



2026 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 16 | 10 a.m. | Scott Gymnasium

President's Message



Dear Graduates, Families, and Friends,

It is my great honor to welcome you to the 2026 Commencement Ceremony at Dickinson State University.

Today, we celebrate more than academic achievement, we celebrate leadership and the hard work that brought you to this big day. Your time at DSU has prepared you not only with knowledge, but with the character needed to make a difference in the world.

This year has been especially meaningful for me, as it marks my first academic year serving as president of Dickinson State University. Since taking office in June, I have had the privilege of witnessing the spirit of the Blue Hawk family. I have been continually impressed by the determination of our students, the commitment of our faculty and staff, and the support of families and friends who have encouraged you along the way.

As you begin your next chapter, I encourage you to move forward with confidence and purpose. Carry with you the values of hard work, integrity, and service that define Dickinson State University. No matter where life takes you, you will always be part of the DSU family.

Congratulations, Class of 2026. We are proud of you and excited to see all that you will accomplish.

With great respect,

Scott Molander
President
Dickinson State University

SCOTT MOLANDER

President

HOLLY GRUHLKE

Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost

D.J. CAMPBELL

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

KIERRA MATHERN

Alumni Association Representative

JOAN AUS

Dean, School of Education

ELIZABETH FREEDMAN

Dean, School of Applied Sciences

AMY GRINSTEINNER

2025 Distinguished Educator of the Year

MYCHAL COOK

JOHN-MICHAEL GONZALEZ

Student Speakers

Order of Ceremonies

DICKINSON STATE UNIVERSITY 2026 SPRING COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 16, 2026 | 10 a.m. | Scott Gymnasium | Dickinson, North Dakota

*Silence your cell phones | Remain seated during the processional and recessional | Stand during the alma mater
Air horns are not allowed during Commencement proceedings*

PRELUDE	DSU Concert Band, Directed by Karen Wagner
PROCESSIONAL	<i>Pomp and Circumstance – Elgar/R. Standridge</i>
COMMENCEMENT DECLARED OPEN	Tim Daniel Senior Faculty Member Assistant Professor of Kinesiology
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	Holly Gruhlke
RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING GRADUATES	Joan Aus Elizabeth Freedman
OPENING REMARKS	Scott Molander
SPECIAL MUSIC	DSU Chorale Mackenzie Hicks, Conductor <i>Lift Every Voice and Sing</i> <i>arr. Rollo Dilworth</i> Accompanied by Karen Wagner
GREETINGS FROM THE STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION	D.J. Campbell
INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER	Amy Grinsteinner 2025 Distinguished Educator of the Year
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS	Mychal Cook John-Michael Gonzalez
PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES	Holly Gruhlke
CONFIRMATION OF GRADUATES	Scott Molander
CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION	Kierra Mathern
CLOSING REMARKS	Holly Gruhlke
ALMA MATER	Led by DSU Chorale Mackenzie Hicks, Conductor
COMMENCEMENT DECLARED CLOSED	Tim Daniel
RECESSIONAL	DSU Concert Band, Directed by Karen Wagner

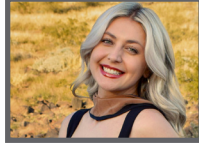
PLEASE JOIN US!

A reception will follow the commencement ceremony
in Wienbergen Gymnasium.

Academic Schools Outstanding Graduates

The Dickinson State University Outstanding Graduate Award is the highest honor bestowed on graduating seniors and master's degree recipients by the University. Students are nominated by the faculty in their academic school for exceptional performance in their field of study.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP - MASTER'S PROGRAM



Gabrielle Knopik

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION - MASTER'S PROGRAM



Haylie Oberlander

SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCES



Shaydin Ell



Natalie Lile

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Megan Asbeck



Britton Cranston



Molly Eaton

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



Brynn Hyttinen



Nathaniel Jilek



Eniola Soetan



Ellia Soydara



Kaly Vermeesch



MYCHAL REANNE COOK

Mychal Reanne Cook will graduate with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a minor in addiction studies. A passionate advocate for recovery, brain injury awareness, and community connection, she serves as a peer support specialist with the North Dakota Brain Injury Network and co-founded the Brain Injury Survivor Opportunity Network and The Beginning Project ND. She is a recipient of the North Dakota Training Academy for the Addiction Professional scholarship and plans to complete her clinical hours toward becoming a Licensed Addiction Counselor.



JOHN-MICHAEL GONZALEZ, JR.

John-Michael Gonzalez, Jr. will graduate with a degree in Exercise Science, with an emphasis in Strength and Conditioning, and a minor in Coaching. A member of the DSU baseball team, he also completed a strength and conditioning internship in 2025. He plans to pursue a master's degree at DSU while completing his final season of baseball.

