

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



School of Nursing

Saturday, May 9, 2026
UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse



Dear Graduate,

Today is a special day for you and for your families as you receive your hard-earned diploma from Duquesne University of the Holy Spirit. On behalf of our entire University community, I extend my heartfelt congratulations. You have worked with determination to reach this moment, and I am incredibly proud of all that you have accomplished. From this University – with its 148-year tradition of excellence – you are prepared to go anywhere and achieve the highest levels of success. I look forward to watching you embark on bold new paths and transform the world in the years ahead. And today, I am honored to welcome you into a new place within our University family, as you officially join the ranks of more than 100,000 Duquesne alumni around the globe.

This year's commencement holds special meaning for me personally, as I transition into my new role as Duquesne's Chancellor after ten years as President. As I look back on the past years I have shared with you – witnessing your growth, your resilience, and your many achievements – I do so with deep pride and gratitude. And as I begin the Chancellor position and work alongside President-elect David Dausey – who will do a fabulous job – I look forward to continuing to support you, champion you, and celebrate all that you will accomplish as Duquesne graduates.

Congratulations – the entire Duquesne University family salutes your success!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Gormley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Ken Gormley
President, Duquesne University

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

MAY
COMMENCEMENT
CEREMONY



Saturday, May 9, 2026

May 2026 Commencement

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDING

Kenneth G. Gormley, J.D.
University President

PRELUDE

Fanfare to "La Péri" Paul Dukas
arr. Wayne Barrington

OPENING OF CEREMONY **David J. Dausey, Ph.D., Ed.D.**
Executive Vice President and Provost

PROCESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance Edward Elgar
arr. Michael Green

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER **John Stafford Smith**
arr. Garrett Hoffman
lyrics: Francis Scott Key

led by Zoey Wolfe

INVOCATION **Rev. John Sawicki, C.S.Sp.**
Teaching Assistant Professor, Director Center for International Relations

WELCOME **Mary Ellen Glasgow, Ph.D.,
RN, ACNS-BC, ANEF, FNAP, FAAN**
Dean and Professor

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS **Kenneth G. Gormley, J.D.**

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS **Allison Squires, Ph.D., RN, FAAN**
M.S.N. '99

MEANING OF THE NURSING PIN **Treshawn Campbell**
and **Hannah Shoemer**
Class of 2026

STUDENT SPEAKER **Joshua Stewart**
Class of 2026

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATESRebecca Kronk, Ph.D., CRNP, MSN
*Professor, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
and Noble J. Dick Endowed Chair in Community Outreach*

CONFERRAL OF DEGREESKenneth G. Gormley, J.D.

**CLOSING REMARKSMary Ellen Glasgow, Ph.D.,
RN, ACNS-BC, ANEF, FNAP, FAAN**

ALMA MATER.....Robert Traugh
Words and Music on Page 4 arr. Benjamin Cornelius-Bates
lyrics: Kenneth G. Gormley, J.D.

led by Zoey Wolfe

BENEDICTION Rev. John Sawicki, C.S.Sp.

RECESSIONAL

Ode to Joy..... Ludwig van Beethoven
arr. David R. Thomas

(The audience is requested to remain at their seats during the recessional)

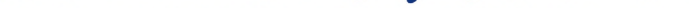
MARY PAPPERT SCHOOL OF MUSIC MUSICIANS

Zachary Hommel, trumpet
Matthew Montelione, trumpet
Ben Cacioppo, horn
Will Bridges, trombone
Dustin Freeman, tuba
Zoey Wolfe, soloist

Music by Robert Traugh | Words by Ken Gormley
Inspired by Rev. John F. Malloy, C.S.Sp.

Al - ma Ma - ter, proud Du - quesne, guide, and friend of our youth - ful days.

9



As we face new tests in__ times a - head, mar - ching al - ways by your light__

17 $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 84$



for - ward e - ver_ Al - ma Ma - ter; famed Du - quesne with your

23 *rit.*.....

