Commencement
SPRING SEMESTER 2023

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Saturday, May 6, 2023
Pegula Ice Arena
9:00 a.m.
National Anthem
by Francis Scott Key

O say, can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming;
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro’ the perilous fight,
O’er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thro’ the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Alma Mater
by Fred Lewis Pattee

For the glory of old State,
For her founders, strong and great,
For the future that we wait,
Raise the song, raise the song,
Sing our love and loyalty,
Sing our hopes that, bright and free,
Rest, O Mother dear, with thee.
All with thee, all with thee.

When we stood at childhood’s gate,
Shapeless in the hands of fate,
Thou didst mold us, dear old State,
Dear old State, dear old State.

May no act of ours bring shame
To one heart that loves thy name,
May our lives but swell thy fame,
Dear old State, dear old State!
MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Congratulations! Earning your Penn State degree marks a wonderful milestone in your educational journey, and we join you and your loved ones in celebrating all that you’ve accomplished.

Commencement is a special occasion for the entire University community. It is a time for proud reflection on your success and hopeful enthusiasm for the opportunities that await. Most importantly, it is a joyous celebration to recognize all that you have achieved and the challenges you have overcome to get to today.

Your College of IST degree demonstrates that you are prepared to become a versatile leader for the Information Age—someone who is equipped with the technical knowledge and interpersonal skills that employers need and who is committed to affecting positive change. You’ve worked hard to earn this distinction, and as every sector of industry requires the skills of an IST graduate, you’ll soon find you are well positioned for success in any number of careers.

As you take your next steps, remember to stay connected with your peers, the College of IST, and Penn State. Alumni play a critical role in IST’s present and future, and we hope your connection to our college continues to grow. No matter where you go, we know you’ll go far.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and alumni in the College of IST—congratulations, best wishes, and stay in touch!

Andrew Sears, dean
College of Information Sciences and Technology
Academic Processional
Performed by Centre Brass

National Anthem
Led by Piper Weldon
College of Arts and Architecture
The audience is asked to join in the singing.

Presiding
Justin Schwartz, B.S., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost
The Pennsylvania State University
Andrew Sears, B.S., Ph.D.
Dean, College of Information Sciences and Technology

Commencement Address
Deanne Criswell, B.S., M.P.A., M.A.
Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Authorization to Confer Degrees
Naren Gursahaney, M.B.A.
Penn State Board of Trustees

Recognition of Meritorious Achievement
Jeffrey Bardzell, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Undergraduate and Graduate Studies
College of Information Sciences and Technology

Recognition of Student Marshal
Jeffrey Bardzell

Recognition of Military Commissions
Commander John Kerr
Executive Officer Naval ROTC

Recognition of ROTC Student Marshal
Commander John Kerr

Conferral of Degrees
Executive Vice President and Provost Justin Schwartz

Induction into Alumni Association
Scott Lyons, B.S., M.S.
President, IST Alumni Society

Penn State Alma Mater
Led by Piper Weldon
The audience is asked to join in the singing.

Recessional
The audience is asked to remain seated.

University Marshal-in-Charge
R. Allen Kimel, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

College Marshals-in-Charge
Rosalie J. Ocker, A.B., M.B.A., Ph.D.
Teaching Professor
Nicklaus A. Giacobe, B.S., Ph.D.
Associate Teaching Professor
College of Information Sciences and Technology

Nomenclator
Erica Fleming, B.A., M.A.
Assistant Director, Teaching and Learning
College of Information Sciences and Technology

DISTINCTION
Distinction is conferred on graduates who have completed the required number of credits at the University and who are in the top 12 percent of their graduating class in their college.
The 12 percent is divided into:
2 percent "Summa Cum Laude (++)"
4 percent "Magna Cum Laude (+)"
6 percent "Cum Laude (+)"

Additional distinctions noted in the program include:
Schreyer Honors Scholar ($), Student Marshal (¤), ROTC (‡)

PLEASE NOTE
This program contains the list of candidates for graduation as of March 16, 2023. Students who indicated their intent to graduate after that production date are not listed.

