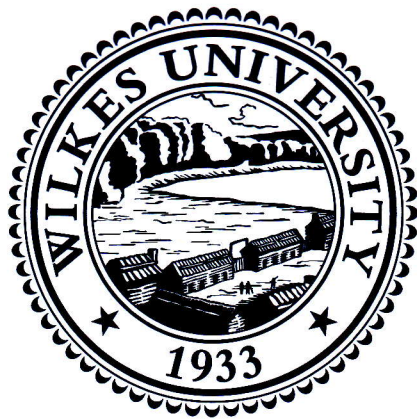




WILKES UNIVERSITY'S SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL
Spring Commencement
FOR THE CONFERRING OF GRADUATE DEGREES

Saturday, May Nineteenth
Two-thousand and eighteen • 10 a.m.





WILKES UNIVERSITY'S SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL

Spring Commencement

Order of Exercises

PROCESSIONAL

Entry and March of the Peers from Iolanthe Arthur Sullivan

(The audience is requested to rise as the procession begins.)

WELCOME ANNE A. SKLEDER
Senior Vice President and Provost

INVOCATION KRISTIN M. OSIPOWER
Coordinator, Campus Interfaith

The Star-Spangled Banner..... Words by Francis Scott Key
*(The words to The Star-Spangled Banner are printed on page 16 of the program.
The audience is requested to stand and sing the National Anthem with the chorus and band.)*

Gaudeamus Igitur Traditional

GREETINGS ELLEN STAMER HALL '71
President, Alumni Association Board of Directors

ANDREW P. MILLER
*Chair, Faculty Affairs Council
Associate Professor, Political Science*

INTHIRA OUPARAVONG-THORTON
Member of the Class of 2018

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS..... ANNE A. SKLEDER

Order of Exercises

COMMENCEMENT

ADDRESS.....REAR ADMIRAL (RADM) SCOTT F. GIBERSON
Assistant United States Surgeon General

THE CONFERRING OF THE DEGREES.....PATRICK F. LEAHY
President

ALUMNI INDUCTION.....ELLEN STAMER HALL '71

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....PATRICK F. LEAHY

Alma Mater.....Eleanor C. Farley
Arrangement, Earl D. Orcutt '69

*(The words to the Alma Mater are printed on page 16 of the program.
The audience is requested to stand and join in the singing.)*

BENEDICTION.....KRISTIN M. OSIPOWER

RECESSIONAL

March of the Belgian Paratroopers..... Pierre Leemans

Music Provided By:

*Wilkes University Commencement Band
Dr. Philip G. Simon, Conductor*

*Wilkes University Commencement Choir
Dr. Steven Thomas, Conductor*

Ceremony Interpreted By:

*Carmen Lugo
360 Translations International, Inc.*

AWARDS

THE MABLE SCOTT WANDELL AND

STERLING LEROY WANDELL AWARDS..... KELLY KEMPA '18

JAMES STEIGERWALT '18

These awards are presented to the man and woman who have attained the highest academic average for the four undergraduate years at Wilkes University.

*Presentation by ANNE A. SKLEDER
Senior Vice President and Provost*

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Rear Admiral (RADM) Scott F. Giberson, is an Assistant U.S. Surgeon General, serving our Nation as an active duty officer in the Commissioned Corps for 24 years. He has served with multiple U.S. Departments including Department of Homeland Security (as a founding member), HHS, Department of Defense, and State Department. Currently, he is the Deputy Director of Human Capital at Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Prior to this, RADM Giberson served as:

- Senior Advisor to the Office of the Surgeon General in 2015;
- acting Deputy Surgeon General of the U.S. from July 2013-Jan 2015;
- the first Director of the new Commissioned Corps Headquarters from 2011 through 2015;
- overall Commander of Commissioned Corps Ebola Response in West Africa from Sept 2014 through June 2015; and
- Chief Professional Officer (CPO), Pharmacy category from 2010-2014, supporting over 1500 PHS pharmacists nationwide

RADM Giberson maintains dual licensure as a pharmacist and clinician. He served 15 years of his career performing clinical duties in the field assigned to the Indian Health Service in 3 geographic areas. He functioned in both pharmacy and family medicine clinic roles.

