University of Nebraska at Omaha Commencement: May 2021

University of Nebraska at Omaha

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THE IDEA OF A UNIVERSITY

A university is not bricks and mortar, not solely bricks and mortar.

It is flesh and bone, dreams and reality, promise and fulfillment.

Its totality is too broad for canvas, too elusive for print.

It has moods and ages, like a person.

Its seasons are all growing seasons and the harvests ever secure.

A university is, above all, an experience.

It exists in the hearts and minds of those who draw from its wisdom and add to its reputation.

A university is a place, yes, but a place of the spirit.

It is described, forever after, by its family, not as architecture, but as personality and precept and conversion.

A university is what its alumni have become.

They are its voice to the world.

Some alumni achieve headlines, bear titles, manage corporations, represent constituents, build, create, publicize, minister, protect, teach.

Some labor less conspicuously, contributing from the depths of their talents, fostering understanding, transmitting appreciation.

They speak for us, our alumni. And they speak well.

Robert T. Reilly, UNO Professor Emeritus
History of the Mace
University maces symbolize the authority and independence of a chartered university and the authority vested in the chancellor. They are typically carried in at the beginning of a convocation ceremony or commencement.

Omicron Delta Kappa
Active student members of the UNO Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society, shall be recognized by blue, white, and gold honor cords, the official colors of the society.

Phi Kappa Phi
Members of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s most selective all-discipline academic honor organization, shall be recognized by blue, white, and black honor cords, the official colors of the society.

Pi Gamma Mu
Blue and white cords with blue tassels honor graduating members of Pi Gamma Mu, the International Honor Society in Social Science.

U.S. Military Veteran
Red, white, and blue cords signify military service members and/or veterans.
Graduate College
- Doctoral Programs
- Educational Specialist
- Executive Master of Science
  in Information Technology
- Master of Accounting
- Master of Architectural Engineering
- Master of Arts
- Master of Arts for Teachers of Mathematics
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Business Administration
  —Executive MBA
- Master of Fine Arts
- Master of Music
- Master of Public Administration
- Master of Public Health
- Master of Science
- Master of Social Work

College of Information Science & Technology
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
- Bachelor of Science
  in Management Information Systems
- Bachelor of Science in Bioinformatics
- Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity
- Bachelor of Science in IT Innovation

TASSEL COLORS
UNDERGRADUATE HONORS

College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media
- Bachelor of Arts in Art History
- Bachelor of Arts in Communication
- Bachelor of Arts in Music
- Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art
- Bachelor of Arts in Theatre
- Bachelor of Fine Arts
- Bachelor of Music
- Bachelor of Science in Communication

Baccalaureate Degrees with Honors
Grades awarded in all courses taken at all colleges and universities attended are included in computing the Grade Point Average (GPA) for determining eligibility for honors. It should be noted that the GPA included in the student grade reports issued by the Office of the University Registrar reflects only courses taken at UNO, UNL, UNMC, and UNK.

- To all graduates whose scholastic average for their entire university career and at UNO is 3.87 or above, the degree is conferred summa cum laude.
- To all graduates whose scholastic average for their entire university career and at UNO is 3.63 or above, but below 3.87, the degree is conferred magna cum laude.
- To all graduates whose scholastic average for their entire university career and at UNO is 3.51 or above, but below 3.63, the degree is conferred cum laude.
- To qualify for honors, a student must have earned at least 60 semester hours within the University of Nebraska system, 30 hours of which must be completed at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and in which letter grades of “A,” “B,” “C,” or “D” are received.

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Bachelor of Science in Aviation
Bachelor of Science in Social Work
Bachelor of Science in Emergency Management
Bachelor of Science in Gerontology

Baccalaureate Degrees with Honors Extra Muros
These degrees are awarded to transfer students who have not completed the required 60 semester hours of credit within the University of Nebraska system required for cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude honors.

UNL College of Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Construction Management
- Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering

University Honors Program
The University Honors Program is a Universitywide program providing maximum educational opportunities for students of high ability through specially designed multidisciplinary seminars and participation in an academic level not generally possible in usual curricular offerings.

Honors at UNO began in the College of Arts and Sciences and became Universitywide in 1978. It is governed through the office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and administered through the Honors Director. All UND colleges implement the University Honors Program curriculum.

As part of their Honors Program requirements, students undertake a project that results in a Senior Honors Thesis or Practicum. Students who have been designated in this booklet as Honors Program students have fulfilled the academic requirements of this program. Honors Program graduates wear red stoles.

Medallion Colors
Students receiving their bachelor’s degree with honors will be presented medallions in the colors indicated below.

- Summa Cum Laude: Red/White
- Magna Cum Laude: White
- Cum Laude: Red

UNL College of Engineering students receiving their bachelor’s degrees with honors will be presented medallions in the colors indicated below.

- Highest Distinction: Red/White
- High Distinction: White
- Distinction: Red

Degrees with Distinction
In recognition of outstanding academic excellence, the UNL College of Engineering recommends bachelor’s degrees with Distinction, High Distinction, and Highest Distinction.

- Candidates for the bachelor’s degree who have successfully completed the program to which they were admitted and achieved a 3.97 cumulative GPA and above will receive a degree with Highest Distinction.
- Candidates for the bachelor’s degree who have successfully completed the program to which they were admitted and achieved a 3.97 cumulative GPA and above will receive a degree with High Distinction.
- Candidates for the bachelor’s degree who have successfully completed the program to which they were admitted and achieved a 3.89 cumulative GPA and above will receive a degree with Distinction.

Honors Legend
Students graduating with honors are distinguished with the following abbreviations listed after their names.

- Summa Cum Laude: scl
- Magna Cum Laude: mcl
- Cum Laude: cl
- 4.0 grade point average: 4.0
- Highest Distinction: HD
- High Distinction: hd
- Distinction: d
- Extra Muros: rm

Medallion Colors
Students receiving their bachelor’s degree with honors will be presented medallions in the colors indicated below.

- Summa Cum Laude: Red/White
- Magna Cum Laude: White
- Cum Laude: Red

UNL College of Engineering students receiving their bachelor’s degrees with honors will be presented medallions in the colors indicated below.

