



Commencement 2020

School of Nursing



THE CORE PURPOSE OF THE UNIVERSITY

To transform lives for the benefit of society

OUR CORE VALUES

LEARNING

A caring community, all of us students, helping one another grow

DISCOVERY

Expanding knowledge and human understanding

FREEDOM

To seek the truth and express it

LEADERSHIP

The will to excel with integrity and the spirit that nothing is impossible

INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITY

Many options, diverse people and ideas, one university

RESPONSIBILITY

To serve as a catalyst for positive change in Texas and beyond

LETTER FROM THE DEAN



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN SCHOOL OF NURSING STUDENTS who are graduating today and to the parents, partners, family and friends who have sustained you through this program and to this end. Commencement is a ritual that honors all that you have accomplished. It's a day of celebration — of your passion for learning and your commitment to serving others as nurses.

The School of Nursing represents a strong and extraordinary community of excellent students, dedicated faculty and staff, and supportive alumni and friends — all committed to addressing the many significant health care challenges of the 21st century through education, research and service. As a part of this remarkable community, you have worked hard, and the world will be a better place because you have learned how to apply knowledge to both new and age-old health care issues and to bring better information to bear on the problems around you.

As a part of the University of Texas community, you have taken on a responsibility to seek positive change in Texas and beyond and become a leader with integrity. You understand the importance of guaranteeing freedom for all and individual opportunities that embrace diverse people and ideas. You have, in short, learned and discovered and grown.

Today we send you out into the world to make a difference. I am deeply impressed with the energy that you bring to the nursing profession, and I value the intellectual commitment and life experience that you will contribute to the delivery of health care in the 21st century. I know I speak for everyone at the School of Nursing when I say I am honored to be associated with you.

Alexa K. Stuijbergen, PhD, RN, FAAN

Dean

Laura Lee Blanton Chair in Nursing

James R. Dougherty, Jr., Centennial Professor in Nursing

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

PROCESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance, Opus 39, No. 1
Edward Elgar, 1857-1934

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Alexa K. Stuifbergen, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean

Laura Lee Blanton Chair in Nursing
James R. Dougherty, Jr., Centennial
Professor in Nursing

PROCESSIONAL

Janice F. Hernandez, DNP, RN, FNP-C
Clinical Assistant Professor

Division Chair, Holistic Adult Health Nursing
Marshal

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER Dean Stuifbergen

GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

Undergraduate Student Speaker

Rachel N. Reprogle

Graduating BSN Student

Graduate Student Speaker

Cilla Parkison

Graduating MSN Student

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

Dean Stuifbergen

Assisted by:

**Gayle M. Timmerman, PhD, RN, CNS, FNAP,
FAAN**

Associate Dean for Academic Programs
Professor

Gayle Acton, PhD, RN

Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs
Associate Professor

Ana Todd, PhD, RN

Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Programs
Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing

Leigh Goldstein, PhD, RN, APRN, ANP-BC

Director of Learning Enhancement and
Academic Progress Center (LEAP)
Clinical Assistant Professor

Sharon L. Carter, DNP, RN, CCRN, CNE

Director - Leadership in Diverse Settings
(LeaDS) Graduate Program
Senior Second-Semester Level Coordinator
Clinical Assistant Professor

CLOSING REMARKS

Dean Stuifbergen

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Laura Aguilar	Tressa Hudgens	Taylor Pirtle
Collin Barnett	Kaitlyn Huynh	Melanie Quintanilla
Taylor Barroso	Milena Ianni	Rachel Nicole Reprogle
Danielle Bustamante	Pamela Claudia Jimenez	Natalie Rodriguez
Melissa Cardona	Khudajah Karamali	Sarah Kate Rosenberg
Ashley Carter	Abbegayle Kersbergen	Jasmin Salas
Jimin Chun	Joyce Hajung Kim	Kayla Soares Rodrigues
Laura Aracely Cid	Noelle Hannah Kim	Brynn Thompson
Andrea Feliciano-Cruz	Maria Demetra Koutrouvelis	Lexi Delaune Tiroff
Mariel Faith Ferrer	Corley Lovett	Kristen Brynne Trammell
Chinar Gandhi	Morgan Mahler	Joshua Ugat
Miranda Garza	Marissa Melton	Kenia Valadez
Kyle Gehrke	Meg Meneses	Phillip Valdecanas
Savannah Hope Gillispie	Mackenzie Parrish Muscutt	Kyle Michael Villanueva
Leilani Givens	Jason Nguyen	Kelsey Lynn Briscoe Wallace
Emily Gonzalez	Julieann Mai Nguyen	Collin Matthew Wang
Ana Gonzalez Gaitan	Erica Nicolini	Kei'Shanae Williams
Audra Grace Gramling	Hannah Ong	Kourtney Wisnieske
Madeleine Gregory	Cassidy Pesudas	Alex Wong
Tyler Hayes	Lindsey Pikulinski	

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Anastasia Adams	Shelby Chennattu Iype	Raul Reddy
Martha Ann Brown	Mary Jackson	Emily Schatz
Kathryn Clarke	Brenda Light	Sylvia Stover
Zoe Coles	Bryan Luedecke	Amy Tsay
Aster Dyer	Mark Moreno	Saranya Elena Wallooppillai
Karen Geiger	Cilla Parkison	
BrieAnna Henderson	Mark Perry	

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING

Kimberly Lewis *The Intersection of Pain, Fatigue, and Cardiovascular Risk in Teens with Juvenile Arthritis: A Biobehavioral Metabolomics Pilot Study*
Nicole Osier, PhD, BSN, BS, RN, Supervising Professor

Jason Yediares *Exploration of Heterosexual Cisgender Parent/Guardian-Initiated Healthcare Access for or Alongside LGBTQ+ Youth*
Jane Dimmitt Champion, PhD, DNP, FNP, AH-PMH-CNS, FAAN, FAANP, Supervising Professor



Throughout this strange and mystifying year, I have often heard people speak about an eventual return to “normal.” They are expressing a desire for the familiar — what once was — without realizing that the future will, and should, look different. At UT, we know that this moment of uncertainty contains boundless opportunity. This is a time for reinvention and reimagining. And the graduates who will earn their UT degrees this fall will be poised to lead us through this period of transition and discovery, toward a brighter shared future.

Their talents are awe-inspiring. Their vision and creativity are staggering. They are engaged, courageous, fiercely independent and razor sharp when it comes to anything irreverent or humorous. (I know because I’ve been the subject of more than a few of their memes, and they’re borderline brilliant.)

If you are a parent or family member, you should be beyond proud of what your students have accomplished during this unprecedented time. If you are a 2020 graduate, I tip my hat to you and want to express just how deeply proud I am of all that you’ve dedicated and sacrificed to get to this milestone day. You’ve earned a degree from one of the finest universities in the world and no one can ever take that accomplishment away from you. You’re not only a Longhorn for life, you’re also forever a UT graduate.

Celebrate and savor this moment — there’s nothing “normal” about it. And that’s a very good thing!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Jay Hartzell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Jay Hartzell, President
The University of Texas at Austin

