

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES – FALL 2023



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16
WESTERN HALL, MACOMB, IL

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A GREETING FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Class of 2023,

Congratulations on completing your degree from Western Illinois University! We have had a wonderful fall semester, and we're thrilled to celebrate your accomplishments today with you and your family and friends.

As a Western Illinois University graduate, you join a roster of numerous successful alumni. Those who have gone before you are outstanding educators, leaders in business, industry, and agriculture, noteworthy government and legal authorities, remarkable healthcare professionals, among others, who serve around the world and uphold the integrity of their alma mater. Your degree provides infinite opportunities and will open many doors during your lifetime.

I have the privilege of meeting many alumni at events across the nation, and everywhere I go, our alumni speak about WIU with such fondness and are so proud to be graduates of Western Illinois University. Leave here with that same Leatherneck pride and spirit. Please stay involved with your alma mater and serve as a role model for future generations of WIU students. We look forward to having you back on our campuses and at our events across the U.S. The Leatherneck connection runs deep, and you will always be part of the WIU family.

Be proud of all that you've accomplished, and celebrate your achievements. Go forth and make a difference.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guiyou Huang".

Guiyou Huang, Ph.D.

President

COLLEGE SCHOLARS

Each of Western Illinois University's four academic colleges, the Centennial Honors College, and the University Libraries select a graduating senior as the college's outstanding student. College Scholars receive a gold medallion on a purple and gold ribbon in recognition of their high achievement.



Olivia Brinker
(Granite City, IL)

Graduates with a bachelor's degree in Forensic Chemistry, and a second major in Mathematics, with the highest academic distinction, summa cum laude. She is also a Centennial Honors Scholar.

**Arts and Sciences
Scholar**



Claudia Duarte Correa
(Midlothian, IL)

Graduates with a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Science, with a minor in Cannabis Cultivation, with the highest academic distinction, summa cum laude.

**Business and
Technology
Scholar**



Eduardo Rios Martinez
(Beardstown, IL)

Graduates with a bachelor's degree in Physical Education, with the highest academic distinction, summa cum laude.

**Education and Human
Services Scholar**



Mackenzie White
(Virginia, IL)

Graduates with a bachelor's degree in Art Studio, with the academic distinction, magna cum laude.

**Fine Arts and
Communication
Scholar**



Matthew Simosky
(Geneseo, IL)

Graduates with a bachelor's degree in General Studies, with minors in Finance and Economics.

**University Libraries
Scholar**



Grace West
(Saint Clair, MO)

Graduates with a bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration and with minors in Forensic Psychology and Pre-MBA, with the highest academic distinction, summa cum laude. She is also a Centennial Honors Scholar and is a part of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

**Centennial Honors
College Scholar**

HONORS SCHOLARS

An Honors Scholar is a student in Western's Centennial Honors College who has completed a set of Honors requirements and has achieved a grade point average of at least 3.40. These candidates wear a gold medallion on a light blue ribbon.

DEPARTMENTAL SCHOLARS

Departmental Scholars are the outstanding undergraduate degree candidates in an academic major as determined by the faculty in the major department. These candidates wear a gold medallion on a sapphire blue ribbon.

ACADEMIC DISTINCTION

Candidates for the baccalaureate degree, who have earned a minimum 60 semester hours of graded courses at Western, are eligible for graduation with academic distinction. Coursework completed at WIU, and all transferable hours, are calculated to determine honors. The academic distinction of Cum Laude is awarded to students with a grade point average of 3.60-3.74 on a 4.00 scale. These candidates wear a silver medallion on a gold ribbon. The academic distinction of Magna Cum Laude is awarded to students with a grade point average of 3.75-3.89. These candidates wear a silver medallion on a purple ribbon. The academic distinction of Summa Cum Laude is awarded to students with a grade point average of 3.90 or higher. These candidates wear a silver medallion on a red ribbon.



COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

Saturday, December 16, 2023 • 9:30 a.m.