- Highest Distinction: Red/White
- High Distinction: White
- Distinction: Red
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Prelude
UNO Faculty Brass

Presentation of the Colors
Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 470

National Anthem
Hannah Rembert, Bachelor of Music

Master of Ceremonies and Welcome Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Regent Remarks
Regent Elizabeth O’Connor

Chancellor’s Remarks
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Dean Remarks
Dean David Boocker, Ph.D.

Student Speaker
Kaia Phelps

Presentation of Degree Candidates
Dean David Boocker, Ph.D.

Conferral of Degrees
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Bachelor’s Degrees
Closing Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Postlude
UNO Faculty Brass

STUDENT SPEAKER

Kaia Phelps
College of Arts and Sciences

Kaia Phelps is a North Omaha native and is receiving a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Black Studies and a Bachelor of Science in criminology and criminal justice. Kaia is the first in her family to attend and graduate from a four-year institution. She will attend Creighton Law after graduation. Kaia has made the Dean’s and Chancellor’s lists and is a part of the Thompson Learning Community and Davis Chambers Scholars. She has participated in many extracurricular activities, including Student Government and is a member of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service’s Diversity Committee. She was a Thompson Learning Community Mentor and Peer Academic Leader. Kaia loves UNO because there is always something to do and something to be a part of. She thanks God for all of her accomplishments and believes it’s a blessing to have accomplished all that she has thus far.

Renata Valquier Chavez
Student Marshal
College of Arts and Sciences

Hannah Rembert
National Anthem Singer
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

Elizabeth O’Connor
Regent
Graduate of UNO

Kaia Phelps is a North Omaha native and is receiving a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Black Studies and a Bachelor of Science in criminology and criminal justice. Kaia is the first in her family to attend and graduate from a four-year institution. She will attend Creighton Law after graduation. Kaia has made the Dean’s and Chancellor’s lists and is a part of the Thompson Learning Community and Davis Chambers Scholars. She has participated in many extracurricular activities, including Student Government and is a member of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service’s Diversity Committee. She was a Thompson Learning Community Mentor and Peer Academic Leader. Kaia loves UNO because there is always something to do and something to be a part of. She thanks God for all of her accomplishments and believes it’s a blessing to have accomplished all that she has thus far.
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SCIENCES
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION, FINE ARTS AND MEDIA

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Prelude
UNO Faculty Brass

Presentation of the Colors
Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps
Detachment 470

National Anthem
Hannah Rembert, Bachelor of Music

Master of Ceremonies and Welcome Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Chancellor’s Remarks
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Chancellor’s Medal
Rebecca Pasco, Ph.D.

Dean Remarks
CEHHS Dean Nancy Edick, Ed.D.

Student Speaker
CEHHS Dulce Cordero Mendoza

Presentation of Degree Candidates
CEHHS Dean Nancy Edick, Ed.D.
CFAM Dean Michael Hilt, Ph.D.

Conferal of Degrees
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Bachelor’s Degrees
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Postlude
UNO Faculty Brass

STUDENT SPEAKER

Dulce Cordero Mendoza
College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences

Dulce Cordero Mendoza was born in Sonora, Mexico, and moved to Glendale, Arizona, when she was 3 years old. She has been involved in numerous organizations where she served in leadership roles. She is a Chancellor’s and Dean’s List recipient. In 2014, Dulce served in the United States Marine Corps, where she married Andrew Cordero. They are parents to a 2-year-old daughter and live in Omaha, Nebraska.

Dulce will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science in education degree with a major in elementary education. She loves the endless opportunities at UNO, and cherishes her time there. She is especially grateful for the sacrifices her parents have made. After graduation, Dulce will continue her journey as an educational advocate.

Rebecca Pasco, Ph.D., has served as the Director of Library Science Education programs at UNO since 1999. Her love of libraries, digital skills, and her students-first approach has been instrumental in creating UNO’s nationally-recognized, graduate-level Teacher Education programs. Her understanding of distance education instruction was a crucial part in ensuring students’ success over the past year. Dr. Pasco’s program has produced students who now have leadership roles in local, state, and national professional library associations. Nearly one-third of Nebraska’s public, academic, school, and special libraries are filled with alumni from one of Dr. Pasco’s programs. Dr. Pasco has received many awards during her tenure at UNO, including the UNO Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award in 2003, the UNO Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award in 2013, and the Margaret Killian Diamond Professorship in 2019.

Rebecca Pasco

STUDENT SPEAKER

Haley Herzberg
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

Haley Herzberg is receiving a Bachelor of Fine Arts with a creative writing major and a concentration in poetry, and a Bachelor of Arts with a major in English and a concentration in language studies. Herzberg has been named to the Dean’s List and/or the Chancellor’s List each semester. She is the vice president of the UNO Writing Club and an active member of the Writer’s Workshop community. She also has been on the poetry staff for UNO’s 13th Floor magazine and is the poetry editor for the Spring 2021 issue. She won best performance for her essay at the Love/Storytelling event in 2019. Herzberg is the daughter of Tami and Bradrick. After graduation, she plans to be an editor and continue writing poetry.

Haley Herzberg

STUDENT SPEAKER

Ana Ortiz
Student Marshal
College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences

Zach Gilbert
Student Marshal
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

Hannah Rembert
National Anthem Singer
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media
General John E. Hyten serves as the 11th Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In this capacity, he is the nation’s second-highest-ranking military officer and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He has served as vice chairman since November 2019. As of February 2019, Hyten also serves as the senior designated official of the Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations Cross Functional Team. General Hyten received a degree in engineering and applied sciences from Harvard University on an Air Force Reserve Officer’s Training Corps scholarship. He was then commissioned as a second lieutenant. He went on to receive a Master of Business Administration from Auburn University. His career began in engineering and acquisition before transitioning to space operations. He served in senior engineering positions on both Air Force and Army anti-satellite weapon system programs. Hyten has served tours with the Air Force Secretariat, the Air Staff, the Joint Staff, and the Commander’s Action Group at Headquarters Air Force Space Command as Director. He served as mission director in Cheyenne Mountain and as the last active-duty commander of the 6th Space Operations Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. He has commanded the squadron, group, wing, and major command levels. In 2006, he deployed to Southwest Asia as Director of Space Forces for operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He commanded Air Force Space Command, and prior to his current assignment, was the Commander of U.S. Strategic Command, one of 11 Combatant Commands under the Department of Defense. Hyten will retire in 2021.

