Commencement

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Undergraduate Degree Conferral

Doctoral, Law, Pharmacy, Occupational Therapy, and Master's Degree Conferral

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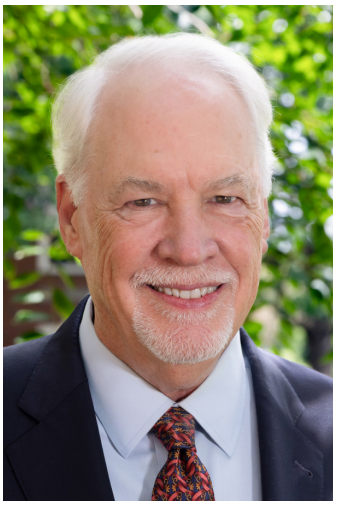
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



To the Class of 2026,

Commencement marks both an achievement and a responsibility. Today, we recognize all that you have accomplished—and all that now lies ahead.

During your time at Western New England University, you have developed not only knowledge and skills, but habits of mind and character that will shape your future. You have learned how to approach complex problems, how to question assumptions, and how to engage thoughtfully with the world around you. These are the foundations upon which meaningful lives and careers are built.

This year has also reminded us of the strength of community. You have supported one another, contributed to a campus culture grounded in respect and purpose, and demonstrated a shared commitment to something larger than yourselves. That spirit will serve you well long after you leave this campus.

As you move forward, success will not be defined by a single moment or milestone, but by the choices you make each day—how you apply your talents, how you respond to challenges, and how you treat others along the way. The path ahead will require effort, resilience, and sound judgment. It will also call for integrity and a willingness to act with purpose.

You join a network of alumni who carry forward the values of this University into their professions and communities. Wherever your path leads, you do so as part of that enduring connection.

I would also like to recognize the families, friends, faculty, and mentors who have supported you. Their encouragement and belief in you have helped make this day possible.

Congratulations, Class of 2026. We are proud of what you have achieved and confident in what you will accomplish.

With appreciation,

Michael B. Alexander
Interim President

WESTERN NEW ENGLAND UNIVERSITY
A Brief History

The Springfield Division of Northeastern College, known as Springfield-Northeastern, was established in 1919. Evening classes, held in the YMCA building on Chestnut Street in Springfield, served part-time students studying law, business, and accounting. The first 13 graduates were recognized in 1922 with the degree of Bachelor of Commercial Science. In 1923, the first seven law graduates were recognized.

In 1951, the Springfield Division of Northeastern University became Western New England College. The College was chartered on July 17, 1951.

On April 26, 1956, 34 acres for the current Wilbraham Road campus were purchased. The first building—originally known as East Building and later renamed Emerson Hall in recognition of the College's first trustee chair, Robert R. Emerson—opened in 1959.

Western New England received institutional accreditation in 1965 and has been continuously accredited since then.

The University flourished on its new campus with expanding academic programs, a growing student body, and the addition of new academic buildings, residence halls, and athletic facilities. The launch of the first of several doctoral programs in 2008 paved the way for Western New England College to become a university in 2011. Today, with Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and our School of Law, we stand united as one university.

The transition to university status marked a period of extensive investment of more than $100 million in campus facilities, beginning with the opening of the Center for the Sciences and Pharmacy, and including renovations and expansions to academic buildings, the sport complex, a new residence hall, and the University Commons, which opened in 2018. In 2019, Western New England University celebrated its centennial. Entering its second century, WNE continues to grow as a "New Traditional University," launching forward-looking academic programs and initiatives—from the FinTech Center and XR/VR Lab to the Center for Advanced Manufacturing Systems and the Kevin S. and Sandra E. Delbridge Career Center.

Today, the University proudly enrolls 3,827 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students and celebrates the achievements of its approximately 50,000 alumni whose ranks our graduates join today.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER 2026

Dr. Nuwan De Silva

Associate Professor Nuwan De Silva brings exceptional intellectual depth, warmth, and student-centered mentorship to his role in the Department of Physical and Biological Sciences at Western New England University. Dr. De Silva, who joined WNE in 2017 and earned tenure in 2022, is being honored with the 2026 Teaching Excellence Award in recognition of his outstanding commitment to student learning, innovative instruction, and meaningful mentorship.

Known for making complex scientific concepts accessible and engaging, Dr. De Silva helps students build confidence in challenging areas of chemistry through clear instruction, thoughtful assignments, and an encouraging classroom environment. As one current student wrote, "Dr. De Silva's method of teaching is exceptional—he has the magic to make you understand challenging materials with his lectures and homework assignments."

Dr. De Silva's teaching is informed by his active scholarship in quantum mechanical modeling and lanthanide chemistry, allowing students to connect classroom learning with real-world scientific inquiry. His mentorship extends beyond lectures and labs, where students describe him as both a guide and a source of inspiration. One student called him "a guiding light," while another described his classroom as a "warm, stress-free environment," adding, "I have never learned so much and also had so much fun in a classroom."

Beyond the classroom, Dr. De Silva has had a lasting influence on students' academic and professional paths. An alumna who credited him with helping her pursue a career as an analytical chemist reflected, "His mentorship made research feel exciting and accessible, and he trusted his students in a way that motivated us to rise to the occasion."

Students and alumni alike point to Dr. De Silva's rare combination of expertise, kindness, and humanity. As one alumnus wrote, "Dr. De Silva is not only a good educator, professor, and mentor, but he is a truly good man. He exudes kindness and intellect."

Dr. De Silva exemplifies the values of Western New England University through his academic rigor, compassion, and unwavering commitment to student success. His teaching, mentorship, and genuine care for students have left a lasting mark on the WNE community and will continue to shape future scientists, scholars, and professionals.

Western New England University

Commencement

UNDERGRADUATE

College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business,
College of Engineering, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Thursday, May 14, 2026
10:00 a.m.