In 2003, RADM Giberson was detailed to the Department of Defense in Hawaii for three years. RADM Giberson served on many international health missions for Department of Defense's Pacific Command, involving more than 23 countries. Prior, in 2001, RADM Giberson responded to the Anthrax attacks in New York City and served as the National Coordinator for all nurse and pharmacist Response Teams under the newly-formed Department of Homeland Security. He returned to the IHS to direct their National HIV/AIDS Program in 2006.

RADM Giberson received the Corps' first-ever Presidential Unit Citation, which was awarded to him by President Obama in the Oval Office. RADM Giberson has received numerous national and service awards including the Department of Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Corps' Distinguished Service Medal, the Surgeon General's Medallion, the Secretary's Meritorious Medal, and multiple honorary doctorates for his leadership and interprofessional body of work.

After roughly 5 years serving in multiple permanent, acting, and response roles in the Office of the Surgeon General, RADM Giberson received his second star and was promoted to Rear Admiral (Upper-half).

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

The School of Education

Dr. Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

Mary Elizabeth Howell

* Terry Storer

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

The Passan School of Nursing

Dr. Rhonda M. Rabbitt, *Dean*

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Loveth Efosa Abu | * ²³ Amy Michelle Murphy |
| Michelle M. Buikema | ²³ James Reed Nisley |
| Margaret Angel Caruso | Natalie Lyne Patrick Brown |
| Corey Milan Dillman | Marie Edith Petitme |
| Teresa Fairchild Pitcher | ²³ Natalie A. Roye |
| Nediya A. Griffith | Monique Scott |
| ²³ Nakeda Lashon Hall | Dorothy Elanie Smith |
| Jessica M. Harrison | Carolyn Snyder-Sherman |
| ²³ Kara Lynn Hines | ²³ Shavon Ja'nai Stinson-Lamar |
| ²³ Cindy Jo S. Hogan | Margaret Jane Trevino |
| * Nedra Latoya Hughes | Tara Suzette Wesner |
| Cigi Mathew | * Nadine Kay Wodwaski |
| ²³ Sara Elizabeth Moore | |

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY CANDIDATES

The Nesbitt School of Pharmacy

Dr. Scott K. Stolte, *Dean*

- | | |
|--|---|
| ^{1,15} Dana Jo Achenbach, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | Megan Gregory, <i>Cum Laude</i> |
| Kayla Johanna Bardzel, <i>Cum Laude</i> | Daniel Hackford |
| ²¹ Margaret Bigart, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | Evan James Henry, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> |
| Briana Alexis Blaisure, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | Jayden Hensley, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> |
| ^{15,21} Katie Lynn Bressler, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | Sangjae Jang, <i>Cum Laude</i> |
| Erica Chambers | ^{1,15,21} Kelly Ann Kempa, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> |
| ^{1,21} Megan Elizabeth Ciborowski, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | Garrett Ross Klingensmith, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> |
| Rachel A. Constant, <i>Cum Laude</i> | Jessica Marie Kouch, <i>Cum Laude</i> |
| Shane Joseph Daugherty | Kendall Nicole Kramer, <i>Cum Laude</i> |
| ¹⁵ Keri Lynn Diehl, <i>Cum Laude</i> | Michael Christopher Kranz |
| ^{15,21} Amber Grace Dietrich, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | Effie Kweiba-Yamoah |
| ¹ Danielle Marie Distefano, <i>Cum Laude</i> | ^{1,21} Catherine LaBuz, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> |
| Heath Tanner Dresch, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | ²¹ Terra Mae Landis, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> |
| ¹ Vanessa Adaeze Ejiofor, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | ²¹ Jarret Matthew LeBeau, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> |
| Tara Engel | Lauren Elisabeth Lewis |
| Alesha Lee Falzone, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | Cameron Scott Low |
| ¹⁵ Anthony Victor Fanucci, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | Justine Marie Maley |
| Dominika Sofia Foltyn | Holly Ann Margiotti |
| Joshua Philip Fox, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | Emily A. Mason |
| ²¹ Jennalyn Garrity, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | Gregory P. McFarlane, <i>Cum Laude</i> |
| Christian Michael Giovannini, <i>Cum Laude</i> | Cassandra Nicole Morey, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> |