Previous Student Speakers

SPRING 2012

Leah Walters - Gladstone, ND

FALL 2012

Zachery Keller - Dickinson, ND

SPRING 2013

Pierce Brooks - North Hills, CA

Jordan Mork - Dickinson, ND

FALL 2013

Sarah Poswilko - Killdeer, ND

SPRING 2014

Brenda Charles - St. John's, Antigua

FALL 2014

Sarah Jennings - Dickinson, ND

Joshua Kralicek - Dickinson, ND

SPRING 2015

Mardee Clarke - Stockett, MT

FALL 2015

Damon Fichter - Dickinson, ND

Michael Landblom - Dickinson, ND

SPRING 2016

Matthew Perdue - Ray, ND

FALL 2016

Jalyn McGill - Richardton, ND

Mariam Shittu - Kaduna, Nigeria

SPRING 2017

Jessica Schmeichel - Apple Valley, MN

Jalyn Klauzer - Baker, MT

FALL 2017

Braeton Erhardt - Hazen, ND

SPRING 2018

Carlie Bowditch - Sylvania, SK

Mackenzie Hicks - Hettinger, ND

FALL 2018

Seth Moerkerke - Gillette, WY

SPRING 2019

Allisha Dworshak - Dickinson, ND

Salena Loveland - Worland, WY

FALL 2019

Rachael Solberg - Belfield, ND

SPRING 2020

Christopher Gartner - Sidney, MT

Suzanna Moberg - Dickinson, ND

SPRING 2021

Aspen Lenning - Plaza, ND

Abigail Moberg - Dickinson, ND

FALL 2021

Isaiah MacDonald - Mandan, ND

Mariah McLaughlin - Beulah, ND

SPRING 2022

Anya Baranko - Richardton, ND

Luisa Popp - Heidelberg, Germany

SPRING 2023

Kirstyn Bohn - Vermillion, SD

Alexa Delbridge - Sturgis, SD

FALL 2023

Haylie Oberlander - Worden, MT

SPRING 2024

Rusty Dan - Coeur d'Alene, ID

FALL 2024

Melissa Moos - Dickinson, ND

SPRING 2025

Ronnie Nacota - Riverton, WY

Griffin Obrigewitch - Dickinson, ND

FALL 2025

Alyssa Buckman - Dickinson, ND

Ian Dakins, Jr. - Nassau, Bahamas

Honor Ushers

TR SCHOLARS:

Parker Buckley – Glendive, MT

Mia Handran – Scobey, MT

Cheyenne Jacobs – Wauconda, IL

Henry Maughan – Fargo, ND

Myriam Riley – Blackfoot, ID

Cole Skabo – Dickinson, ND

Emma Welch – Bowman, ND

DSU STAFF:

Stacy Wilkinson

Candidates for Degrees


Latin Honors - gold cord

DSU Outstanding Graduate - DSU medallion with gold ribbon

Academic Schools Outstanding Graduate - DSU medallion with navy ribbon

★ - Veteran

^ TR Scholar

Honor Societies:  Phi Alpha Theta  Sigma Beta Delta

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Alexander Fransen Dickinson, ND

Anna Ross Belfield, ND

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Christian Banks White Plains, MD

Tyce Dahlberg Buffalo, WY

Alyssa Diaz Allentown, PA

Chloe Gunderson Powers Lake, ND

Mayowa Ogundumila Dickinson, ND

Jackson Schaubel Billings, MT

Teagan Townsend Cowley, WY

Barrett Van Wagner ★ Dickinson, ND

Riley Waters Sidney, MT

Jaiden Wright Dickinson, ND

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Haylie Oberlander Worden, MT

Delaney Pagel Bismarck, ND

Amy Seagren-Hunt Bismarck, ND

MASTER OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Chloe Gunderson Powers Lake, ND

Jackson Schaubel Billings, MT

Teagan Townsend Cowley, WY

Barrett Van Wagner ★ Dickinson, ND

MASTER OF SPORT ADMINISTRATION

Connor Dukes Plattsmouth, NE Athletic Leadership

Nathaniel Harrison IV Fresno, CA Athletic Leadership

Colter Hickok Bridger, MT Athletic Leadership

Alexa Kappel Miles City, MT Athletic Leadership

Jaden Lemar Casselton, ND Athletic Leadership

Bryant Merry Dickinson, ND Athletic Leadership

Nathan Milewski Mount Pleasant, SC Athletic Leadership

Candidates for Degrees

Dallis Mitchell	Peoria, AZ	Athletic Leadership
Levi Newell	Van Wert, OH	Athletic Leadership
Esteban Ruelas	Tucson, AZ	Athletic Leadership
Tyson Springer	Dickinson, ND	Athletic Leadership
Trystan Tatum	Grand Forks, ND	Athletic Leadership
Cassidy Venner	Billings, MT	Athletic Leadership

