

PARK UNIVERSITY
BARSTOW
CAMPUS CENTER

2024 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



Thursday, July 18, 2024
Barstow Community College Performing Arts Center
2700 Barstow Road, 92311 | Barstow, CA



ALMA MATER

David Lueker, '47, arr. Dr. Roger Kugler

Hail Al - ma Ma - ter, We sing to thee.

The first system of music is in 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Hail Al - ma Ma - ter, We sing to thee." The music consists of four measures.

Thy name for - e - ver a guid - ing light shall be.

The second system of music is in 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Thy name for - e - ver a guid - ing light shall be." The music consists of four measures.

Strong as an oak tree, thy name shall ne - ver fail. To

The third system of music is in 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Strong as an oak tree, thy name shall ne - ver fail. To". The music consists of four measures.

thee Al - ma Ma - ter, Hail, Park, Hail!

The fourth system of music is in 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "thee Al - ma Ma - ter, Hail, Park, Hail!". The music consists of four measures.



Founded in 1875 in Parkville, Mo., a suburb of Kansas City, Park University is a nonprofit, private institution that is a national leader in higher education. In 2000, Park achieved university status and currently serves more than 6,600 students at 24 campuses in 16 states and online, including Parkville and Independence, Mo.; Gilbert, Ariz.; Barstow, Calif.; Columbus, Ohio; Austin and El Paso, Texas; and 16 military installations across the country.

Serving an ethnically diverse student population and non-traditional adult learners has, for many years, been central to Park's educational mission. Even in its first year, Park University enrolled women students as well as men, something that was unusual at the time; and two of the original 17 students were Native Americans. Park was also an early integrator when it welcomed African-American students to live in Park's residence halls in the 1950s.

Park continues to increase access to higher education by offering the quality undergraduate and graduate degrees students desire at locations, times and delivery formats that best serve their needs. The University has been ranked among the top private colleges/universities in the country for adult learners as well as for annual return on investment, and it is consistently ranked among the top least expensive private schools in the country.

Providing such access has developed considerable diversity among the student population, with 528 international students from 76 countries and a 60 percent student representation from racial, ethnic and cultural groups typically underrepresented in colleges and universities. In addition, extracurricular activities and championship-caliber athletic programs (NAIA) complement Park's outstanding scholastic programs.

Park University offers numerous degree programs online, and it maintains a long-standing relationship with the U.S. military for which it has been recognized as one of the largest providers of online undergraduate education to military learners worldwide. Park has received international recognition by various military-related publications as a top military friendly college/university. In addition, Park is among the top-ranked "best for vets" private colleges/universities in the country.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT SHANE B. SMEED



Dear Park University Class of 2024,

As we celebrate the culmination of your academic journey at Park University, it is my honor to extend heartfelt congratulations to each of you. Today marks a significant milestone in your lives, and I am immensely proud of your dedication and perseverance to reach this momentous occasion. Your achievements reflect your individual efforts and contribute to the rich legacy of excellence that defines Park University.

Looking ahead, I am thrilled to share that as you step into the next chapter of your lives, you do so during a remarkable time in Park's history. In 2025, Park University will celebrate its 150th anniversary. This extraordinary milestone underscores the enduring commitment to education and community at our institution's core since its inception. After you cross the Commencement stage, carry with you the values and knowledge you have gained here, and let them guide you in positively impacting the world.

As you transition from students to alumni, remember that your connection to Park University does not end with graduation; it evolves. You are now lifetime Park University Alumni Association members, joining a global network of accomplished individuals who share a common bond in their Park experience. Embrace this community, stay connected and continue to make us proud with your accomplishments.

I extend my warmest wishes for your continued personal and professional success. May your journey be filled with fulfillment, growth and meaningful contributions to the world.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shane B. Smeed". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Shane B. Smeed
President
Park University

PARK UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Past Chair of the Board
Parkville, MO

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Lewiston, NY

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Decanso, CA

MISSION STATEMENT

Park University transforms lives through accessible, student-centered, quality higher education.