¹ Alpha Chi

¹⁵ Phi Lambda Sigma

²¹ Rho Chi

²³ Sigma Theta Tau

* Degree in Absentia

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY CANDIDATES

(Continued)

- ^{1,21} Marisa Ann Perrella, *Summa Cum Laude*
Rachel Marie Petrone
Haylie Phillips, *Magna Cum Laude*
²¹ Michael James Pino, *Magna Cum Laude*
²¹ Elizabeth Anne Ray, *Summa Cum Laude*
Demi Leigh Rissmiller
Catherine Elizabeth Sarver, *Cum Laude*
Philip John Scavo, *Magna Cum Laude*
Kara Serfass, *Cum Laude*
Felicia Kay Snyder
^{1,15,21} James Steigerwalt, *Summa Cum Laude*
Kristopher P. Steinert
Collin Tanner Strunk, *Cum Laude*
- Sydney Anne Stuyvesant, *Magna Cum Laude*
Christy Lee Taylor, *Magna Cum Laude*
Kenzie Nicole Teno, *Cum Laude*
Christopher Michael Van Hook
Michael D. Venditto, *Cum Laude*
Bryan Conor Waters, *Cum Laude*
Samantha Weiksner, *Cum Laude*
Brandon D. Whiteash, *Magna Cum Laude*
²¹ Mara Amy Wilson, *Summa Cum Laude*
Tyler J. Wilson
Joshua George Wolfe, *Cum Laude*
Richard A. Yarger II, *Magna Cum Laude*
Casey Ziac, *Cum Laude*

¹ Alpha Chi

¹⁵ Phi Lambda Sigma

²¹ Rho Chi

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Joseph Samuel Bryan | * Jennifer Judge |
| Michelle Alena Byrnes | Maura C. Maros |
| * Deborah Canon | Robert Michael Peck |
| Donald Joseph Granza, Jr. | |

Master of Arts in Creative Writing

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| * Jeffrey Ross Alves | Tara Lynn Marta |
| * Rodney William Annis | * Kathleen Godwin Rosa |
| * Jeremiah Scott Blue | * Camika C. Spencer |
| Margaret Sarah Hall | Karley Marie Stasko |
| * Crista Lynn Mallecoccio | Danielle Watson |

Master of Business Administration

The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership

Dr. Abel Adekola, *Dean*

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| ⁶ Bryce Butler | ⁶ Joshua Charles Mayse |
| * Damon Montgomery Cheek | ⁶ Michael J. Moletsky III |
| Katherine J. Cummings | Devon A. Nicoletti |
| ⁶ Diana Suzanne DePrimo | Inthira Ouparavong-Thornton |
| ⁶ Kurt W. Eisele, Ph.D. | * Katherine Elizabeth Roos |
| Jacqueline Escobar | * Justin A. Shelinski |
| Camielle Renée Ferguson | Kristie Marie Spinello |
| ⁶ Christopher Allan Hetkowski | Kyle Lee Stair |
| * Rebecca L. Hite | Michael Teiman |
| Samuel Nathan Hunter | ⁶ Ashley Brielle Turner |
| * Timothy E. Letcher | |

Master of Science in Education

Dr. Rhonda M. Rabbitt, *Dean*

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| * David Christopher Abruzzi | * Joseph Eugene Caputo |
| * Dustin M. Adams | Jaclyn K. Carrelli |
| * Virginia Anna | * Nicholas Frank Castle |
| * Jennifer Ashley Ashleigh | * Miranda Chamberlain |
| * Melissa A. Balsavage | * Anthony James Cibello |
| * Megan Lee Barilla | * Jennifer B. Cisco |
| * Mark A. Barkowski | * John C. Curry |
| Jessica Lynn Barnhart | * Amanda Jayne Danenhower |
| * Brian Joseph Bauer | * Monica Tanzas DaSilva |
| * Ryan Baugess | * Ashley N. Deibler |
| Amanda Susan Baumgardner | * James D. Del Conte |
| * Jennifer Rae Bickley | * Laura A. Derlunas |
| * Laura Beth Blacker | * Stephanie Anne DeShong |
| Amber Boaman | * Megan Ann DeVietro |
| * Katie Lynn Bogart | * Jacqueline C. DiCello |
| * Natalie J. Borosky | * Kayla F. Dierich |
| * Edward Joseph Buck II | * Derek DiRenzo |
| * Travis Burket | * Emily DiSabella |
| * Krista Michele Callahan | * Kayla N. Donatti |