Sandy Friedman received a degree in economics from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He served on the student council and was the first non-Greek student to win a council seat in five years. He also was active in intramural sports and the Young Democrats. After graduation, Friedman acquired an insurance agency and within 12 years grew it into the second-largest independent agency in Omaha. He went on to found and/or operate many businesses across a diverse range of fields, and is the founder of Customer Service Profiles, which provided quality service measurement for businesses. Friedman has served the community extensively, serving terms on numerous boards, including Girls Club of Omaha, the Omaha Symphony, and the Jewish Federation of Omaha. He served as president of the Anti-Defamation League, Beth El Synagogue, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Sandy has received several awards, and the UNO College of Business named him its outstanding Economics Alumni of the Year in 2014. He was inducted into the Central High School Hall of Fame in 2017. Today he is retired and lives in Omaha with his wife, Amy, of 43 years. They have two children and two grandchildren.

Justin Krug is graduating with his Bachelor of Science in business administration with a concentration in marketing and a secondary concentration in management. Krug has received many awards and achievements. He won the Outstanding Marketing Student of the Year and Management Student of Distinction for 2020-21, as well as being named to the Chancellor’s List for a 4.0 GPA each semester. He is also an inductee of two honor societies: Beta Gamma Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi. Krug is the president of UNO’s Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization and was named CEO’s 2020 Outstanding Chapter Leader. Krug serves as the president of the CBA’s Dean’s Student Advisory Council (DSAC).

Brad Stuthman

Hannah Rembert

Justin Krug

Joseph Stuthman

Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

General John Hyten

Sandra, “Sandy” Friedman

Hannah Rembert

Justin Krug

Sandford “Sandy” Friedman

General John Hyten

Brad Stuthman

Student Marshal

College of

Business Administration

College of

Business Administration

College of

Communication,

Fine Arts and Media

Hannah Rembert

National Anthem Singer

Business Administration

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Prelude

UNO Faculty Brass

Presentation of the Colors

Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps

Detachment 470

National Anthem

Hannah Rembert, Bachelor of Music

Master of Ceremonies and Welcome Remarks

Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs,

Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Chancellor’s Remarks

Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Citation for Alumni Achievement

Presented to Sandford “Sandy” Friedman by Interim Executive Director of Alumni Engagement, Anthony Fiott

Honorary Degree and Commencement Address

General John Hyten

Dean Remarks

Dean Michelle Trawick, Ph.D.

Student Speaker

Justin Krug

Presentation of Degree Candidates

Dean Michelle Trawick, Ph.D.

Conferral of Degrees

Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Bachelor’s Degrees

Closing Remarks

Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs,

Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Postlude

UNO Faculty Brass

HONORARY DEGREE

BACHELOR’S DEGREES

SACHA KOPP, PH.D.

DEAN OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

CITATION FOR ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT

Sandford “Sandy” Friedman

STUDENT SPEAKER

Justin Krug

UNO Faculty Brass
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Prelude
UNO Faculty Brass

Presentation of the Colors
Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 470

National Anthem
Hannah Rembert, Bachelor of Music

Master of Ceremonies and Welcome Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Regent Remarks
Regent Robert Phares

Chancellor’s Remarks
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Order of the Tower
Susan Morris

Dean Remarks
Dean John Bartle, Ph.D.

Student Speaker
Sarah Liassidi

Presentation of Degree Candidates
Dean John Bartle, Ph.D.

Conferral of Degrees
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Bachelor’s Degrees

Closing Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Postlude
UNO Faculty Brass

ORDRE OF THE TOWER

Sarah Liassidi
College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Susan Morris

STUDENT SPEAKER

Saige Angleton
Student Marshal
College of Public Affairs and Community Service

Hannah Rembert
National Anthem Singer
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

Robert Phares
Regant Graduate of UNK

Susan Morris is a graduate of Wayne State College with a degree in music. As current president of Omaha Philanthropic Trust and president of Heritage Services from 1995-2020, Morris has been involved with numerous capital campaigns totaling over $1 billion, including the campaign supporting Joslyn Art Museum and the Durham Museum, the Holland Performing Arts Center, and UNO’s Baxter Arena. She most recently facilitated the campaign for the new home of UNO baseball, Tal Anderson Field, and softball, Connie Claussen Field.

Morris also enjoys mentoring professional young women starting their careers. She is an active supporter and member of her community, having been inducted into the Aksarben Court of Honor in 2015. Her work to give back to the community was hard but rewarding and she was a natural at fundraising. Prior to Omaha Philanthropic Trust and Heritage Services she held positions with the Omaha World-Herald, College of Saint Mary, and Nebraska Medical Center.

Susan Morris

Sarah Liassidi is originally from Ivory Coast and immigrated to the United States in 2018 to join her husband Daniel. They have two children. Sarah is thankful for the availability of her instructors to support her and bring the best out of her, allowing her to graduate with a Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies with a concentration in health care administration.

She has received several awards, and has made the Dean’s list for four semesters and the Chancellor’s list for one semester. She is a member of the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society.

Sarah plans on preparing for the Administrator in Training Program prior to taking the long-term care administrator licensing exam, preparing for a certificate in nonprofit management, and a Occupational Therapist degree.

Sarah Liassidi

College of Public Affairs and Community Service
COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (UNL)

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Prelude
UNO Faculty Brass

Presentation of the Colors
Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps
Detachment 470

National Anthem
Hannah Rembert, Bachelor of Music

Master of Ceremonies and Welcome Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Chancellor’s Remarks
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Chancellor’s Medal
Hesham Ali, Ph.D.

Dean Remarks
ENG Dean Lance Pérez, Ph.D.

Dean Remarks
IS&T Dean Hesham Ali, Ph.D.

Student Speaker
IS&T Makaila Reilly

Presentation of Degree Candidates
ENG Dean Lance Pérez, Ph.D.
IS&T Dean Hesham Ali, Ph.D.

