

2021

Commencement

School of Nursing



TEXAS
The University of Texas at Austin



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

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

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS

Dean Stuifbergen

MARSHAL

Sharon L. Carter, DNP, RN, CCRN

Senior Second-Semester Level Coordinator

Instructor of Clinical Nursing

GRADUATE STUDENT SPEAKER

Rachel Tyler

Graduating MSN Student

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SPEAKER

Phillip Evan Mondebello

Graduating BSN Student

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

Dean Stuifbergen

Assisted by:

Gayle M. Timmerman, PhD, RN,

CNS, FNAP, FAAN

Senior Associate Dean for

Academic Programs

Professor

Gayle J. Acton, PhD, RN

Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs

Associate Professor

Alexandra Garcia, PhD, RN,

PHNA-BC, FAAN

Graduate Advisor

Professor

Ana Todd, PhD, RN

Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Programs

Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing

CLOSING REMARKS

Dean Stuifbergen

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Camille Alexandria Batts	Lebon Hora	Serena Nguyen
Brett Bean	Emily Rose Houston	Heather Obermiller
Katelyn Byrnes	Hailey Katherine Hultquist	Kiana Provo
Katelyn Casey	Inaara Hyderaly	Alice Nhi Quach
Itzayan Ixel Castillo	Alyssa Hyle	Isabella Briel Ramirez
Emily Elise Chapin	Kaylee Elizabeth Knights	Osiel Rodriguez
Julia M Chesnick	Emily Catherine Krnavek	Karina Rojas
Faith Rose Colbath	Kaelyn Lane	Daniel Roman
Yasmine Kamal Daher	Jordan Lee	Brittany Shyanne Rosentreter
Vivian Kim Dang*	Rowan Genevieve Leitz	Elizabeth Anne Sloan
Fernanda de la Garza	Hannah Lewis	Lauren Sydney Spears
Sofia Espitia Barrios	Vivian Li	Caylee Stephens
Emily Blanche Gindler	Reagan Gail-Liddell Struble	Matthew Minh Tran
Josh Gonzales	Haley Nicole McNamer	Nadine Leanne Tuazon
Katelyn Gonzalez	Yasmin Alejandra Mendez	Grace Updegrove
Riley Cortlynn Grant	Madison Miller	Gianna Rita Valforte
Stevan Guarneri	Helen Mokhayeri	Benita Viswasam
Sarah Han	Phillip Evan Mondebello	Iam Weems
Suman Hemani	Madalyn Paige Moore	Hannah Christine Weisenbeck
David Hooper	Samantha Muchmore	

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS PROJECT

Vivian Kim Dang

Diet to Support a Healthy Pregnancy in Vietnamese American Women

Lorraine Walker, EdD, MPH, RN, FAAN, supervising professor

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Shana Alexander	Ryan Keech	Cameron Purgahn
Sobia Bhatti	Gilpreet Kooner	Yessenia Rojas
Elizabeth Black	Samira Lavingia	Emily Rotondo
Nicole Bray	Catherine Maldonado	Timothy Solfest
Andres Carranza	Stephanie Marterre	Annese Tabassum
Ellen Fagan	Crystal McDaniel	Rachel Tyler
Kameron Fassett	Kiely Morris	Kristi Viard
Kalandra Graybill	Nicole Mortillaro Burke	Sara Williams
Kate Hunicke-Smith	Cori Murphy	
Ernesto Hurtado	Andrea Palmer	

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING

Atami Sagna De Main	<i>Social Environment and Late-Life Mental and Behavioral Health Outcomes</i> Bo Xie, PhD, FGSA, Supervising Professor
Hsuan-Ju Kuo	<i>Fatigue and Diabetes Self-Management in Adults With Type 2 Diabetes in Taiwan: A Structural Equation Modeling Approach</i> Alexandra Garcia, PhD, RN, FAAN, PHNA-BC, Supervising Professor
Sandra Snelson Yaklin	<i>A Formative Multifaceted Approach to Address Mental Health Disparities in the African American Community</i> Miyong Kim, PhD, RN, FAAN, FAHA, Supervising Professor



Dear Graduate,

In a certain way, the word “commencement” feels like a misnomer — because with graduation, many things actually come to an end. In regard to your degree, it is the end of your instruction. For many of you, today also marks the end of your formal academic education. And yet, we call it commencement because it is also a form of beginning.

Practically, you’re now poised to begin professional work or to take the next step in your educational journey by attending graduate school. For that, I am both grateful and excited. The world needs the skills and knowledge that you have acquired here on campus. Therefore, the degree to be conferred upon you is more than just an accolade or credential — it is a solemn calling to lead and serve.

Traditionally, Commencement takes place on the Forty Acres with the entire UT community. Last year, we pivoted to online forums. This year, we’re grateful for opportunities to celebrate safely and responsibly in-person. Thus, our near normal celebration this year signals another form of commencement — that of a post-pandemic world into which you will step as leaders and change agents.

As you do so, you go forth with my supreme confidence in your talents and abilities. You’ve graduated from one of the world’s very best universities during incredibly trying times. You’ve proven yourselves adaptable and resilient. So I very much look forward to seeing what you achieve, where your degree takes you, who you serve . . . in short, how you change the world.

Congratulations and Hook ‘em!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Hartzell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "H" and "Z" that are interconnected.

Jay Hartzell, President
The University of Texas at Austin