Hail to thee! Hail to thee! All hail to thee! Du - quesne.

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Commencement Speaker
Allison Squires, Ph.D., RN, FAAN



Allison Squires, Ph.D., FAAN, RN, is a Professor at New York University (NYU) Rory Meyers College of Nursing. She is a global health services researcher with two focal areas of research: Creating a sustainable nursing workforce and improving immigrant health outcomes. Professor Squires is also the Founder and Director of the Global Consortium of Nursing & Midwifery Studies (GCNMS). In addition to holding multiple national and international leadership positions in nursing organizations during her career, she has consulted with the Migration Policy Institute, the International Council of Nurses, and the World

Bank on nursing and health workforce issues and produced several major policy analyses with their teams and continues to serve as an expert resource on nursing workforce issues globally. She has several projects currently funded by domestic and international funders. Domestically, she is studying the impact of language barriers on hospital nursing practice and evaluating the impact of the Magnet journey on small hospitals. Her current funded international studies focus on nursing workforce capacity building in Greece, Ghana, and Guyana. Her signature project, the Global Consortium of Nursing & Midwifery Studies, is now an 87-country research consortium collaborating on research capacity-building projects in nursing and midwifery globally. The consortium's current research study is examining the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nursing and midwifery workforces globally. Prior to entering academia full-time, Squires worked as a staff nurse in solid organ transplant and as a staff educator for 11 years in the U.S. healthcare system in rural and urban locations. Her practice has since shifted largely to community-based nursing roles as a volunteer. She is currently working with Ph.D. students and/or post-doctoral fellows/associates with interests in global health, migration & immigrant health, and health services and workforce research.

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING 2025 – 2026 UNDERGRADUATE NURSING AWARDS

Dr. R.J. Behan Award.....	Elizabeth Tyner
Mary Tobin Award for General Excellence in Nursing.....	Madyson McGowan
Ruth Johnson Award For General Excellence in Nursing.....	Isabella Vanek
Public Service in Nursing Award	Shaney Cheesman
Community Engaged Scholar Award.....	Brynn Tripp and Sara Werner
Marie C. Miller Award For Excellence in Medical-Surgical Nursing.....	Giana Gramse and Bayden Valentovich
Duquesne University School of Nursing Alumni Sr. Louise Grundish Award.....	Abigail Cifaldi
Sigma Theta Tau International Epsilon Phi Chapter Award for Excellence	Joshua Stewart
Duquesne University Student Leadership Award.....	Lei'Asha Battle and Brianna Kotek
Duquesne University Individual Achievement Award.....	Treshawn Campbell and Paige Engel
Sierra L. Intrieri Memorial Senior Award.....	Allison Simonetta

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Cole Barnes
Emma Barnes
Kara Bauer
Danielle D'Alessio
Mia Dougherty
Daphna Dror
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Paige Engel
Raena Ferry
Gretchen Goldman
Giana Gramse
Nicole Hoh
Tess Hopkins
Emma Hospodka
MaryKate Leon
Taylor Magnuski
Sophia Maida

Madysen McGowan
Sandy McGugan
Savannah Meyers
Jonathan Mix
Ainsley Moyer
Bisha Nolf-Syed
Sydney Pesarsick
Bridget Satterfield
Emma Sillings
Samuel Smykal
Abigail Stanley
Joshua Stewart
Alexis Sutton
Elizabeth Tyner
Isabella Vanek
Nadja Vitug
Grace Warner

NURSING HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATES

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Gabiella DiPrinzio
Mia Dougherty
Lucas Guernon
Tess Hopkins
MaryKate Leon
Madysen McGowan

Brynn McCafferty
Sandy McGugan
Sydney Pesarsick
Kacie Salva
Abigail Stanley
Isabella Vanek

MATERNAL – CHILD HEALTH EQUITY FELLOWSHIP

Lei'Asha Battle
Treshawn Campbell
Sophia Cronk
Marissa Garagozzo
Sophia Maida
Elizabeth McElroy

