Commencement
SPRING SEMESTER 2024

COLLEGE OF EARTH AND MINERAL SCIENCES
Saturday, May 4, 2024
Pegula Ice Arena
1:00 p.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!
COMMENCEMENT

Spring 2024 Baccalaureate Degrees
COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL
Performed by Centre Brass

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Led by Anna Farris
_The audience is asked to join in the singing._

PRESIDING
Tracy Langkilde, B.S., Ph.D.
Interim Provost, The Pennsylvania State Univeristy

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Jennifer Hesterman, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Colonel, U.S. Air Force (retired)

AUTHORIZATION TO CONFER DEGREES
Cynthia A. Dunn, B.S., M.S.
Member, Board of Trustees

RECOGNITION OF MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT
Dean Lee Kump, A.B., Ph.D
John Leone Dean in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

RECOGNITION OF DEPARTMENT MARSHALS
Yvette Richardson, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES
Tracy Langkilde, B.S., Ph.D.
Interim Executive Vice President and Provost, The Pennsylvania State University

INDUCTION INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Scott Billingsley, B.S.
Graduates of Earth and Mineral Sciences (GEMS) President

PENN STATE ALMA MATER
Led by Anna Farris
_The audience is asked to join in the singing._

RECESSIONAL
Performed by Centre Brass
_The audience will please remain seated._

UNIVERSITY NOMENCLATOR
E. Alan Cameron, B.S.A., M.S., Ph.D., B.C.E.
Professor Emeritus
MARSHALS

UNIVERSITY MARSHAL
R. Allen Kimel, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Associate Teaching Professor of Materials Science and Engineering

COLLEGE MARSHAL
Michael Mervosh, Materials Science and Engineering
Faculty Marshal: Clive Randall, B.S., Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor, Materials Science and Engineering
Director, Materials Research Institute

SCIENCE HONOR MARSHAL
Brenden Franks, Geography
Assistant Faculty Marshal: Jennifer Baka, B.S., M.P.P., Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Geography

DEPARTMENT MARSHALS
Geography
Nathan Andrew Cherok

Geosciences
Octavia Anna Szkutnik

Meteorology and Atmospheric Science
Ethan Robert Balderrama and Christian Spallone

Materials Science and Engineering
Muhammad Khairul Ikhwan Bin Ishak

Energy and Mineral Engineering
Halah Abdulaziz A. Aldejain and Wedad Hussain M. Bin Dira

GEMS DIAMOND AWARD RECIPIENT
Tori Miller, Environmental Systems Engineering

COLLEGE LEADERSHIP
Lee Kump, A.B., Ph.D.
John Leone Dean in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

Yvette Richardson, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education

Joshua Robinson, B.S., M.S., Ph.D.
Acting Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Research

Victoria Sanchez, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Educational Equity

Ann Taylor, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.
Senior Assistant Dean for Distance Learning
Message from the Dean

Congratulations, Class of 2024!

Congratulations, Class of 2024! You’ve earned a degree from one of the most challenging programs at Penn State. Along the way you experienced the joy of discovery, the stress of deadlines and examinations, and the satisfaction of a job well done. You learned how to think critically and write clearly, how to gather, present and analyze data, and how to effectively communicate your conclusions and their impact to a diverse audience. We, the faculty and staff of the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, along with the students you’ve gotten to know, both undergraduate and graduate, couldn’t be prouder of you and your accomplishments. I know we share that pride with your family and friends who have provided you support through your time at Penn State.

We have truly enjoyed being a partner with you in your quest for knowledge over these past few years. The faculty have worked to provide you an education that gives you both the broadly applicable skills and the depth of understanding of your chosen discipline that you’ll need to navigate both smooth and choppy waters ahead. And you’ve honed those talents, developing a strong sense of resiliency that will serve you well in life. Use your skills and knowledge to find a rewarding career and to do good for society. And continue to lean on us for support. You are joining one of the most supportive alumni networks in the world: you are now a GEMS, a Graduate of Earth and Mineral Sciences, and the GEMS alumni organization will be there when you need them. So, enjoy your graduation day, stay safe and healthy, and stay in touch.

Lee Kump,
John Leone Dean in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

Commencement Speaker

Jennifer Hesterman, alumna and colonel in the U.S. Air Force (retired), will deliver the commencement address for the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences’ spring 2024 baccalaureate degree commencement ceremony.

Hesterman served in three Pentagon tours and multiple command positions in the field. Her final assignment was as vice commander at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, where she led installation security, including the protection of Air Force One.