⁶ Delta Mu Delta

* Degree in Absentia

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

Master of Science in Education Degree — *Continued*

- * Kelsey Downs
Thomas William Dulsky
- * Jennifer Dunlap
- * Alyssa Jane Duym
Audrey Marie Eberly
- * Bobbi Ely
- * Jennifer Rebecca Engelbert
- * Megan Englehart
- * Kathleen Bridget Fearheller
Chastity Lee Felker
Abigail Elizabeth Fenton
- * Cynthia Ferretti
- * Jessica Fetter
- * Stefani Marie Fink
Lacey Kathleen Finneyfrock
- * Kimberly Flueso
- * Valerie Sue Ford
- * Lisa Marie Francis
- * Teresa Catherine Fusco
- * Janelle Ann Gaiteri
Charla Gardner
- * Christopher M. Gercken
- * Kelly Getz
- * Todd Gies
- * Ryan T. Gill
- * Joshua M. Glant
- * Chrisann Golden
- * Joseph Grato
Trisha Green
- * Cynthia A. Gregory
- * Kimberly Mary Gumble
- * Jared Matthew Haas
- * Emily Abruzzi Haderbeck
- * Stephanie Marie Haggar
- * Kevin Gilbert Haile
- * Nathan R. Halenar
- * Melissa Ann Hallman
Mark W. Hamilton
- * Mary Lynn Hartz
Maria Nicole Hawk
- * Jeffrey A. Heiney
Alexandra Elizabeth Heisey
- * Jeanette Victoria Helmstetter
- * Clara Nicole Henk
- * Sarah M. Herr
Shannon Hope Hightman
- * Jennifer M. Hudak
- * Jaime Jo Isaksson
- * Kathryn Johnson
- * Joseph A. Kahl
Amy Marie Kahora
Maggie Mae Kaufman
- * Brett Michael Keeble
- * Jessica Lynn Keefe
Amanda Caroline Keller
- * Jill Kennett
- * Nicole K. Kephart
- * Christopher R. Kindred
- * Samantha Rose Kishbach
- * Hayley Kathryn Koenecke
- * Joshua A. Kolanda
Marisa Lagana
Kristina Grace LaTorre
- * Carol Ann Lawler
- * Elizabeth Leese
- * Nathaniel C. Leierer
- * David Thomas Lengyel
- * Laura Grida Lentz
- * Kimberlee Diane Lerma
- * Matthew Russell Lesinski
- * Jamie Lichtenfels
- * John Matthew Lindquist
- * Matthew John Lord
- * Meghan Donahue Lorentz
- * Karen M. Lovuolo
Gisselly Veronica Loyola
- * Kristin Amy Madeira
- * Lindsey Lee Maduro
Thomas A. Malkemes
- * Tabitha Marie Manzo
Dana Marino
- * Kaylee Suzanne Martin
Samantha J. Masco
Hollie Matejcek
- * Shannon Leigh Maurer
- * Jarrad Patrick Max
- * Kelsey Lea Mazurek
- * Erin Lynn McBride
- * Jaclyn N. McCarty
- * Sara Marie McGraw
- * Colleen E. McIntyre
- * Jessica Yates McNaughton
- * Julia Mentzer-Yarlett
Laura Elizabeth Meyers
- * Amy N. Miller
Katlin Anna Miller
- * Brett Mitchley
- * Amber Moschini
- * Michael A. Motsay
- * Allyson Jo Moyer

