

PRINCETON
COMMENCEMENT



TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-THIRD

Commencement Exercises

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
THE EIGHTEENTH OF MAY
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO



Processional

The audience will please rise
when the faculty marshals enter.

Chief Marshal for University Convocations
Sandra L. Bermann

Marshals for Advanced Degrees
Claire F. Gmachl
Rosina A. Lozano

Marshals for Bachelor Degrees
Clarence W. Rowley
Stacey A. Sinclair

Candidates for Advanced Degrees

Candidates for Bachelor Degrees

Marshal for Faculty and Administration
J. Nicole Shelton

The Faculty and Administrative Officers

Associate Chief Marshal
Richard A. Register

Marshal for Recipients of Honorary Degrees
Eric S. Gregory

Recipients of Honorary Degrees and Trustee Escorts

The Trustees and Trustees Emeriti

Processional Guests

Mace-Bearer
Jeff E. Nunokawa

The Principals:

Associate Dean of Religious Life and of the Chapel
Theresa S. Thames

Dean of Religious Life and of the Chapel
Alison L. Boden

Dean of the College
Jill S. Dolan

Acting Dean of the Graduate School
Cole M. Crittenden

Dean of the Faculty
Gene A. Jarrett

Provost
Deborah A. Prentice

University Orator
C. Kim Goodwin

Chair of the Board of Trustees of Princeton University
Louise S. Sams

President
Christopher L. Eisgruber

Invocation

Alison L. Boden
Dean of Religious Life and of the Chapel

Greeting

Christopher L. Eisgruber
President of the University

Bachelor Degrees

Presentation to the president, by Dean of the College
Jill S. Dolan, of recipients of bachelor degrees; ceremonial
conferral of the degrees by the president. Please note,
degrees were officially conferred on June 2, 2020.

Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Science in Engineering

Valedictory Oration

Nicholas André G. Johnson
The valedictory is awarded by vote of the faculty to one
of the highest-ranking candidates for bachelor degrees.
The special qualifications of a student as valedictorian
are taken into account, as well as scholastic standing.

Advanced Degrees

Presentation to the president, by Acting Dean of the
Graduate School Cole M. Crittenden, of recipients of
advanced degrees; ceremonial conferral of the degrees
by the president. Please note, degrees were officially
conferred on June 2, 2020.

Master of Arts
Master of Fine Arts
Master of Arts in Near Eastern Studies
Master in Finance
Master of Architecture
Master in Public Affairs
Master in Public Policy
Master of Science in Engineering
Master of Engineering
Doctor of Philosophy

Honorary Degrees

Presentation to the president of the candidates for honorary degrees by the University Orator and Charter Trustee, C. Kim Goodwin, Class of 1981; ceremonial conferral of the degrees by the president. Please note, degrees were officially conferred on June 2, 2020.

Frances Arnold (in absentia)

Doctor of Science

Not satisfied with nature's vast repertoire of proteins, she uses the most powerful biological design process in existence—evolution—to engineer chemical solutions to human problems. A winner of the Nobel Prize for directing evolution, she encourages random mutations in DNA, inserts the DNA into bacteria, and then selects the bacteria that produce the most useful enzymes to repeat the process with until she gets the desired results. Using chemical intuition and mimicking nature's processes, she has generated new enzyme families that are key to vital reactions. With the same creativity of thought that she poured into Russian literature, economic theory, and solar panel design during her undergraduate years at Princeton, she now creates compounds that can replace toxic pesticides, provide alternatives to fossil fuels, improve MRI scans, and manufacture medicines.

Ray Chambers

Doctor of Humane Letters

Raised in a working-class neighborhood, he met with great success at the helm of Wesray Capital Corporation before choosing to devote his energies to improving the world. He has been a staunch friend to his native Newark, New Jersey, which he has helped revitalize; to our country's youth, on whose behalf he has championed the transformative power of mentoring; and to the international community, where, working with the United Nations, he has advanced the cause of global health, not least by spearheading an anti-malaria campaign that has saved millions of lives. In his unassuming but determined way, he shows how we must, in his words, come together to "shape the world as we wish to see it – a 'new normal' – one that is more compassionate, more equitable, and more humane."