Prelude.....	WIU Concert Band Matt Thomas, Conductor
Processional.....	Concert Band “Fanfare and Processional, from March No. 1 in D Major, Op. 39, No. 1” by Sir Edward Elgar, arranged by James D. Ployhar
National Anthem	Nora Wragg “The Star Spangled Banner” by Francis Scott Key Bachelor of Fine Arts, Class of 2023 Concert Band
Master of Ceremonies	Mark Mossman Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Greetings from the Board of Trustees	Carin Stutz Chair
Distinguished University Professor.....	Interim Provost Mossman Recipient: Dr. Peter Cole, History
Remarks to the Graduating Class	Guiyou Huang President
Alumni Achievement Awards.....	Eldon Brown, Class of 1996 President, Alumni Council Recipients: Roy Albiani, Class of 1984 Matthew J. Bierman, Class of 1997, 2003 Brian T. Savage, Class of 1973
“The Book of Life”	Erica Hartman Honors Scholar in Social Work Bachelor of Social Work, Class of 2023
Presentation of Candidates, Doctoral Degrees	Kristi Mindrup Vice President Quad Cities Campus Operations
Conferring of Doctoral Degrees.....	President Huang
Hooding of College of Education and Human Services Graduates..	Interim Provost Mossman Doctor of Education
Presentation of Candidates, Graduate Degrees	Vice President Mindrup
Conferring of Graduate Degrees.....	President Huang
Hooding of College of Fine Arts and Communication Graduates	William Clow, Dean Master of Fine Arts

Hooding of College of Arts and Sciences Graduates

Specialist in School Psychology

Master of Arts

Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Master of ScienceJames Schmidt, Interim Dean

Hooding of College of Business and Technology Graduates

Master of Accountancy

Master of Arts

Master of Business Administration

Master of Science Craig Conrad, Dean

Hooding of College of Education and Human Services Graduates

Education Specialist

Master of Arts

Master of Arts in Teaching

Master of Public Health

Master of Science

Master of Science in EducationEric Sheffield, Interim Dean

Hooding of College of Fine Arts and Communication Graduates

Master of Arts

Master of Music

Master of Music Therapy

Master of ScienceWilliam Clow, Dean

Hooding of Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs Graduates..... Christopher Merrett, Dean
Master of Arts

Presentation of Candidates,

College of Arts and SciencesInterim Dean Schmidt

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Science

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Conferring of Baccalaureate DegreesPresident Huang
College of Arts and Sciences

Presentation of Candidates,

College of Business and TechnologyDean Conrad

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Business

Bachelor of Science

Conferring of Baccalaureate DegreesPresident Huang
College of Business and Technology

Presentation of Candidates,
College of Education and Human Services Interim Dean Sheffield
 Bachelor of Science
 Bachelor of Science in Education
 Bachelor of Social Work

Conferring of Baccalaureate Degrees President Huang
College of Education and Human Services

Presentation of Candidates,
College of Fine Arts and Communication Dean Clow
 Bachelor of Arts
 Bachelor of Fine Arts
 Bachelor of Music
 Bachelor of Science

Conferring of Baccalaureate Degrees President Huang
College of Fine Arts and Communication

Presentation of Candidates,
General Studies Degree Program Héctor J. Maymí-Sugrañes, Dean
 Bachelor of Arts

Conferring of Baccalaureate Degrees President Huang
General Studies Degree Program

Welcome to Alumni Association Alumni Council President Brown

Closing Remarks Interim Provost Mossman

Recessional Concert Band
"Fanfare and Recessional" by James D. Ployhar

PROCESSIONAL INTRODUCTIONS

Randy Glean, Associate Vice President for Global Studies

ACADEMIC READERS

Doctoral

Kristi Mindrup, Vice President Quad Cities Campus Operations

Graduate

Randy Glean, Associate Vice President for Global Studies

Undergraduate

Christina Davis, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology
College of Arts and Sciences

James M. McQuillan, Professor of Computer Sciences
College of Business and Technology

Benjamin Brewer, Assistant Professor of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration
College of Education and Human Services

William Buss, Instructor of Broadcasting and Journalism
College of Fine Arts and Communication

Jade Kastel, Assistant Professor of Libraries
General Studies

MARSHALS

Olivia Brinker
Johnathon Fuller
Joshua Massey
Braden McFall
Ryan Otte
Joshlyn Soto
Grace West
Mackenzie White

FALL ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Three Western Illinois University alumni have been honored with the prestigious WIU Alumni Achievement Award. Their outstanding achievements will be celebrated at the Commencement exercises scheduled for Saturday, December 16. These individuals exemplify the excellence and impact that WIU alumni continue to make in their respective fields.