** Degree in Absentia*

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

Master of Science in Education Degree — *Continued*

- * Timothy Munley
- * Michele Elaine Murazzi
- * Zachary N. Musser
- * Amanda Grace Nace
- * Licia Marie Olivetti
- * Margaret Louise Olson
- * Tracy Jo Patterson
- * Alaina K. Pavelko
- * Allison Peters
- * Jill Marie Phifer
- * Michele Pousley
- * Jessica Leigh Quay
- * Aimee Lynne Radel
Amanda Lauren Radishofski
- * Kevin Reuss
- * Laura K. Richards
- * Caitlin Marie Riddle
- * Erin Colleen Rittle
Hannah E. Rittle
- * Courtney Ann Royer
- * Ethan L. Runk
- * Justin Anthony Ruppelli
- * John Ruscher
- * Lindsey Marie Santanasto
- * Kristen Ann Scalia
- * Bradley A. Schaefer
Danielle Marie Schaffer
Elizabeth Mary Schaszberger
- * Christina Ann Schuckers
- * Katie Shank
- * Justin Sheaffer
- * Robert Douglas Sheaffer
- * Joshua T. Short
- * Olivia Jane Sidorick
- * Lisa Marie Smargiassi
- * Adam Smith
- * James Montgomery Snow III
- * Zachary Brendon Starry
- * Alyssa Stella
Crystal Sterenchock
- * Anna Stewart
- * Ann C. Stinson
- * Katlynn Stout
- * Elissa Marie Suhoney
- * David J. Sunderland
- * Lindsay Sutkowski
- * Keri L. Tallmadge
- * Daniel J. Terry
Neal S. Thomas
- * Michael Z. Tillger
Cassie Lee Tirpak
- * Kirsten Rhody Tomasello
- * Meghan Gilleran Truskolaski
Alexandra Lynne Walmer
- * Andrea Wells
- * Katie Sue Wert
Janelle C. Wierbowski
- * Taylor Nicole Willett
- * Lacey Lee Winder
- * Emily Susan Wolford
- * Hannah S. Woodring
- * Terese Rose Wylie
- * Megan Lynn Yeich
- * Sarah A. Yeust
- * Crystal L. Zimmerman
- * Nicole Zulli
Nicholas Neal Zullo

Master of Science in Bioengineering

Dr. William B. Hudson, *Dean*

Megan Amanda Barscheski
Tiffany T. Erney
Casey Michael Flynn

Thomas Martin Hagenbuch
Matthew P. Yatson

Master of Science in Engineering Management

Dr. William B. Hudson, *Dean*

Mykyta Nikita Baliakin

Master of Science in Mathematics

Dr. William B. Hudson, *Dean*

- * Alex Colefield

** Degree in Absentia*

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

Master of Science in Nursing

The Passan School of Nursing

Dr. Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

- | | |
|--|--|
| Ruth Antoinette Abdur-Rahman | * Rebecca Marie Light |
| Ashley Marie Bantell | ²³ Catherine Mary Luksic |
| * Heather Michelle Belanger | Rebecca Ann Malfaro |
| Jana Leslie Bell | * Tammy L. Mendell |
| * Meghan Elizabeth Betham | *, ²³ Orietta A. Mikulandra |
| * Winter Rose Branham | * Devonna Michele Evans Miller |
| Devon John Buckley | Lauri Sue Miller |
| ²³ Billie Jeanne Burry | Linda Anne Modelfino |
| * Stephanie Busbin | Lisa Ann Mowatt |
| ²³ Jade Renay Campbell | * Elizabeth Nicolai |
| * Angela Jean Carpenter | * Gretchen Renée Nordt |
| Elizabeth A. Chando | Tammy Sue Noss |
| Nina Simone Charles | Lori A. Novitski |
| ²³ Michael Edward Chenoweth | * Chelsea Alexandra O'Donnell |
| Susan Patricia Chmielewski | * Obiageri Ihuoma Ohayagha |
| * Jennifer Lara Christ | * Stephany Petersberger |
| Roy Chua | * Pamela Ann Pflieger |
| * Courtney Cione | * Laverne Pope |
| * Ordeth Aileen Clarke Meade | * Traci Lynn Ragukas |
| * Hannah May Constanty | * Celestia Laree Rasmussen |
| * Cynthia Corrado | Alison Marie Rauh |
| Elaine Cortese-Salalila | Wendy Ann Reiss |
| * Robin Anne Dexter | * Yvette Rodriguez-Arce |
| Richale M. Evans | Madelyn Roman |
| ²³ Jennifer Floyd | Jessica Rose Rutkoski |
| Ronni Erica Griffin | * James William Simon |
| * Tammy S. Hamon | ²³ Christina Antonia Sirianni |
| * Jennifer Marie Hargrave | * Lareine Kay Smith |
| Alice V. Hawks | * Meghan Christine Snyder |
| * Beverly Hellickson | Stephanie M. Stahl |
| * Yvette Helmbold | * Andrew James Stratton |
| Brenda D. Hopkins | * Kaysie Ann Stratton |
| Samantha E. Huyett | * Bertha Siedah Sullivan |
| Denise Jocelyn Gemzik Jemiola | * Irene Tetzlaff |
| * Elizabeth A. Jordan | Wendy Joy Walker |
| Pamela King | * Jan Denise Wall |
| * Joyce C. Knowles | Angela Rose Weatherbie |
| * Michelle Lee Kohlsdorf | * Julia Louise Webb |
| ²³ Hillary Marie Leonard | Monique Roxanne Weems-Paulin |
| * Shelby Leppin | Aron K. Wesoloski |
| * Jennifer Elaine Lerette | Dawn Zahar |