MassMutual Center

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Thursday, May 14, 2026—10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE
Music by
Commencement Tribute Band

PROCESSIONAL*
Pomp and Circumstance, Elgar

NATIONAL ANTHEM*
Vanessa Ford

WELCOME
Lisa Celovsky
Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR'S REMARKS
Elena M. Gervino L'88
Chair, Board of Trustees

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
Michael B. Alexander
Interim President of the University

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER
Lisa Celovsky
Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

STUDENT ADDRESS
Camden Kaufmann
Candidate for Bachelor's Degree

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD
Lisa Celovsky
Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Michael B. Alexander
Interim President of the University

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE
The Honorable Martin J. Walsh
Michael B. Alexander
Interim President of the University

COMMENCEMENT REMARKS
The Honorable Martin J. Walsh
Executive Director, National Hockey League Players' Association
Former U.S. Secretary of Labor

*The audience is requested to stand as able.

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

Elena M. Gervino L'88
Chair, Board of Trustees

Michael B. Alexander
Interim President of the University

Lisa Celovsky
Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Candidates for the Baccalaureate Degree in Business

Awarded by Paul Costanzo
Interim Dean, College of Business

Presented by James Masteralexis
Professor of Business Law

Presented by Yamini Jha
Professional Educator of Business Analytics & Information Management

Candidates for the Baccalaureate Degree in Engineering

Awarded by S. Hossein Cheraghi
Dean, College of Engineering

Presented by Michael Rust
Professor of Biomedical Engineering

Presented by Katherine Schlef
Associate Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering

Candidates for the Baccalaureate Degree in Arts and Sciences

Awarded by Marcus Davis
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Presented by Douglas Battema
Professor of Communication

Presented by Brenda Garton-Sjoberg
Professional Educator of Communication

Candidates for the Baccalaureate Degree in College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Awarded by John Pezzuto
Dean, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Presented by Sheri Tershner
Professor of Neuroscience

Presented by Daniel Kennedy
Professor of Pharmacology

ALUMNI ADDRESS AND INDUCTION INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Heather Coulter Kemp '10BA
President, Alumni Association

SINGING OF ALMA MATER*

Bear's Ensemble

RECESSIONAL*

Triumphant Marches, Grieg & Gabrieli

*The audience is requested to stand as able.

GRAND MARSHAL

Ann Kizanis
Professor of English
College of Arts and Sciences

MARSHALS AND ASSISTANTS

Derek Fecke
University Registrar
Department of Enrollment Services

Philip Kiefer
Assistant Professor of Chemistry
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Na Liu
Assistant Professor of Forensics Chemistry
College of Arts and Sciences

Mary Schoonmaker
Associate Professor of Marketing & Entrepreneurship
College of Business

Isaac Stayton
Associate Professor of Chemistry
College of Arts and Sciences

Andrea Castonguay
Assistant Professor of History
College of Arts and Sciences

UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

The Honorable Martin J. Walsh

Martin J. "Marty" Walsh has dedicated his life to championing the rights of working people—as a labor leader, public servant, and advocate. A proud son of Irish immigrants, he was born and raised in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood and began his career as a union construction worker. He rose to become president of Laborers Local 223 and later led the Greater Boston Building Trades Council, representing over 35,000 workers.

In 1997, Marty was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, where he served for 16 years, standing up for workers, civil rights, recovery services, and underserved communities. In 2013, he was elected Mayor of Boston and led the city through a time of growth and innovation—expanding education access, investing in public services, and launching the country's first municipal Office of Recovery Services.

In 2021, President Joe Biden appointed him as the 29th U.S. Secretary of Labor. During a pivotal time in our nation's recovery, he strengthened job training, improved mental health support, and empowered workers across the country. In 2023, he became Executive Director of the National Hockey League Players' Association, continuing his lifelong commitment to labor advocacy.

Marty Walsh's journey—from childhood cancer survivor and person in recovery to national leader—reflects resilience, compassion, and the power of second chances. He is a graduate of Boston College and remains firmly rooted in Boston, where he resides with his wife Lorrie Higgins.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Caz Garry-Martin Amoroso
Timothy W. Amsden ††
Harry Vincent Antonucci
Connor John Asselin †††
Yulissa E. Benito Terrero
Hannah Kathryn Blake †
Michael Connor Bluhm †
Sydney Laine Bonsant †
Kaile Autumn Bottesini †
Jenna Branco †
Ashley Taylor Bunnell †
Elizabeth Marie Burnham †††
Mollie Elizabeth Burns
Bryce J. Busa
Elsa Ann Cable †††
Mary Elizabeth Cable †††
Connor James Callahan †
Christopher Michael Catuosco †
Ryan Peter Charland ††
Veronica Elizabeth Ciarla
Zachary T. Conboy ††
Mackenna Tricia Cooke ††
Jordan A. Croteau †††
Luke A. Dauphinee ††
Marco E. DeBiasio †
Timothy Lawrence Del Negro ††
Daniel Gregory Franz Demchuk †††Δ
Connor R. Devega †
Leah Catherine DiFrancesca †††
Cooper John Dimmick
Aidan Michael Douville †††
Jeffrey Duperre ††
Aleksandra Dzietczyk
Lindsey Ann Eckrote †††Δ
Trever Garry Ferguson
Giovanni A. Ferrentino †
Joseph Thomas Finnegan †Δ
Zoe N. Galanoudis ††
Jack Ryan Gara
Nicholas C. Gasperini
Daniel Joesph Gesualdi ††
Kaily Helen Godek ††
Nicholas Theodore Gregoire
Josh Liam Gstell †††Δ
Laura Janette Hastings ††
Cameron S. Heeman
Patrick Joseph Herrity †
Nicholas M. Honerkamp
Lily Stella Hopkins
Matthew Stephen Houde †
Sarah Nicole Jaillet ††
Madeline Grace Jarvinen †††
Caleb L. Jenson
Ariel Ama Johnson
Christopher Vincent Johnson †
Jacob Duane Jones
Nathaniel Robert Kasper †
Brandon Kelly †
Zachary Robert Killoran †††
Melvin Kolenovic †
Zaccheus Lamb †
Ryan Joseph LaPoint †
Niki Louise Laxton
Nathan Antonio Leone
Jack Jeffrey Levesque
Colin James Leydon †
David Barlow Lisk
Colby William Liswell †
Ella Sage Lupo †
Kathryn Ann Lynch †††Δ
Andrew Christopher Macca ††
Mason Thomas Manzi
Vincent John Martin †††Δ
Nathaniel Michael Mathis
Hailey Marie Mazzettini ††
Ryan Christopher McCarthy ††
William John McGuire
John Gary McMahon III
James Joseph Mettler †
Sydney Roseannette Miles ††
Shawn Patrick Mitchell
Ryan M. Montini †††
Jordan Moran
Jessica Ann Morgado †††
Sara Mary Frances Moriarty †††Δ
Jacob Braeden Motyl †
Alexander James Murphy
Emily A. Oakes †
Sean Lawrence O'Connell †
Clayton W. O'Connor †
Ikechukwu Chukwudi George Ogbonnanze
Shay Terrence O'Neill
Cody John Palazzesi †
Kavya Parikh †††
Brayam Perez Diaz ††