Subject to completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

If you have questions about your name, degree, or distinction listed in this program, please reach out to IST Advising Services (last151@psu.edu).
Elissa McNeil

Representing the College of Information Sciences and Technology is student marshal Elissa McNeil. Elissa is from Brookville, Pennsylvania, and the daughter of John and Jenn McNeil.

She is graduating Summa Cum Laude with a bachelor’s degree in Human-Centered Design and Development and a minor in psychology. She is also earning a Business Fundamentals certificate from the Smeal College of Business.

She has received multiple scholarships and awards during her time at Penn State, including the President's Freshman Award, the President Sparks Award, and the Evan Pugh Scholar Award. She served as a learning assistant at the College of IST, where she received the Experienced Learning Assistant of the Year Award. She was also an undergraduate research assistant for Teaching Professor Steven Haynes, where she helped improve the functionality of Cropsmarts, an application that captures data to help farmers recognize environmental patterns in mushroom crop production.

Elissa will begin her professional career in the IT Emerging Talent Rotational Program at Merck, where she previously completed an internship in user experience research. While there, she plans to pursue a master’s degree in human-computer interaction.

Daniel Manolesco

Representing Penn State's Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps is Midshipman First Class Daniel Manolesco, U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. Daniel is from San Marino, California, and is graduating Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor’s degree in Security and Risk Analysis.

Daniel completed his Honors Thesis with Dr. Ed Glantz and Dr. Peter Forster, titled “Sex Trafficking in Nonurban Environments.” In the summer of 2022, he attended and successfully completed the U.S. Marine Corps Officer Candidates School, and he recently received the Major Samuel Griffith Memorial Award for outstanding Marine Midshipman. In his free time, Daniel served as the assistant striking and grappling coach at LombardMMA, a mixed martial arts and boxing academy in State College.

Upon graduating, Daniel will be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Marine Corps and will attend The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia.
Associate and Baccalaureate Degree Recipients

Associate of Science
Information Sciences and Technology

Michael James Sheridan
Aleksandr Shirokov +
Haitham Mahmoud Sirhan
Jonathan S. Stacey
Brandon Williams

Bachelor of Science
Cybersecurity Analytics and Operations

Tazwaar Aadam
Daniel Robert Acocella
Nathalie Adrien
Angela Nicole Aiello
Hamed Mohamed Jumaa Salem Al Mukhaiti +++
Jonah Albert +++
Mohammed Khaled Hamdan Mohammed Alkaabi
Colin Q. Anderson
Brandon Alexander Arthur
Faith Elisabeth Bacci
Joshua Robert Bauer
Zigmund Joe Seth Bernard
Elizabeth Anna Blake +
John Boiger +
Nicholas Anthony Borrelli
Jeremy Bullock +
Edward Fitzpatrick Burke +++$
Matthew Patrick Cannon
Christina Maria Castellano ++
Aaron Cheung
Chang-Yu Chu ++
Maddison Paige Cree
Bryan Nicholas Cymbalski ++
Garrett Michael Daczkowski
Koushik Dadana +
Hunter Dagon
Andrew Lawrence Dehmer ++
Christian Delorenzo ++
Michael DeLuca
Ganesh Denduluri ++$
Zackary Tyler Dinello
Samantha Marie DiVirgilio +
Bridget Natalie Doherty +++
Joseph Donofrio + $
Harrison Spencer Dottery
Sean Dougherty
Ryan Ethan Edery
Zachary James End
David Estfanous
Michael Christopher Fagan
Jason Fang
Juliann L. Farrell