Savannah Meyers
Brynn Tripp
Elizabeth Tyner
Sara Werner
Hannah York

SENIOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Dylan Aviles
Lei'asha Battle
Treshawn Campbell

Sophia Maida
Joshua Stewart
Hannah Schoemer

SCHOOL OF NURSING STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Giana Gramse
Mackenzie Grant

Riley Hotem
Lili Tomcavage

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Mary Ellen Glasgow, Ph.D., RN, ACNS-BC, ANEF, FNAP, FAAN
Dean and Professor

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE CANDIDATES GRADUATING WITH ACADEMIC HONOR

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

*Malley Mae Aiello
Alexa Rose Cook
Daphna Dror
Tess Lily Hopkins
*Madysen Taylor McGowan

Sydney Marie Pesarsick
Kacie Anne Salva
Elizabeth Grace Tyner
Bayden Valentovich

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Cole David Barnes
Shaney Morgan Cheesman
Elizabeth Faye Dankowski
Mia Isabella Dougherty
Giana R. Gramse
Lucas Andrew Guernon
*MaryKate Louise Leon
Brynn Morgan McCafferty
Sandy Hall McGugan

Nikolina Minic
Maria Rose Minichelli
Madelyn Pauline Moretti
Miranda Grace Peer
Abigail Noelle Shiyu Stanley
Brynn Amelia Rose Tripp
Isabella Amelia Vanek
*Sara Elisa Werner
Molly Elizabeth White

CUM LAUDE

Dylan Aviles
Emma Jane Barnes
Kara Pauline Bauer
Megan Marie Comas
Tess Kathryn Cowell
Danielle Alexis D'Alessio
Gabriella Teresa DiPrinzio
Abigail Rose Engart
Paige Chelsea Engel
Raena Catherine Ferry
Sidney Reese Gulash
Abygail Nichole High
Emma Grace Hospodka
Katelynn Elizabeth Houser
Giuliana Rose Jackson
Zofia Jolie Lamory

Sophia Elizabeth Maida
Elizabeth Morgan McElroy
Sarah Elizabeth McGee
Emily Lynn Merritts
Savannah Noelle Meyers
Johnathan Harold Mix
Ainsley Kathryn Moyer
Kyle Tam Nguyen
Aryssa Racquel Peters
Joelle Ann Rupp
Owen James Sagnimeni
Emma Marie Sillings
Samuel Patrick Smykal
Joshua M. Stewart
*Alexis Taylor Sutton

GRADUATES OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE

Precious Boakyewaa Addo	Marissa Alexis Garagozzo
*Malley Mae Aiello	Giana R. Gramse
Meghan Diane Alvarez	Mackenzie Foster Grant
Madeline Anderson	Lucas Andrew Guernon
Erica Abena Serwaa Anokye	Sidney Reese Gulash
Dylan Aviles	Natalie Jane Gunther
Cole David Barnes	Paige Mary Hersh
Emma Jane Barnes	Abygail Nichole High
*Lei' Asha Lydenise - Toria Battle	Tess Lily Hopkins
Kara Pauline Bauer	Emma Grace Hospodka
Kelcie Grum Bensinger	Riley MaKenna Hotem
Jordan Rose Best	Katelynn Elizabeth Houser
Earl Andre Buensalida	Giuliana Rose Jackson
Treshawn Anthony Campbell	Taylor Janectic
Shaney Morgan Cheesman	Matthew P. Janusz
Lexie Cathleen Cherry	Alexa R. Jogun
Abigail Sophia Cifaldi	Alyssa Malee Johnson
Megan Marie Comas	Ella Kate Kearns
Alexa Rose Cook	Ashlyn Elizabeth Kiley
Tess Kathryn Cowell	Brianna Marie Kotek
Alexandra Leigh Cox	Madeline Danielle Kovacs
Sophia Elizabeth Cronk	Emma Kate Kushner
Danielle Alexis D'Alessio	Zofia Jolie Lamory
Elizabeth Faye Dankowski	Blaire A. Latona
Makenna Margaret Deegan	*MaryKate Louise Leon
Jordan Elizabeth Dinicola	Meredith Lewis
Gabriella Teresa DiPrinzio	Adrian Lopez Cervantes
Madison Alexis Dodek	Maximus C. Maddalo
Mia Isabella Dougherty	Sophia Elizabeth Maida
Daphna Dror	Dana G. Marchisotto
Anna Marie Dusch	Brynn Morgan McCafferty
Nicholas Jason Dutka	Claire Hall McCowan
Katelyn Michael Eder	Elizabeth Morgan McElroy
Abigail Rose Engart	Sarah Elizabeth McGee
Paige Chelsea Engel	*Madyson Taylor McGowan
Raena Catherine Ferry	Sandy Hall McGugan
Marissa Fiala	Gabrielle Keeley McKim
Grace K. Flansburg	Emily Lynn Merritts
Leah Grace Freehling	Savannah Noelle Meyers
Molly Anne Frick	Kaia J. Miller
Parker Aiden Gable	Nikolina Minic