◊ Degree awarded with Honors
† Degree awarded Cum Laude
†† Degree awarded Magna Cum Laude
††† Degree awarded Summa Cum Laude
Δ Member, Honors Program

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Jonathan A. Pierre
Benjamin Alexander Pineau ††
Emmalene Leslie Pirnie †††Δ
Lucas Lawrence Plano
Steven Douglas Pollard ††
Mia Katherine Pompi †††
Dylan James Porter
Madison A. Prentiss
Quinn Quartulli ††
Eric Joseph Quint ††
Paige Suzanne Remington †
Brooke Lynn Rising ††
Natalie Rodriguez †
Nicole Rodriguez
Brady John Ronalter ††Δ
Gabriella Lynn Sansone †
Vasco Andrade Sardinha †
Everest A. Schneider ††
Ryan Joseph Seeton †
Evan Thomas Seuffert †Δ
Jacob David Simonds †
Matthew Vincent Spruill †
Chase Pollitt Stanton †Δ
Dylan M. Stone
Connor Lennon Swanson ††
Alexis Torres †††Δ
Jeffrey Christopher Vanturas ††
Danny John Veenstra
Jonathan Joseph Verbicky
Luka Vlajkovic
Joshua Aaron Warner
Blake Austin Whalen
Thomas Paul Whalley †
Paige E. Winter †††
Krystian A. Wojcik
Cameron William Wood
Matthew John Zdanowicz †
James Thomas Zicolella

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING

Logan Bohn Aceste
Emery Teofilo Aponte
Owen M. Atkins †
Brendan D. Austin †
Elizabeth Baker †
Ariana Kelliny Barbosa
Jacob A. Bardinelli
Matthew Christopher Barros †††Δ
John Jerry Bieszczad †††
Autumn Mae Bissonnette
Grace Celia Brockbank ††
Brogan Scott Brodsky †
Maxwell Orrin Brown †††Δ
Jeremy E. Burke ††Δ
Cameron David Burnham ††
Aidan William Butler †
Christopher M. Calvanese
Isaac Chanthavongsa
Caiden J. Charette †
Niyonzima Charmantine
John Andrew Cofrancesco ††
Sean Colangelo
Kasey Abigail Cook
Carter Michael Coughlin †††
William David Cournoyer
Rhea Michele Coyer
Tyler James Curtis
Anthony Peter Czarniecki †††
Joseph Vincent D'Alessio
Thomas J. Dalton
Jack Francis Dalton ††
Evan Michael Danek
Landon Everett Davis
Robert James DeFeo
Andrew Charles Delorme
Dylan Joseph D'Ercole
Ryan Gregory Devin
Michael Lawrence Duffis
Lucian Stanley Dupont-Leblanc ††
Kevin Alvior Fajardo †††
Joshua David Farrell †††
Nathan R. Figuerado
Andrew James Florek
Anthony Joseph Gesino ††
Daniel Goncharenko

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING

Vanessa A. Gonzalez
Natalie S. Goyer
Todd Christian Grammatico
Jack Robert Graney †††
Alex Stephen Grenier
Ethan M. Griswold †††Δ
Benjamin Ryan Halley ††
Matvey Hancharonak
Zachary Joseph Handler †
Paul Thomas Henderson †††Δ
Aiden Samuel Howell
Ryan Joseph Johanson
Haley Jo Kaczka
Evan Michael Kennedy
Aeron A. Kummu ††
Max Adam Kusnierz III ††Δ
Trenton Joseph Laframboise †††
Dylan Michael Laramee †††Δ
Nathan J. Larrabee ††
Dylan Joseph Larrow
Hunter Micheal Leach
Max Kingsbury Leifer †††Δ
Ryan Thomas Leonard ††
Natalie Ellen Lessard †††
Vincent Rocco Loricco †††
Noah B. Love-Walsh ††Δ
Jacob Michael Lyons
Brennan David Margolis †††Δ
Redding Martinson-Bequette †††
Preston David Maruk †
Michael Thomas McCarthy
Thomas Viktoras Melninkaitis
Ethan John Michaud †††Δ
Maxwell Albert Miles †
Dylan Mitchell
Jayden Michael Montagna ††
Chelsea M. Mutigwe
Tommy V. Nguyen
Ginalee D. Ocasio
James Patrick O'Connell
Steven Michael Placzek ††
Michael Stephen Preiss †††
Edward John Rakowski III †††
Willis Jalen Rice
Caleb Joseph Roden
Exodus Messiah Rosado ††
Barbara Rosales Salgado
Jacob Roy
Zachary Robert Roy †Δ
Maxwell Edward Rudgers
Jack Allen Ryczek †††
Matthew James Saloio †
Luke A. Schlatter †
Owen M. Schmidt †††
Joseph Daniel Schuyler Jr.
Nolan Patrick Scott †††Δ
Seamus Edward Smith
Jaxson Presley Smith
Kyle Carvalho Sullivan
Benjamin Mark Synol
Jack L. Taylor
Evan Michael Thomas †
Lance L. Tomlinson †
Arthur J. Valentine
Jacob C. Waskiel
Emily Maddison Wells †
Benjamin James West †
Christopher J. Wilson †††
Austin Wing
Samuel James Wisnouskas ††
Derek C. Wood ††
Jonathan Xavier †
Bryam M. Yanza Garcia †††

