BRYANT UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

Graduate Programs

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021

Welcome

A most cordial welcome is extended to relatives, friends, faculty members, alumni, administrators, and staff who gather here to celebrate Commencement for the Graduate Programs.

PROGRAM

ACADEMIC PROCESSION
The audience is requested to remain standing through the Invocation.

MARSHALS
Chief Marshal, Professor Dirk J. Primus, Ph.D.
Platform Marshal, Professor Charles P. Cullinan, Ph.D.

UNIVERSITY MACE BEARER
Professor Michael J. Gravier, Ph.D.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
Ryan Nicholas Kilcoyne ’21, Soloist

INVOCATION
Pastor Kevin White
Bryant University Protestant Chaplain

PRESIDING
Ross Gittell, Ph.D.
President of Bryant University

CONVENING OF THE 2021 COMMENCEMENT
FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS

CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREE
Ross Gittell, Ph.D.

CITATION
Keith Murray, Ph.D.
Professor of Marketing

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT
Lisa G. Bisaccia
Paari Gopalakrishnan, MD, ’09MBA

TRUSTEE PRESENTER
Trustee Presenter
Trustee Presenter

HOODING OF HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M
Provost and Chief Academic Officer

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Lisa G. Bisaccia

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREES
Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES
Ross Gittell, Ph.D.

INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES
Jamie Grenon, MBA
Director of Graduate Programs

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS
Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M

HOODING OF CANDIDATES
Master of Arts in Communication

Wendy Samter, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Business Administration
Master of Professional Accountancy
Master of Science in Taxation

Madan Annavarjula, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Business

ALUMNI GREETINGS
Rita Williams-Bogar '76
President, National Alumni Council
Bryant University Alumni Association

BENEDICTION
Pastor Kevin White
Bryant University Protestant Chaplain

ADJOURNMENT OF THE 2021 COMMENCEMENT
FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS
Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M

RECESSION
Please remain in place until the platform party and faculty members leave the Commencement area.

Lisa G. Bisaccia

HONORARY DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Lisa Bisaccia has served as a strategic leader in human resources throughout a distinguished career of more than 40 years. She has contributed to leading organizations by serving in critical roles in the banking and financial services, healthcare, and retail industries. She is currently Chair-Elect of the Board of Trustees of Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

Prior to retirement earlier this year, Ms. Bisaccia served for more than a decade as Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer for CVS Health. In that role, she had responsibility for all strategic human resources functions across the entire company, which is ranked among the Fortune Top 5 and has almost 300,000 employees nationwide. She also oversaw CVS Health's Corporate Social Responsibility and Philanthropy department, which includes the CVS Health and Aetna Foundations. Prior to joining CVS Health, she served as the global head of compensation and benefits at FleetBoston Financial.

Ms. Bisaccia is widely recognized for accomplishments driving multiple strategic initiatives, focusing on employee engagement and organizational culture, launching enterprise-wide talent management and leadership development systems, redesigning total rewards for all employees, managing large-scale acquisitions, ensuring organizational diversity and inclusion, and streamlining human resources processes.

She currently serves on the National Board of Governors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and is the immediate past National Chair for Go Red for Women, the American Heart Association's signature women's initiative designed to increase women's heart health awareness. She is a former Director of Aramark Corporation. She previously served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Human Resources Policy Association and the American Health Policy Institute, and served as Vice Chair of the Center for Executive Compensation.

Lisa Bisaccia is a graduate of Trinity College and earned her Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Connecticut.

Paari Gopalakrishnan, MD, ’09MBA

HONORARY DOCTOR OF LETTERS

Dr. Paari Gopalakrishnan is the Chief Medical Officer at Kent Hospital in Warwick, RI. As one of Rhode Island’s courageous leaders during the COVID-19 pandemic, he established the Kent field hospital during a time when medical facilities around the world were becoming overwhelmed by an unprecedented influx of patients. Through Dr. Gopalakrishnan’s efforts and oversight, the field hospital expanded Kent’s capacity to care for patients in our community and allowed continued access to care for patients with all diagnoses.

