

Capital University



170th

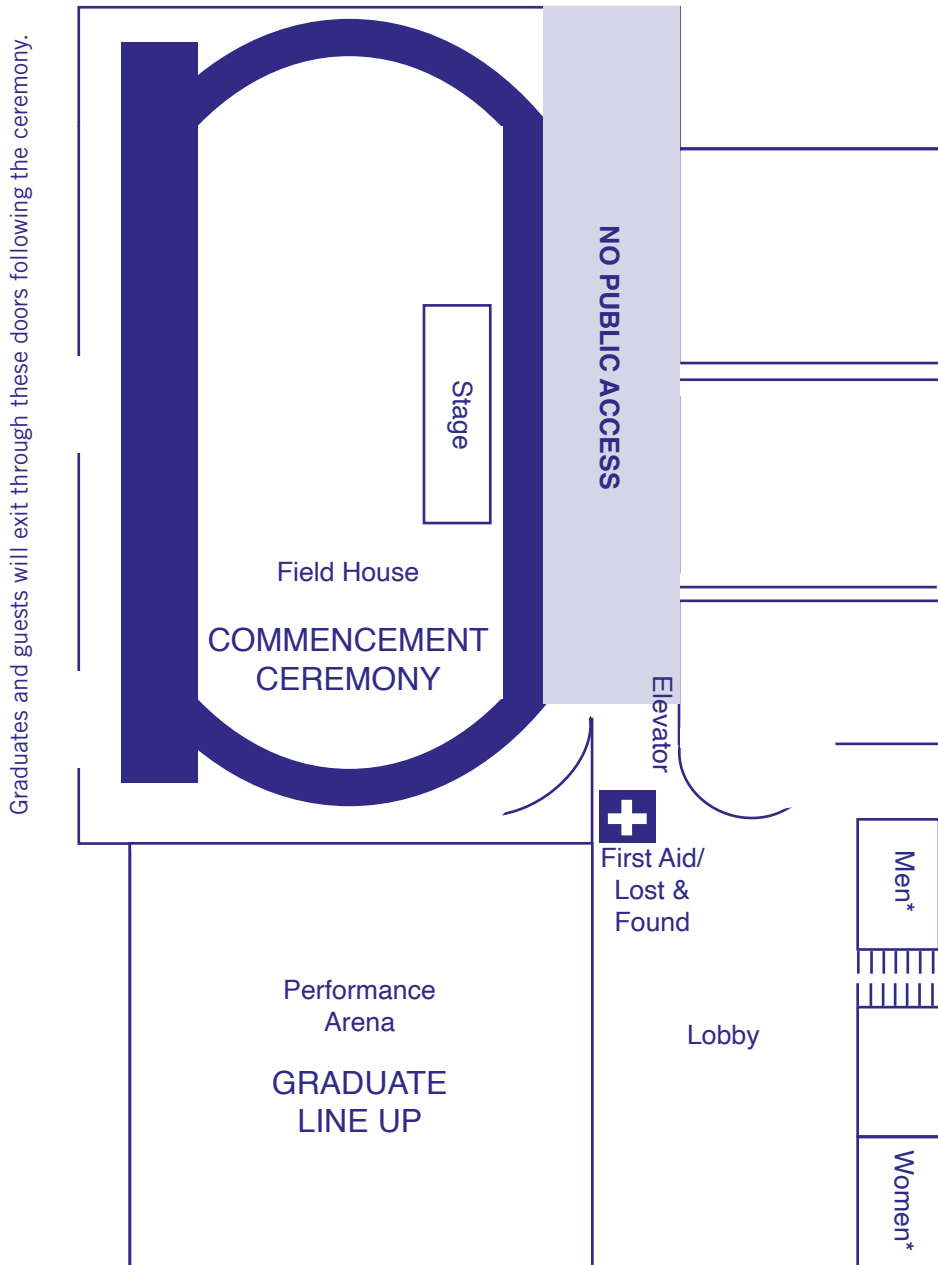
Commencement

THE CLASS OF 2020

May 9, 2021

The Capital Center

Welcome to the Class of 2020 Commencement Ceremony!



Videography – The ceremony is being livestreamed and professionally recorded. We will include information on accessing the video two weeks after the ceremony at www.capital.edu/commencement.

Professional photographer – Each graduate will be professionally photographed with their diploma after leaving the stage. You will be contacted directly by Graduation Foto to view your proofs and order prints.

Lost and found – If you lose a personal article, check at the first aid area to see if it has been turned in; after May 9, call 614-236-6209.