Conferral of Degrees
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Bachelor’s Degrees
Closing Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Postlude
UNO Faculty Brass

CHANCELLOR’S MEDAL

Hesham Ali has devoted more than two decades to administration and 15 years as dean of the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s College of Information Science & Technology (IS&T). Ali joined UNO in 1988 as an assistant professor and rose to serve as the College of IS&T’s associate dean of Academic Affairs in 2000 before accepting the role of dean of the college—a position he has held since 2006. Ali has been the lead or co-author of more than 50 refereed journal articles, two books, and more than 150 papers.

Dr. Hesham Ali

STUDENT SPEAKER

Makaila Reilly is graduating with her Bachelor of Science in computer science. Reilly studied branches of computer science including cybersecurity and ISQA. During her time at UNO, she became a Maverick Maniac, supporting Maverick athletes at games, and was a Maverick Village resident assistant. She was born in Texas and grew up in South Carolina. Since moving to Omaha, she could not be happier. After graduation, Reilly plans on finding a career in Omaha.

Makaila Reilly
College of Information Science & Technology

Alex Dukart
Student Marshal
College of Engineering (UNL)

Zahraa Alsafwani
Student Marshal
College of Information Science & Technology

Hannah Rembert
National Anthem Singer
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media
GRADUATE COLLEGE
College of Arts and Sciences
College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Prelude
UNO Faculty Brass

Presentation of the Colors
Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps
Detachment 470

National Anthem
Hannah Rembert, Bachelor of Music

Master of Ceremonies and Welcome Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs,
Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

President’s Remarks
University of Nebraska President, Ted Carter

Chancellor’s Remarks
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Dean Remarks
Dean Deborah Smith-Howell, Ph.D.

Student Speaker
Maria Olvera

Presentation of Degree Candidates
Dean Deborah Smith-Howell, Ph.D.

Conferral of Degrees
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Doctorate, Educational Specialist, and Master’s Degrees

Closing Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs,
Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Postlude
UNO Faculty Brass

Maria Olvera is graduating with a Master of Science in educational leadership with a concentration in school administration. She is proud to serve the Omaha community as a high school teacher. One of Olvera’s most cherished endeavors in her career is offering her students a platform to make a real-world difference as the sponsor of the Spanish National Honor Society.

For over 10 years, she has co-hosted Hola Amigos, Hello Friends, a bilingual language initiative show that is targeted to students in the early grades.

Olvera was born in Guanajuato, Mexico, and has lived in Omaha for over 20 years. She has three children. She received her teaching degree from UNO. After graduation, Olvera plans to continue serving Omaha schools as an administrator.

Maria Olvera
Graduate College

Keshia Greve
Student Marshal
Graduate College

Hannah Rembert
National Anthem Singer
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

Ted Carter
President
University of Nebraska
GRADUATE COLLEGE
College of Business Administration
College of Public Affairs and Community Service
College of Information Science & Technology
College of Engineering (UNL)

ORDER OF PROGRAM

Prelude
UNO Faculty Brass

Presentation of the Colors
Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps
Detachment 470

National Anthem
Hannah Rembert, Bachelor of Music

Master of Ceremonies and Welcome Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs,
Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Regent Remarks
Regent Elizabeth O’Connor

Chancellor’s Remarks
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Alumni Remarks
Interim Executive Director of Alumni Engagement,
Anthony Flott

Dean Remarks
Dean Deborah Smith-Howell, Ph.D.

Student Speaker
Austin Kernan

Presentation of Degree Candidates
Dean Deborah Smith-Howell, Ph.D.

Conferal of Degrees
Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Doctorate and Master’s Degrees

Closing Remarks
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs,
Sacha Kopp, Ph.D.

Postlude
UNO Faculty Brass

STUDENT SPEAKER

Austin Kernan
Graduate College

Austin Kernan is receiving a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in collaboration science. He currently serves as a Workforce Management Specialist at the combined firm of TD Ameritrade and Charles Schwab, where he has worked for nearly three years. He also enjoys volunteering at his local church. Kernan was born and raised in San Diego, California. His parents are James and Elizabeth Kernan. He lives in Omaha with his wife, Molly.

Peter Coffey
Student Marshal
Graduate College

Hannah Rembert
National Anthem Singer
College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media

Elizabeth O’Connor
Regent
Graduate of UNO
This list includes names of persons who were candidates as of April 26, 2021. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of the academic requirements.
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**CANDIDATES FOR MAY 2021 GRADUATE DEGREES CONTINUED**