Recognized as a transformative organizational leader, throughout his career Dr. Gopalakrishnan has been a passionate advocate for a collaborative multidisciplinary framework as foundational to excellence in patient care. Recent improvements in Kent Hospital’s quality metrics reflect an independent, data-driven validation of his commitment to ensuring evidence-based structures, processes and practices dedicated to the achievement of excellent patient outcomes.

Dr. Gopalakrishnan’s relationships with members of Kent Hospital’s senior leadership team, medical personnel, and staff are based upon his strong sense of personal responsibility for and commitment to demonstrating qualities of an inclusive, supportive and available colleague and leader.

Prior to assuming his position at Kent Hospital, Dr. Gopalakrishnan served as Chief of the Division of Hospitalist Medicine at Greenville Health System in Greenville, South Carolina. He was also appointed a clinical Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina’s School of Medicine. As a senior leader in a diverse, multi-hospital system, he was a champion for a rapidly growing division of approximately 100 physicians encompassing acute-care hospitalist medicine, post-acute care medicine and inpatient psychiatry.

Dr. Gopalakrishnan received his undergraduate degree from Texas A&M University and his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, completing his internal medicine residency at Brown University. He received a Master of Business Administration degree with honors from Bryant University.

DEGREE CANDIDATES

CODE KEY

The 2021 Bryant University Graduate Commencement honors certified graduates and degree candidates scheduled to complete coursework by August 2021. Honors are tentatively calculated by the last term attended prior to the end of the Spring 2021 semester.

ß *Beta Gamma Sigma*
A member inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma must have a grade point average of 3.75 or above and be ranked in the top 20 percent of the graduating master's class.

δ *Delta Alpha Pi International Honor Society for students with disabilities*
To be eligible for membership, students must have completed a minimum of 18 credits with an earned cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher, demonstrated an interest in disability issues, and worked with faculty and/or staff in Access Services, Health Services, or Counseling Services.

College of Arts and Sciences

MASTER OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION

Andrew J. Akers Honors
Shannon Michel Curley *Honors*
Aidan G. Devers
Jenna-Marie A. Husted *Honors*
Gabrielle Joyce Lafond *Honors*
Kyra Denise Robins *Honors*
Kristen Joy Smith
Isabella Michelle St Francis

College of Business

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Eric James Aguiar
Nicholas Angelo IV *Honors*, ß
Cristhian Arbeláez
Kaitlin D. Aucoin *Honors*, ß
Alexander Elias Azar
Egan Keiffer Bachtell
Jack Anthony Bacon
Michelle Jennifer Baffoni *Honors*, ß
Christopher B. Belman
Michaela Lynne Benoit, ß
Asher Nathaniel Bergeron
Matthew D. Bettencourt *Honors*, ß
Tracey Lynn Bock *Honors*
John Joseph Brennan *Honors*
Jacob Charles Buonaiuto
Michael Anthony Buono *Honors*, ß
Garrett Burgon
Jake Richard Pinto Burlingame *Honors*, ß
Nicolas Raymond Butera
Shannon Marie Butler *Honors*
Deborah M. Campos *Honors*
Jessica Carol Cantone
Sean Cappellini
Nicholas Joseph Caracciolo
Michael Joseph Cardello
Melissa Marie Carella
Cameron Jordan Carpenter
Kerri Carreiro *Honors*
Teresa Carreiro *Honors*, ß