Maria Rose Minichelli
 Johnathan Harold Mix
 Brianna Rae Moore
 Madelyn Pauline Moretti
 Maya Rose Morrison
 Ainsley Kathryn Moyer
 Grace Camille Neumann
 Kaya Lee Newell
 Kyle Tam Nguyen
 Danielle Jessica Nikitow
 Mackenzi Lynn Noel
 Kathryn Emily Oncea
 Lauren Carol Oppman
 Stamatia Zoe Pedos-DiClemente
 Miranda Grace Peer
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 Aryssa Racquel Peters
 Allison Elizabeth Pironti
 Ashlyn Nicole Radocaj
 Karuna Rai
 Natalie Elizabeth Rinehart
 *Lily May Robinson
 Brooke Alexis Rodd
 Samantha Joyce Ross
 Madeline Rose Rowan
 Joelle Ann Rupp
 Owen James Sagnimeni
 Kacie Anne Salva
 Mia Lynne Sassano
 Kathryn Claire Saum

Hannah Margaret Schoemer
 Ryley Rose Schwalm
 Emma Marie Sillings
 Allison Marie Simonetta
 Emma Skelley
 Samuel Patrick Smykal
 Isabella Solis
 Abigail Noelle Shiyu Stanley
 Tatum Elizabeth Stennett
 Joshua M. Stewart
 *Alexis Taylor Sutton
 Kaley Louise Swearingen
 Grace Anne Sweeney
 Lili Jean Tomcavage
 Kaia Anna Traphagen
 Brynn Amelia Rose Tripp
 Elizabeth Grace Tyner
 Bayden Valentovich
 Isabella Amelia Vanek
 Nadja Salcedo Vitug Solter
 Mckenna Mary Walsh
 Grace Paige Warner
 *Sara Elisa Werner
 Molly Elizabeth White
 Kelby Gail Whittle
 Mallory Marlene Wilkie
 Jillian Pearl Wisneski
 Cassidy Diane Wolff
 Hannah E. York

CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE

Mallory Anne Ailport
*Major: Executive Leadership &
Health Care Management*

Emma Grace Cacioppo
Major: Family CRNP

Nancy Cervantes -Salas
*Major: Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner*

Natalie Ann Cunningham
Major: Family CRNP

Jennifer Marie Dickensheets
Major: Forensic Nursing

Kami L. Frost-Ward
Major: Forensic Nursing

Cody Allen Garletts
Major: Family CRNP

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*Major: Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner*

Carol Huffstetler
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Kimberly Ann Keane
Major: Forensic Nursing

Kimberly Kramer
Major: Nursing Education

Anne Lichtinger
Major: Family CRNP

Madison Luciano
*Major: Adult Gerontology Acute
Care Nurse Practitioner*

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Arianna Lynne Martino Crone
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Care Nurse Practitioner*

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Major: Family CRNP

Bisha Nolf-Syed
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Meghan L. Pale
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Nurse Practitioner*