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION - HONORS

Gentry Block Cum Laude	Bismarck, ND	Elementary Education
Jace Friesz^ Summa Cum Laude	Flasher, ND	Mathematics Education
Kiley Hubby Cum Laude	Lake Stevens, WA	Mathematics Education
Paige Hulm Summa Cum Laude	Linton, ND	Elementary Education
Brynn Hyttinen Summa Cum Laude	Washburn, ND	Elementary Education
Nathaniel Jilek^ Summa Cum Laude	Dickinson, ND	Business Education
Cade Martian ⊕ Cum Laude	Bowman, ND	Composite Social Science Education
Samantha Oase Summa Cum Laude	Reeder, ND	Elementary Education
Alyssa Olson Summa Cum Laude	Mandan, ND	Elementary Education
Ashlee Potter Magna Cum Laude	Bismarck, ND	Mathematics Education
Magee Rovig Magna Cum Laude	Minot, ND	Physical Education Health Education

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Shelby Bosch	Linton, ND	Elementary Education
Jesse Chapweske ⊕	Miles City, MT	History Education
Angeleena Lind ⊕	Hardin, MT	History Education
Cooper McGlothlin	Sidney, MT	Physical Education
Mataya Mortensen	Dickinson, ND	Elementary Education
Talena Quigley	Underwood, ND	English Education
Alysha Ridl	Grayson, GA	Elementary Education

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION - HONORS

Megan Asbeck Summa Cum Laude	Fairview, MT	Administration Finance
Aidan Cline Cum Laude	Miles City, MT	Administration

Candidates for Degrees

Britton Cranston Summa Cum Laude	Dickinson, ND	Accounting
Rachel Dazell ● Magna Cum Laude	Dickinson, ND	Accounting Administration
Rebecca Eacker Cum Laude	Kalispell, MT	Accounting Administration Finance
Molly Eaton ● Summa Cum Laude	Terry, MT	Administration Finance
Aris Eide Magna Cum Laude	Bismarck, ND	Accounting
Michael Feralio Magna Cum Laude	Billings, MT	Administration Human Resource Management
JoAnna Fleckenstein Magna Cum Laude	Bismarck, ND	Administration
Alyssa Freer ● Magna Cum Laude	Dickinson, ND	Accounting
Dana Friedt Cum Laude	Mandan, ND	Accounting
Jenna Gerhardt Magna Cum Laude	Devils Lake, ND	Human Resource Management
Ginger Goven Cum Laude	Washburn, ND	Accounting Administration
Cale Gundlach^ Summa Cum Laude	Great Falls, MT	Finance
Elijah Holkup Cum Laude	Beach, ND	Finance Administration
Kayleigh Malchose ● Summa Cum Laude	Dickinson, ND	Accounting Finance
Shel Osborne Magna Cum Laude	Laurel, MT	Accounting
Tyler Sandvig Cum Laude	Bismarck, ND	Administration
Jesse Sasi-Opusunju Cum Laude	Benin, Nigeria	Administration
Logan Smith Magna Cum Laude	Anchorage, AK	Administration

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Noah Aliff	Centralia, WA	Administration
Kesley Backman	Wilton, ND	Administration Human Resource Management
Rayva Benz	Bismarck, ND	Accounting Administration Human Resource Management
Kaylee Bishop	Malta, MT	Administration

Candidates for Degrees

Ashten Bristow★	Bismarck, ND	Accounting Administration
Patrick Dietz	Manhattan, KS	Accounting
Antoinette Gagner	Bismarck, ND	Administration Human Resource Management
Alexi Halvorson	Williston, ND	Human Resource Management
Virginia Hauer	Chinook, MT	Administration
Jessica Hemphill	Tulelake, CA	Finance
Cutter Jones	Zahl, ND	Administration
Jimi Jones	Scobey, MT	Administration
Josee Krum	Worden, MT	Accounting
Quentin Lewis	Dickinson, ND	Administration
Reese Mack	Dickinson, ND	Administration Human Resource Management
Luis Maposse, Jr.	Maputo, Mozambique	Finance Administration
Alissa McCree	Watford City, ND	Administration Accounting Finance
Seth Mitzel	Bismarck, ND	Finance
Peyton Peterson-Hamburger	Bowman, ND	Administration
Jarett Schuchard	Prairie City, SD	Administration Human Resource Management
Andrew Scully	Idaho Falls, ID	Administration
Tyus Thomas	Glen Ullin, ND	Administration Finance

