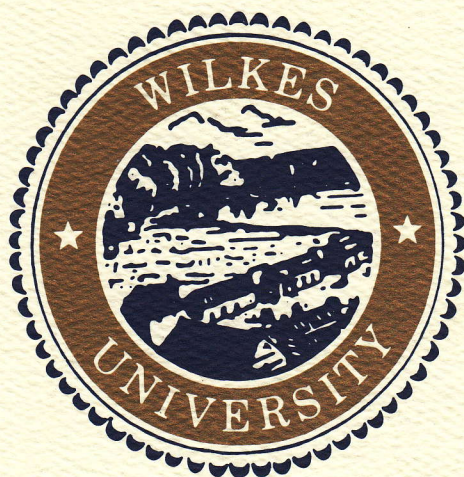


WILKES UNIVERSITY

*Winter Commencement
for the
Conferring of Degrees*



*Thursday
January 15, 1998
11:15 a.m.*

*Edward Darling Jr. Theatre
at the
Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for the Performing Arts*

*Wilkes University
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania*

HONORARY DEGREES

The following honorary degrees are awarded to two pioneers in the development of a modern health care system in the Wyoming Valley after World War II. In particular, they inspired and helped design the Wilkes College/Hahnemann Medical School program whereby from 1972 to 1981 more than 150 promising pre-med students became doctors, prepared to provide family practice medicine, particularly for rural and small urban communities. Much of the leadership among doctors in Northeastern Pennsylvania today comes from graduates of this Wilkes/Hahnemann program, fulfilling the vision of Dr. Charles E. Myers and Dr. Lester Saidman, who together have provided more than one hundred years of medical service to the people of the Wyoming Valley.

CHARLES E. MYERS, M.D. DOCTOR OF SCIENCE

Renaissance Man. Undergraduate and Medical School degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. Paratrooper in the U.S. Medical Corps during World War II. Leader locally and throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in his field of Internal Medicine, specializing in pulmonary diseases. Developed first free clinic for disabled miners, focusing particularly on victims of miners' asthma. Innovator in development of group practice with the Associated Internists of Wyoming Valley. Chief of Staff and Chief of the Department of Medicine at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Gifted painter of landscapes — both natural and man-shaped — throughout the world. Environmentalist and author of a study on the return of the shad to the Upper Susquehanna River. Historian of the colonial era of his native Wyoming Valley, publishing through the Wilkes University Press *A Connecticut Yankee in Penn's Woods*, on his ancestor, Thomas Bennet.

LESTER SAIDMAN, M.D. DOCTOR OF SCIENCE

Inspiring teacher and master in the art of healing. Undergraduate and Medical School degrees from Temple University. Military service during World War II in the Philippines and in Japan. Specialist in Family Practice Medicine. Innovator in providing comprehensive medical services through the Lake Noxen Clinic after 1954 to the surrounding region. Medical Director of the Rural Health Corporation of Luzerne County from 1970 to 1975. Director of first Physician's Assistant training program in Pennsylvania. Director of Medical Education at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital in charge of extern and internship programs and initiator of round-the-clock emergency care in 1968. His philanthropy exemplified by an endowment to Temple Israel for a new Torah scroll and by his being twice a Founder of Hadassah Hospital in Israel.

WILKES UNIVERSITY

*Winter Commencement
for the
Conferring of Degrees*

*Thursday Morning
January 15, 1998
at eleven fifteen o'clock*

Order of Exercises

*FANFARE

*PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME James P. Rodechko
Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs

*INVOCATION Reverend Dr. Charles E. Johns '63
*Pastor, Church of Christ Uniting
Kingston, Pennsylvania*

*AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL *Words by Katherine Lee Bates
Music by Samuel A. Ward*

GREETINGS Eugene Roth '57
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Kenneth A. Broadt
Chair, Faculty Affairs Council

Susan A. Talbot '98
Member, Class of 1998

**The audience is requested to rise.*

Order of Exercises

CONFERRING OF
HONORARY DEGREES Dr. Charles Myers

Dr. Lester Saidman

Presentation by Christopher N. Breiseth, President

ADDRESS Dr. Jon H. Larson
President, Luzerne County Community College

CONFERRING
OF THE DEGREES Christopher N. Breiseth

*ALMA MATER *Eleanor C. Farley*

*BENEDICTION Ahron D. Abraham
*Cantor, Temple Israel
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania*

*RECESSIONAL

**The audience is requested to rise.*

*Music provided by the Wilkes University Faculty Alumni Brass Ensemble —
William Teubner, Joseph DeVizia, Ed Ervin and Phil Ionna*

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

Master of Business Administration Degree

Randi Audi-Davis

**⁴ Lisa Ann Gaito*

** Maureen Ann Gaylord*

**⁴ Theresa Kiwior*

** Philip James Mertz*

** Andre N. Milutin*

Elena Corina Niculescu-Mihai

**⁴ Mary M. Fitzgerald Roselle*

⁴ Henry P. Seager

⁴ Shashirekha Sundaram

⁴ John G. Synoski

James David Thomas, Jr.

** Jeanette Christine Wachs*

Master of Health Administration Degree

** Mark Tomeo*

Master of Science Degree with a major in Education

** Colleen Good Gatrone*

** Patricia A. McDonnell*

Master of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering

** Scott Thomas Smith*

Master of Science Degree with a major in Nursing

**¹⁰ Theresa Ann Bauman Patchoski*

Master of Science Degree with a major in Mathematics

Donald J. Trybulski, Jr.