Jovanni Devine Feliciano
Brendan James Fernsler
Doherty Fesniak
Mark Harrison Filby $
A. Riley Finger +
Jenna Rose Fitzpatrick
Aaron Fosmire
Collin Foster
Collin B. Foster
Brian Gan +
Matthew Caelan Genova
Andrew Gibson
Natalie Gibson +++
Matthew Steven Glasson
Ryan Thomas Gleason
Noah S. Gochnour
Miranda Grier-Spratley +
Thomas Christopher Hilden
Sarah Hochberg
John Alexander Hollingsworth
Eve Victoria Huynh
Thien Huynh +
Lilith Hyde
Eileen Yelyn Jeon +
Joseph Jiang +
Michael Johnson
Zachary Christian Johnson +
Sean Keaveney
Gavin Michael Kelly
Nathan Joseph Kiger
Brian Leanza
Kira Marie Leavitt +
Cole Michael Lentz
Alonzo Llorens II
Mitchell William Machulsky +
Bryan Man
Brandon Robert Martin
Daniel Patrick McCarthy +
Amber Nicole McCullough +
Cameran T. Mccurdy
Ian Evans Mcguigan
Djante Malik McLaughlin
Jeremy Moore
Veronica Leigh Muth
Nikolas Aleksandr Nayda
Lance Nickel
Ethan James Niemeyer
Thomas Austin Northington +
Rocco Alexander Olivia
Jessica Rose Owurutsky
Brandon Pacella
Cooper Perry +
Colin Willem Pierce +++$

Sophie Lynn Piper
John Michael Piscitelli
Brandon Quach
Edward Scott Quinonez +
Jeremiah Sahadeo Raghunath
Noel Reyes-Rodriguez
Julian Romano $
Corbin Ross
Marcus David Ryan
Mihir Bipin Salunkhe +
Alexander Armando Sanchez $
Carl Edward Sander +
Andrew Michael Santacecilia +
Jonathan Santana
Nicholas Constantine Saros Jr.
Ryan Paul Sheppard
Brian Sheridan
Daniel Sigue
Hanna Sirk
Michael Joseph Smith $
Brandon Steven Snook +
Jaden Sue Stiffler +
Maggie Stuccio
Jacob I. Svidergol +
Justis Alexander Taylor
Matthew Francesco Tella
Ryan Hatton Thompson
Rajiv Thummala +++$
Brian Robert Trojan
Isabella Rose Tufaro
Ankith Uppor
Elijah Werner van der Laan
Michael Vargas
Christopher Michael Virostek
Ahdam Aodong Wilson +++
Mawunyo Kwesi Wurapa $
Sidney Jayne Zaref
John Zhuang +++$
Nicolas S. Ziccardi

Bachelor of Science
Data Sciences

Connor Lewis Anderson
Mojisoluwa Oluwasemilore Awe
Mohamed Ahmad Bin Adi
Tejas Reddy Bogurampeta
Maxwell Jacob Bredl
Alexander Michael Butch +
Yik Chung Chan
Yu-Cheng Cheng
Hang Hou Cheong
Alexander Christopher
Louis Constable
Daniel DeCollo
Bailey Martine Dismukes
Sarah Farooq ++
Eli Freedman
Hunter John Fristick
Samuel M. Geiser
Gregory Glazter ++
Haydne Golden
Katherine Grace Graham ++
Saketh Gudiseva
Chad M. Hardin
YuQi He
Glenn C. Hubbard ++
Jacob R. Hurley
Jonathan Jackson
Katelinng Giang Jones ++
Mehak Juneja
Jarrod Richard Keating
Aidan Kelly +
Sarvar Khamidov
Parkher Thabo Kirby
Surya Komandooru
Akash Koneru
Nathan Allen Kovscek
Tsung Ting Lee
Jiayi Li +++
Congqi Lin
Jiachen Lu
Rahil Mehta
Jasmine Luise Merrill
Shubham Mishra
Andrea Elizabeth Monninger
Anjana Nair ++§
Gia Nguyen
Jacob Luke Noethiger
Miranda R. Palmer
Nicholas Charles Parsons
Evelyn Lan-Chi Pham
Srija Pinnamaneni ++§
Nathan Quint
Nathan Reilly
Daniela Rose Rigazio
Samuel Orlando Rioboli
Yanki Saplan
Asikh Sathiya
Jane Schneider ++
Sooraj Narayanan Sekar
Nikita Singh ++
Sanidhya Singh
Eesha Srivatsavaya
Aiden Francis Subers
Caden S. Summers
Miho Suzuki
Tanav Thanjavuru
Isha Thukral
Kuan-Tun Wang
Aaron Stanley Yang
Ziyuan Ye +
Brittanie Yi
Weiting Yu
Yipeng Zhao
William Marshall Zwetolitz