This year's Alumni Achievement recipients are Roy Albani, director of Global Brand Protection for Johnson & Johnson (J&J); Matthew J. Bierman, vice president for Business Affairs at Eastern Illinois University; and Brian T. Savage, retired partner and chief compliance officer at Forum Financial Management, LP.

The Western's Alumni Achievement Award is presented to individuals who have made exceptional contributions in one or more of the following areas: outstanding accomplishment in their chosen field of endeavor, remarkable service in community affairs at the local, state or national levels and extraordinary dedication to the advancement and sustained excellence of WIU. This award acknowledges and celebrates individuals who have demonstrated exceptional commitment and impact in their professional pursuits, community service and support for the University's ongoing excellence.

Albani, a 1984 Marketing graduate, is the director of Global Brand Protection for J&J's \$27 billion MedTech business and is an award-winning leader with over 35 years of experience leading Global Brand Protection, Channel Compliance and marketing organizations. He pioneered Global Brand Protection in 2003 at J&J which is recognized as a best-in-class industry leader.

In his current role, Albani is responsible for leading, developing and executing strategies to safeguard patients and J&J's brand goodwill from illicit trade, including counterfeiting. These elements

include investigations and enforcement actions to disrupt global illicit supply chains; product protection technology, global market monitoring and predictive intelligence to identify and act on concerns proactively. Albani's team also engages in robust external partnerships with law enforcement, government affairs, industry and academia to collaborate on the common goal to reduce illicit trade.

In 2020, Albani was bestowed with the Brand Protection Hero Award by Michigan State University's Center for Anti-Counterfeiting and Brand Protection, the most prestigious industry recognition. The award is bestowed only to one individual each year and honors outstanding contributions to ensuring the safety of the worldwide public against product counterfeiting. He has also been featured in the "American Healthcare Leader" Magazine in 2023 and received the J&J Leadership Award for exceptional business results.

Albani has taught courses at universities, authored articles and delivered podcasts on brand protection and lectured at several conferences.

Albani has been a tireless advocate for the advancement and expansion of his industry and believes that all senior practitioners need to continuously promote new entrants, encourage youth, increase diversity and mentor the next generation.

He credits his academic and life experiences at WIU as foundational for his success throughout his career. While at WIU, he was heavily involved

in numerous campus groups, including the Student Orientation Board and Student Government Association, having served as their Macomb City Council liaison. He is a founding father, former president and charter member of Sigma Nu Fraternity, and a new member of the WIU Alumni Council. He faithfully and regularly returns to WIU with his fraternity brothers to celebrate Homecoming.



Roy Albani
Class of 1984

FALL ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS (CONTINUED)

Bierman, a 1997 Information Management and 2003 master of Business Administration graduate, was named vice president for Business Affairs at Eastern Illinois University in July 2022. Previously, he was the chief financial officer at Illinois Wesleyan University from 2018-2022. Bierman started his career at Western in 1999, serving as the Bayliss-Henninger complex director and then moved to the director of residential facilities for University Housing and Dining Services in 2006, serving in that role for six years. He was named interim director for Budget in 2011 before being named to the permanent position in 2012. He was appointed interim vice president for Administrative Services in January 2016 and permanent vice president in May 2017.

During his time at WIU, in addition to leading Residential Facilities, the Budget Office and Administrative Services, he served as the St. Louis Rams Summer Training Camp coordinator at WIU, as an

instructor for the College Student Personnel program and as past president of Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers (GLACUHO). Bierman was named the 2015 Executive in Residence for the WIU College of Business and Technology (CBT). He also was a member of the Macomb Community Unit School District No. 185 Board, the Macomb Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee and St. Paul Catholic Church.