**Business Administration**
- John William Reznicek
- Jared C. Rehfeld
- Alyssa Marie Peterson Cole
- Jeremy Spencer Payne
- Lindsay Danielle O'Reilly
- Aaron P. Ohri
- Shelby Mathewson
- Elisa Lawhon
- Sheila Mathewson
- Alice Mathewson
- Adam Roy Kuntl
- Ryan Gregory Larson
- Elise Lawhon
- Austin J. Kamm
- Jordan Thomas Klein
- Adam Ryan Chastagner
- Sara Jeanette Irvine
- Lina Jiang
- Mckynna Elle Kelly
- Kevin Thaddeus Handzlik
- Mary L. Grecko
- Claire Elizabeth Fischer
- Katie Glotzmann
- Someswara Rao Gorrela
- Simon John Hjelm
- Allie L. Hodge
- Kevin Theodore Hanks
- Colen K. Hanks
- John William Reznicek
- Peder Mikael Rice
- Samantha Lynn Reebuck
- Mason Marcus Rohrich
- Emily D. Romero
- Justin H. Shelly
- Blaire Anne Shilton
- Ethan Spises
- Rui Hinawer Starnberg
- Augusto Tanner
- Eric Carl Tusarek
- Jason Tordoff
- Douglas Dale Ullman
- Colin Thomas Wagner
- William Carlos Watters
- Jonathan Thomas Whelan
- Swann Patrick Whelan
- Denzel Matthew Woods
- **MASTERS OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**: Executive MBA
  - Enzo Z. Jin
  - Jodie Leigh Sams
- **MASTERS OF MUSIC**:
  - Lacey Joy Atkinson
  - Jansyn Bell
  - Taylor James Burks
  - Paul Marcelo Loja Prado
  - Maya Nadia Maudhoo
- **Masters of Social Work**
  - Samantha Leigh Amick
- **Masters of Social Work**: Executive MBA
  - Jodie Leigh Sams
  - Enzo Z. Jin
  - Jodie Leigh Sams
- **Masters of Social Work**: Business Administration
  - Kevin Thaddeus Handzlik
  - Mary L. Grecko
  - Someswara Rao Gorrela
  - Simon John Hjelm
  - Allie L. Hodge
  - Kevin Theodore Hanks
  - Colen K. Hanks
  - John William Reznicek
  - Peder Mikael Rice
  - Samantha Lynn Reebuck
  - Mason Marcus Rohrich
  - Emily D. Romero
  - Justin H. Shelly
  - Blaire Anne Shilton
  - Ethan Spises
  - Rui Hinawer Starnberg
  - Augusto Tanner
  - Eric Carl Tusarek
  - Jason Tordoff
  - Douglas Dale Ullman
  - Colin Thomas Wagner
  - William Carlos Watters
  - Jonathan Thomas Whelan
  - Swann Patrick Whelan
  - Denzel Matthew Woods
  - **MASTERS OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**: Executive MBA
  - Enzo Z. Jin
  - Jodie Leigh Sams
  - **MASTERS OF MUSIC**:
    - Lacey Joy Atkinson
    - Jansyn Bell
    - Taylor James Burks
    - Paul Marcelo Loja Prado
    - Maya Nadia Maudhoo
  - **Masters of Social Work**
    - Samantha Leigh Amick
  - **Masters of Social Work**: Executive MBA
    - Jodie Leigh Sams
    - Enzo Z. Jin
    - Jodie Leigh Sams
  - **Masters of Social Work**: Business Administration
    - Kevin Thaddeus Handzlik
    - Mary L. Grecko
    - Someswara Rao Gorrela
    - Simon John Hjelm
    - Allie L. Hodge
    - Kevin Theodore Hanks
    - Colen K. Hanks
    - John William Reznicek
    - Peder Mikael Rice
    - Samantha Lynn Reebuck
    - Mason Marcus Rohrich
    - Emily D. Romero
    - Justin H. Shelly
    - Blaire Anne Shilton
    - Ethan Spises
    - Rui Hinawer Starnberg
    - Augusto Tanner
    - Eric Carl Tusarek
    - Jason Tordoff
    - Douglas Dale Ullman
    - Colin Thomas Wagner
    - William Carlos Watters
    - Jonathan Thomas Whelan
    - Swann Patrick Whelan
    - Denzel Matthew Woods
    - **MASTERS OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**: Executive MBA
      - Enzo Z. Jin
      - Jodie Leigh Sams
    - **MASTERS OF MUSIC**:
      - Lacey Joy Atkinson
      - Jansyn Bell
      - Taylor James Burks
      - Paul Marcelo Loja Prado
      - Maya Nadia Maudhoo
    - **Masters of Social Work**
      - Samantha Leigh Amick
  - **Masters of Social Work**: Executive MBA
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    - Enzo Z. Jin
    - Jodie Leigh Sams
  - **Masters of Social Work**: Business Administration
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    - Allie L. Hodge
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    - Colen K. Hanks
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    - Peder Mikael Rice
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    - Mason Marcus Rohrich
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    - Justin H. Shelly
    - Blaire Anne Shilton
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    - Augusto Tanner
    - Eric Carl Tusarek
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      - Jansyn Bell
      - Taylor James Burks
      - Paul Marcelo Loja Prado
      - Maya Nadia Maudhoo
    - **Masters of Social Work**
      - Samantha Leigh Amick
      - **Masters of Social Work**: Executive MBA
      - Jodie Leigh Sams
      - Enzo Z. Jin
      - Jodie Leigh Sams
    - **Masters of Social Work**: Business Administration
ADVANCED WRITING
Bridget Colleen Lillethorup
Robyn Jane Tait

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Miti Srinivasa Mareddy

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION
Sarah Siedlik

DATA ANALYTICS
Kirstin Lee Woodbury

DATA MANAGEMENT
Tai Nguyen

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE
Shari Albaugh-Tamba
Caleb Richter-Tate
Joshua Whatley

GERONTOLOGY
Christina Marie Aguilar
Emily Lauren Frankel
Taylor Jean Kent
Rachel Irene Levine
Makenno Elizabeth Pluto

GOVERNMENT
Jason Martin
Kimberly LaChapelle Remmick

HUMAN RESOURCES AND TRAINING
Alexandra K. R. Burdyny

INFORMATION ASSURANCE
Sheryl Antoinette Cummings
John Paul Garza

INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY
William Gryphon Delaney
Ebenzer Koji Koomson
Andrew Thomas Moritz

MANAGING JUVENILE AND ADULT POPULATIONS
Erik Nicholas Bertram
Kristin Chandler

NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT
Joseph James Koza

PROJECT MANAGEMENT
Jordan Ann Penn

PUBLIC MANAGEMENT
Lucia Raya Kaup
Luis Fernando Sotelo
Sam Stivers

REAL ESTATE
Jordan Tye Adams

SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND DESIGN
Jing Cui
Vaishali Goel

SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT
Aida Adam Ahmed
Alanoud Enad Alanazi
Lama Mohammed Alzarah
Kyle Jayden Anderson
Murtaza Babak
Rashmi Chataut
Abigail Marie Clyde
Matthew Doval
Ethan Michael Frierichs
Aaron Kyle Gorcos
Yu Guo
Kyle Anthony Haston
Dakota James Heath
Alexandra Gabrielle Hermanek
Austin William Hunt
Messean Livingstone Kluse
Daniel Morgan Mitchell
Sneha Modi
Anna Drew Newby
Tai Nguyen

MANAGING JUVENILE AND ADULT POPULATIONS
Levi Price
Corey Thomas Snavely
John Charles Sturmberg
David H. Swanson
Oussama Talha
Zachary Edward Thornhill
David Andrew Tuttle
Neesh Christian Wagner
Hannah Anne Widger
Hasanain Yousef

TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES
Christopher John Burbach
Leigha Rae Little
Alexis Rene’ Mickles
Stephanie Lynn Richards
John Christian Uecker
Hannah Marie Vogltanz

TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION
Daniel Michael Humphrey
Kelly Lynne Johnson

TRIBAL MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
Ahsud Sulaiman Hassan Al Ajmi
Hisham Nasser Alsaeed
Abdulaziz Awadh Alshaire
Seth T. Hackleman
Terry L. Heathman III
Alexia Gabrielle Viola Jackson

This list includes names of persons who were candidates as of April 26, 2021. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of the academic requirements.
This list includes names of persons who were candidates as of April 26, 2021. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of the academic requirements.