Bachelor of Science
Enterprise Technology Integration

Thomas John Beck
Chase Donovan Clingman
Nina Fears
Nicole Frizzie
Ryan William Lindeman
Ella Giorgia Maquito
William Ellis Marsh
Daniel A. Stayer
Ryan Everett Tao
Mackenzie E. Thomas
John Leslie Alexander Walker
William B. Wilson
Cecilia Nicole Yarger +++

Bachelor of Science
Human-Centered Design and Development

Sarah Neha Addanki ++
Vrinda Agarwal +
Ryan Patrick Armani
Cheyenne Kelsey Barrow
Madison Rebecca Borkovich +++
Taylor Bracone +
Mia Burch
Hunter J. Buskirk
Nathan Daniel Carr +++
Ryan Christopher Choi
Nicole Davey
Kaelynn Elizabeth Davies
Ryan Dawson +++
Ian Andrew Dodson ++
Chase Garrett Eckenrode
Aidan Christopher Engleka
Nicholas Patrick Gerardi
Erik Robert Graybill
Jennifer G. Hodsdon +++
Nathaniel William Kaval
Hannah Kern +++
Alexander James Kinser
Aaron S. Lienhard
Ryan Anton McGlynn
Elissa McNeil ♂+++ Adam Mogolowitz

Bachelor of Science
Information Sciences and Technology

Jerry Alley
Mubarak N. Allotey
Victor Anthony Altadonna
Asail Askari
Thomas Joseph Campbell +++
DeShawn Cannon
Sean Vincent Cerneskie
Evan Chen
Haonan Chen ++
Jang Won Cho
Ryan Anthony Consorti +
Thomas Eugene Cronin
Douglas Perry DeBolt
Clinton J. Deiley
Moussa Diakite
Colton J. Eckenrode
Christopher David Edmondson
Yifan Feng
Ghada Fitiyan
Rachael Beverly Gray
Daniel Matthew Greenjack +
Alexis Catherine Hagan
Ana Carolina Henriquez Sayavedra
Seunga Heo ++
Deyton Hill
Shane Donald Houseman
Hoamng Huang
Zachary Huff
Jill Ann Hutchinson
Yousef A. Ismail
Austin Chase Jalosinski
Hoyeon Jang
Samson Sunday Jiya Jr.
Aamod Vasudeo Joshi +
Jong Min Kim
Krista Marie Kushnerick
Brian David Lamont Jr.
Kyle Steven Laverty
Kyoungjin Lee
Wenhua Lian
Duanhui Lin
Kevin Liu +
Zhuoran Liu
Hayden Long +§
Jonathan Marquis
Bachelor of Science
Security and Risk Analysis