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
College of Engineering

Ethan Joseph Aiello
John Patrick Bayly
Sean David Ebanks II
Max Andrew Farley
Dan Robert Gabriel †
Jackson Richard Greene †††
De'Andre Anthony Harris
Ahmed Ibrahim
Thomas Michael Labbe
Gustavo José Letona
Geddiel Alberto López †
Kevin M. Morina Δ

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BACHELOR OF ARTS
College of Arts & Sciences

Ayah M. Aburub †
Reem Sameer Aljashaam
Emma Catherine Arendt
Michael A. Arillotta ◊
Jennifer A. Armida
Lucina E. Aurichio
Brendan D. Austin ††
Nylan Xavier Baldwin ††
Brianna Gayle Beadle ††
Taylor Marie Berube ††
Hannah Ashley Bissonnette
Perry Newell Blasetti ††
Caitlin Mae Bradshaw †††
Cassidy Jewel Brannon †††
Patrick Thomas Callahan
Jacqueline Angelina Casalone †
Emily Christina Chartier
Jessica Deborah Cloutier †††Δ
Dakota-Marie Cassidy Dinielli ††
Jenna Marie Di Rosa †††
Aida Marie Dominguez Carpio †
Mari Lynne Dowler †††Δ
Zachary Robert Drewry †††Δ
Klaire Ellen Farley ††
Rayna Pederneira Ferris †
Alexsis Michelle Galvez ††
Ava Lennon Gazsi
JoviSofia Guevara ††
Jacob Scott Harder
Lauren Marie Harris ††
Ella Grace Henry ††
April C. Hsu
Jayla Louise Johnson †††
Christopher Marcos Jones-Wills
Camden Michael Kaufmann †††Δ
Amelia Quintet Korobkova †††Δ
Jake Richard Lavallee
Jack Robert Leland †††Δ
Camille Antoine Marcoux ◊
Angel Cassandra Martinez
Sara Nicole McCarthy ††
Seth Adam McClaflin
William Joseph McKiernan †††Δ
Grace Kelly Miguel ††
Gavin Wade Mills
Gianna Fleurette Mulvey †††
Nganji Yann Murenzi ††
Jordyn Sierra Nadler
Lizaida Navarro-Curet
Nicole A. Noonan
Mariela Sanchez Nunez †
Patrick John Gareth O'Brien
Palmer E. Oliveri
Victoria Elizabeth Orender
Emily G. Ornberg †††
Alanna Otero †
Aneisha Marie Pacheco ††Δ
Aidan T. Parkhurst †††
Michael Emmanuel Pedro Δ
Sara Grace Piccoli
Lauren Marlene Plakias †
Madelyne E. Pope
Kiley Dawn Queiros ††Δ
Ryan Patrick Quinlan
Josue Alexander Ramos
James Geoffrey Oliver Robb †Δ
Savannah Ann Sanders †
Jessica Rose Semanie
Maahi Amit Shah †††
Rebekah E. Sherman †††
Benjamin Oscar Shirely †
Emily-Jane Chang Bao Sullivan †††Δ
Paige Elizabeth Szymanski
Jordan Lynn Gail Tomczak
Cameron Karl Lucien Touchette ††
Kaitlyn Mary Vedovelli ◊
Kristiana T. Vuong †
Alexa M. Walker †††
Skyllar Elysabeth Welch †††
Alexa Zarelli

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
College of Arts & Sciences

Xavier Aguilar
Mason David Ahlman †††Δ
Elizabeth Ann Albarella †Δ
Jaenedy Leemarie Del Valle †††
Olivia Marion Amaral
Ryan Adam Anderson
Gabe David Baber ††Δ
Justis Thomas Barbeau ††
Amoi Alexander Barrett
Tyler Dylan Barrette
Chaya Rose Finesse Benton †
Gavin Berube
Robert R. Beyette †Δ
Caroline Marie Bocwinski ††
Trinity Zipporah Bonaparte
Ilani Ana Bowman
Michael Stefan Bozetka †
Kendall Riley Branchaud
Rachel Ann Brenzel †
Hannah Elizabeth Briggs
Natalie Simonne Bruneau †††
Umberto Benito Calvanese III †††
Molly E. Campbell †
Nathan Chesworth
Briyanna Mckenzie Coelho ††
Brady Michael Collins
Rachel Marie Critz ††
Julianies Cruz Hernandez ††
David J. D'Agostino ††
Shannon Elizabeth Daly Δ
Jaden Fredrick Darnell ††
Fiona Mary Catherine Dean
Allison M. De Jordy ◊
Hannah E. Delude †
Jason Michael DeSantis ††
Kailey Alexis Downs †
Nicholas Joseph Duquette †††
Natavia Bryana Tashna Edwards
Karalyn Mei Edwards †††Δ
Victoria Rose Falvey ††
Cassandra Lee Florence
Ivan Antonio Flores Vazquez
Francesca Joan Fusco
Joshua John Gagnon
Victoria Anna Gajdos
Lucas Garcia †††Δ
Livia Ausrine Gavelis †††
Jayvonn Vernon Tyerell Gilmette
Alison Amie Goodreau †
Isanieliz Guerra ◊
Kyle Barry Hanley †††
Robert Bennett Harrington ††
Nizaya Blessi'd Henderson
Argel Hernandez Amaya ††
Kayla Marie Ireland ††
Alexandria Renee Jones †††
Lucas Arthur Kamoen †
Riley Elizabeth Kane †
Emily Karabinis †
Alyssa J. Keeler ††Δ
Jacob Maddox Keller
Francis Patrick Kelly
Julie Ksenia Kessler †††
Gabriel Ethan Kouki †††
Katie Anne Krolak
James Patrick Kumpulanian †
Sydney Ilana Kwartin
Nathan J. LaBonte
Alison Reid LaForest
Emma Lynn Lalashius
Antonio Michael Larocque
Collin S. Leblanc
James R. Leclerc †††
Adam N. Lima
Benjamin David Lord
Sebastian Manuele
Kameron Grace Marando
Zacharia Caleb McClendon
Shea Madyson McDaniel ††
Kai Kenji McDonald †
Jillian Marie McDonald †
Stephanie Noelle McKenna ††Δ
Emily Meyer †††
Samantha Leigh Montecalvo
Austin John Monteiro
Maya Fernanda Del Carmen Monteverde-Cakebread †††
Madison Leigh Moulton
Evan James Murray
Dylan James Nardone
Nam Hoang Nguyen
Isaac R. Pedro
Evelyn Rose Picone †††