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE - HONORS

Kyrie Alldredge Magna Cum Laude	Riverton, UT	Psychology
Carl Askins^ Summa Cum Laude	Sheridan, WY	Chemistry
Madison Beckler^ Magna Cum Laude	Dickinson, ND	Biology Chemistry
Reece Biel Summa Cum Laude	Dickinson, ND	Psychology
Kailey Brimmer^ Summa Cum Laude	Miles City, MT	Agricultural Studies
Shaydin Ell^ Magna Cum Laude	Mandan, ND	Agricultural Studies
Brae Eneboe Cum Laude	Conrad, MT	Agricultural Studies
Trenton Farren Cum Laude	Rapid City, SD	Exercise Science

Candidates for Degrees

Donivan Giangregorio Cum Laude	Valley Springs, CA	Biology
Jenna Hume Magna Cum Laude	Orfordville, WI	Agricultural Studies
Natalie Lile [^] Summa Cum Laude	Ballantine, MT	Biology
Jaymn Medlock Magna Cum Laude	St. Johns, MI	Exercise Science
Carly Moore Summa Cum Laude	Wright, WY	Agricultural Studies
Kori Nagel Summa Cum Laude	Center, ND	Biology
Gracie Roller [^] Cum Laude	Columbus, MT	Exercise Science
Nathan Schwartz Cum Laude	Richardton, ND	Criminal Justice
Eniola Soetan Magna Cum Laude	Winnipeg, Canada	Exercise Science
Ellia Soydara Magna Cum Laude	Fergus Falls, MN	Psychology Criminal Justice
Drew Stewart Magna Cum Laude	Lodge Grass, MT	Exercise Science
Abby Talkington Magna Cum Laude	Belfield, ND	Agricultural Studies
Benjamin Thompson Cum Laude	Center, ND	Mathematics Computer Science
Dalton Tvedt Cum Laude	Miles City, MT	Agricultural Studies
Wyatt Walker Magna Cum Laude	Alliance, NE	Agricultural Studies
John Wetmore Cum Laude	Park City, MT	Exercise Science
Tia Williamson Cum Laude	Belle Fourche, SD	Criminal Justice

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Xander Beeson	Gillette, WY	Exercise Science
Kaylee Bishop	Malta, MT	Psychology
Avery Bogner	Mandan, ND	Exercise Science
Austin Buckman	Belfield, ND	Agricultural Studies
Brooke Burnett	Bismarck, ND	Criminal Justice
Mychal Cook	Dickinson, ND	Psychology
Jaycob Dube	Dickinson, ND	Exercise Science
Wyatt Engwicht	Judson, ND	Exercise Science
Kaylin Garza 🌐	Belle Fourche, SD	Composite Social Science

Candidates for Degrees

John-Michael Gonzalez, Jr.	Tucson, AZ	Exercise Science
Adarra Hagelund	Soldotna, AK	Criminal Justice
Savannah Hagemeister	Miles City, MT	Computer Technology Management
Paul Hanebutt	New Salem, ND	Agricultural Studies
Lorelei Jarrett^	Springdale, MT	Agricultural Studies
Mikayla Jeppson	Bismarck, ND	Psychology
Kya Johnson	Colstrip, MT	Criminal Justice
Jackson King	Stockton, CA	Computer Science
Christopher Kistler	Worden, MT	Exercise Science
Gustav Kitzan	Dickinson, ND	Computer Technology Management
Austin Lehman	Hesperia, CA	Exercise Science
Fredric Lundstrom	Hazen, ND	Criminal Justice
Tanner Miller	Lemmon, SD	Agricultural Studies
Garin Opdahl	Fessenden, ND	Agricultural Studies
Arley Price	Dickinson, ND	Chemistry
Rosanna Rodriguez	Dickinson, ND	Psychology
Samantha Sabrosky	Gladstone, ND	Agricultural Studies
Jacob Scully	Florence, MT	Exercise Science
Anhelica Shanrock	Reno, NV	Criminal Justice
Bryce Shelhamer	Baker, MT	Computer Technology Management
Jack Simons^	Long Beach, CA	Psychology
Dylan Skillings	Rozet, WY	Composite Social Science
Nicole Slater	Williston, ND	Criminal Justice
Marshall Smith	Memphis, TN	Exercise Science
Taylynd Stuhr^	Gila Bend, AZ	Agricultural Studies
Mustafa Taylor	Dickinson, ND	Exercise Science
Cooper VanLuchene	Belgrade, MT	Exercise Science
Rae Vines	Eagle Butte, SD	Exercise Science
Wyatt Wilharm	Benson, AZ	Agricultural Studies
Isaac Willis ☺	Edmonton, Canada	Criminal Justice

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING - HONORS

Joseph Oliver Cum Laude	Olympia, WA	Nursing
----------------------------	-------------	---------