Craig Jerome DeLoach
Megan R. Dean
Julia Anna Cormack
Maria Magdalena Conant
Brandon Nicholas Collins
Lisseth Chavez
Esmeralda Sarai Chavez
Areli Cervantes Fraire
Sergio Leonardo Cedillo
Dana Broer
Erin McCarthy Bradley
Brooke Zerita Beckius
Richard William Baus
Salmo Barre
Taylor Rae Barham
Lisette Barcenas-Soto
Catalina Barajas
Karla E. Avila Juarez
Caroline Leigh Ashton
Gabriela Alvarez
Hisham Nasser Alsaeed
Ziad Alrashidi
Giselle Guadalupe Adame
CANDIDATES FOR MAY 2021 UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Rachel Coronado
William Michael Danza mc
Megan R. Deon cl
Craig Jerome Delash
Glenda Monarrez Diaz
Elyne Markie Ann Keller cl
Yusuf Ahmad Khan
Farheen Khatoon cl
Samanta MaryEllise Klein mc
Cassandra Marie Kleinichmidt
Samanta MaryKlawer
Ethel Kuehler mc
Madison Logassge
Tatiana Uladzmiradzina Lahnovich cl
Brooklyn T. Larimore cl*
Kelsey Jean Larsen cl
Ryan LaViolette cl*
Gregory John Lawson
AndriIvan Novakow
Joseph Manlove
John Charles Machado
Patricia Mahoney cl
Kathryn Aiken Mallott
Sean Marley
Chris Ann Marquera Renteria
Dane Paige Martinez
Melissa Martinez Mufioz cl
Rebecca Renee Martini cl
Whitney Lynn Matthews
Kaylee Rebecca McIntyre cl*
Karen McLaughlin cl
Emily Ann McQuade
James Dean Marth
Devin Michael Miller
Kaya Miller
Alicia Mitchell
William Kam Mitta cl
Yvonne Anna Mohan
Jennifer Kaye Murray cl*
Collie Sue Nanfito
Joshua Allan Napora
Callie Sue Nanfito
Josiah Allen Napora mc
Kellie Michelle Nee mc
Rosa Margarita Nelson
Alex Michael Nguyen
Alyna Thi Nguyen cl*
Brenda Le Nguyen
Sophia Nguyen
James Alexander Normand
Pranav Ojha cl
William S. Oliver
Reid Allen Olson  
Samantha Kelly O’Rourke  
Floriane R. Oubda  
Andrew Michael Pace  
Breana Marie Parks  
Sunit Patel  
Kaia Rae-Simone Phelps  
Matthew Stuart Fila  
Sara Elizabeth Pineda  
Ana Laura Pineda-Gutierrez  
Brooke Elle Pootling  
Benjamin Reid Putter  
Dustin Quintana  
Masood Rahmanzai  
Sydney Anne Randall  
Kylie Rose Raines  
Cheyenne Kaitlyn Reynek  
Nicholas Joseph Rogers  
Sydney Elizabeth Rogers-Morrell  
Aron B. Roth  
Kayla Runne Rud  
Emma Anna Ryder  
Cecilia Saavedra  
Lorenzo Saldana-Estrada  
Martha Elva Sanchez Hernandez  
Matthew Norris Scheffik  
Jaysee Kaye Schetler  
Alexandra Celeste Schulz  
Chaw Jefferson Scott  
Austin Swann  
Hannah Elisabeth Seidl  
Breanna Lorraina Selden  
Austen Ryan Sellers  
Ishini Ramol Senarath  
Keirriah Shik  
Tabitha Nikolai Shaw  
Jennifer Ann Sidar  
Kiley Simmons  
Aleksa Tahja Simpson  
Elir John Smith  
Rashaan Smith  
Gracie Lynn Soll  
Babajide Oluwatosin Songunuga  
Taylor Austin Sorenson  
Kathryn Stanzel  
Michayla Marie Stawniak  
Rachael Claire Steier  
Sara Catherine Stevens  
Rachel L. Stewart  
Brittany Ann Sullivan  
Roquell Summer Sullivan  
Noah Anthony Sundberg  
Chase Templeman  
Matthew David Thiele  
Haley Clara Thompson  
Jennifer Lynn Thompson  
Nina Josephine Tuder  
Ashley Katherine Turner  
McKensie Kade Uecker  
Ranata Valquier Chavez  
Melissa Leigh Vance  
Jessica Michele Vasquez  
Rebecca Wagner  
Emily Theresa Walker  
William Alton Weekly  
Alicia Weiss  
Jason R. Wart  
Ethan Mark Wilcox  
Samuel Lewis Wilder  
Lena Williams  
Joshua K. Witt  
Katelyn Renee Wolbach  
Brandon Wolfsohn  
Jimmy John Wood  
Jordan Reid Woolf  
Reggie Dean Wortman  
Sunshine Christine Xiong  
Amy Marie Young  
Logan T. Youngblood  
Wenxian Zhou  