Leaving the Ceremony – Following the ceremony, all graduates and guests will exit The Capital Center through the Pleasant Ridge doors and, if desired, proceed to an informal celebration at the Gate.

The Program

Out of respect for our graduates, and for your safety, we ask that you remain seated through the conclusion of the ceremony. Masks must be worn at all times. Thank you.

PROCESSION

Student Marshals

The audience is asked to remain seated during the processional.

INVOCATION

The Rev. Drew Tucker

University Pastor

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

PRESIDING OFFICER

David L. Kaufman

Interim President, Capital University

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Interim President Kaufman

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Andre Porter '02

Chair, Capital University Board of Trustees

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Jody S. Fournier, Ph.D.

Provost

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Interim President Kaufman

CLOSING REMARKS AND TURNING OF THE TASSELS

Provost Fournier

BENEDICTION

Pastor Tucker

Following the benediction, the audience is asked to be seated and remain in place until after all graduates have recessed. You will then be released to follow the graduates to the Gate Celebration.

RECESSIONAL

GATE CELEBRATION

Graduates and Families

Due to COVID, we are unable to hold the traditional ceremony through Memorial Gateway. Instead, we invite you to an informal celebration for all graduates and their family members. Graduates are welcome to walk through the gate independently, signifying the completion of a student's academic journey and the start of a lifetime as a Capital University alumnus.

Andre Porter '02

Andre Porter is a 2002 graduate of Capital University. During his time at Capital, Andre was the student body president and played leadership roles in several student organizations.

After Capital, Andre attended law school at The Ohio State University, receiving a Juris Doctor degree in 2005. He then began his legal career with Schottenstein Zox & Dunn in Columbus. Andre was regularly involved in public service, having served on the Gahanna City Council, chair of the Gahanna Board of Zoning Appeals, and president of the Community Improvement Corporation. He joined the Capital University Board of Trustees in 2007 and became Board chair in 2020.

In 2011, Andre was appointed to the role of Commissioner for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. In 2013, he was appointed to lead the Ohio Department of Commerce. In 2015, he returned to lead the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio as its chair.

In 2016, Andre joined the Midcontinent Independent System Operator as its Chief Legal Officer and in 2018 was elected by the Board of Directors to serve as its Corporate Secretary. In this role, Andre is a member of the senior leadership team of the company, supports the Board of Directors, and is responsible for the organization's legal strategy and representation before the courts and federal and state regulatory bodies.

Andre's bride, Erica (Ball) Porter, is also a 2002 Capital University graduate. The couple resides in Westfield, Indiana, along with their sons Zephaniah, Solomon, and Roman.

Honor Designations

Students who have excelled academically while at Capital University earn one of three designations on their diplomas: cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude. The honors are based on the grade point average. To be eligible for honors, the student must complete a minimum of 45 semester hours of letter-graded courses at Capital. Graduating students who have earned honor society membership because of academic excellence, and/or because of outstanding performance and service, have earned the right to wear honor cords with their commencement robes. The color, or colors, of each cord indicates the honor society from which the designation has been awarded.

The academic honors as printed in the program are based on the grade point average at the beginning of the term. Final honors status will be printed on the student's diploma and official transcript.

Latin Honor Cords

3.50 to 3.69	cum laude	Purple and Silver (intertwined)
3.70 to 3.849	magna cum laude	Purple and Silver (intertwined)
3.85 to 4.00	summa cum laude	Purple and Silver (intertwined)

Academic Honor Societies

Alpha Chi	All Academic Fields	Blue and Green
Alpha Kappa Delta	Sociology	Teal
Alpha Phi Sigma	Criminology	Gold and Royal Blue
Alpha Psi Omega	Theatre	Lemon Yellow and Light Blue
Alpha Sigma Lambda	Adult Learners	Maroon and Gold
Beta Beta Beta	Biology	Green and Red
Iota Tau Alpha	Athletic Training	Red, Yellow and Blue
Kappa Mu Epsilon	Mathematics	Rose Pink and Silver
Kappa Pi	Art	Purple and Gold
Lambda Pi Eta	Communication	Red and White
Omicron Delta Epsilon	Economics	Blue and Gold
Phi Alpha Theta	History	Sunshine Yellow
Phi Alpha Upsilon	Social Work	Blue and Gold
Phi Sigma Iota	Foreign Languages	Purple and White
Pi Lambda Theta	Education	Gold
Pi Kappa Lambda	Music	Gold and White
Pi Sigma Alpha	Political Science	Red, White and Black
Psi Chi	Psychology	Blue and Silver
Sigma Tau Delta	English	Crimson Ribbon and Medal
Sigma Theta Tau	Nursing	Purple and White
Tau Pi Phi	Business/Economics	Gold

Service/Professional/Athletic Honor Societies

Chi Alpha Sigma	Student Athletes	Black and Gold
Order of Omega	Greek Leaders	Gold and White
Phi Beta	Music, Speech, Dance and Theatre	Purple and Gold
Phi Mu Alpha	Music	Red, Black and Gold
Pi Kappa Delta	Forensics	Silver

Service Member Cords

Service members on active duty or in the National Guard or Reserves, as well as veterans of the United States Armed Forces, including Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard, are entitled to wear a twisted cord of red, white, and blue. ROTC graduates who will commission on or immediately after graduation are also eligible.