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Kennedy Ereth	Medicine Lake, MT	Nursing
Kenadee Fritz	Dickinson, ND	Nursing
Codi Keith	Dickinson, ND	Nursing
David Olusegun	Lagos, Nigeria	Nursing
Kaly Vermeesch	Dickinson, ND	Nursing

Candidates for Degrees

BACHELOR OF ARTS - HONORS

Alician Parks Cum Laude	Watford City, ND	English
Macie Thomssen 🇺🇸 Magna Cum Laude	Bismarck, ND	History

BACHELOR OF UNIVERSITY STUDIES

Anna Ellerkamp	Dickinson, ND
Cecilia Enos	Waianae, HI
Lily-Lynn Lehman	Hesperia, CA
Margaret Remerowski	Brookings, SD
Maggie Rennecke	Mandan, ND
Teandra Schneider	Dickinson, ND

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE - HONORS

Zachery Ehrmantraut 🇺🇸 Summa Cum Laude	Bismarck, ND	Business
-------------------------------------------	--------------	----------

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Sawyer Bryner	Petersburg, AK	Business
Keilani Diaz	Orlando, FL	Business
Landree Glass	Hebron, ND	Business
Jack Hartman	Petaluma, CA	Business
Bennett Kamp	Garrison, ND	Business
Maci Maher	McLaughlin, SD	Business
CJ Stinson	Sparks, NV	Business
Cordell Stinson	Sparks, NV	Business

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE - GPA DISTINCTION

Michael Sheesley	Dickinson, ND	Diesel Technology
------------------	---------------	-------------------

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Dane Allen	Bismarck, ND	Administration
Easton DeJong	Miles City, MT	Fire Science
Jeremiah Erickson	Rhame, ND	Fire Science
Savannah Hagemeister	Miles City, MT	Administration
Justin Kathrein	New England, ND	Diesel Technology
Kalder Mcpherson	Ashern, Canada	Diesel Technology
Megan Pullen	Dickinson, ND	Accounting
Cohen Schleich	Estacada, OR	Diesel Technology
Jake Streitz	South Heart, ND	Diesel Technology

Candidates for Degrees

ASSOCIATE IN ARTS - GPA DISTINCTION

Myriam Riley	Blackfoot, ID
Ayaka Tajima	Shizuoka, Japan
Dawson Zubke	Dickinson, ND

ASSOCIATE IN ARTS

Cayden Lamb	Valentine, NE
Alexander Meier	Dickinson, ND
Emma Sticka	Dickinson, ND

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE - GPA DISTINCTION

Anthony Budmayr	Belle Fourche, SD	Agricultural Sales & Service
Javin Friesz	Flasher, ND	
Xander Goben	Dickinson, ND	
Holden Will	Bismarck, ND	

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

Daniela Aguirre Porras	Watford City, ND	
Kira Barker	Great Falls, MT	
Landree Glass	Hebron, ND	
Benjamin Kivela	Florence, MT	
Jade Montgomery	Rosebud, MT	Agricultural Sales & Service
Madeline Montgomery	Rosebud, MT	
Mace Stuber	Bowman, ND	Agricultural Sales & Service
Athena Tacoronte-Daly	McDavid, FL	Agricultural Sales & Service
Molly White ★	Princeton, KY	Agricultural Sales & Service

CERTIFICATE

Megan Asbeck	Fairview, MT	Banking
Brayden Barnhart	Dickinson, ND	Welding Technology
Rayva Benz	Bismarck, ND	Accounting Technician Business Fundamentals
Alacia Coates	Bowman, ND	Human Resource Management
Zander Dingfelder	Glendive, MT	Welding Technology
Jaycob Dube	Dickinson, ND	Business Fundamentals
Rebecca Eacker	Kalispell, MT	Accounting Technician Banking
Molly Eaton ●	Terry, MT	Banking
Zachery Ehrmantraut	Bismarck, ND	Accounting Technician
JoAnna Fleckenstein	Bismarck, ND	Business Fundamentals Reception Services Specialist
Ratna Fleig	Serang, Indonesia	Accounting Technician