UNL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
(Bachelor of Science awarded by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln)  
Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering  
Abdul Rahman Mohammad Al Mazrouai  
Waleed Zahr Al Rashdi  
Patrick Benda  
Colton Samuel Bents  
Devon Alan Brewer  
Carson Patrick Combs  
Garrett Richard Delgado  
Amanda Grace Fay  
Jacob Lee Gardner  
Ethan Thomas Hall  
Sarah Reilly Hallett  
Jared Larson Hemphill  
Elizabeth K. Humphus  
Jarrod Paul Jiordan  
Russell William Sunberg  
Jacob Christian Mohler  
Jose Saul Olivera Cortes  
James Mark Piatich  
Rodrigo Andres Quintero Paz  
Dieuepinse Rodriguez-Reversal  
Catherine Spencer  
Alexander Stouffer  
Matthew Jasey Taylor  
Jonathan Bradley Tittel  
Brock Yannone Walla  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering  
Will Bailey  
Daniel Ayodeji Fanonbi  
Morgan Elizabeth Gallagher  
Brendan Michael Guter  
Kyle Thomas Henry  
Andrew Ryan Kruassmark  
John Warner Mabacher  
Sander Maroua Sieglaff  
Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering  
Isabel Elise Anderson  
Victoria Anderson  
Byrae Bierman  
Isabelle Kristine Brown  
Jack Flanagan Bums  
David Elijah Clay  
Jackson Law Cordell  
Andrew Michael Crist  
Matthew Vincent DaCook  
Adalicia Lane Devney  
Alexander Sebastian Dokart  
Alec Christian Eiseeman  
Calvin Brody Hahnke  
Ish V. Khanna  
 Caleb Christian Krouse  
Emily Rose Ritzdorf  
Benjamin Andrew Schnatz  
Ethan M. Schott  
Jacob Sonensens  
Grace Tafin Stirling  
Trever Ward  

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This list includes names of persons who were candidates as of April 26, 2021. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of the academic requirements.

Bachelor of Science in Education

Chad H. Armstrong

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

List is incomplete.

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering

Tyler Hartman

Bachelor of Science in Health and Human Sciences

Bachelor of Health Sciences

Bachelor of Business Administration

List is incomplete.
This list includes names of persons who were candidates as of April 26, 2021. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of the academic requirements.
This list includes names of persons who were candidates as of April 26, 2021. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of the academic requirements.

Candids for May 2021 Undergraduate Degrees Continued

Oscar Urquidez
Zachary Adam Uryasz
Lurdes Van Stone
Jovana Vidovic
Zachary Michael Vincent
Ashley Lynn Walker
Tommer James Walker
Kaisha Renee Wells
Brandon Wheeler
Alyssa Rose Wisse
Dalton Virgos
Matthew Robert Wittig
Xinyu Wu
Zeming Wu
Haruno Yamado
Jingjing Yang
Guangrun Yu
Jordyn Rose Bingham
Javier Tellez Avila
David-Charles E. Anderson
Christian Allen
Elizabeth Lynette Alexander
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice
Celdon Z. Whitted
Blue G. Wah
Brenda Marie Villanueva
Mark Dutch Starks
Kyla Wilson
Baylor Sue Woolley
Jonathan James Wirtick
Sarah Marie Winters
Melanie Avellino
Clair Michael Boden
Alana Marie Boll
Daisy M. Baker
Kyle Baker
Jordan Rose Bingham
Javier Tellez Avila
David-Charles E. Anderson
Christian Allen
Elizabeth Lynette Alexander
Bachelor of Multidisciplinary Studies
Brandon Jordan Ziemann
Christina Yeager
Jonathan James Wotipka

[Continued on next page]
This list includes names of persons who were candidates as of April 26, 2021. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of the academic requirements.