Alex Brian David Chace δ
Prescilla Chedid *Honors*, ß
James Douglas Ciliento
Melanie Cluley
Zachary T. Coffey
Jeffrey Sol Cohen Jr
Paul Edward Connelly *Honors*, ß
Carmela Rita Coppola
Nikki-Louise Coro *Honors*
Katherine Jane Coutu *Honors*
Kayla D Curran *Honors*
Patrick Edward Danner
Ruth Dapaah-Afriyie *Honors*, ß
Madison Marie Derosia
Andrew Joseph Dirito
Anthony Salvatore DiStefano
Lyla Malek Eljizi
Kelly A. Emerson *Honors*
Camila Espinal *Honors*
Andrew Faggio Jr.
Laura Elizabeth Feiereisen
Jill Yendriga Finnegan *Honors*, ß
Brandon Andrew Flamand
Francis John Foley II
Jake Anthony Fontes *Honors*, ß
Zachary Michael Frank *Honors*, ß
Jennifer Jean Gaudette *Honors*
Courtenay R. Gilbert *Honors*
Jack Andrew Gordon
Andrew Edward Grenier *Honors*, ß
Heather Suzanne Grim
Kristen Habbel
Narine Hagopian *Honors*
Kathryn Matellian Hall, ß
Thomas Patrick Hall
Gabriella T. Henry
Hunter Alan Hill
Matthew Hill *Honors*, ß
Hannah Elizabeth Hobill
Kyle James Holmes *Honors*, ß
Keenan M. Homsi *Honors*
Jiebin Hou
Andrew J. Howlett *Honors*, ß
Ivan Hung
Dalton James Hunt *Honors*
Jack R. Ipsen
Brian Michael Ix *Honors*
Nyatasha Kahyun Jackowicz, ß
Otis William Jackson III
Gregg Roger Johnson *Honors*, ß
Abigail Hope Joncas
Tyge Edward Joyce
Rebecca Marie Klosterman
John Patrick Knight Jr.
Joshua Richard Kosinski
Jenna N. Lamborghini
Shaun P. Lavoie
Michael Kevin Lehane *Honors*, ß
Thomas H. Libby
Jushen Lin
Sarah E. Loehr *Honors*, ß
Danielle Elena Maccione *Honors*, ß
Kayla Erin MacLeod *Honors*, ß
Remi Theresa Manna
Hannah L. Mason
Bianca Michelle Mastropietro
Caitlin N. McCosh *Honors*, ß
Ryan Patrick McDonough δ
Liam Thomas McGill *Honors*
Jessica L. McGrath *Honors*
Marni McGrath *Honors*
Theresa Rose McGrory
Dennis Medvetsky
John Michael Meleedy Jr.
Justin Paul Mello
Jesse Michael Miron *Honors*, ß
Andrea Lynne Mitchell *Honors*
Kathryn M. Montalbano *Honors*, ß
Vito C. Morgese
Lisa Morris
Gregory V. Mumma, ß
Ryan Michael Murray *Honors*
Thomas Bradley Murray
Kevin M. Murtha
Joshua Michael Nunes
Christopher Warren O'Donnell
Lauren Elizabeth O'Donnell *Honors*
Kelsey Okolowitcz Honors
Yasmine K. Paolino
Jacob Pardonnet
Christina M. Pare *Honors*
Matthew Pare *Honors*
Alexander William Parent
Robert N. Paroskie *Honors*
Laura Elena Petrone *Honors*, ß
Adolfo Pichardo Jr. *Honors*, ß
Nicholas W. Poli
Margaret Anna Pressler
Alexandria Grace Rabassa *Honors*, ß
Alex Richard Rasmussen
Justin R. Rattie, ß
Victor A. Rey
Kimberly A. Rinehart *Honors*, ß
Marisah Rocero *Honors*
Samantha M. Rogers *Honors*
Scott Robert Rogers
Jacob M. Roy
Kathryn A. Schrade
Andrew T. Schultz
Ashlyn Sehgal
Bryan Randall Sergeant *Honors*, ß
Hui Shen *Honors*, ß
William C. Shivers
Svetlana A. Simonova *Honors*
Allison L. Sylvester *Honors*
Jacinta A. Tavares *Honors*, ß
Jessica Natalie Taylor
Brigid Estelle Thompson *Honors*
Johnathan Titone
Thanh Thi Kim Tran *Honors*
Marta Trujillo-Bencomo
Taylor Lee van der Biezen
Christina A. Vilardi *Honors*, ß
Zachary Joseph Vogel
Trevor Gustave Weingarten *Honors*
Bradford L. Wilson *Honors*
Elena Marie Wood *Honors*
Tyler J. Zinko, *Honors*, ß

MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANCY

Zachary Michael Allen *Honors*, ß
Scott Louis Bailey *Honors*, ß
Thomas John Behr, ß
Keryn Anne Birrell, ß
Mitchell William Canzano
David Paul Carchedi
Brian Christopher Cavanaugh
Ariana N. Ciunci ß
Sydney Paige Conway
Wenzhi Deng *Honors*
Alex Ann Drezek
Jonathan Andrew Elkas
David Cody Foulds
Adam Paul Nelson Gosselin
Autumn Lee Hale
Zhiqin He
Yuhua Huang
Jordan Keith Huntoon *Honors*
Claudio Ialongo
Joseph Francis Iamele *Honors*
Richard Junquera
Alexander J. Kimmel *Honors*, ß
Alexa Rae Koch *Honors*, ß
Feifei Kuang
David Huey LaBorde
Angelina Elizabeth Leandres *Honors*, ß
Matthew G. Letourneau
Baiqing Liang
Juliana Kimberly McCabe *Honors*, ß
Kelly Anne Morrissey ß
Colton Edward Nothe *Honors*, ß
Victoria Lynn Pearlingi *Honors*
Angelica Marie Provost *Honors*, ß
Richard A. Ramirez
Madison Elizabeth Rojas, ß
Michael J. Rucki *Honors*, ß
Nicholas Marcelino Santos
Julia Elyse Sheehan *Honors*, ß
Yutong Shen *Honors*, ß
Alec Richard Simonovitch
Natalie Jacqueline Terranova *Honors*
Sara Elizabeth Tyma *Honors*
Siqi Wei
Xiaofeng Wen
Qi Wu
Xueying Wu
Zongxi Xie
Caihua Zhang
Xiaoyinzi Zhang

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Megan Azadian *Honors*
Kevin Russell Bonvicini
Lily Campanile Boyle
Brett Adam Buskey *Honors*
Caitlin Grace Canedy
Michaela Sherry-Ann Chin
Kelly Eleanor Conley *Honors*
Elizabeth Rose Cook
Megan Michele Cranston *Honors*
Taylor Marie Dryden *Honors*
Erin Gallagher *Honors*
Mark R. Gauvin
Alyssa Lee Gramstorff
Alexa Tomissa Grande *Honors*
Sarah Jean Hallinan
Valerie Harbour *Honors*
Jennifer Ann Kennedy *Honors*
Kevin Kruckenberg
Scott LaMay *Honors*
Matthew Anthony Luz
Daniel Robert Martin *Honors*
James Henry Noon
Erin Rose O'Day *Honors*
Courtney Lynne Pilon *Honors*
Jennifer Portelli-Gupta
Kelci E. Ragsdale
Brooke Erin Ramsier *Honors*
Megan Cole Rogers
Caroline Kathleen Rubino
Samantha M. Scaduto *Honors*
Carrie Ann Smith
Meaghan Mary Jude Tigh
Jerilyn Ann Weglinski
Alexandra Nicole Wolfe
Christina Nicole Wright
Alishia Guzman Zyer *Honors*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TAXATION

Sandra J. Bradley
Nicholas P. Calabro *Honors*, ß
Christopher Gabriel Torres

ACADEMIC HERALDRY

The history of academic dress worn today dates back to the universities of the Middle Ages. A statute in 1321 required the wearing of gowns by all scholars and clerics. Probably, the warm gown and hood were practical in the unheated buildings.

Students at most American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence until after the Civil War. These varied in design until they were standardized by the American Intercollegiate Commission in 1895. While the academic costume code has been modified over the years, the general characteristics of the initial requirements still prevail. The uniform system of academic heraldry serves to indicate the level of degree, the field of study in which it was earned, and the institution by which it was granted.