Robin Roberts (in absentia)

Doctor of Fine Arts

A star basketball player and sports reporter, a pioneering anchor, and a dedicated partner in the Be the Match international bone marrow registry, she has been a model of courage and leadership – for women of color, and for everyone. By candidly sharing her battles with breast cancer and myelodysplastic syndrome as well as her open gratitude for the match she found in her sister, Sally-Ann, she has helped raise funds and awareness for bone marrow donation. She has activated her public platform, built on over 30 years in broadcasting, to lift others up, support them in illness, and provide hope on the road to a cure. She has taught us, as she says, to "make your mess your message" and to find the grace in life's challenges.

William R. Schowalter

Doctor of Science

In an extraordinary career stretching across seven decades, he made foundational contributions to the field of chemical engineering and influenced legions of students and scholars around the world. Friends point out his ready smile, enthusiastic personality, optimistic outlook, and love of opera. Colleagues praise his ability to teach complicated topics to undergraduate and graduate students alike. The scientific world lauds his remarkable technical and professional accomplishments, his integrity, and his leadership in science and technology policy. When he retired in 2001, his pace did not slow: He became an international ambassador for higher education as special advisor to university presidents in Singapore and Saudi Arabia, broadening his already profound contributions to engineering, science, and the international research enterprise.

Linda Tsao Yang (in absentia)

Doctor of Humane Letters

Witnessing injustice at an early age left a mark on her, fueling a lifelong dedication to breaking down barriers and allowing others through. Her choice to study economics in college in 1940s Shanghai was a step along this path, as was her subsequent decision to travel alone to the United States for a graduate degree. Guided by her mother's lessons in perseverance and self-reliance, she earned a position in the world of finance, despite the many obstacles she faced as a woman and an immigrant. Embracing "no excuses" as her motto, she shattered glass ceiling after glass ceiling in the ensuing years, establishing a remarkable career in financial oversight and international development. With her passion for equal opportunity, this economist, corporate leader, and diplomat has widened the path for all who would follow in her footsteps.

Remarks by the President of the University

Christopher L. Eisgruber

Benediction

Theresa S. Thames
Associate Dean of Religious Life and of the Chapel

Alma Mater

Old Nassau

Tune ev'ry heart and ev'ry voice,
Bid ev'ry care withdraw;
Let all with one accord rejoice,
In praise of Old Nassau.
In praise of Old Nassau, we sing,
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!
Our hearts will give
 while we shall live,
Three cheers for Old Nassau.

Recessional

The audience will please remain in place until the
processional departs the Stadium.

AVETE ATQVE VALETE

In Memoriam

The University remembers here with great sadness
two members of the Class of 2020.

Yasmin Ahmed Abdilahi
Zoya Shoaib

A Commentary on Commencement

Princeton traces its founding to a royal charter granted on October 22, 1746, by King George the Second of England. The first Commencement Exercises were held in 1748, in Newark, then home of the College of New Jersey, as Princeton was originally called. Six students were graduated at the first Commencement; today there are approximately 1,100 seniors receiving undergraduate degrees.

One of Princeton's first graduate students was James Madison 1771, later the fourth president of the United States. He remained at the college after graduation to continue his studies with President John Witherspoon, who was the only college president as well as the only clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence. Systematic graduate instruction began in the 1870s, and the Graduate School, as it is known today, was formally organized in 1900. More than 200 recipients of advanced degrees will be recognized at Commencement today.

Princeton's Commencements have been held in late spring only since 1844. Before then the ceremony took place in the fall because the College was in session all summer long. Since the College moved to Princeton in 1756, Commencement has been held in a variety of locations on or near campus, including Alexander Hall, the First Presbyterian Church, and Nassau Hall, but since 1922 the front lawn of Nassau Hall (known as front campus) has been the site of Commencement, weather permitting. Commencement was held for the first time in Princeton Stadium in May 2021.