²³ *Sigma Theta Tau* * *Degree in Absentia*

Scholarly Societies and Special Designations

- 1 *Denotes Membership in Alpha Chi, the National College Honor Scholarship Society.*
- 2 *Denotes Membership in Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Honorary Society in Sociology.*
- 3 *Denotes Membership in the Eta Pi Chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda, the honor society recognizing the academic excellence of adult part-time students.*
- 4 *Denotes Membership in Beta Beta Beta, the National Honorary Society in Biology.*
- 5 *Denotes Membership in Chi Alpha Epsilon, the Honorary Society which recognizes students who were admitted to the University through Higher Education Access Opportunity programs.*
- 6 *Denotes Membership in the Zeta Psi Chapter of Delta Mu Delta, the National Honor Society in Business Administration.*
- 7 *Denotes Honors in Biology.*
- 8 *Denotes Honors in English.*
- 9 *Denotes Honors in Engineering.*
- 10 *Denotes Membership in Lambda Pi Eta, the National Honorary Society in Communications.*
- 11 *Denotes Membership in the Phi Phi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honorary Society in Education.*
- 12 *Denotes Candidates for Pennsylvania Teacher Certification.*
- 13 *Denotes Candidates for Pennsylvania Principal Certification.*
- 14 *Denotes Membership in Phi Alpha Theta, the National Honorary Society in History.*
- 15 *Denotes Membership in Phi Lambda Sigma, the Pharmacy Leadership Society.*
- 16 *Denotes Membership in Phi Sigma Tau, the National Honor Society in Philosophy.*
- 17 *Denotes Membership in Pi Kappa Delta, the National Honorary Forensic Society.*
- 18 *Denotes Membership in Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society.*
- 19 *Denotes Membership in Psi Chi, the National Honorary Society in Psychology.*
- 20 *Denotes Membership in Phi Eta Sigma, the National Honor Society for College Freshmen.*
- 21 *Denotes Membership in Rho Chi, the National Honor Society in Pharmacy.*
- 22 *Denotes Membership in Sigma Tau Delta, the National Honorary Society in English.*
- 23 *Denotes Membership in the Zeta Psi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society for Nursing.*
- 24 *Denotes Membership in and acknowledgment by Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society.*
- 25 *Denotes Tom Bigler Scholar.*
- 26 *Denotes Pre-Medical Scholar.*
- 27 *Denotes Membership in the National Student Nurses Association.*
- 28 *Denotes Membership in Sigma Alpha Pi, the National Society of Leadership and Success.*
- 29 *Denotes Membership in Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society.*
- * *Degree in Absentia*