Hesterman is the recipient of the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with 5 oak leaf clusters, the National Defense Service Medal with one star and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

After her military retirement in 2007, Hesterman worked as a cleared defense contractor researching terrorism, organized crime, radicalization, and the exploitation of the Internet. She now provides security assessments for our nation’s critical infrastructure, advises two Department of Homeland Security Centers of Excellence and designs and instructs graduate level security courses for the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency with the Department of Defense.

Hesterman was a National Defense Fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, attended the Harvard Senior Executive Fellows program and was a senior fellow at the Center for Cyber and Homeland Security at George Washington University.

She holds a doctoral degree from Benedictine University, master of science degree in applied behavioral science from Johns Hopkins University, a master of science in military operational art and science from Air University, and a bachelor of science degree in geography from Penn State.
Baccalaureate Degree Recipients

PROGRAM NOTES

Scholastic Distinction: Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of minimum criteria, distinction may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements. 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 colleges. The 12 percent is divided into: 2 percent, Summa Cum Laude (minimum 3.98 GPA, Blue and White Honor Cord); 4 percent, Magna Cum Laude (minimum 3.90 GPA, Blue Honor Cord); 6 percent, Cum Laude (minimum 3.81 GPA, White Honor Cord). Distinction is based on cumulative GPA at the end of the fall 2023 semester and is noted with the following symbols: +++ = Summa Cum Laude, ++ = Magna Cum Laude, + = Cum Laude.

Schreyer Scholars: The Schreyer Honors College selects students who exhibit the promise of fulfilling academic excellence with integrity, building a global perspective, and pursuing civic engagement and leadership. To graduate with honors, Schreyer Scholars must maintain a record of good academic standing, complete 35 credits of honors courses, and submit a thesis. Students graduating with honors are noted with the following symbol: §.

EMSAGE Laureates: The Earth and Mineral Sciences Academy for Global Experience (EMSAGE) Laureates are graduates recognized for outstanding achievements through a well-rounded undergraduate experience including scholarship, experiential learning and global literacy, personal and professional integrity, service to the college and the community, and leadership. Students graduating as an EMSAGE Laureate are noted with the following symbol: ‡.

Military Commission: Students who have satisfactorily completed the advanced course in military, naval, or air science may be granted commissions upon graduation. Military and air science graduates are commissioned as second lieutenants; naval science graduates may be commissioned as ensigns in the Navy or second lieutenants in the Marine Corps. Students graduating with a military commission are noted with the following symbol: ◊.

Bachelor of Arts

Geography

Haleigh Faye Hainsey
Vivian Josephine Kase
James David Meehan
Jolisma Alexia Sandoval
Lindsay Elizabeth Wichern +

Geosciences

Valentina Marin Lopez ‡
Seanna Maria Pryor
Siyuan You

Energy and Sustainability Policy

Shaun Cerborino

Bachelor of Science

Earth Science and Policy

Ciaran Patrick Costello
Molly Ruthann Gulden
Erin Martin
Lindsey McMackin
Zane Saylor
Benjamin David Smith +
Xiyao Song
Octavia Anna Szkutnik ++ § ‡
Alysha Marie Ulrich + §

Earth Sciences

Olivia Branson Adams ‡
Kailee Blum
Alexander Filetti
Aubree High
Francis Reed Licopoli
Gemma Samson Morrison
Elizabeth Rose Tofte +
Allison Marie Welch

Energy and Sustainability Policy

Amit Bhayana
Katherine Buchanan Cloud
Jessica Fortino ++
Karrie Goudy
John Shannon ++
Carly Diane Sullivan

Energy Business and Finance

James Keough Allen
Michael Stephen Carpenter
William Gerard Clancy
Gwendolyn Ann Cullen ‡
Vincent Gigliotti
Mark Fletcher Goggin
Ryan John Jashinski
Alexa Liggieri
Cory Nolan Lindey
Austin Michael Lobaugh
Sotirios A. Maniatis
Madalyn Theresa Marcanio
Maren Eileen McGrath
Curtis William Mcgriskin
Michael Alexander Milianta
Shane Prucnal
Benjamin Redler
Brooke Ryley Rockovits
Chetan Saha
Pravin Sivaji
Nicholas Zanaras

**Energy Engineering**
Elizabeth Karynn Baierlein ‡
William James Burke III
Aramus Kincaed Cross
Vedanthi Santrupth Gowdgere
Ramakrishna
Ryan Thomas Manning
Ugochukwu Tevin Mbakwe
John A. Mylant
William George Newcomb
Callaway Ty Pate
Simon Anthony Pezalla
Gabriel Karl Renninger
Evelyn Siler +
Kole Austin Smith
Ethan Edward Sobota
Patrick Tunkel
Caden Paul Vitti ++ §