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
College of Arts & Sciences

Henrick William Pierre-Louis
Morgan Roni Potler ††
Eric W. Puffer †
Marjorie Abigail Ramon
Robert Michael Ravosa ††
Erin Danielle Reen †
Carrick Joseph Remillard
Alfred Manuel Reyes Martinez
Devin Joeseph Richard ††
Tara Elizabeth Richards †††
Jaymien Luis Rodriguez †
Nathaniel David Rosario
Lei Lani S. Rosa-Wheeler †
Aahudgee Antonio Salvo-Greene †
Solianyeliz M. Sanchez
Ryan Michael Santos
Fayadh P. Shah
Sydney M. Shepard †††
Polina Shulga
Brian Paul Sobanski †††Δ
Evan Cole Stewart ††
Jaden Z. Stilphen
Gabrielle Marie Tirkot †
Naily Bedjina Torilus
Tobias Vincent Trench †††
Amanda Antonia Walker †††
Matthew Erik Walz Jr. †††
Leah Grace Warren ††
Logan Kenneth Watts ††
Kayla Marie Wickham ††
Emily Mary Williams ◊
Cheyenne M. Wimpenney †††
Benjamin Owen Winter
Catherine Elizabeth Wootton †
Linda Xu
Kaiya Justine Yuschak Δ

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Rahma Al Juboori
Alexander Anthony Armitage †
Vivianne Rose Balboni
Alivia Kathleen Brisson †††
Haley Elizabeth Bronson †††Δ
Lina Katherine Eves ††
Nina Elizabeth Garofalo
Shea Michelle Harrison †††
William Patrick Horan III
Hayley Anna James
Jeremy Le ††
Emaleigh Lindsay
Kayleigh Marie Mungovan
Tina T. Nguyen
Natasha Prachith
Saylor Ann Reed
Thomas Ryder Roche †
Trevor Andrew Schmidt
Gwendolyn Carol Scorpa ††
Dominic B. Siaw
Katherine Anne Tibbetts
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Western New England University

Commencement

GRADUATE

Doctoral (PhD), Law (LLM, JD, Master's),
Pharmacy (PharmD), Occupational Therapy (OTD), Master's

Thursday, May 14, 2026
3:00 p.m.

MassMutual Center

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Pomp and Circumstance, Elgar

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WELCOME
Lisa Celovsky
Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR'S REMARKS
Elena M. Gervino L'88
Chair, Board of Trustees

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
Michael B. Alexander
Interim President of the University

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE
Sheryl McQuade G'94
Michael B. Alexander
Interim President of the University

Lisa Celovsky
Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

COMMENCEMENT REMARKS
Sheryl McQuade G'94
Regional President of TD's New England Metro

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS
Elena M. Gervino L'88
Chair, Board of Trustees

Michael B. Alexander
Interim President of the University

Lisa Celovsky
Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Engineering
Awarded by S. Hossein Cheraghi
Dean, College of Engineering

Presented by Richard Grabiec
Associate Dean, College of Engineering

Candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Arts and Sciences
Awarded by Marcus Davis
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Presented by Jonathan Beagle
Associate Dean and Professor of History

Candidates for Master of Laws
Awarded by Zelda Harris
Dean, School of Law

Presented by Erin Buzuvis
Associate Dean and Professor of Law

Presented by Bridgette Baldwin
Professor of Law

Candidates for the Juris Doctor
Awarded by Zelda Harris
Dean, School of Law

Presented by Erin Buzuvis
Associate Dean and Professor of Law

Presented by Bridgette Baldwin
Professor of Law

*The audience is requested to stand as able.

Candidates for Master's, Law

Awarded by Zelda Harris
Dean, School of Law

Presented by Erin Buzuvis
Associate Dean and Professor of Law

Presented by Bridgette Baldwin
Professor of Law

Candidates for Master's, Business

Awarded by Paul Costanzo
Interim Dean, College of Business

Presented by James Masteralexis
Professor of Business Law

Presented by Yamini Jha
Professional Educator, College of Business

Candidates for Master's, Engineering

Awarded by S. Hossein Cheraghi
Dean, College of Engineering

Presented by Richard Grabiec
Associate Dean, College of Engineering

Presented by Jiali Huang
Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management

Candidates for Master's, Arts and Sciences

Awarded by Marcus Davis
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Presented by Douglas Battema
Professor of Communication

Presented by Jonathan Beagle
Associate Dean and Professor of History

Candidates for the Doctor of Pharmacy

Awarded by John Pezzuto
Dean, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Presented by Beth Welch
Senior Associate Dean, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Presented by Brittany Adams
Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy

Candidates for the Doctor of Occupational Therapy

Awarded by John Pezzuto
Dean, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Presented by Beth Welch
Senior Associate Dean, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Presented by Brittany Adams
Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy

Candidates for Master's,
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Awarded by John Pezzuto
Dean, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Presented by Beth Welch
Senior Associate Dean, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Presented by Brittany Adams
Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy

ALUMNI SPEAKER AND INDUCTION INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Nicole Mule L'17
President, Law Alumni Association

SINGING OF ALMA MATER* Bear's Ensemble

RECESSIONAL*
Triumphant Marches, Grieg & Gabrieli

*The audience is requested to stand as able.