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Major: Family CRNP

Sarah Elise Stanton
Major: Family CRNP

Shellie Renee Stevens
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Hilary Ann Tomaswick
*Major: Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner*

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Katelyn Rose Ziskind
Major: Nursing Education

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Major: Family CRNP

Amanda Marie Aftanas
Major: Forensic Nursing

Leslie Denise Gonzalez
Major: Forensic Nursing

Randilyn Grace Lewis
Major: Forensic Nursing

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE

Heidi Lynn Funke
Major: Nursing Ethics
Dissertation: Informed Consent in Nursing Care: Normative, Theoretical
and Practical Issues
Chair: Eric Vogelstein, PhD

Gretchen Goldman
Major: Nursing
Dissertation: Pediatric Nurses' Lived Experiences with Firearm Injury
Prevention: An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis
Chair: Alison Colbert, PhD, PHCNS-BC, FAAN

Kimberli Idona Roberts
Major: Nursing
Dissertation: Cultural Meanings of Nursing Care Among Black or African
American Adults: An Ethnonursing Study
Chair: Rick Zoucha, PhD, PMHCNS, CTN-A, FTNSS, FETNA, F
ADLN, FAAN

FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

Christopher Baker, DNP, FNP-BC, CRNP, CNE, *Clinical Assistant Professor*

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Scott Copley, EdD, *Assistant Dean for Recruitment and Enrollment Management*

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Ruth Irwin, PhD, RN, CSN, *Clinical Associate Professor*

Melissa Kalarchian, PhD, *Professor and Associate Dean of Research*

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Melanie Turk, PhD, RN, FTNSS, *Professor*

Eric Vogelstein, PhD, *Associate Professor, Director of Ethics for the School of Nursing*

Rebecca A. Vrescak, DNAP, MHS, BSN, RN, CRNA, *Clinical Assistant Professor, Assistant Director, Nurse Anesthesia Program*

Yvonne L. Weideman, DNP, MBA, RN, AHN-BC, CNE, CWOCN, CFCN, SGAHN, *Clinical Associate Professor and Director, BME/BSN Program*

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Susan Williams, MSN, RN, CHSE, *Instructor, Assistant Dean for Clinical Skills and Simulation Education, Simulated Participant Coordinator*

Rick Zoucha, PhD, PMHCNS, CTN-A, FTNSS, FETNA, FADLN, FAAN, *Professor, Chair of Advanced Role and PHD Programs, and Director Nursing Education and Faculty Role*

Marci L. Zsamboky, DNP, PMHNP-BC, CNE, *Clinical Associate Professor, Director of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program*

The Academic Procession

The Provost/Academic Vice President serves as the Commencement Marshal, holds the University mace and presides over the Academic Procession while standing directly in front of the platform. The raising of the mace signals that the Commencement ceremony is ready to begin. As the processional music begins, the procession of first the candidates for degrees, then the faculty and finally the platform party will file in. The audience should rise and remain standing until after the invocation.

Candidates for undergraduate degrees may be identified by the color of the tassel on the cap—which signifies the discipline. If they are receiving an advanced degree, the color on the neck band of the hood signifies the field of study.

Colors Distinctive of the Disciplines

White: Arts

Light Blue: Education

Yellow: Sciences

Apricot: Nursing

Drab: Business

Purple: Law

Sage: Pharmacy

Royal Blue: Philosophy

Pink: Music

Orange: Engineering

Academic Vestments

The gown, the cap, and the hood, representing the *major* components of the academic dress, are a ceremonial inheritance from the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries, where clothing was an outward sign of social privilege and responsibility. Our usage of academic regalia derives from the early English universities. Academic clothing was first introduced at St. Peter's College, Cambridge University, in about 1284 A.D. Each school or college in Cambridge and in Oxford developed different methods to signal the various levels of degrees and the awarding institution. In America, in 1894 an Inter-Collegiate Commission met to adopt a uniform style for all degrees for all colleges and universities. The resulting code stated that every undergraduate robe would be the same style; likewise, every master's robe and every doctor's robe. Thus the academic dress worn by those participating in today's academic procession symbolizes both the level of their academic attainment and the institution they attended.