The gown for the bachelor's degree has pointed sleeves and is designed to be worn closed. The gown for the master's degree has an oblong sleeve and can be worn open or closed. The gown for the doctoral degree has bell-shaped sleeves with black velvet facing down the front and three bars of the same color across the sleeves. However, these facings and crossbars may be in the color distinctive to the subject to which the degree pertains.

The academic hoods are lined with the color of the university granting the degree. The length of the hood varies slightly for bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees. It is often traditional for the candidates for degrees to wear the mortarboard tassel on the right front side before the degree is conferred, and to shift it to the left when the degree is awarded.

At Bryant University, the president, trustees, and honorary degree recipients wear specially designed gold robes trimmed with black, representative of the University's colors.

THE HARRIET E. JACOBS MEMORIAL MACE

The University Mace is carried at Commencement exercises and at other University celebrations. Crowned in gold, the mace has two dominant emblems: the seal of the State of Rhode Island and the seal of Bryant University.

THE PRESIDENT'S CHAIR

The President's Chair, a gift to the University from Priscilla Angelo and her husband, John Eng-Wong, is used on ceremonial occasions. It is a Victorian-style gent's chair rendered in walnut and copied from an original French design from the period of the University's founding in 1863. The carved crest top includes the Bryant University bronze seal.

BRYANT MEDALLION

The Bryant Medallion is worn by the president during academic ceremonies such as Commencement, Convocation, and the bestowing of honorary degrees. One side of the medallion bears a likeness of the University seal, the other, the names of all Bryant University presidents. The formal installation of a president is marked by the presentation of the medallion to the president by the chair of the Board of Trustees.

THE BRYANT SEAL

The Bryant Seal represents the educational mission of the University and its worldwide implications. The central symbol is an ellipsoid globe with quills on each side to signify the traditional emblem of communication in business. In the center, behind the globe, is a torch symbolizing liberty, the spirit of free inquiry, academic freedom, and learning. The Archway, forming the background for the globe, torch, and quills, is a University landmark affectionately remembered by thousands of alumni. The Latin motto expresses the purpose of the University: "Cognitio. Virtus. Successus." – Knowledge. Character. Success.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHAIR OF THE BOARD

David M. Beirne '85, General Partner, X10 Capital, Stonewall, TX

VICE-CHAIRS OF THE BOARD

M. Anne Szostak '02H, President, Szostak Partners, Providence, RI
Joseph F. Puishys '80, Chairman and CEO, SitelogIQ, Minneapolis, MN

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD

Cheryl Merchant '12H, CEO, Taco Family of Companies, N.A., Cranston, RI

MEMBERS

Tim Barton '85, Managing Partner, Barton Executive Search, Inc., Atlanta, GA
George E. Bello, '58, '96H, Executive Vice President and Controller (Retired), Reliance Group Holdings, Inc., New York, NY
James P. Bergeron '92, Managing Partner, 108 Partners, LLC, and Managing Partner, CureQuest Clinical, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
Robert P. Brown '86, P'19, Head of Institutional Fixed Income (Retired), Fidelity Investments, Naples, FL
Robert J. Calabro '88, Partner, PwC, Boston, MA
Lisa G. Churchville '09H, Director of College and Retirement Savings (Retired), State of Rhode Island, South Kingstown, RI
William J. Conaty '67, Senior Vice President (Retired), Corporate Human Resources, General Electric Company, North Palm Beach, FL
Nancy DeViney '75, Vice President, Strategy and Solutions, Sales & Distribution (Retired), IBM Corporation, Plymouth, MA
Scott C. Donnelly '14H, Chairman and CEO, Textron, Inc., Providence, RI
C. Correll Durling '75, P'08, Owner, Dairy Tech, LLC, Lebanon, NJ
Jeffrey W. Gardner '87, Co-Founder and CEO, Carousel Industries, Exeter, RI
Ross Gittell, Ph.D, President, Bryant University, Smithfield, RI
Ann-Marie Harrington '86, Advisor/Investor/Consultant, Portsmouth, RI
Shruti Kansara '18, (Recent Alumni Trustee), Business Consulting Analyst, Slalom Consulting, Chicago, IL
Christine Katziff '86, Chief Audit Executive, Bank of America, Charlotte, NC
Diane A. Kazarian '83, Managing Partner, GTA & National Banking Leader, PwC, Toronto, ON
Beverly Ledbetter, JD, '18H, Vice President & General Counsel (Retired), Brown University, Providence, RI
Robert P. Mead '73, President (Retired), Tyco Engineered Products & Services, Jamestown, RI
Kristian P. Moor '81, P'17, Chairman and CEO (Retired), Chartis Insurance Company, New York, NY
Patricia O'Brien P'15, Associate Provost for Budget & Planning, Boston University - Office of the Provost, Boston, MA
Angelique M. Perrone '20 (Recent Alumni Trustee), Marketing Leadership Dev. Program, Cigna, Bloomfield, CT