GRAND MARSHAL

Beth Cohen
Professor of Law
School of Law

MARSHALS AND ASSISTANTS

Amy Burton
Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy and
Assistant Dean for Pharmacy Student Affairs and
Professor of Pharmacy Practice
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Nicole Belbin
Associate Dean for Library and Information Resources
School of Law

Philip Kiefer
Assistant Professor of Chemistry
School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Julie Steiner
Professor of Law
School of Law

Sheri Tershner
Professor of Neuroscience
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Michael Salemi
Director of Fieldwork Education and
Clinical Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

HONORARY DEGREE
Doctor of Humane Letters (LHD)

Sheryl McQuade G'94

Sheryl McQuade is Regional President of TD's New England Metro, where she leads the bank's retail, small business, and commercial banking businesses across Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. She is responsible for setting strategic direction and driving growth across 249 stores while supporting and empowering approximately 1,800 employees across the region.

With more than 35 years of experience in banking, Sheryl brings a broad and practical understanding of the industry, shaped by hands-on leadership roles spanning commercial lending, credit risk management, middle market and business banking, consumer banking, and retail branch development. Since joining TD in 2019, she has focused on building strong, customer-centric businesses by pairing disciplined execution with a deep appreciation for the people and communities TD serves. Under her leadership, the New England Metro was recognized by American Banker as one of the Most Powerful Women in Banking Top Teams.

Known for her collaborative and authentic leadership style, Sheryl is passionate about developing talent and fostering inclusive, high-performing teams. She believes great banking starts with listening to colleagues, to customers, and to the communities TD calls home, and she is committed to delivering experiences that feel personal, trusted, and impactful.

Beyond her role at TD, Sheryl is actively engaged in the community. She is a lifelong YMCA member and volunteer and a former director of the Greater Hartford and Granite YMCAs. She currently serves on the boards of Associated Industries of Massachusetts, Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, New England Council, Business Development Corporation of New England (BDC New England), and The Massachusetts Business Roundtable. She holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Lehigh University and an MBA from Western New England University.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE IN ENGINEERING

Rocco Cassandro
Nanaadom Abayie Nyarko
Daniel Odame Williams

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE IN ARTS AND SCIENCES

Kara G. Adams
Angelica Maria Arcuri
Alexander Arevalo
Stephanie A. Bonfonte
Taylor Elizabeth Collins
Gianna Marie Davino
Tiago Sales Larroudé de Man
Riley Anne Fergus
Jenna M. Gray
Charlotte R. Kerwin
Sarah T. Kong
Tanvi D. Pendharkar
Morgan Kira Scully

MASTER OF LAWS

Abena K. Abayomi-Rogers
Katherine Barger
Martin L. Blank
Julie Dyer Eisenhower
Peter Alfonso Falivene
John Micheal Healy
Andrew Scott Hurwitz
Misha Leister
Cynthea M. Motschmann
Christine Teresa Pezzello
Misty L. Ralston
Cheryl Gabes Rice
Nolan J. Robinson
Sharlene Merin Thomas
Nathan Ziegler

JURIS DOCTOR

Dylan J. Arsenault ††
Evan Barth ††
Lauren Rachel Benoit †
Anna Rachael Bouchard †
Alyssa R. Brower
Jonathan Michael Bruce
Erin Maureen Brush
Kevin P. Carmody
Yamile V. Cedillo Cruz
Bren J. Chaisson †
Evan A. Collins
Abigail J. Davis
Kiara Marie De Jesus
Akshay S. Desai
Marc Gaetano Dispenza
Jessica Ann Fahy
Kristen M. Feldmar
Ethan Fortuna
Aaron Edward Gauvin
Bernadette Granados
Alexander J. Grzelak
Caitlin Janelle Halle
Raifi Hamdan
Taylor Darby Harding
Allison Piper Hauff †
Robert William Hooker
Joshua M. Jacobowitz
Victoria Lee Janelle
Alexander S. Kaczprowicz
Tehya R. Karas
John Michael Keeler †
Taehoon Kim
Kayleigh E. King
Theofanis Klarakis Jr. †
Peter J. Klepadlo ††
Landon Francis LaRochelle
Abigayle M. Larosa
Idehel S. Liverpool
Emily Patricia Long
Brianna Michelle Lucarelli
Jacquelyn Matthews
Conor V. McCormick †††
Brianna J. McDermott
Qasim R. Mobeen
Logan A. Munley
Cassidy Marie Mylonakis
Htut Naing
Christopher Joseph Nasta ††
Shayleigh Rebekah O'Donnell
Emily Elizabeth Oliver
Magdalene Naanorley Omaboe
Darren J. O'Neil
Kylie E. O'Rourke
Aaron Michael Oskolkoff
Yaritza A. Paris Ramirez
Gopi N. Patel †
Brian A. Pattengale †
Andrey Pavlov
Alexander J. Peña †
Michael R. Ramella
Alexander Ramos Jr.
Evan D. Reichenthal
Julia Corrinne Robinson
Andrew Rodriguez
Alexandra T. Rogowski
Joshua Roman
Allison R. Russo
Alexis N. Serra
Kyle H. Simpson †
Brianna R. Spaulding
Kele Scott Stotland †
Amy P. Stutzman
Justin Christopher Sullivan
Khristina Marie Surgeon
Zeno R. Temple
Cilena Thenthirath
Tiffany Noel Thibodeau
Graham James Topor
Yadira Torres
Nichola M. Tracey-Fleury
Abby Lynne VanDeusen
Claire M. Vasek
Everett T. Warner
Joel B. Wesonga
Éva M. Willamowski
Sadie M. Woolstenhulme ††
Dorian A. T. Xanyn
Dolores Yanez
Saraiyah Monique Zigler

MASTER OF SCIENCE
School of Law

Marissa Verdine Bennett

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Joshua Irving Bliss
Kevin Brockel
MaryKate Caron
Daniel Christopher Danckert
Zachary Peter Demar
Demiana Nabil Demetry
Brendan Robert DiRamio
Colleen Shannon Furlong
Benjamin Riley Geier
Anna-Maria M. Ghossein
Caitlin Caiany Guntly
Rhylan John Hopkins
Mae E. Humphreville
Ryan C. Johnson
Joshua W. Labonte
William David LaFosse
Brianna Michele Lanci
Kaila Mank
Caitlin J. McCarty
Aderonke Abiola Okusanya
Aaron Michael Oskolkoff
Antonio G. Russo
Kyle H. Simpson
Victor Alexander Slezak
Adam M. Straub
Jessie Lyn Valentine