While an undergraduate at WIU, Bierman was a resident assistant and was a member of the Student Government Association, Inter-Hall Council, the National Residence Hall Honorary and the National Association of College and University Residence Halls. He

also served as treasurer of the Management Information Systems Association, as a cooperative student at NTN Bower and as a member of the Student Leadership and Development Board, the Student Orientation Team and Student Orientation Staff.



Matthew J. Bierman
Class of 1997, 2003

FALL ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS (CONTINUED)

Savage, a 1973 Accountancy graduate is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and was a Personal Financial Specialist (CFS) until his retirement. He co-founded Forum Financial Management, LP, a registered investment advisor firm with over \$7 billion in assets under management and more than 40 offices nationwide. He served as partner and chief compliance officer from 2002 until his retirement in 2021. A business leader and entrepreneur, Savage helped shape and grow Forum into the organization it is today. He began his career as an Internal Revenue Agent for the IRS from 1973-1977, later founded his own accounting business in 1977 and was one of the original principals of the Terra Financial Companies from 1984-2000. At Forum, he served as a mentor for the next generation, a friend to colleagues and held many additional roles, including head of operations and chief financial officer, integrating his knowledge as a CPA and the expertise gained from owning a tax practice and holding a leadership position at a national financial services firm.

Savage is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and a former member of the Illinois Certified Public Accountants Society, the

National Society of Public Accountants and the National Society of Compliance Professionals. He supports numerous

charitable causes and organizations in his community and the Macomb community, including significant gifts to the Illinois Invest in Kids scholarship program at both St. Irene School in Warrenville and St. Paul School in Macomb. He received the Mel Man of the Year Award from St. Mel High School.



Brian T. Savage
Class of 1973

Savage has remained devoted to his alma mater over the years. He served on WIU's Alumni Council from 2010-2023 and as president from

2019-2021. He has led or assisted in the efforts of several successful fundraising projects, including major improvements to the Alumni House, the Western Challenge, the Annual Day of Giving and many more. Five of his children went to Western, showing his faith and belief in a WIU education. He has attended over 120 alumni and friends events, is a member of the Foundation Fellows Society and is a major financial donor to Western, with his most recent significant gift to support a scholarship for graduates returning for an additional degree from Western.

DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

DR. PETER COLE



Peter Cole, professor of History, earned his Doctorate (1997) in History, with distinction, from Georgetown University and Bachelor of Arts (1991) in History from Columbia University.

Dr. Cole joined Western's faculty in 2000 as an assistant professor. Dr. Cole has a chronicled record of scholarly research, having served as a research associate (2014 – present) for the Society, Work and Development Institute at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa; a visiting research fellow (2009) at the Centre for Sociological Research at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa, as well as the associate director of Culture & Society in Africa Program, Associated Colleges of the Midwest and Visiting Professor of History (2007), University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. He also held the German Residency in American History at the University of Tübingen (2018). Dr. Cole has served as the graduate coordinator since 2021 and he has served as a member of multiple department, college and University committees. Cole is a member of University Professionals of Illinois, Local 4100 of the American Federation of Teachers.

Dr. Cole has been honored with the Outstanding Faculty Award in Multicultural Teaching in 2022 and the Excellence in Research/Scholarship in 2020, both by the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as the President's Excellence in Diversity Award for Teaching in 2014. Cole has been the recipient of several research grants from Western Illinois University and international institutions and organizations.

Dr. Cole has published four books, numerous chapters in books, scholarly articles,

commentaries, and opinion essays. His book, "Dockworker Power: Race and Activism in Durban and the San Francisco Bay Area," won the Philip Taft Labor History Book Award (2019), which is co-sponsored by Cornell University's Industrial and Labor Relations School and the Labor and Working-Class History Association. He has served as a reviewer for many books, museums and websites, as well as a professional historical consultant and manuscript reviewer. He has lectured, presented and conducted workshops, served as moderator, commenter and chair at domestic and international scholarly conferences, seminars, and universities.