**Environmental Systems Engineering**
Catherine M. Coyle
Christian Tecumseh DeSimone
Zachary Louis Dieck
Celia Ghilani
Clarye Olivia Guyer
Khaleah Simone Jackson
Sarah Mackenzie LaSalle
Maryn Ruth McConkey §
Tori Renee Miller ‡
Kyra Marie Rodgers
Melanie Santella-Gelvez
Robert James White
Benjamin Wilson
Garrett Zeigler

**Geobiology**
Gavin De Mars
Riley Foster
Katrina Mackenzie Taylor +
 Hollin Renee Williams

**Geography**
Jamison Burke
Nathan Andrew Cherok +++ § ‡
Maxfield Aubrey Evans
Cole Russell Fiore
Brenden Franks +++
Alexandra Christieva Lister ++ § ‡
Christopher Daniel Manukas
Emily Catherine Shiels ++ §
Clarissa Janice Styer + §
Finan Ivey Turnage-Barney +

**Geosciences**
Sabrina Rose Blacklock
Grace B. Boyle
Alexander Paul Cerminaro ‡
Zili Huang
Gabriel Jauregui
Maximiliano Leon
Arnav Inesh Lund
Joshua Nicholas Rechenberg
Noah Brian Sheldon
Cole Everett Temple
Zachary Terfenko
Amanda Urist ‡
Alexander Waldman
Zoe Elizabeth Zenker

**Materials Science and Engineering**
Mohamed Ali Ali
Essa Omar Khalifa Essa Althan
Ayu Adika Binti Anas
Andrew Thomas Arbanas
Ian Wayne Bruce
Julia Elizabeth Callis
Erin Chacos
Zai Chen
Marcus Choates
Sophia M Craparo
Samuel DeMarchis
Casey John Diehl
Jonpatrick Murphy Downes
Alex James Fordham
Matthew Gilliatt
Jacob Matthew Hannon
Blake W. Hellman
Muhammad Khairul Ikhwani Bin Ishak ++
Nasif Munjeem Islam
Kevalin Kalra
Jongkyeong Kim + ‡
Lukas Aaron Kissell
Lynn Charlotte Laping
Raymond Cole Lassinger
Derrick Le
Joseph Christian Mee
Michael William Mervosh +++ ‡
Siti Kharunnisa Binti Mohd Amran
Alisha P. Naik
Jordan O’Donnell
Nathaniel R. Pajak
Nicholas Dean Redwing
Christopher Russell Romanek
Ryan M. Sims +
Adam Edward Sipe § ‡
Chrislynn Gono Suah
Alejandro Toro ‡
Wan Nur Syazwina Binti Wan Razali ++
James Richard Wert
Tyler Joseph Woolsey ++
Jae Wan You
Harsh Zaver
Dengzhe Zhang
Gaspar Zimbrek-Turkovic

**Meteorology and Atmospheric Science**
Ethan Robert Balderrama +++
Christian Bryce Bohon +
Scott Marshall Everson ++
Elliott Richard Fosler-Lussier
Clare M. Gibson ‡
Katherine Michelle Gordon ◊
Erik Handel
Benjamin Iaia
Aran Robert Jacobs
Nicole Jeanne Joniak
Christian Joel Lasher
Additional Participants

Students who requested to be listed by April 12, 2024, and who have 8 or fewer credits to complete their degree programs, are listed below.

Bachelor of Science

Earth Science and Policy

Gabriel Thomas Clayton
Punn Khamkanist

Earth Sciences

Connor Stephen Sipe
Regan N. Smith
Nicolaas Max Hendrik Weggelaar

Energy Engineering

Hali Rose McField
Hector David Rivera

Materials Science and Engineering

Daniel Alejandro Flores Romero
Asma Diallo

Meteorology and Atmospheric Science

Andrew Pizzuto

Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering

Maria Wajeeh A. Al Sudair
Mychal Patrick Kearns
Mariyah Ali Almutailiq
Yara Ahmed A. AlTurki
You’re a Lion for life…

Congratulations on your graduation! You’ve earned your place in the largest and most powerful alumni network in the world.

The Penn State Alumni Association connects you to the global community of more than 775,000 Penn Staters and keeps your connection to Dear Old State strong. It also includes more than 30 benefits, including exclusive discounts, access to our local chapters, and members-only networking and career services.

Watch the mail for your welcome kit and make the most of your complimentary one-year membership.
Note: The information in this document was produced April 12, 2024 as an unofficial list of students who indicated intent to graduate for the spring 2024 semester. Students who indicated their intent to graduate after that 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 a question about your name, degree or distinction listed in this program, please reach out to Julianne Mortimore, jrm62@psu.edu.