinch Valley,
Around her we'll rally,
For dear old Clinch Valley
Our voices we raise.
When we are leaving
Our hearts will be grieving,
We'll remember Clinch Valley
The rest of our days.

Acknowledgements

Commencement is the highlight of the academic year for our entire campus community, more so this year than ever before. Although there are heightened safety protocols because of the concern of COVID-19, we are thrilled to celebrate in-person with our graduates and as many family, friends, and UVA Wise community members as permissible and through livestreaming with many others.

We appreciate the hard work, dedication and participation of our many faculty, staff, students, and volunteers in planning and coordinating this special day for our graduates and families.

Commencement Committee

Huda A. Aden	Darlene H. Moore
S. Beau Boggs	Susan Mullins*
G. Rosa Bott '05	Michael O'Donnell
Kasi E. Clifton '11	A. Mason Phillips '21
Christopher D. Davis '99	Narda N. Porter '88
Trisha Folds-Bennett	Hannah W. Ryan
Richard D. Galyean	Stephanie P. Shell '92, <i>Chair</i>
Amelia J. Harris	Sass S. Sheppard '16
Donna P. Henry	David P. Short '80*
Dawn J. Jessee	Ronnie L. Shortt*
Joshua V. Justice '07	John C. Steffey
Genna W. Kasun	Kathy L. Still '84*
Joseph B. Kiser '00	Debra A. Wharton '78, <i>Chair*</i>
Valerie S. Lawson '87	Whitney E. Wells '02

**Recently retired*

Guest Information

As a courtesy to graduates, speakers and guests, please silence your cell phones prior to the ceremony.

Public restrooms are located on both sides of the field house behind the stage.

Ushers and official Commencement staff are wearing red vests and/or hanging nametags. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

Guests must adhere to the Governor mandated COVID-19 protocols including:

- Wearing a mask at all times while on campus and during the ceremony
- Remaining in the seating area for your family pod unless visiting the restroom.
- Maintaining a 6 foot distance from all other pods at all times.

Once inside the stadium, guests may not leave and return. If a guest leaves the stadium, he/she will not be allowed to re-enter.

The Commencement Ceremony is being streamed live on the UVA Wise Facebook page and Commencement website. The video will be made available after the event on the Commencement website.