Candidates for Degrees

Stephanie Gillespie	Kingman, AZ	Office Administration Specialist
Landree Glass	Hebron, ND	Accounting Technician Banking Business Fundamentals
Xander Goben	Dickinson, ND	Allied Health
Ginger Goven	Washburn, ND	Accounting Technician
Cale Gundlach	Great Falls, MT	Banking Business Fundamentals
Savannah Hagemeister	Miles City, MT	Computer Programming Data Entry Specialist Web Management
Josh Hetzel	Stanley, ND	Welding Technology
Gustav Kitzan	Dickinson, ND	Information Technology
Quentin Lewis	Dickinson, ND	Banking
Maci Maher	Dickinson, ND	Banking Business Fundamentals
Kayleigh Malchose	Dickinson, ND	Accounting Technician Banking Business Fundamentals
Luis Maposse, Jr.	Maputo, Mozambique	Banking
Vaughn Miller	Glasgow, MT	Welding Technology
Chase Nutting	Somerset, CA	Welding Technology
Alician Parks	Watford City, ND	Graphic Design
Brielle Partridge	Glasgow, MT	Business Fundamentals
Megan Pullen	Dickinson, ND	Accounting Technician Human Resource Management
Margaret Remerowski	Brookings, SD	Digital Marketing
Bryce Shelhamer	Baker, MT	Graphic Design
Mace Stuber	Bowman, ND	Farm & Ranch Management
Tugg Taylor	Circle, MT	Welding Technology
Tyus Thomas	Glen Ullin, ND	Banking
Barrett Van Wagner ★	Dickinson, ND	Business Corporate Innovation & Strategy Entrepreneurship

THIS PROGRAM IS NOT AN OFFICIAL GRADUATION LIST

While every effort is made to ensure accuracy in this commencement program, printing deadlines may result in omission of some names and use of names of persons not completing graduation requirements as intended. This printed program, therefore, should not be used to determine a student's academic or degree status. The University's official registry for conferral of degrees is the student's permanent academic record kept by the Office of Academic Records at Dickinson State University.

Faculty and Staff

The following is a listing of Dickinson State University faculty and staff, organized in chronological order based on the year of employment with full-time faculty listed first, followed by staff members who hold a baccalaureate degree.

FACULTY

Tim Daniel	Assistant Professor of Kinesiology
Thadd O'Donnell	Assistant Professor of Kinesiology Head Coach, Golf
Woodrow (Chip) Poland Jr.	Assistant Dean, School of Applied Sciences Director of Agriculture and Technical Studies Program Professor of Agriculture
Shawna Egli	Instructor of Mathematics and Computer Science
Wendy Wilson	Professor of Psychology
Holly Gruhlke	Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost Professor of Business
Amy Kass	Assistant Professor of Accounting
Shayne Wittkopp	Director of Cross Country and Track and Field Instructor of Kinesiology
Deborah Secord	Professor of Education
Jerolyn Braunagel	Instructor of Education Director of Undergraduate and Graduate Field Experience
George Seror III	Associate Professor of Psychology
Ann Wittkopp	Assistant Dean, School of Education Program Director, Athletic Training Assistant Professor of Kinesiology
Hildee Fike	Instructor of Mathematics
Joan Aus	Dean, School of Education Professor of Education Director of Graduate Studies
Michael Dahl	Instructor of Kinesiology Head Coach, Baseball
Elizabeth Freedman	Dean, School of Applied Sciences Assistant Professor of Biological and Earth Sciences
Jason Abate	Assistant Professor of Business
Amy Grinsteiner	Assistant Dean, School of Education - Social Sciences Assistant Professor of Education
Niles Haich	Assistant Professor of English
Colin Strine	Associate Professor of Biology
Michael Cullinane	Professor of History Lowman Walton Endowed Chair of Theodore Roosevelt Studies Co-Director of the Theodore Roosevelt Center
Sarah Crossingham	Assistant Professor of Education Advisor of Blue Hawk Theater Guild
Hyunjoo Hill	Assistant Professor Business
Samanthika Hettiarachchi	Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Physics
Jinasena Hewage	Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Faculty and Staff

Danielle Harper	Assistant Professor of Agriculture
Sarah Manka	Assistant Professor of Biology
Stephanie Osborne	Interim Assistant Dean, School of Business & Entrepreneurship Assistant Professor of Business
Kimberly Goodall	Instructor of English Education
TJ Dempsey	Assistant Professor of Psychology
Ayodeji Arogundade	Dean, School of Business & Entrepreneurship Associate Professor of Business
Laura Leiss	Assistant Professor of Elementary/SPED Education
Tracie O'Donnell	Instructor
Christopher Olson	Assistant Professor of Communication
Michelle Orton	Director, Theodore Honors Leadership Program Assistant Professor of Leadership
Forrest Roth	Assistant Professor of English
Carrielynn Reinhard	Assistant Professor of Applied Communications
Dawn Olson	Assistant Professor of Business Education
Stephane Gerving	Instructor of Nursing
Melissa Wagner	BSN Program Coordinator Assistant Professor of Nursing
Cody Ptacek	Instructor of Nursing and Simulation Coordinator
Stefanie Aulner	Assistant Professor of History and Sports Production and Broadcasting
Talha Naqash	Assistant Professor of Computer Science
Bright Quayson	Assistant Professor of Business
Marisa Riesinger	Assistant Professor of Elementary Education
Lauren Roemmich	Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
Thomas Schwartz	Assistant Professor of Kinesiology Head Coach, Cross Country
Olalekan Ayodele Sipasi	Assistant Professor of Agriculture
Claire Stewart	Assistant Professor of Business
Jiayuan Tian	Assistant Professor of Finance
Karen Wagner	Assistant Professor of Music Education Band Director
Dustin Young	Assistant Professor of Art Education
Anna Faktorovich	Assistant Professor of English
Md Ochiuddin Miah	Assistant Professor of Computer Science
Brooke Peterson	Assistant Professor of Nursing
Shafaq Asif	Assistant Professor of Biology
Ehsan Memary	Assistant Professor of Computer Science