Honors Convocation Awards 2020

UNIVERSITY AWARDS

The Dr. and Mrs. Carl Ackermann Alumni Prize	Heather L. Barr
The Rev. John W. Mattern Alumni Prize	Maggie M. Peddicord
The Faculty Leadership Award for the Outstanding Senior Student	Elli Wachtman
	Sierra S. Parker
The Outstanding Senior Leader Award	Heather L. Barr
	Nicolas Ryan Smith
The Stephen M. and Luanne E. Beller Award	Ishan Thapa
	Kathryn Poe
	Elli Wachtman
	Samantha Montanez
The William F. Bernlohr Award	Elli Wachtman
The Solomon Dutka Memorial Award	Megan E. Smith

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

The James L. and E. Marlene Bruning Undergraduate Research Award	Daniel Kuder
	Caitlin Carpenter
	Eva Peterson-Smith
	Kennedy Harden
The Diversity and Inclusion Research Award	Catherine Adcock
	Riley Cochran
	Liza Day
	Reagan Stone

THE COLLEGE AWARDS

The Merle D. Brown Award	Pammy Boulas
The Steve Esposito Memorial Award	Makena S. Nowlin
The Armin Langholz Prize	Ashley Marie Swank
The Allene Montgomery Prize	Jaime Kennedy
The Outstanding Service and Leadership Student Achievement in the Arts Award	Sami Pastian
The Lauren R. Weed Theatre Prize	Michael Zwez
The Joseph A. Brunetto Award for Excellence in Music	Molly Stofko
The Mr. and Mrs. George L. Conrad and Ms. Dorothea Conrad Music Award	Sarah Rozmarynowycz
The Timothy E. Swinehart Award	Andrew DeWeese
The Adelaide Hinkle Undergraduate Prize in Creative Writing	Sierra S. Parker
The Charlotte S. Kuchlewski Award	Heather L. Barr
The Hatton Award for Excellence in Spanish	Danielle M. Whitley
The Monnier-Lisko Award	Riley Cochran
The Outstanding Senior Philosophy Thesis Award	Alexander J. Beran
The Outstanding Senior Religion Thesis Award	Ashley Mendez
The Clovis Frank Award in the Humanities	Dianne Day

The Hilmar G. Grimm Award	Brenna L. Mullins
	Holly Hanson
The Hammarskjold International Studies Award	Shirin Atayeva
The Kenneth J. Martin Award	Liza Day
The Jennifer K. Saylor Award for Outstanding Proficiency in Political Science	Megan K. Douglas
The Virgil H. Dassel Award	Thomas C. Hamrick
	Marygrace Mae Chylinski
The Dwight and Barb Fouch Douce Award	Mame Mareme Dia
The O.H. Hoversten Christian Business Ethics Award	Joshua Leach
The Elizabeth Ann Keller Watson Achievement in Accounting Award	Austin Coleman
The Chemistry Department Outstanding Senior Student Award	Evan Savelson
The Distinguished Nurse Leader Award	Hana S. Yencer
The Robert M. Geist Award	Nicholas Ehrenbor
	Keely Pohl
The Ruth S. Neikirk Award	Miranda L. Cochran
The Dr. Boyd Bowden Student Athletic Trainer of the Year	Rachel A. Ellis
The Ann Bogue Pratt Award	Nicole C. Coleman
The Nellie Patrick Schoonover Award	Emily Eaton
The Sociology and Criminology Department Distinguished Senior Student Award	Sienna D. Hill
The To Wong Pui Har Teacher Education Award	Karen P. Maqueda Jaime

Academic Heraldry

The caps, gowns and hoods worn at college and university functions date back to the Middle Ages when monks and students wore them to keep warm in the damp and drafty 12th-century castles and halls of learning.

The gowns for the bachelor's degree, earned after undergraduate study, have a semi-stiff yoke, long pleated front and intricate shirring across the shoulders and back. The bachelor's gown may be worn open or closed, and is primarily distinguished by its long pointed sleeves.