Brian Edward Acken +
Margaret A. Alexander
Ben Anderson
Connor Baer
Joelian Barnett +
Tiffany Annonette-Neh Bass
Angel Becerra +
Hayden Belcher
Ronan John Barrett Berger +
Chloe N. Blake
Ryan Forsythe Brett
Calista Lynn Calabro
Jordan Elizabeth Canniff +
Max Cercone
Adityya Ranjan Chakravarty
Connor Cheng
Sean Thomas Cicchiello +
Sheamus Saunders Cochran
Riley Charles Condo
Katharine Anne Connor
Ryan Anthony Consorti +
Ethan Crowley
Ryan Delany +++
Michael DeLong Jr.
Christopher David Doroshow
Benjamin Coleman Durant
Blair Ellis
Jared Ennis
Dennis Michael Erdner
Tyler Evans
David Bradley Fellabaum Jr.
Ethan William Fisher
Kyle J. Fleming ↓
Caroline Frey
Kathleen Gallagher
Ann L. Giogouski
Edwin A. Gomez
Conner Evan Gray
Daniel Stephen Griffin
Kaitlyn Hagy
Bridget K. Halpin
Jamila N. Hampton
John Patrick Hearn IV
Kaitlyn Christine Hillman
Kathryn Chambers Howarth +++$
David Leroi Jackson
Harrison Philip Keating
Brianna Rose Kling
Wendy Christine Lamezec
Paul Lanahan Jr.
Colton Walker Mackell
Loreto Craig Matthew Malvone
Daniel Eugene Manolesco α ++$
Arastoo D. Manshadi
Delaney Savannah Marks
Isabella Martinez
Joseph Michael Matter
Hayden Maxwell ++$
Ryan Michael McAndrew
Bryn McLaughlin
Nathan Mark Menapace
Chris M. Miles
Thomas Scott Nancarvis
Seth Mitchell Navarro
Christopher M. Ostir
Minty Patel
Noah Tyler Pepper $↑$
Samuel Bruce Pfohl +++++$§$
Austin L. Pierson
Jessica Poland +
Sara Victoria Pribanic
Alwin T. Raju
Emely Yaneth Reyes +
Patrick Rogers
Natasha Marie Rosado
Steven Anthony Rose +++
Lauren Georgiana Ross +
Lewis Francis Scaliti
Courtney Lynn Schwobbel
Gavin James Shafer +
Jack Allen Shampine
Ainsley Shedlock
Morgan Anne Simchick
Michael Simonoff $||$
Maria Sherlyn D. Soyoso Capuder
Sylvia Caitlin Steinhauser
Samuel John Stickley
Elaina Stone
Samantha Stopper
Alex Evan Sutt
Amanda Taiano
Matthias Jefferson Tassotto
Dylan Terry
Zachary William Thomas
Nia C. Todd
Cameron Tollok
Gabriel Torres $↓$
Sophia Lena Traina
Lino Valenti II
Marina Katharine Vaughan
Haley Waring
Rachel Elizabeth Wasserman +
Nathan Gregory Weber
Christopher William Weindel
Samuel J. Whittle
Brett McGehee Wildman
Daniel John Wissing
Natalie Yeh
Marko Zivanic

Additional Participants
Cora-Lena Aladin-Williams
Archer Xavier Christman
Andrew Vincent Costa
Amber Elaine Leitham
Deepkumar Umeshkumar Patel
Het Gautam Patel
Elizabeth Peck
Michael Sheppard-Gordon
Jason Alan Tolbert
Planning for a new academic initiative in the information sciences was introduced in 1997, and the School of Information Sciences and Technology was approved by Penn State’s Board of Trustees soon after on September 11, 1998.

The school opened its doors at Penn State’s University Park campus on August 25, 1999, to 105 students and five full-time faculty members, who led 43 new courses. In total, 428 students enrolled in IST programs at 19 Penn State campuses across the state.

Today, the college is recognized as a leader in interdisciplinary education and research at the intersection of information, technology, and society.

The school was created based on a need perceived by the University and advisers from government and industry to educate students in the emerging field of information sciences and technology. The goal was to extend beyond classic computer science, management information systems, and library science—programs that existed in various formats across higher education.

This new multidisciplinary approach would prepare students to meet challenges in the use of computers, networked systems, and other technologies for applications in fields such as business, health care, homeland security, finance, energy, environmental monitoring, and entertainment.