John F. Zemetro

BACHELOR'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

School of Business, Society and Public Policy

Summa Cum Laude

^{1,4} Eric Pucilowski, Business Administration

^{1,4} Susan A. Talbot, Business Administration

Magna Cum Laude

^{3,4} Stephanie L. Bass, Business Administration

^{1,3,4} Leonard T. Hill, Jr., Business Administration

Cum Laude

⁴ Janet Marie Norton, Business Administration

^{3,4} Deborah Andres, Accounting

Karen Barnousky, Accounting

Tracy Ann Banks, Business Administration

Marchella Lisa Bellinghieri, Business Administration

* Stellamaria Elysia Benveniste, Business Administration

^{*,4} Melvin E. Feldcamp, Business Administration

Robert Collins Felton, Jr., Business Administration

Michael J. Graham, Business Administration

^{*,3,4} June Jenkins, Business Administration

Holly Krubitzer, Business Administration

⁴ Michael McTiernan, Business Administration

⁴ Daria Amico Merrick, Business Administration

Kevin E. Myers, Business Administration

⁴ Michelle Rose Nash, Business Administration

Donald P. Ricko, Jr., Business Administration

⁴ Joseph P. Russo, Business Administration

Joey Hill, Political Science

³ Melanie Draus, Sociology

² Thomas Williams, Sociology

*Degree in absentia

¹Alpha Chi

²Alpha Kappa Delta

³Alpha Sigma Lambda

⁴Delta Mu Delta

BACHELOR'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

School of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

Summa Cum Laude

⁹ Sean C. Flannery, English

Cum Laude

^{6, 8} Brenda Alicia Skoronski, Psychology
Elementary Education, Second Major

Ron Plummer, Art

Jason Lynne Bass, Bachelor of Fine Arts

Aldith Deleta Campbell, Communications

Michael J. Gundersdorf, Communications

Jennifer Ann Morrell, Communications

* Kevin M. O'Boyle, Communications

Keith Bradley Pacyna, Communications

Laura Schmidt, Communications

Michael S. Sobolewski, Communications

⁹ Micahel J. Majeski, English

^{6, 7} Clara B. Hudson, History

Anthony J. Pupa, History

Brian Joel Strassman, History

Michelle R. Fogleman, Nursing

Toni Ann Koch, Nursing

^{*, 6, 11} Tina Marie Brown, Psychology

Elementary Education, Second Degree

* Lisa Capone, Psychology

Lynn Churnetski, Psychology

⁸ Todd David Cottrell, Psychology

⁸ Angelina Maria Thomasina Decknick, Psychology

Elementary Education, Second Major

Ryan Robert Flynn, Psychology

History, Second Major

^{*, 3} Dorina A. Mangan, Psychology

Maureen Ann Metz, Psychology

⁶ Karen Elizabeth O'Donnell, Psychology

Elementary Education, Second Major

John W. Rosengrant, Psychology

Jill Anne Soudas, Psychology

* Judy A. Welch, Psychology

⁸ Danielle Christa Yeakel, Psychology

*Degree in absentia
⁷ Phi Alpha Theta

⁸ Psi Chi

⁶ Candidates for Pennsylvania Teacher Certification

⁹ Sigma Tau Delta

¹¹ University Scholar

BACHELOR'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

School of Science and Engineering

Summa Cum Laude

^{1,5} Joan Grmela Spainhour, Biology

Magna Cum Laude

*^{1,5} Chris Chan Moo Sung, Biology

Brian J. Goncheroski, Computer Information Systems
Jason Jeremy Hollenbeck, Computer Information Systems

Christopher T. Court, Computer Science
Mathematics, Second Major

* Jeffrey J. Gleco, Earth and Environmental Science
Jennifer M. Stec, Earth and Environmental Science
Mari Jo Watchilla, Earth and Environmental Science

Steven M. Zukosky, Environmental Engineering

* Mark William Shiner, Mechanical Engineering

*Degree in absentia

¹Alpha Chi

⁵Honors in Biology

Scholarly Societies

- ¹ *Denotes Membership in Alpha Chi, the National College Scholarship Honor 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 the Zeta Psi Chapter of Delta Mu Delta, the National Honor Society in Business Administration.*
- ⁵ *Denotes Honors in Biology.*
- ⁶ *Denotes Candidates for Pennsylvania Teacher Certification.*
- ⁷ *Denotes Membership in Phi Alpha Theta, the National Honorary Society in History.*
- ⁸ *Denotes Membership in Psi Chi, the National Honorary Society in Psychology.*
- ⁹ *Denotes Membership in Sigma Tau Delta, the National Honorary Society in English.*
- ¹⁰ *Denotes Membership in the Zeta Psi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society for Nursing.*
- ¹¹ *Denotes Membership in University Scholars Society.*
- * *Degree in absentia*

Honor cords signify membership in a scholarly society.

The University Mace and Presidential Chain of Office

The University 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.

AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL

*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain.
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.*

*O beautiful for patriot's dream that sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears.
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.*

Words by Katherine Lee Bates

Music by Samuel A. Ward

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

*A reception for graduates and their families will be held in the lobby of the
Dorothy Dickson Dart Center for the Performing Arts
immediately following the ceremony.*