Gordon P. Riblet P '97, President, Microwave Development Labs, Needham Heights, MA
Daniel J. Rice IV '03, Founding Partner, Rice Investment Group, Dallas, TX
Steven M. Richard '00MBA, JD, Partner, Nixon Peabody LLC, Providence, RI
James V. Rosati '72, President and CEO (Retired), Beacon Mutual Insurance Co., Narragansett, RI
Brian P. Salit '19, (Recent Alumni Trustee), Management Trainee, Toyota Motors North America, Seekonk, MA
Edwin J. Santos '81, P'18, Chairman, Prospect CharterCARE LLC, Providence, RI
Daniel F. Schmitt '73, Partner (Retired), KPMG, Scottsdale, AZ
Margaret M. Van Bree, MHA, DrPH, Barrington, RI
Rita Williams-Bogar '76, Founder, President and CEO, Personal Development Solutions, LLC, and the PDS Institute, LLC, Montclair, NJ
D. Ellen Wilson '79, Office of Chief Executive and Executive Vice President, UnitedHealth Group, Boston, MA

COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

PRIMARY CO-CHAIR

Nicole Beauregard, Director of Conferences and Special Events

CO-CHAIRS

Abhijit Chaudhury, Ph.D., Professor of Information Systems and Analytics, College of Business
Julie Volkman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Communications, College of Arts and Sciences

MEMBERS

Victoria Atkins, Scheduling Assistant to the President
Stephen Bannon, Executive Director of Public Safety
Kathleen Brown, Senior Associate Director of Alumni Engagement
Leah DeCesare, Assistant Director of Conferences and Special Events
Andrew DeMelia, Assistant Vice President of Facilities Operations
Robert Dunning, Assistant Director of Facilities Management
Rebecca Eriksen, Director of Campus Visit Experience, Undergraduate Admission
Jamie Grenon, Director of Graduate Programs
Laurie Hazard, Assistant Dean for Student Success
Monica Houde, Senior Assistant Registrar
Kim Keyes, Assistant Director of Graduate Operations
Lisa Laliberte, Senior Project Manager, Campus Management
Philip Lombardi, Director, Academic Computing and Lab Technology
Susan McLacken, Registrar
Keith Murray, Ph.D., Professor of Marketing, College of Business

Elizabeth O'Neil, Vice President of Communications and Marketing
Jessica Raffaele, Director of Student Events and Orientation Programs
John Rainone, Assistant Director of Public Safety
Judi Rix, Administrative Assistant to the Provost
Wendy Samter, Ph.D., Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Stan Stowik, Director, Bryant University Bookstore

GUEST SERVICES

- Restrooms are located in Barrington House and in the Fisher Student Center.
- Bryant memorabilia can be purchased online at www.bkstr.com/bryantstore.
- A limited number of listener-assisted headsets are available at the sound control booth at the back of the tent.

Please ask an usher if you need assistance in locating any of these services.

back cover/textured stock