MASTER OF SCIENCE
College of Business

Alexa S. Adams
Rohan Rajkumar Alle
Albright Bright Arthur
Sri Vastava Reddy Banda
Santhosh Reddy Buchikonda
Naresh Chandra Chethala
Nolan Dawson
Rocco J. Desimone
Jyotirmay Sharadkumar Dudhat
Ashley Joanne Fenton
Brooke Josephine Fenton
Michael Andrew Gauthier
Megan Alexandra Kelley
Sarah Margaret Ledoux
Supreeth Reddy Mamilla
Regina M. Mastrangelo
Ryan Sean McCann
Erin Rachel McGlynn
Joseph Robert Michalic
Jonathan Robert Morris
Manshika Chakravarthy Nalla
Nguyen Hoang Nhu
Shayleigh Rebekah O'Donnell
Kaitlyn Dora Star Parisan
Trushi Bharatkumar Patel
Catarina Batista Pires
Uday Raval
Anna O'Meara Roberts
Irankunda Roza
Courtney Anne Shea
James William Silkoff
Syeda Nabeera Suhail
Neal J. Szulga
Yashesh Rameshkumar Thakor
Kyleigh Marion Wheaton
Nora Katherine Young

† Degree awarded Cum Laude
†† Degree awarded Magna Cum Laude
††† Degree awarded Summa Cum Laude

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING

Amaan Ahmed
Vishnu Varma Angaraju
Anthony J. Bortolussi
Andrew David Depatie
Kyler William Dzielak
Ali Y. Elhage
Roshan Prakashbhai Gajjar
Luke A. Gottzmann
Ravi Surya Prakash Reddy Gujjula
Harshith Netha Gundeti
Krishna Babu Guntupalli
Jaylen Michael Hawkins
Mayank Sanjaykumar Jariwala
Bhargav Karnati
Michael Aaron Knapp
Manoj Kumar Koritala
Ezekiel Kuenzi
David Edward Kula
Max Kingsbury Leifer
Parth Manharbhai Mendapara
Ramesh Bharathi Mohan
Luke P. Moisan
Arun Rohit Mokrala
Jenil Kamlesh Patel
Dev Chirag Patel
Hemanth Varma Pericharla
Jaswanth Venkat Ajay Nag Ponnada
Vladimir V. Popovichenko
Charles Benjamin Przechocki
Venkata Naga Sai Harsha Vardha Punuru
Bhadrasinh Ghanshyamsinh Raj
Jacob Dylan Rollins
Joshua A. Ryan
Aagam Shah
Carli Elyssa Simons
Zachary N. Snow
Robert Thomas Taylor II
Chitransh Yadav

MASTER OF SCIENCE
College of Engineering

Venkkata Kisshore Addala
Vishal Kumar Yadav Appala
Devi VaraPrasanna Asam
Amrutha Bachwal
Mani Uma Mahesh Gupta Baisani
Malayaj Anup Baraliya
Bhavana Barla
Jayashree Naidu Bedimani
Deepthi Sai Begari
Tharun Reddy Bellampelly
Vishnu Vardhan Budde
Ganesh Budem
Sujith Babu Chintalapudi
Isabelle Conlon
Murali Dabbeta
Pragya Kavindra Dahbara
Alexandra B. Dassatti
Pinakin Yogeshbhai Dave
Sahithi Gaddam
Saipavan Gaddamedi
Nikhil Sai Golla
Sri Harsha Jakkula
Yaswanth Jaladi
Pavan Sahit Kumar Kamarathapu
Keerthana Kotla
Anil Kumar Kotte
Manisha Krupiah
Braden C. Lucia
Arjun Mangarai
Kevin Francis McCollem
Saikeerthana Merugu
Nageswar Rao Mood
Stephanie Moreau
Srikar Muppasani
Teja Murukonda
Srinivas Chowdary Nagabyru
Trevor M. New
Surya Prakash Palabindela
Rahul Dharmeshbhai Panchal
Priya Ashwinbhai Patel
Jaykumar Prakashkumar Patel
Harshavardhan Balasaheb Pawar
Venkata Ravi Teja Peramala
Ruth Priyanka Ponnala
Krupesh Shaileshbhai Prajapati
Kermalyn Prospere
Avinash Ramesh
Chaitanya Kumar Ravi
Jasmine Marie Rodrigues-Jones
Joshua A. Ryan
Ranjith Naik Sabavat
Rachana Seege Virupaksha
Sai Srikar Segu
Jeevani Singam
Sarvesh Veerappa Sogalad
Kalyan Bhagavan Tadaka
Maneesha Thatipamula
Gowtham Reddy Vantipanti

MASTER OF ARTS
College of Arts & Sciences

Lucien Anthony Michael Dalton

MASTER OF SCIENCE
College of Arts and Sciences

Daniela Alegria
Kshetrajna Siri Alluri
Jaylyn D. Armstrong
Tory Anderson Baker
Evelyn Bautista Baez
Jessica Beatriz Brito
Harshitha Cheriyala
Gianna Catherine DeSante
Simran Devi
Leticia Diaz Lozano
Cailey Nicole Esposito
Brendan J. Falk
Bronson Anthony Flores
Deirdre Marie Gallagher
William Peter Healy II
Rachel L. Hill
Ashley Kinard
Vijay Roy Kondaveeti
Kaleigh Elizabeth McKillip
Jessica Morgan Meade
Mayank Mishra
Venkata Abhiram Nelluri
Olaide Olawoyin
Andrea Victoria Ordonez Cruz
Samantha Pacewicz
Kevalkumar Manojbhai Patel
Kirtan Pareshbhai Patel
Zeel Rohitbhai Patel
Divya Sri Sathya Prathipati
Jahnavi Sanjaykumar Rathod
Shannon Elizabeth Rawson
Angela Jane Rezuke
Karan Kabir Sachdev
Sri Santhi Samineni
Morgan T. Scavetta
Arman Altaf Shaikh
Jaelin Slater
Rose Martha Spitzer
Elizabeth Joy Storey
Rossangelly Toro Carrillo
Emmanuel Oghenerukevwe Ugbodume
Vanesa Maria Valdes
Waliya
Bailey Claire Revelli Williams
Carley Ranae Gatesy