STAFF

Todd Hauf	Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Services
Carrie Knudson	Coordinator, Student Health Services
Trent Myran	Director, Facility Operations
Stacy Wilkinson	Chief of Staff to the VPAA/Provost

Faculty and Staff

Timothy Kreidt	Athletic Trainer
Kim Thiel	Assistant Director, Information Technology Services
Kathleen Meyer	Director, Academic Records
Johnna Douthit	Assistant Director, Academic Records
Gayle Mork	Assistant Director, Financial Aid
Christopher Meek	Director, Financial Aid
Krissy Kilwein	Director, Human Resources and Payroll Wellness Coordinator Affirmative Action Officer
Nicole Kadrmaz	Bismarck Site Coordinator and Advisor Collaborative Coordinator
Joshua Nichols	Director of Digital Process Improvement
Kristen Fleury	Head Coach, Softball Associate Athletic Director
Ty Orton	Executive Director, DSU Heritage Foundation
Elena Stickel	University Brand Manager
Sandra Steckler	School of Education Coordinator Graduate Studies Student Support
Jason Watson	Biesiot Activity Center Coordinator Sanford Sports Complex Coordinator
Laura Fetting	Course Design and Technology Education Coordinator
John Stanton	Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Head Coach, Football
Justin Schlecht	Head Coach, Men's Wrestling
Taylor Thiel	Cloud Integration and Database Manager
Ruizhe Jiang	Data Analyst
Kathleen Geisen	Director, Special Projects Title IX Coordinator West River Teachers Center Coordinator
Jason Their	Assistant Coach, Football Assistant Coordinator, Henry Biesiot Activity Center
Sheri Landenberger	Financial Aid Specialist
Russell McCarvel	Assistant Athletic Director Assistant Coach, Football
Erik Johnson	Co-Director of the Theodore Roosevelt Center
Derek Selvig	Head Coach, Men's Basketball
Sagan Osborne	Sports Information Director
Kyle Smith	Development Officer - Athletics and Rodeo
Laurie Karie	Director, Counseling & Health Services
Tyson Springer	Head Coach, Women's Wrestling
Mackenzie Hicks	Assistant Dean, Campus Life Chorale Director
Ashley Tillman	Assistant Dean, Student Support
William Hansard	Outreach Coordinator
Tanner Gust	Assistant Coach, Track and Field

Faculty and Staff

Gwen Mosqueda	Transfer Evaluation Specialist
Gemma Koontz	Digital Collection Specialist - Cataloging
Paul Amberg, Jr.	Director, Stoxen Library
Sarah Griffiths	Library Services Technician
Payson Dirk	Housing Operations Coordinator
Cebe Schneider	Head Coach, Cheerleading Concessions Supervisor
Stormy Siemion	Head Coach, Volleyball Concessions Supervisor
Ratna Fleig	Office Assistant, Academic Records
Bryant Merry	Athletic Groundskeeper and Building Maintenance Coordinator
Marissa Schroeder	Student Success Advisor
Hayden Wempen	Admissions Counselor Assistant Coach, Women's Wrestling
KayLee Kopp	Assistant Coach, Volleyball
Tobin O'Brien	Assistant Coach, Football
Jacob Owsley	Assistant Coach, Men's Basketball
Andee Lane	Student Success Advisor
Teresa Sigler	Academic Coordinator, School of Education
Alexandra Hecht	Digital Collection Specialist - Cataloging
Mark Martinez	Accessibility Services and Tutoring Center Coordinator
Scott Molander	President
Diana Honcharova	Office Manager, Human Resources/Payroll
Kelsey Hoerner	DSU/Williston Site Coordinator and Advisor
Nathan Masterson	Assistant Coach, Football
Khalil Paden	Assistant Coach, Football
Joe Schmidt	Head Coach, Rodeo
Emily Beck	Events and Administrative Coordinator
Carlos Molina	Student Engagement Coordinator
Heidi Uecker	Assistant Coach, Rodeo Rodeo Arena Coordinator
Dakia Schneider	Digital Recruitment Specialist Assistant Coach, Cheerleading
Teagan Townsend	Assistant Coach, Women's Basketball
Kelly Dorval	Director of Enrollment Management
Saif Khan	Classroom Technology and IT Support Specialist
Rudie Swanson	School of Business and Entrepreneurship & Theodore Roosevelt Honors and Leadership Program Coordinator
Cale Voglewede	Cloud Integration and Desktop Specialist
Glenn Manning	Director of Security
Daniel Rivera	Security Officer
Keithan Gregg	Head Coach, Women's Basketball