2018 Student Awards

Academic Awards

Nesbitt School of Pharmacy

APhA Mortar and Pestle Professionalism Award	Terra Landis
Nesbitt School of Pharmacy Academic Achievement Award	Kelly Kempa James Steigerwalt
School of Pharmacy Excellence in Clinical Practice Award.....	Mara Wilson
The Barbara L. Nanstiel Pharmacy Information Award.....	Demi Rissmiller
Department of Pharmacy Practice Research Award	Megan Ciborowski
Dean's Outstanding Student Award	James Steigerwalt
The Arthur H. Kibbe Excellence in Pharmaceutical Science Research Award	Effie Kweiba-Yamoah Sangjae Jang
School of Pharmacy Community Service Award	James Steigerwalt
The Rule Sisters Pharmacy Award	Bryan Waters Alesha Falzone
The Luzerne County Pharmacists Association Academic Achievement Award.....	Catherine LaBuz
Mylan Excellence in Pharmacy Award.....	Kelly Kempa
The Wolters Kluwer Excellence in Clinical Communication Award.....	Kara Serfass
Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association Outstanding Pharmacy Student Award	Anthony Fanucci
Lackawanna County Pharmacists Association Academic Achievement Award	Kelly Kempa
Lackawanna County Pharmacists Association Jurisprudence Award	Kelly Kempa
The Integrative Medicine and Practice Award	Kayla Bardzel

Academic Costume

The celebration of Commencement is surrounded by rich traditions. The established community of scholars — the Faculty — convene to recognize officially the newest group of proven scholars — the Graduates — and welcome them in fellowship. Graduates don the attire that for years has symbolized scholarly attainment.

During the Middle Ages those seeking an education traveled to European centers of learning. Centers of learning and universities were closely allied with the clerics of the time, and the scholars donned garb similar to that worn by the clergy. This evolved into the academic uniform, a long black gown, hood, and cap, which proved useful for studying in unheated and drafty buildings. The hood served simultaneously as a head covering, a repository for coins and alms and the forerunner of the modern day book bag. The hood was adorned with the colors of the university and designated the young scholar's school or university affiliation. By their distinctive clothing the students were set apart and distinguished from the citizens of the town; hence the origin of the phrase "town and gown."

American colleges and universities adopted the wearing of the traditional apparel in Colonial times, and a common code for academic apparel was established in the mid-nineteenth century.

The hood is the most distinctive feature of academic regalia. The inside of the hood is lined with the official colors of the institution; today you see Wilkes graduates wearing hoods lined with the blue and gold colors of the University. The velvet trim around the outside of the hood designates the degree or field of study of the graduates. The velvet colors worn by today's graduates signify the following:

- Golden Yellow — Science
- White — Arts, Letters, Humanities
- Drab — Business Administration
- Brown — Fine Arts
- Olive — Pharmacy
- Blue — Education
- Apricot — Nursing

The style of the gown distinguishes graduates by the degree they have earned. Those earning the bachelor's degree wear a simple black gown with elongated pointed sleeves. Holders of the master's degree wear gowns with a longer, closed, square cut sleeve. The doctoral gown is trimmed with velvet stripes on the sleeves and panels of velvet on the front closure of the gown.

Some American universities have adopted doctoral gowns in their distinctive colors. You will notice the slate of Columbia, the red of Cornell, the burgundy of the University of Pennsylvania, the bright blue of the University of Michigan.

To have earned the privilege of wearing academic costume regalia signifies not only the completion of a program of studies, but entrance into the comradery of scholarship.

The University Mace and Presidential Chain of Office

The mace and the presidential chain of office used in academic celebrations represent traditions dating to the sixteenth century. The mace symbolizes the authority of the university and the chain of office designates the presidential leadership of the academy.

The Wilkes University mace and presidential chain of office were gifts of local donors and were first used in 1970 at the inauguration of the second president of Wilkes. They were designed by Ottie Hill Chwalek '61 and executed by Kurt Matzdorf, a nationally recognized gold and silversmith from the State University of New York at New Paltz.

The University Mace

The sterling silver mace has a gilt knob at its base and a gilt circle at the top bearing the inscription "Wilkes College 1933." The bowl, rising above the neck of the mace, signifies Wilkes-Barre's role as a melting pot, forming a new and vigorous community of people from many different backgrounds. This theme is reiterated in the inscription of the University's motto "Unity Amidst Diversity" which surrounds the upper part of the bowl. The gilt flame symbolizes the enlightenment gained from higher education, while the piece of anthracite coal set in the center of the flame commemorates the origin of the University in a community known for its coal mining past.