The 2023 Distinguished Faculty Lecture is titled "The Chicago Race Riot of 1919 Commemoration Project (CRR19)." CRR19 commemorates the worst incident of racial violence in the city's history. The event has been long forgotten despite its severity and impact on the shape and development of the city. Inspired by Stolpersteine, an ongoing German public art project commemorating Holocaust victims, Cole founded and codirects CRR19, which intends to create and install commemorative markers at each of the 38 locations where someone was killed in 1919. Formally launched on the 100th anniversary of the riot, CRR19 also offers historic bike tours, presentations, and consulted on new Chicago Public School curriculum. CRR19's purpose is to uplift past atrocities to ignite conversations about past and present racism in Chicago and across the US. Only by first acknowledging the horrors of the past and the ways that structural inequities persist in communities of color can we ever achieve racial equity and justice.

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J.B. PRITZKER, GOVERNOR

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Venice

OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

- Dr. Guiyou Huang President
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Mr. Paul Edwards Vice President for Finance and Administration
Dr. Kristi Mindrup Vice President for Quad Cities Campus Operations
Mr. John Smith Interim Vice President for Student Success
Ms. Clare Thompson Vice President for Advancement, Alumni Relations and Athletics

ACADEMIC DEANS

- Dr. James Schmidt, Interim College of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Craig Conrad College of Business and Technology
Dr. Eric Sheffield, Interim College of Education and Human Services
Mr. William Clow College of Fine Arts and Communication
Dr. Lorette Oden Centennial Honors College
Dr. Christopher Merrett Innovation and Economic Development
Dr. Héctor Maymí-Sugrañes University Libraries

THE WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CEREMONIAL MACE

The ceremonial mace, a symbol of university scholarship and integrity since the 11th century, is used to lead the academic procession at commencement and other special ceremonial occasions, signifying the importance of the event and the confirmation of the academic process.

The University's mace was designed by WIU Department of Art and Design Chair Kat Myers, and crafted by Myers in collaboration with the late Kenneth B. Epperson, Western alumnus and former WIU Admissions' community college director.

The turned walnut shaft is encircled by three engraved sterling silver bands with four pierced sterling silver fins cradling a freely moving gold sphere.



The fins represent Western Illinois University's four core values—Academic Excellence, Educational Opportunity, Personal Growth, and Social Responsibility—positioned as the four directions of the compass. The sphere, representing the student, is held and guided by the fins as it moves to find its place in the world.

The incorporated sphere was formed by raising, a 3,000-year-old metalsmithing process using steel hammers and forms to shape sheet metal. The sphere is made of 24K gold-plated brass. While the process was chosen as a representation of Western's respect for tradition, the sphere remains mobile, illustrating the University's readiness to adapt as it looks toward an ever-changing future.

ABOUT THE FLAGS

Displayed in the arena are the flags of 14 nations representing students in today's graduating class at Western Illinois University. The flags represent the following countries: Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, France, Ghana, Grenada, India, Iran, Italy, Nepal, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Spain and the United States. Western Illinois University was home to students from 60 countries during the Fall 2023 semester.

ABOUT THE GONFALONS

Gonfalons made their inaugural appearance in Western's Fall 2009 Commencement ceremonies. The gonfalons are banners hung from a crossbar on poles, which represent the specific group immediately following the gonfalonier, the person carrying the banner.

Their origins date back to medieval Italy, when gonfalons were used to distinguish Italian republics. They have also been used in ecclesiastical processions, as well as in war; and they have evolved into bearing coats of arms for individuals and groups.

Many universities and colleges have adopted the use of gonfalons to enhance the ceremonial nature of commencement exercises.

Today's processions include gonfalons for Western Illinois University, the School of Graduate Studies, and each of the four academic colleges: Arts and Sciences; Business and Technology; Education and Human Services; and Fine Arts and Communication as well as the Centennial Honors College and University Libraries.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The colorful regalia worn by academicians is steeped in tradition, dating back to the ecclesiastical garb of the Middle Ages. Adaptations from ecclesiastical to academic dress began in early European universities, which were founded by the church. University faculty and students wore the adapted robes for distinction and warmth. The University of Cambridge is cited as the first to use the academic gown.

Representatives of American universities met in the early 1890s and agreed upon a standard style of academic attire. The Intercollegiate Code, revised in 1932, and again in 1959, is followed today by American colleges and universities, except for a few schools, which continue to use the styles of England.