Academic Attire

HISTORY

Academic regalia generally consist of cap, gown, and hood worn on formal occasions at institutions of higher learning. It originated in the medieval period when the vast majority of scholars were of the clergy.

The gown evolved from what most likely was the cape of the clergy. The gown was originally black, but color was introduced as institutions left ecclesiastical control. The hood originated as the skull cap worn by the clergy to protect their heads from the elements.

The hood served a three-fold purpose: head covering, shoulder cap, and bag for alms. King's College, now known as Columbia University, was established in 1754 and imported many British regulations for academic dress.

The end of the 19th century found widespread use of academic dress in the United States. It is estimated that 95 percent of the colleges and universities abide by the intercollegiate code which oversees academic dress.

STYLES AND COLORS

The bachelor's gown is worn closed and is distinguished by its pointed sleeves. A master's gown is designed to be worn closed with long, crescent shaped sleeves. The doctoral gown may be worn open or closed with velvet panels down the front and three bars on the round, bell-shaped sleeves. The color of the velvet may be distinctive of the field of study to which the degrees pertain. The Dark Blue of the Doctor of Philosophy degree is predominant but other representative degree colors are distinguished in the following manner:

Arts, Letters, Humanities – White	Business – Drab	Economics – Copper
Education – Light Blue	Fine Arts – Brown	Law – Purple
Library Science – Lemon	Music – Pink	Nursing – Apricot
Physical Education – Sage Green	Public Administration – Peacock Blue	Science – Golden Yellow
Social Work – Citron	Theology – Scarlet	

The most distinguishing feature of the academic attire is the hood. The size and shape of the hood designates not only the college degree of the wearer but also the university he or she attended. The master's hood is three and one-half feet in length, while the doctoral hood is rounded and measures four feet in length. Hoods are lined with the official colors of the institution conferring the degree. The binding around the hood is velvet with the color indicative of the major field of study.

Caps are normally black with the most common the four-point mortarboard. Tassels are worn over the left front quarter after a degree has been conferred. Students graduating with honors from Dickinson State University are distinguished with gold honor cords. Only students earning bachelor degrees may receive honor status.

The Mace

In medieval times, the mace was often carried by kings or their sergeant-at-arms into battle where it was used as a weapon to protect the king. Centuries later, as armor became stronger, the use of the mace was phased out as a weapon. It was used, instead, during ceremonial occasions to denote authority in governmental, legislative, church, and academic settings. Universities have also used the mace to denote authority, and it is carried in front of the academic procession during each commencement ceremony.

The Dickinson State University mace is carried by Tim Daniel, Senior Faculty Member, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology.

Photos

Individual photos of graduates and additional commencement photos will be available for free download at [flickr.com/dickinsonstateuniversity/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/dickinsonstateuniversity/albums/). The album is labeled "2026 Spring Commencement."

If you experience technical difficulties, please email dsu.communications@dickinsonstate.edu and a member of our team will assist you.



scan the QR code to save the album link

Share your pics on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram! @dickinsonstate
#HawksAreUp #DickinsonState #BlueRunsDeep #ForeverABlueHawk

Display of Nations

In honor of the rich diversity at Dickinson State University, commencement includes the Display of Nations. The national flag of each student graduating is displayed in a salute to the students who have come together to enrich the university.

COUNTRIES



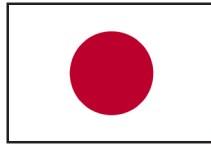
United States



Canada



Indonesia



Japan



Mozambique



Nigeria

TRIBAL NATIONS



Assiniboine & Gros Ventre - Fort Belknap Tribe



Cherokee



Crow



Oglala Sioux Tribe



Reno Sparks Indian Colony



*Hail to thee! Our Alma Mater,
Of the Blue and Gray;*

*Fair to us above all others
Is thy name today!*

*Blue and Gray! Flag we love!
Float and wave always
For DSU.*

*May thine own fore'er be loyal
To thy memory.*

Lyrics by Mary Jane Alguire Middleton, B.A. '42
Arranged by O.T. Belsheim; Revised in 1987