The Presidential Chain of Office

The Presidential Chain of Office, created from sterling silver, has alternating bowls and gilt flames, repeating the motif of the mace. On the front of the four-foot chain hangs a gilt seal of Wilkes which is suspended from a cluster of oak leaves with acorns, suggesting the strength and sturdiness of future generations. On the back of the Presidential Chain of Office is a silver portrait of Dr. Eugene S. Farley, the first President of Wilkes. Dr. Farley's portrait is surrounded by gilt oak leaves commemorating his strong leadership of the emerging institution.

University Center on Main McHale Athletic Center

FIRST AID — Medical personnel are available for first aid assistance at the First Aid Station in the Engel Room just off the lobby. Should you need assistance please contact the usher or a Public Safety Officer.

PICTURE TAKING — Because of the space limitations, safety and control, no one, **except the professional photographer and members of the press with appropriate credentials, will be allowed access to the stage area for the purpose of taking pictures or video-taking. A photograph will be taken of each graduate as the diploma is presented by the President.**

REST ROOMS — Rest rooms are accessible from the lobby and on second floor. A woman's restroom is available at the rear of the McHale Athletic Center.

BEVERAGES — Water is available at the drinking fountains on the first floor of the building. Starbucks will be open during the ceremony.

A post-commencement reception will be held in the First Floor Lounge of the Henry Student Center immediately following the ceremony.

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

*O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars,
Through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched,
Were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare,
The bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night
That our flag was still there.
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free
And the home of the brave?*

*Words by Francis Scott Key
Arranged by John Philip Sousa
Harmonized by Walter Damrosch*

ALMA MATER

*Wilkes, our Alma Mater,
We pledge our hearts to thee,
Honor, faith, and courage,
Truth and loyalty,
In our work and in our pleasure,
Guide us as a friend;
We shall always love thee,
Loyal to the end.
Thou shalt lead us onward
In search of finer things.
May we find the wisdom
That thy spirit brings.
May our deeds of love and service
Ever swell thy fame —
Wilkes, we stand to greet thee!
Glory to thy name.*

Words and Music by Eleanor C. Farley

Platform Party

Graduate and Professional Commencement Ceremony

Paul Adams.....	Vice President, Student Affairs
Mark Allen.....	Dean of Students
Abel Adekola.....	Dean, Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership
Bonnie Culver.....	Director, Creative Writing
Jeffrey Davidowitz.....	Trustee
Jonathan Ference.....	Associate Provost
Scott Giberson (RADM).....	Assistant United States Surgeon General
Kathleen Hirthler.....	Chair, Graduate Nursing
Susan Hritzak.....	Registrar
William Hudson.....	Dean, College of Science and Engineering
Joseph Kultys.....	Associate Registrar
Patrick Leahy.....	President
Karim Letwinsky.....	Chair, Department of Educational Leadership
Ellen Lohr.....	Assistant Registrar
Carmen Lugo.....	360 Translations International, Inc.
Andrew Miller.....	Chair, Faculty Affairs Council
Julie Olenak.....	Assistant Dean, Nesbitt School of Pharmacy
Inthira OuParavong-Thornton.....	Student Greeter
Kristin Osipower.....	Coordinator, Campus Interfaith
Loren Prescott.....	Vice President, Finance and Support Operations/General Counsel
Rhonda Rabbitt.....	Dean, School of Education
Paul Riggs.....	Dean, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Philip Ruthkosky.....	Associate Dean, Student Affairs
Anne Skleder.....	Senior Vice President and Provost
John Stachacz.....	Dean, Eugene S. Farley Library
Ellen Stamer Hall.....	Trustee
Scott Stolte.....	Dean, Nesbitt School of Pharmacy
Wagiha Taylor.....	Faculty Marshal
Terese Wignot.....	Associate Provost
Michael Wood.....	Special Assistant to the President
Deborah Zbegner.....	Dean, Passan School of Nursing