The holder of the master's degree, won by post-graduate work, wears a gown with the same yoke effect as the bachelor's but it is worn open. The very long sleeve is square and closed at the end, the forearm coming through a slit near the elbow.

Gowns for the doctoral degree carry broad velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on the full, round, open sleeves. The velvet trimming may be either black or the color distinctive of the field of learning to which the degree pertains.

Caps may be serge, broadcloth or, for the doctoral outfit only, of velvet. The tassel of the doctoral cap may be gold bullion.

It is the hood that gives color and real meaning to the academic costume. A black shell, of varying size for the three degrees, and of material to match the gown, is silk-lined with the color or colors of the institution conferring the degree. The hood is then bordered with velvet of the proper width to indicate the degree, and of the color signifying the field of learning to which the degree pertains.

It is the field of learning and not the department in which the major work was done that governs the proper color for the velvet of the hood. Thus, a degree conferred as "bachelor of science in engineering" requires the golden yellow of science and not the orange of engineering. Similarly, the doctor of philosophy degree requires blue velvet irrespective of the major field. If more than one degree is held, the gown and hood of the highest degree naturally are worn. Holders of several doctoral degrees may make a choice of hood for any particular occasion.

The colored silk lining of the hood tells which college granted the degree.

Capital University has created a special purple and white cap and hood for those members of the faculty who have been accorded the designation of professor emeritus. In addition, each member of the faculty who has served the institution 25 years or more is permitted to wear the purple and white embroidered seal of the university on his or her gown.

The Capital Mace

It is only recently that items such as the mace have come into use in this country as part of academic ceremonies. Capital University's mace has been in use since its commissioning in 2003 for the inauguration of Capital's 14th president. The mace is 54 inches in length, crafted of cherry wood and displays the university seal. Today it holds a place of honor on the stage.

During the 14th century, the mace evolved from a weapon into a symbol of authority with precious metals and jewels replacing the spikes, while retaining an enlarged orb. Maces were carried in front of ceremonial processions and displayed during the convening of state governments. Universities throughout the world take great pride in their own particular mace, each designed with rich symbolism and history relating to the specific institution.

Today, the mace's significance is ceremonial and denotes authority, signaling an official gathering. It is usually carried at the head of processions, academic and religious, by a special honoree.

History of Capital University

June 9, 1830 – The seminary was founded in Canton, Ohio, as the Theological Seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Ohio.

Oct. 15, 1830 – The seminary opened with six students. Classes were taught in German, and for the next 88 years, only men were admitted.

1832 – The seminary moved to South High Street in Columbus, Ohio, after Columbus outbid Canton by putting up \$2,500 to become the seminary's new home. Construction was started on a two-story building, 50 feet x 28 feet, to house the entire institution, including faculty and students.

March 2, 1850 – The Ohio legislature granted a charter creating “a corporation for the promotion of religion, learning and morality to be known as Capital University.” Students could then enroll in a “school of letters,” which offered Greek, Latin, mathematics, history, science and philosophy. The name proclaimed the new institution's identification with Ohio's chief city and the seat of state government.

May 21, 1850 – The university's first president, Dr. William M. Reynolds, was inaugurated.

Summer 1850 – Capital moved to East Town Street, between Fifth and Sixth streets. At this time, there were 111 students enrolled and Capital consisted of three departments: theology, ancient languages, and mathematics and natural sciences.

1853 – The university moved to four acres at North High Street and Goodale Avenue, where it would remain for the next 23 years. The new building was large enough to serve as both a recitation hall and a dormitory.

Spring 1854 – The first class of Capital University was graduated.

1864 – The university's board of trustees approved the establishment of a regular four-year course of study, still heavy in Greek, Latin, German, mathematics and science.

1886 – The first course in English composition was taught.

June 26, 1867 – The first meeting of the Capital University Alumni Association was held.

1874 – After outgrowing its North High Street facilities, the university accepted an offer of 50 acres east of Alum Creek, the present-day site of Capital.

May 1876 – A caravan of horse-drawn wagons began the 4-mile trek to the new campus in Bexley.

1912 – The Rev. Dr. Otto Mees became president and started the transition of Capital to the modern university we know today: a liberal arts university, devoted not only to the preparation of men for the ministry, but also to the “liberation of man's dreams and aspirations through education.”

1918 – The Joint Synod authorized admitting 25 women on a “trial basis.” This same year, a music department was organized, which 10 years later became the Conservatory of Music.

1946 – A post-war flood of students created a housing shortage and led to the decision to hold enrollment at 1,000 students and to build temporary barracks on campus.

1950 – The School of Nursing opened.