Gowns are traditionally black. However, some universities have authorized use of a color symbolic of the institution. Bachelor's gowns have pointed sleeves and are designed to be worn closed. Master's and Specialist gowns have long, closed sleeves with an arc near the bottom and an opening for the arm. Doctoral gowns are faced with wide velvet panels and have bell-shaped sleeves with three horizontal velvet bars.

Caps, originally round, are typically square mortarboards. Some universities have adopted a doctor's cap with a soft crown instead of the mortarboard.

ACADEMIC REGALIA (CONTINUED)

At Western, the tassel color of bachelor degree candidates indicates the college or program from which students graduate: College of Arts and Sciences, white for bachelor of arts, gold for bachelor of science, white and gold for bachelor of liberal arts and sciences, and apricot for bachelor of science in nursing; College of Business and Technology, sapphire blue; College of Education and Human Services, light blue for bachelor of science and bachelor of science in education, and citron for bachelor of social work; College of Fine Arts and Communication, brown for bachelor of arts, bachelor of fine arts, and bachelor of science, and pink for bachelor of music; General Studies Degree Program, white for bachelor of arts; and Interdisciplinary Studies, white for bachelor of arts and gold for bachelor of science. Master's tassels are black. Doctoral tassels are old gold.

Hoods, which originally were attached to the gown and could be slipped over the head for warmth, are the most colorful articles of specialist, master's, and doctor's clothing. The color of the lining of the hood represents the university awarding the degree. The color of the facing of the hood reflects the academic discipline of the wearer's highest degree. At Western, the colors awarded for doctoral and graduate degrees are: light blue, education doctorate, education specialist, and master of science in education; gold, specialist in school psychology and master of science; sapphire blue, master of accountancy and master of business administration; white, master of arts; white and gold, master of liberal arts and sciences; pink, master of music and master of public health; and brown, master of fine arts.

Colors which may be seen among the marching faculty and their corresponding fields of study include: brown (fine arts), crimson (journalism), dark blue (philosophy), golden yellow (science), lemon yellow (library science), light blue (education), yellow brown (commerce, business, accountancy), pink (music), purple (law), sage green (physical education), scarlet (theology), gold and white (liberal arts and sciences), and white (arts, letters, humanities).

INFORMATION FOR DEGREE CANDIDATES

Undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to participate in Commencement if they anticipate completion of requirements for graduation during the fall semester.

The roster of candidates listed in this program is a compilation of those eligible to participate and who have not submitted the Exclusion of Directory Information Form. It should not be construed either as a complete or official list of those who will receive a University degree. Due to publishing deadlines, names of some degree recipients may not appear, while names of degree candidates may appear even though they have not completed their degree requirements.

Honors distinctions are based on the candidate's academic record at the time of publication.

Diplomas will be mailed approximately eight weeks after Commencement to those who have completed requirements and have no University encumbrances.

The University has arranged for a professional photographer to take individual photographs as students cross the stage. Order forms and proofs will be mailed to the diploma address.

The University's official registry for conferral of degrees is the Office of the Registrar.

GUEST INFORMATION

Western is proud to recognize the accomplishments of our graduates and hopes each ceremony is a meaningful event for graduates, families, friends, faculty, and staff.

Please silence all electronic devices. For safety and decorum, aisles must remain clear during the ceremony. Guests are expected to remain seated until the stage party, faculty, and graduates have recessed.

Disability parking and seating are available at Western Hall. Assistive listening devices are available at the sound table south of the stage in Western Hall. Sign language interpretation is also provided. Mobility devices provided by Western are not permitted outside Western Hall.

A public first aid station in Western Hall is located in the east-west hallway behind the lower seating level on the south side.

Please note all emergency exit locations. Emergency exits in Western Hall are located behind the stage at the west end of the gym, through the East Arena, and through the main entry at the north lobby doors.

Western Illinois University is a smoke-free, tobacco-free and marijuana-free campus.