**Abigail Marie Clyde**

Kyle Akira Hamano

Jacob Dylan Hansen

Kevin Tyler Hanson

Zaskery David Thomas Hartzig

Morgan Haworth

Alexander Sean Hesselgesser

Shannon Elizabeth Hire

Benjamin Lee Jahnke

Davin Kellogg

Chad Allan Knowlton

Tyler Koriske

Tyler William Labreck

Ian Harland Maher

Matthew James Malzacher

Nicola Marinello

Roger Robert Marquis

Joseph Russell Maxwell

Zijun Mei

Cassie Blair Miller

Samuel Mizernek

Ryan Michael Narducci

Jacob Richard Pettinger

Kyle Thomas Phipps

Bailey Joseph Pinkelman

Sasha Harper Price

Alex Ramsey

Makiko Frances Reynolds

Joseph Thomas Romaz

Jacob Henry Rush

Joel Andrew Sars

Rayonna Corinne Shirley

Martin Simonin

Logan Sartino

Robin Michael Suda

Wesley Scott Thompson

Bryson Peguinto Yumul

Kyle Zyka

Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems

Aida Dam Ahmed

Alannud Enad Alansari

Lama Mohammad Alzahor

Kyle Jayden Anderan

Clayton Francis Augh

Murtaza Babuk

Rashmi Chautaw

Joshua Daniel Holke

Anna Drew Newby

Makoya Krysteen Rhorer

Casey Alexander Wagner

Bachelor of Science in Bioinformatics

Zahraa Wojdi Alqearasi

Sebastian Eduardo Espinosa

Riley James Kutz

Grace Ellen Malina

**COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION, FINE ARTS AND MEDIA**

**Bachelor of Arts in Art History**

Norma Castro

Sydney Sue Havengar

Samantha Marie Helms

Emily Elizabeth Kraft

Payton James Pearson

Shelby Ann Rehe

Nicole Blaise Webber

**Bachelor of Arts in Communication**

Jack Alan Delperrand

Abigail Rose Kane

Kelly Lyn Lemke

Claire Nicole Redinger

**Bachelor of Arts in Music**

Christopher Lee Brady

Michael R. Brown

Gabrielle Deanna Chatham

Brianne Davis

Pranita Chetana Devaraju

Daniel Ayodeji Faronbi

Joseph Heredia

Joshua Daniel Holke

Reece Charles Johnson

Taylor McCollum

An Qiu Nguyen

Brian R. Schmidt

An Qui Nguyen

Reeve Charles Johnson

Forrest Parker Cody Griffith

Zachary Bryant Gilbert

Jordan Utsumi

Amanda Lynn Webster

Shelby K. Ziny

**Bachelor of Arts in Theatre**

Marissa Lorraine Halfhill

Nicholas Anthony Jansen

Sophie Jean Knauss

James Lee Mankle

Esmeralda Moreno Villanueva

Kathy Lynn Nixon

Cate Scott Werner

**Bachelor of Fine Arts**

Alexander Troy Barrier

Mokeyla Clark

Taylor Marie Coons

Morgan B. Fields

Haley Kristyna Mae Herzberg

Allyssa Marie Howard

Chayenne Sierra Ravan

Scott Monsey

Rebecca Elizabeth McDermott

Nicholas Gage McDonald

Jada Carmel Messick

Anne Elizabeth Newman

Peyton James Pearson

Natalie LaiKeen Pittman

Tucker Joseph Stopyk

**Bachelor of Music**

Katie Anna Hintz

Hannah Lucie Rembert

**Bachelor of Science in Communication**

Aya A. Akimoto

Jared Eliah Barton

Mila Christine Bonner

Katie Elizabeth Brews

James John Burrow

Vivian Camille Caniglio

Jami Daniel Carroll

Eric Michelle Chance

Kyle Brian Christenson

Jeremy Thomas Davis

Shanna Paige DeLeon

Patrick Leigh Doughty

Megan Irene Fabry

Zachary Bryant Gilbert

Lorayse Kiley Lambertson

Leta Jane Lohrmeyer

Jack Ryan Lorkovic

Daphne Liddell Love

Elle Nina Simone Love

Robert Joseph McVey

Anh Quynh Nguyen

Adam Ortega

Madison Elizabeth Richter-Egger

Sophie Danielle Riddler

Sydney Renae Schneider

Taylor P. Shipley

Kyle Ann Squiers

David Todd

Wyatt Joseph Waskowiak

Rebecca Young Weis

This list includes names of persons who were candidates as of April 26, 2021. Degrees to be awarded are subject to completion of the academic requirements.
from 53 countries, and 37 U.S. states.

**1761 TOTAL GRADUATES**

**376 GRADUATE DEGREES**

361 master's degrees, 14 doctoral degrees, and 1 specialist degree.

**1385 UNDERGRAD DEGREES**

494 of which are first-generation students.

**College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)**

- The College of Arts and Sciences launched Exploratory Studies to address historic low retention and graduation rates of “undeclared” students. The new program includes a learning community and an immediate, temporary academic home and identity to support “undeclared” (formerly “Exploratory”) students entering UNO. In addition to professional advisement through UNO’s Academic and Career Development Center, students are supported by a core of dedicated faculty-mentors, life coaches, and student peer mentors.

- The Samue! Bob Academic Learning Center was approved by the NU Board of Regents and will launch in 2022. It will serve as a campus collaboration hub for scholarship, academic curricula, community engagement, and educational activities dedicated to human rights, penicillin studies, the Holocaust, and artistic work.

- Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the College of Arts and Sciences stayed connected to campus and the larger community by hosting 70+ virtual events, including international conferences, several new seminar series, and comprehensive events like the Chuck Hagel Forum in Global Leadership.

**College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences (CEHHS)**

- The college underwent a name change from the College of Education (COE) to the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences (CEHHS). Years in the making, the name change honors the college’s history of teacher education and reflects its current impacts on the biomathematics, health, knowledge, and STEM education fields.

- Students from CEHHS public health program became integral parts of the campus COVID response, providing testing and contact tracing support for the UNO Office of Health Security. Due to their efforts, the rate of COVID cases on campus were far lower than most metropolitan universities across the country and campus-based transmission was near zero.

- The Teacher Education Department (TED) was the recipient of the 2020 Universitywide Departmental Teaching Award (UDTA) and Nick Shegos, Ph.D., director of the Division of Biomechanics, was recipient of the 2021 Outstanding Research and Creativity Award (ORCA). Both honors are President’s Excellence Awards, the NU System’s most prestigious honor for departmental excellence in teaching.

- The Real Wisdom Business Innovation Center is nearing completion and should be completed by Fall 2021. The expansion to Manley Hall will house the School of Accounting and the National Counterterrorism, Innovation, Technology, and Education (NCITE) Center, among other units.

**College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CPACS)**

- U.S. News & World Report showcased six CPACS programs in the top 30 in the nation.

- Public Budgeting and Finance is ranked No. 8, while the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice is ranked No. 15 nationally.

- The School of Public Administration and the College of Business Administration jointly launched an undergraduate leadership program where students will learn the skills of collaboration across public, private, and nonprofit sectors. UNO was one of four universities nationally to receive funding for the NextGen Service program from the Volder Alliances, founded by Paul Volder, former chairman of the Federal Reserve.

- Fall 2020 enrollment in the college hit an all-time high, at 3,455 students. This represents an increase of 11.5% from last year despite the challenges of COVID-19.

**College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media (CFAM)**

- Construction on the second phase of the Strauss Performing Arts Center renovation in nearing completion. Once finished, the building will feature new classrooms, better entrance, and lobby facilities, as well as practice room upgrades.

- UNO’s competitive speech team, Midstereo, placed 11th in the nation at the American Forensics Association tournament, which was held virtually for the first time in history.

- Supporting and celebrating the arts during the pandemic, UNO Theatre joined with the School of Music to perform a virtual musical called “Songs for a New World.”

**College of Information Science & Technology (I&IT)**

- I&IT established the Center for Biomedical Informatics Research and Innovation (CBIRI). CBIRI builds on 20 years of significant progress in developing biomedical informatics (BMI) infrastructure at both UNO and UNMC. The center aims to open doors for additional biomedical informatics research and discovery, sharing and collaboration of personnel and resources across campuses and disciplines; and competition for a new Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (CoBRE) grant.

- I&IT has been awarded $19 million in grants and contracts over the past five years to conduct innovative research. In addition to leading research projects on our own campus, I&IT faculty has collaborated with researchers from nearly 80 different institutions across the globe on other projects.

**Graduate Studies**

- Graduate Studies welcomed over 200 new graduate students as part of the UNO Career Currency program launched in Fall 2020. The partnership between UNO and Omaha-based companies is an innovative approach to employer-provided educational benefits that enhance workforce development and career advancement. Current UNO Career Currency partners include Union Pacific Railroad, Mutual of Omaha, Omaha Power, District, and BlueCross BlueShield Nebraska.

- Graduate Studies is celebrating its first full calendar year of supporting students through the “Jump Start Scholarship.” Awards have been granted to 61 students either beginning or exploring a graduate degree program at UNO.

- The 3,056 students enrolled in UNO graduate programs in Spring 2021 represented an 8.6% increase in total enrollment from 2020. This includes a 24.4% increase in graduate students from underrepresented groups.
Once a Maverick, always a Maverick