1959 – The Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary and Capital University were separated with the formation of the new American Lutheran Church.

1966 – Franklin University's evening Law School (which grew out of the Columbus College of Law founded in 1903) moved to Capital University.

1972 – The Graduate School of Administration was established.

1979 – University Without Walls (which later became known as the Adult Degree Program and then as the Center for Lifelong Learning) was established.

Late 1980s/early 1990s – The Bexley campus was expanded to the south and a significant renovation and enlargement of the Conservatory of Music occurred.

Fall 1997 – A new permanent home of the Law School opened in the heart of downtown Columbus' Discovery District at 303 E. Broad St.

August 2001 – The Capital Center, a 126,000-square-foot facility for health, recreation, education and athletics, opened.

December 2005 – The university received permission from the City of Bexley to close Mound Street, allowing Capital to unite the north and south sides of campus with a safe pedestrian mallway.

January 2006 – The College Avenue Residence Hall opened with suite-style accommodations.

December 2006 – The plaza on Mound Street was completed.

Fall 2008 – Capital University Apartments opened, giving upperclassmen a unique off-campus living alternative.

2009 – The Adult and Graduate Education Office was formed to include the adult degree completion program, post-degree teacher licensure, accelerated nursing, and master's programs in business, nursing and music.

April 2009 – The house at 2361 E. Mound St. was renovated and opened as the Alumni House.

Fall 2009 – The new Admission and Welcome Center opened at the northeast corner of Mound Street and College Avenue. The building formerly housed offices for Facilities Management.

October 2009 – "Reflections" water feature, a symbolic centerpiece of campus, was dedicated.

Fall 2011 – Five Capital education majors participate in the new Intercultural Student Teaching Program.

September 2012 – Blackmore Library was renovated, which included the addition of an entrance on the Main Street side of the building, making the library more welcoming to the Bexley community.

Spring 2013 – The Law School developed an Energy Law Program in response to the boom in natural gas exploration.

Fall 2013 – Renovation of the Harry C. Moores Student Union was completed.

Spring 2014 – Men's and women's varsity lacrosse teams played their first varsity seasons.

Spring 2015 – The launch of a new 3+3 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)/Juris Doctor (J.D.) program was announced.

Summer 2015 – Loy Gymnasium was razed for construction of the Convergent Media Center.

Fall 2016 – The Master of Arts in Education program began.

January 2017 – The Convergent Media Center opened.

January 2018 – A resurgence of mission and history between Trinity Lutheran Seminary and Capital University restored the bonds between the two institutions, promising a stronger future for both and creating Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University.

Spring 2019 – Capital received approval to offer a new online Executive Leadership Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program to prepare executive nurses to extend their expertise from the bedside to the boardroom.

Fall 2020 – A new master's program in Clinical Counseling accepted its first students.

Commencement Committee

Jennifer Adams, Center for Global Education

Robert Fleming, Business and Finance

Scott Kunkle, Public Safety

Rima Leonaviciute, Facilities Management

Melissa Lung, Office of the President

Courtney Mangram, Meeting and Event Services

Era McMahon, Meeting and Event Services

Russel Pepper, Web and Digital Services

Roslyn Perry, Office of the Registrar

Kyrsten Robinette, Alumni Engagement

Dustin Rudegear, Athletics

Denise Russell, Communications

Niki Staten-Miller, Office of the Registrar

Deanna Wagner, Engagement and Success

Stacie Wickham, Office of the Provost

Commencement Volunteers

Jennifer Adams

Marcy Day

Grace Djaodo

Pamela Ellwanger-Schmidt

Danielle Fiore

Brian Foos

Dawn Freese

Robert Hite

Susan Hunter

Dixie Jeffers

Maryann Lutz

Suzanne Marilley

Susanna Mayo

Jean Scholz Mellum

Andrea Nagy

Kevin Pickens

Rhonda Pickens

Matt Rhyand

Daniel Schmidt

Annette Short

Don't Let the Memories Fade Away!

Livestreaming

Family members and friends who are unable to attend the ceremony can view it live on the Internet at www.capital.edu/live. Webcast coverage will begin approximately 5 minutes before the ceremony.

Professional Photographs

Graduation Foto will be taking professional photos of each graduate with their diploma after leaving the stage. The photographer will contact you directly in the next few weeks with information on how to view your proofs and order prints. For more information, go to www.graduationphoto.com.

Videography

The ceremony is being professionally recorded. Once the video is edited, which will take approximately two weeks, we will include information at www.capital.edu/commencement on how to access the on-demand Vimeo digital file.

Call 614-236-6196 for information about the video or photographs.