CANDIDATES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE:
LARGE RIVER ECOSYSTEMS
Dr. Roger Viadero, Jr., Director

Terri L. Billingsley Tobias
“Freshwater Fungal Diversity and Ecological
Interactions with Mosquitoes and Plant
Communities”

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Roger Viadero, Jr.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP
Dr. James La Prad, Director

*Benjamin Brewer

“A Qualitative Study Exploring the Effects,
the Role, and Influence that the Trauma
of Cerebral Palsy has on Elementary-Aged
Students”

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Stuart Yager

Susan Kaye Cangro

“Literacy Coaching for Disciplinary Literacy:
A Multiple Case Study”

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Monica Rouse

*Frank Schweitzer

“The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and
Learning Preferences in Higher Education”

Dissertation Chair: Dr. John Schafer

Ann M. Smith

“Strengthening the Number of Iowa’s Female
Superintendents: Perceived Gender Barriers
and Their Relationship to Career Path and
Longevity”

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Pamela Rockwood

Fanbin Zeng

“College Students’ Use, Acceptance, and
Perceptions of Online Learning in the United
States and China during and after COVID-19”

Dissertation Chair: Dr. Tracy Davis

***Completed degree requirements Summer 2023**

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREES

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

THEATRE
Ms. Tammy Killian, Chair
* Courtney Ryan Crouse

* Taylor Dahlberg
* Rowan LaFleur
* Meagan Morrow

* Drake R. Pough

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS

ENGLISH
Dr. Marjorie Allison, Chair
Manny Carman
* Anthony Greer
Monica Anne Van Tieghem
Emily Woods

HISTORY
Dr. Timothy Roberts, Chair
Dillon Austin
Peter Kpelinbe

POLITICAL SCIENCE
Dr. Gregory Baldi, Chair
Jalen Alexander Carlos
Joshlyn Camille Lomax

* Delilah Sanders

SOCIOLOGY
Dr. Tawnya Adkins Covert, Chair
* Md. Mahbub Alam
Davora Sade Buchanan
* Louisa Besiwa Smith

MASTER OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

LIBERAL ARTS AND
SCIENCES
Dr. Keith Boeckelman, Interim
Chair
Anna Lucken

MASTER OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGY
Dr. Richard Musser, Interim
Chair
Ava Alford
Estelita L. Allen
Ibrahim Atoki
* Joyce Oluwatimilehin
Ayodeji
Kylee Hill
Sarah Anne Porter
Kofi Bediako Prempeh-
Fordjour
Matthew Scerbicke
Sara Patricia Villazan Perez-
Girones

CHEMISTRY
Dr. T. K. Vinod, Interim Chair
Gbemisola Joy Akindeji
Ogheneruno Theodora Ideh
* Quadri Okiki Nosiru

GI SCIENCE AND
GEOENVIRONMENT
Dr. Samuel Thompson, Chair
Ayomide Grace Adepeju
* Himansi Bhatt
Iwueke Mc-Lloyd Chibueze
Jiajie Lu

MATHEMATICS
Dr. Victoria Baramidze, Chair
Stanley Danso Anyimadu
Kelly Buettner
Benjamin Dombroski
* Asrifa Hossain
Corey Winking

PHYSICS
Dr. Kishor Kapale, Chair
Khaled ManeeAllah M.
Aladwani

*Completed degree requirements Summer 2023

MASTER OF SCIENCE (CONTINUED)

PSYCHOLOGY
Dr. David Lane, Chair

*Matthew R. Alwood

Andrew Harmon
Jennifer Lopez
N. J. Jayce Owens-Boone

Anika Paulson
Sydney Leigh Pryor

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY

ACCOUNTANCY
Dr. Jessica Lin, Director

*Fatogun Damilola Temitayo
Jake Lange
*Vuk Stevanic

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION
Dr. Jessica Lin, Director

Md. Foysal Ahmed
Praveenkumar Ambhore
Jamie Bainter
Elizabeth Baskerville
Lisa M. Bird
Brian James Blasius
*Jack W. Carberry
*Samuel Philip Coudret
Frederick Agyei Darko
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Joshua Dickman
Shelton Elliott Sharkey
Alexander D. Thorns

COMMUNICATION

Dr. Peter Jorgensen, *Chair*

Department Scholar

Christine Elliott

Magna Cum Laude

Daeton Jack Vickroy-Roselle

Cum Laude

Christine Elliott
Elise A. Larson
—
Justin Anthony Cole
Dominique Chanell Hentz
Jay R. Parker
Trenton Kerr Snyder
Carifia Tripp
Kahlyah Turnipseed
Emma Rose James Weaver
Abigail Jane Wolter