VISION STATEMENT

Park University will meet learners' needs for a lifetime.

CORE VALUES

Park University's core values describe who we are, what we do and how we do it. They guide our educational strategy, our institutional behavior and our relationships with business partners, suppliers, students, faculty, communities and each other.

We expect **ACCOUNTABILITY** for our actions at all levels, to each other and to Park University.

We treat all with **CIVILITY** and **RESPECT** while being open and honest in our communications.

We seek **EXCELLENCE** in all we do, with passionate learning as our highest priority.

We celebrate **GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP** through our connected learning and working environment, liberal arts education and community stewardship.

We embrace **INCLUSIVITY** that fosters diversity, teamwork and collaboration.

We act with **INTEGRITY** through honesty, efficiency and reliability.

WE HAVE THE ANSWER TO YOUR NEXT EDUCATIONAL STEP

Accessible

Park University meets the growing demand for career-enhancing education by offering a variety of master's degrees and certificate programs with a practical focus, high academic standards and flexible course scheduling to meet the challenges faced by today's professionals.

Affordable

Graduate students enrolling at Park University can complete their degrees in traditional face-to-face classes, online or in a combination that suits their needs and enhances their educational experience. Our goal is to keep your advanced degree journey as convenient as possible for you. Regardless of your daily demands, Park's variety of classes and flexibility of schedules will meet your needs. Park's tuition rates are especially competitive, providing a superb private educational experience at a public price.

Accredited

Park University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Its graduate degree programs in professional fields are accredited by their respective accreditation agencies or in the process of securing program accreditation.

Please contact the Park University - Barstow at barc@park.edu or (760) 252-7275 for questions about Park's graduate degree programs or certificates.

PARK. YOU.
park.edu/grad



PARK UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

More than 6,600 Park University students attend classes at one of 24 locations in 16 states and online from national or international settings.

Park University Campuses Locations

Parkville (Flagship Campus)	Parkville, MO
Downtown Kansas City	Kansas City, MO
Independence	Independence, MO
Lenexa	Lenexa, KS
Little Rock Air Force Base	Little Rock, AR
Gilbert	Gilbert, AZ
Barstow Community College	Barstow, CA
Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base	Oceanside, CA
Moody Air Force Base	Valdosta, GA
Mountain Home Air Force Base	Mountain Home, ID
Malmstrom Air Force Base	Great Falls, MT
Holloman Air Force Base	Alamogordo, NM
Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station	Cherry Point, NC
Defense Supply Center Columbus	Columbus, OH
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base	Dayton, OH
Beaufort Marine Corps Air Station	Beaufort, SC
Charleston Air Force Base	North Charleston, SC
Austin	Austin, TX
El Paso	El Paso, TX
Fort Bliss	El Paso, TX
Joint Base San Antonio - Randolph Air Force Base	Universal City, TX
Hill Air Force Base	Ogden, UT
Fairchild Air Force Base	Spokane, WA
Francis E. Warren Air Force Base	Cheyenne, WY



Founded in 1875 at its historic site in Parkville, Mo., Park University enjoys a distinguished position in higher education.

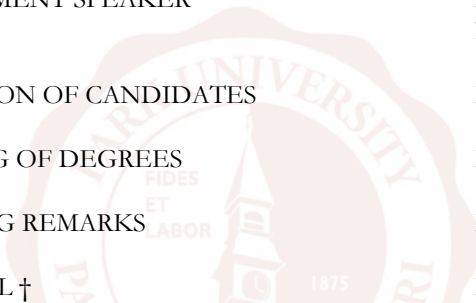
Milestones

Park's military education program was established in 1962; our adult degree completion program in 1974; our online program in 1996. Since 2009, Park has received international recognition by various military-related publications as a top military friendly college/university.



COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

PRELUDE	Dave Nunez
PROCESSIONAL *	Dave Nunez
WELCOME	Dave Nunez
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER	Mayor Pro Tem Noble
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES	Dave Nunez
CONFERRING OF DEGREES	Dave Nunez
CONCLUDING REMARKS	Dave Nunez
RECESSIONAL †	Dave Nunez



* The audience will please stand.

† The audience is requested to please remain in place until the academic procession has departed the Auditorium.

Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices. Thank you.

ACADEMIC ROBES AND REGALIA

The pageantry and color of an academic convocation come from medieval Europe where academic robes and regalia were adapted from Ecclesiastical garb. Most robes are black to symbolize the democracy of scholarship, since they cover any dress indicating social standing worn beneath. Bachelors' gowns are cut with long, pointed sleeves, while masters' gowns feature closed, slit sleeves. Doctoral gowns are full-cut with double-belled sleeves and bars of velvet trim.

The hood, originally a simple cowl attached to the gown, bears the heaviest symbolism of the academic costume. The bordering color indicates the field of learning in which the degree is earned. The square cap, or mortarboard, originated in the 13th century at the University of Paris and came to England in Tudor times. Round caps originally were reserved for doctoral degree holders. Doctoral tassels are usually gold, with other degrees represented by black. However, in recent years, tassels have come to match the lining of the hood to indicate the field of learning. The Honors Medallion symbolizes completion of the Honors Academy which involves independent development of projects with the assistance of faculty mentors. Alpha Chi is the highest honor society at Park University and encompasses all academic areas. The stole is worn as an indication of this recognition.

Art, Letters, Humanities _____	<i>White</i>
Business and Administration _____	<i>Drab</i>
Economics _____	<i>Copper</i>
Education _____	<i>Light Blue</i>
Fine Arts _____	<i>Brown</i>
Healthcare Administration _____	<i>Kelly Green</i>
Law _____	<i>Purple</i>
Library Science _____	<i>Lemon Yellow</i>
Music _____	<i>Pink</i>
Nursing _____	<i>Apricot</i>
Philosophy _____	<i>Dark Blue</i>
Physical Education _____	<i>Sage Green</i>
Public Affairs _____	<i>Aqua</i>
Science _____	<i>Golden Yellow</i>
Social Work _____	<i>Citron</i>
Speech/Theatre _____	<i>Silver Gray</i>
Theology _____	<i>Scarlet</i>

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Mayor Pro Tem James Noble



Mayor Pro Tem James Noble currently serves Barstow's 2nd District. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Social Science from the University of Upper Iowa, a Master in Human Resources from Central Michigan University, and an Associate Degree in Business Management from Barstow Community College.

He is also a graduate of Flint Hills Regional Leadership and a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

Mayor Pro Tem Noble is a proud Combat Armor Veteran who served in the United States Army, rising to the rank of Command Sergeant Major.

He is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Legion, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), CSM/SGM Association, and the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), as well as a life member of the NAACP.

He previously served for over seven years on the Barstow Planning Commission.

He is married to Sylvia Noble, and is the proud father of three adult children and four grandchildren.

GRADUATE CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

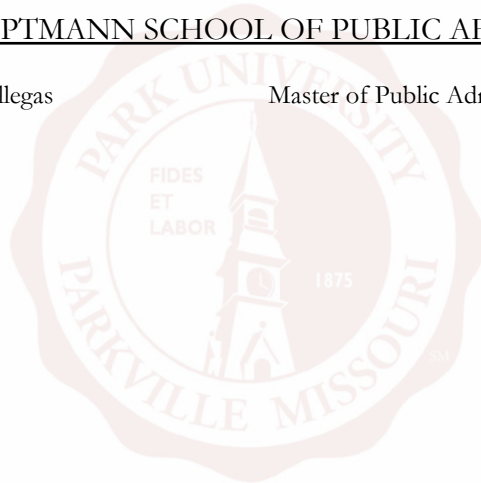
Ceri Satur

Master of Science in Information and
Business Analytics

HAUPTMANN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Adrian Silva Villegas