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

Angela Elizabeth Abraham
Hedyeh Ajami ††
Fatemeh Avazzadehmehryan
Gretchen M. Aviles Morales
Jordan Tyler Baker ††
Madison Elizabeth Clark
Vickie Sherell Clark
Demiana Nabil Demetry
Hannah J. Desmarais
Devin Tin Dinh
Kaitlyn Sarah Duggan
Hailey Elaine Emmons †
Maya Dias Estrela
Alisha Maroun Ghoussein †††
Adam Bergstedt Gronendyke
Kirby Owen Henry
Rhea Catherine Horvath
Nicholas John Jasiel
Dhoha Ismail Karkush †
Je Hee Kim
Svetlana Kirakosyan
Phuong T. Le
Giulia Concetta Manzi
Hailey Maria Medeiros ††
Aisha O. Morgan
William E. Moro Jr.
Peter Nyakondo Muma
Grzegorz Niewinski
Sahar Nooraninia
Juliet Nortey
Linda Ugonwa Okafor
Aderonke Abiola Okusanya †
Christian Tyler Oliver
Jacob Michael Pariseau
Jenise Lynette Peart
Yasmin Malia Rahamat
Antonio Giovanni Russo †††
Chayenne A. Salgado Rodríguez
Reilly Jerome Stewart
Adela Claire Storey ††
Joshua Stephan Tolokan
Kenny Tran †
Megan A. Unsderfer
Liberty Elizabeth Voratovic
Sedona Hadleigh Wikar
Michele Wysocki †

DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Jovianna Emily Bagaglio
Natasha Kristyn C. Benosa
Katharine Cynthia Buchanan †††
Amanda Marie Chaves
Anna Collier
Allyson Elizabeth Ferraro †††
Marisa Elizabeth Gabriel †††
Olivia Louise Hall †††
Alyssa Danielle Lewandowski
Jordan Emily Pare
Marcos De Jesus Peña Veras
Loredana Mia Randazzo †
Lucas Totoro
Caroline E. Travaglin
Hannah L. Whitehead
Alexis Mikayla Ziegler

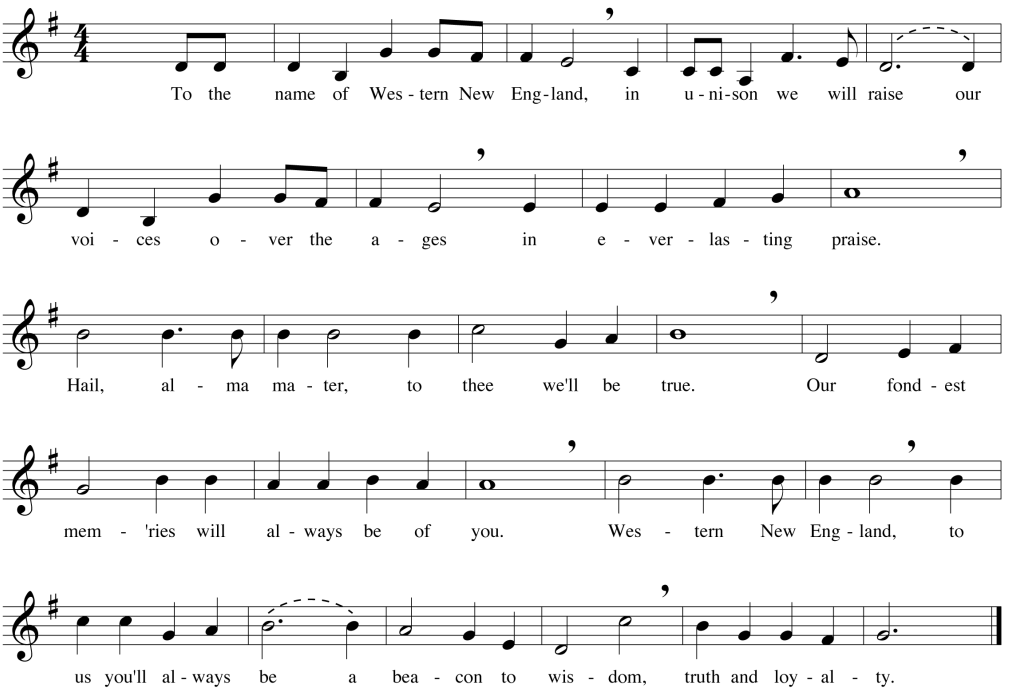
MASTER OF SCIENCE
College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Miguel Chi Hung Almirall Perez
Gianna Victoria Arace
Nana Ekua Budu
Matthew S. Dougherty
Alisha Maroun Ghoussein
Alison Reid LaForest
Rukia Zainab Masesa
Nicholas Joseph Messer
Ellie M. Nichols
Deep Hitendrakumar Patel
Justin Mark Samaroo
Thomas L. Taylor

WESTERN NEW ENGLAND UNIVERSITY

Alma Mater

Lyrics written by Eugene S. Weaver, Class of 1954
Tune: Beacon Hill, by Harry S. Mason (1881-1964)



This Western New England University alma mater was written by alumnus Eugene S. Weaver '54 in a competition to create a "Theme Song for Western New England College." It was designated the official alma mater of the University shortly after the founding of Western New England College in 1951. In ensuwing years, however, the alma mater was not sung. It was forgotten until 1997, when Trustee Alfred A. LaRiviere '51/H'95/H'01 found the music and lyrics in his personal archives related to the College. The alma mater was sung by undergraduates of the University once again at the December 1997 holiday gathering of the Alumni Association. At that time, President Anthony S. Caprio redesignated the "Theme Song for Western New England College," by Eugene S. Weaver '54, as the University's official alma mater. It was sung publicly for the first time at Commencement in 1998.

WESTERN NEW ENGLAND
UNIVERSITY
WNE