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

ART

Ms. Kathleen Myers, *Chair*

Department Scholar

Mackenzie Diana White

Magna Cum Laude

Mackenzie Diana White

—

Yahzyah I. Crutcher-Hanna

MUSICAL THEATRE

Ms. Tammy Killian, *Chair*

Department Scholar

* Nora Evelyn Wragg

—

Summa Cum Laude

* Nora Evelyn Wragg

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

MUSIC

Dr. Jeffrey Brown, *Director*

Department Scholar

Sophiana Small

Summa Cum Laude

Sophiana Small

Magna Cum Laude

* Joshua David Clayborn
Massey
* Natalie Jo Nanninga
Sara Racquel Rawlins
William Christopher Schehl
* Victoria E. Webster

Cum Laude

Lillian Fisher
Spencer Leovan

—

Jamie Marie Childe
* Madelyn Carolann Doran
Renee Olaya Fortino
Shonda Jenelle Gibbs
Katelyn Charlene Hying
Donald Raymond Myers IV
Steven Dwayne Owens Jr.
* Kate Marie Paulen
Angel D. Perez

* Centennial Honors Scholar

GENERAL STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAM

BACHELOR OF ARTS

GENERAL STUDIES

Dr. Jeffrey Hancks, Director

Department Scholar

Kristen Starks

Cum Laude

* Shalyn Marie Lucas

Jordan Sparks

—

Halle Abendroth

Justin Renato Alejandro

Anijhai Tyair Austin

Jakari Barnes

Faith Barnett

Shenika Bruce

Valerie Calvente

Portia Lynne Cason

Laura Centers

Taylor Rose Colston

Caitlin Crowe

Aneesa Davis

Bryon Deege

Isabel Diaz

George Dixon

Eric DuBois

Tavien Steven Gillette

Tyler Jacob Glynn

Marcus W. Hall

Nancy Michelle Harden

Samuel Hardy

Timothy Scott Harr

Larry Harris Jr.

Alyssa Hathaway

Aliya Henson

Melonie Lynn Icenogle

Jaylin Malik Jackson

Heather Johnson

Kyle Johnston

Zachary W. Kays

Darren Kent

Kevin Krauss

James Kuhman

Scott Aaron Leenerts

Mariah Markert

Alonzo Marshall

Matt Morrissey

Madison Mugrage

Isaiah Neumann

Jeffrey Lee Nixon

Maurissa Ann O'Donnell

Coire Russell Reel

Kaeley Reid

Micah Reynolds

Dustin Tyrel Robertson

Jessica Robinson

Jeremiah Ross

Jill Maglio Ryan

Kyle Scott

Matthew Simosky

Herbert Sommer

Kristen Starks

Tamika Summerhill

Shirkyra L. Tabb

Jesse Taylor V

Missi Thomas

Abena Zakiyah Kunto Trice

Tiffany D. Vroman

Stephanie K. Weglarz

Paris Rache' White

Jada Annette Wilson

James David Wilson

Joshua Wilson

Germaine Cornelius Yancy

Blake E. Zaruba

HISTORY OF WESTERN

On April 24, 1899, a bill to establish Western Illinois University (then called Western Illinois State Normal School) was passed by the state legislature. Macomb was selected in 1900 as the location for the new normal school in west central Illinois, and on Tuesday, September 23, 1902, Western Illinois State Normal School opened its doors for the first official day of classes on the new campus.

In 1921, the General Assembly changed the name of Western Illinois State Normal School to Western Illinois State Teachers College, and in 1947, the school was renamed Western Illinois State College. Ten years later, the school became Western Illinois University. Illinois Gov. William G. Stratton approved the change July 5, 1957, and Western began its transformation into a university.

Today, Western offers numerous undergraduate and graduate degree programs, as well as two doctoral programs and several post-baccalaureate certificate programs, and is comprised of the main campus in Macomb, IL, and the urban Quad Cities campus in Moline, IL.





Western Illinois University

Western Hall