Gown

Although the gown is more frequently black, certain universities have authorized the use of colored gowns. The bachelor's and master's gowns were originally fashioned from black serge wool; today they are often of synthetic fabrics. The yoke of the bachelor's gown is designed to be worn closed and features long, flowing and pointed sleeves. The master's gown is designed to be worn open or closed. The sleeves are very long with squared ends, and the front part has an arc cut away. The wearer's arms protrude through slits at the elbows. The gown for the doctor's degree is made of wool, serge, or silk with an open front faced with wide velvet panels running from top to bottom. The sleeves are loose and bell-shaped with three encircling bars of velvet in black or in the color of the discipline in which the doctorate was obtained.

Hood

The most outstanding feature of the academic dress is the hood. It is usually worn only for the master's and doctor's degrees. The doctor's hood is longer than the master's hood (four feet vs. three and one half feet) and has distinguished panels inside. The college or university granting the degree is indicated by the color of the hood lining. Here, the panels are blue and red. The velvet trim on the hood indicates the field in which the degree was granted.

Cap

The standard cap is the mortarboard—or the Oxford-type cap—which appeared at Oxford after 1769 and replaced the round soft beret-like cap still worn at Cambridge. Its shape is variously explained as like the scholars and their books, or as derived from the Master Workman's actual mortarboard, or from the quadrangle shape of the campus. It is usually the color of the gown—black. The tassel is the color of the school for the undergraduate and worn on the right side of the cap until the moment the degree is conferred by the president. Then it is swung to the left side. The tassel for the master's degree is black and worn over the left front quarter of the cap. The tassel for the doctor's degree is also worn over the left front quarter of the cap and is of gold thread.

Duquesne University Corporation

The members of the Duquesne University Corporation are members of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, or Spiritans, which founded and continue to sponsor Duquesne University. The members work in conjunction with the Board of Directors to govern Duquesne University.

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Vice Chair

Rev. William Christy, C.S.Sp.

Secretary/Treasurer

Rev. John Sawicki, C.S.Sp.

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Catharine M. Ryan
Thaddeus J. Senko
John A. Staley IV
Brian L. Sullivan
Thomas A. Tribone
Sr. Linda Yankoski, CSFN
Patricia D. Yoder

Duquesne University Administration

President

Kenneth G. Gormley, J.D.

Executive Vice President and Provost

David J. Dausey, Ph.D., Ed.D.

Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management

Joel Bauman, M.A.

Vice President for Technology and Chief Information Officer

Tom Dugas, M.S.

Senior Vice President for Student Life

Leanna Fenneberg, Ph.D.

Senior Vice President for Mission and Identity

Rev. Raymond French, C.S.Sp., M.A.

Senior Vice President for Finance and Business

Matthew J. Frist, Ed.D.

Senior Vice President of Civic Engagement and External Relations

William Generett Jr., J.D.

Interim Director of Athletics

John Henderson, M.S.

Senior Vice President for University Advancement

Michael LaFrankie, M.S.

Senior Advisor to the President for Strategic Initiatives

Rev. James P. McCloskey, C.S.Sp., Ph.D.

Chief Opportunity, Community Building and Engagement Officer

and Senior Advisor to the President

Crystal McCormick Ware, M.S. Ed.

Vice President for Marketing and Communications

Gabriel Welsch, M.F.A.

Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel

Pamela L. Wilkins, J.D.

Students whose names appear in the program are candidates for degrees as of the printing of the Commencement Program.

Latin Honors (e.g., Cum Laude) listed in the program are based on cumulative grade point averages at the conclusion of the fall 2025 semester and are therefore tentative. Latin Honors are confirmed after the conclusion of the spring semester and will be reflected on final official transcripts and University diplomas.

**Honors College*