Master of Public Administration



UNDERGRADUATE CANDIDATES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kayla Earl

Psychology

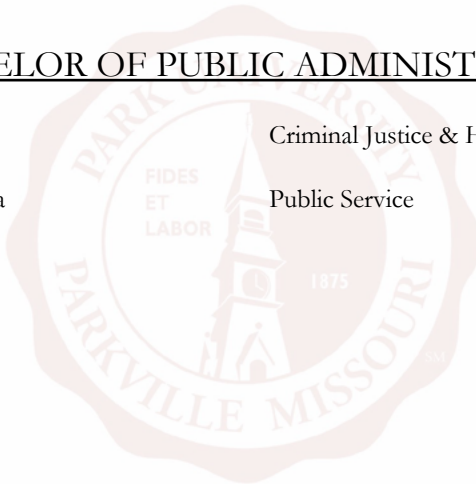
BACHELOR OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Victoria Ayala

Criminal Justice & Homeland Security

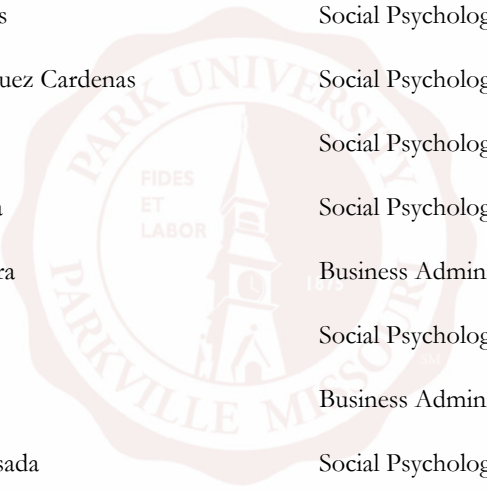
Danielle Tafoya

Public Service



UNDERGRADUATE CANDIDATES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE



Rico Avalos	Information & Computer Science
Javier Camacho	Information & Computer Science
Sandra Collins	Social Psychology
Kielese Enriquez Cardenas	Social Psychology
Paula Flores	Social Psychology
Briann Garcia	Social Psychology
Amanda Ibarra	Business Administration
Ruby Perez	Social Psychology
Bobby Perry	Business Administration
Lourdes Quesada	Social Psychology
Sonia Reay	Management
Grecia Risken	Social Psychology
Vernita Weaver-Taylor	Social Psychology
Thomas Whittle	Social Psychology

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOMES YOU

On behalf of the Park University Alumni Council, I am thrilled to congratulate each and every graduate on a job well done! Completing a degree program is one of life's most challenging and rewarding accomplishments. Your investment of time and effort was worth it. The Best is yet to come.

Today, a new journey begins we are excited to welcome you into the Park University Alumni Association! The Park University Alumni Association exists to inspire passion and pride, and to promote continued participation with the University. We are here to help you maintain meaningful lifelong connections with other alumni.

As a member of the Alumni Association, you will have many opportunities to get involved in alumni activities and events. And while we'll reach out often to keep you updated, we also invite you to contact us. You can reach the Office of Alumni Relations by phone (816-584-6200), through social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and more), via e-mail at alumnioffice@park.edu or online at advancing.park.edu when you want to get involved or need our assistance. We are always here to offer support.

Again, Congratulations on this milestone. We are very proud of you!

Best wishes, Phillip Reeder, '12

CONTINUE YOUR STORY.

When you're looking to enhance your education and advance your career, **Park University** has what it takes to reach your goals. With several graduate degree programs to choose from, the right path continues with Park.

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

- Master of Arts - MA.
- Master of Business Administration - M.B.A.
- Master of Education - M.Ed.
- Master of Healthcare Administration - M.H.A.
- Master of Music in Performance - M.M.
- Master of Public Administration - M.P.A.
- Master of Science - M.S.
- Master of Science in Information Science and Business Analytics
- Graduate Certificates
- Artist Diploma
- Educational Administration - Ed.S.

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