The school was charged with producing graduates who would have the technical knowledge of information technologies—such as computer programming, discrete mathematics, and databases—and an understanding of information system concepts. An emphasis was also placed on building strong communication skills and a collaborative, solutions-oriented approach. Ultimately, these graduates would understand how information technologies could be applied to real applications involving individuals, organizations, and national and global enterprises.

In 2000, IST offered its first online course and built a robust offering of online programs and courses in the following years. In the spring of 2003, IST awarded its first bachelor’s degrees to 300 graduates from across the state. That first group of alumni quickly formed the IST Alumni Society, ensuring that IST graduates would always remain connected to each other and to the school. Recognizing its impact on the University and leadership in the information school community, the school was renamed as the College of Information Sciences and Technology in 2006.

Since those early years, the college has stayed true to its founding mission while evolving to meet the rapidly changing needs of students and industry. Today, IST educates thousands of students in a variety of undergraduate and graduate degree programs, both in residence and online. Faculty, graduate students, and visiting scholars conduct millions of dollars of externally funded research, collaborating across traditional disciplines to uncover new insights, trends, and experiences.

The College of Information Sciences and Technology Alumni Society

The College of Information Sciences and Technology Alumni Society wishes to congratulate Penn State’s newest IST alumni on their graduation! As an official group of the Penn State Alumni Association, the IST Alumni Society helps graduates stay connected with each other, the College of IST, and the Penn State community at large.

The Society works to celebrate the achievements of the College of IST’s alumni. We provide alumni with the opportunity to stay connected with the college through programming and events that promote lasting relationships among students, faculty, staff, and alumni. By joining the Penn State Alumni Association, you will automatically become a member of the IST Alumni Society. You will enjoy all the benefits that come with being a member of the Penn State Alumni Association and will receive invitations to exclusive IST Alumni Society member networking and fundraising events, gain access to employers and recruiters, and most importantly stay connected to your fellow alumni and the College of IST!

If you have any questions regarding the College of Information Sciences and Technology Alumni Society or the Penn State Alumni Association, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.
The publication is available in alternative media on request.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

The University is committed to equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment for all persons. It is the policy of the University to maintain an environment free of harassment and free of discrimination against any person because of age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, marital or family status, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, physical or mental disability, gender, perceived gender, gender identity, genetic information, or political ideas. Discriminatory conduct and harassment, as well as sexual misconduct and relationship violence, violates the dignity of individuals, impedes the realization of the University’s educational mission, and will not be tolerated. Direct all inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policy to the Affirmative Action Office, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Boucke Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901; Email: aao@psu.edu; Tel: 814-863-0471. U.Ed. IST 23-23
Welcome to the Pride!

Congratulations on your graduation, and welcome to the Penn State Alumni Association—the largest and most powerful alumni network in the world.

New graduates receive a complimentary one-year membership in the Penn State Alumni Association. As you enter the pride, you’ll join the ranks of alumni who keep their connection to Penn State strong through membership. We encourage you to stay connected and learn more about the 30+ benefits that are included with your membership.

Membership materials, including your membership card, will be mailed to you after graduation. Benefits are available to you immediately upon receiving your membership card.

Exclusive Member Benefits

**Career and Education**

- **Alumni Career Services**: Attend premium Alumni Career Service events for free or at a substantial discount.
- **Discounts on Kaplan Test Preparation Services**
- **Alumni Library Online**: Exclusive access to Penn State Libraries Digitized Collections and University library databases.

**Networking and Events**

Make new connections, reconnect with classmates and friends, have new experiences, and be enriched by participating in the world’s largest alumni network.

**Discounts**

Members receive access to discounts including merchandise at Penn State Bookstore campus locations; access to discounted health, auto, renters, home, life, long-term care, and pet insurance; and more national and local discounts.

Additional benefits include early invitations to Alumni Association events, access to the Alumni Directory, publications including the Penn Stater magazine, and much more!

To access a full list of membership benefits and to find your local Penn State Alumni Association chapter, visit: alumni.psu.edu/newalumni