

# DECEMBER 16, 2023 | 9:30 AM ORDER OF CEREMONY

PRELUDE | UW-Green Bay Faculty Brass Quintet

PROCESSIONAL | Led by Professor Phil Clampitt

PRESENTATION OF COLORS | ROTC Color Guard

STAR-SPANGLED BANNER | Jesse Robak

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

HAND DRUM SONG, HONOR SONG Elmer Denny Jr. (Nēmow) Menominee

**GREETING** | Chancellor Michael Alexander

GRADUATING CLASS SPEAKER | Rachel Bartell

**COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER | Laura Meckler** 

# CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

College of Health, Education and Social Welfare
Doctoral Degree, Master's Degrees

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Associate's and Bachelor's Degrees

College of Health, Education and Social Welfare Bachelor's Degrees

**CLOSING REMARKS** | Chancellor Michael Alexander

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING | Jesse Robak

ALMA MATER | Jesse Robak

**RECESSIONAL OF PLATFORM PARTY/GRADUATES** 

PHOENIX FIGHT SONG AND POSTLUDE

**UW-Green Bay Faculty Brass Quintet** 

Congratulations Graduates



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Dear Graduate,

Today, we celebrate you! We celebrate your accomplishments, your perseverance and your determination and persistence to complete your degree.

## Congratulations!

I am thrilled to be sharing this significant occasion with you. You worked tirelessly to balance your commitment to work, friends and family with your studies, and overcome challenges while reaching your goals.

This is how you RISE!

I have the greatest admiration for you. And I applaud the members of the UW-Green Bay faculty and staff who supported you to this end. Your determined efforts have prepared you to be a leader in your respective fields and the experience of working with others toward a common goal puts you in a position to make positive change in your community.

You are our problem-solvers, our innovators, our culture of creative thinkers, poised to solve the problems of our future. My greatest hope is that you leave not only with a degree, but an understanding of the obligation that comes with it... to value those around you, to see the world through many lenses, and to lead for the greater good, in whatever path you choose. While this degree marks a significant milestone in your education, I urge you to continue learning your entire life.

Remember, there is tremendous responsibility that comes with your degree and great potential to make a difference. I hope you will realize that full potential and join the 50,000-plus Phoenix alumni who are making a positive impact in their communities.

It is an honor for me to serve this great University and to be with you to celebrate this important milestone in your life!

With deep appreciation,

210/

Michael Alexander

Chancellor

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

# UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Awarded to graduating seniors who have demonstrated active and meaningful campus and/or community involvement while maintaining evidence of academic quality, demonstrated outstanding leadership ability, provided service to UW-Green Bay and/or the community and showed potential for further achievement and commitment to personal growth.

Ian Behringer Isobel Koenig Jasmine Price Karinne Brochu Emma Priebe Ashley Brosig DeNae Bube **Emily Swagel Brittany Burkart** Kongcheng Thao **Emily Heinemann** Jenna Thompson

Joshua Johansen

# **CHANCELLOR'S LEADERSHIP MEDALLION**

Awarded to graduating seniors who have contributed significant and sustained leadership while maintaining evidence of academic quality (a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.25 or better), demonstrated meaningful campus and/or community involvement and showed potential for future achievement and a commitment to personal growth.

Rachel Bartell Maria Lopez Larucci Brooke Bayerl Abby Marquardt Katelyn Braaten Tiffany Paalman Karsten Cowan Bennett Schmitz Kaitlynn Erickson Madison Schwalbach Sarah Hart Danielle Wolf Faith Klein



# **ACADEMIC RITUAL & ATTIRE**

The procedure followed for awarding of degrees at most American universities is based on a practice developed at the University of Paris almost 800 years ago. In those days, the Bishop of Paris, like every other bishop, was responsible for educational matters. As the new university developed, he naturally claimed authority over curriculum and degree granting. His authority however was disputed by teachers who asserted only they could judge students' qualifications.

A threatened impasse was resolved by a compromise under which the teachers judged the merits of the students and then recommended them to the bishop for their degrees. You see a secularized version with the Vice Chancellor, as representative of the faculty, certifying the students as qualified. The Chancellor, as representative of the Regents, who have replaced the bishop as the governing authority, then authorizes the awarding of degrees.

The caps and gowns worn by graduates and faculty are based on costumes used in universities of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, particularly at Oxford and Cambridge in England. The academic dress has been used in the United States from colonial times and was standardized by Intercollegiate Code in 1895. The black gowns worn by the associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree holders differ in design and ornamentation, particularly in the sleeves. The cap is black mortarboard with the tassel worn over the left front quadrant. Undergraduate candidates shift their tassel from right to left at the time their degrees are conferred.

Hoods symbolize the master's and doctoral degrees, with the colors representing the field of study and the awarding institution. Graduates may wear regalia in recognition of academic status and honor society memberships.

# **ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA**

National honor society for non-traditional students Burgundy and yellow cords or white and burgundy stole

#### **BETA BETA BETA**

National honor society in biological sciences Red and green cords

# **CHI ALPHA SIGMA**

National honor society for student athletes Black and yellow cords

#### INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OFFICE

Study abroad program participation Sash with design of country of study

## **PHI ALPHA**

National honor society in social work Royal blue and yellow cords

#### PHI ALPHA THETA

American honor society in history Red and light-blue cords

#### **PHI ETA SIGMA**

National honor society for first-year students, all disciplines Black, gold and yellow medallion or cords

#### PHI KAPPA PHI

National honor society for all disciplines Blue and yellow honor cords, blue medallion, or yellow stole

#### **PSI CHI**

International honor society in psychology Dark blue and platinum cords

#### **SIGMA BETA DELTA**

International honor society in business, management and administration

Green and yellow cords

#### SIGMA TAU DELTA

International honor society in English Cardinal and black cords

#### **SIGMA THETA TAU**

International honor society in nursing Orchid and white cords

#### **UW-GREEN BAY**

Academic honors
Green and white cords

# **UW-GREEN BAY**

Chancellor's Medallion

# THE MEANING OF HONORS

The use of Latin terms reflects the medieval origins of academic ceremony: cum laude indicates distinction; magna cum laude, great distinction; summa cum laude, highest distinction.

At UW-Green Bay, students achieve a 3.5 to 3.749 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) to graduate cum laude. Magna cum laude honors are awarded to students who achieve a cumulative average of 3.75 to 3.849. For highest honors — summa cum laude — students must average 3.85 or higher; or a 3.75 to 3.849 plus eligibility for and successful completion of an honors-in-themajor project. To qualify for honors, students must complete 48 credits in residence.

Some majors offer special distinction honors in the major. For this distinction, students must achieve a 3.5 or higher grade point average on all courses required for their major, and a 3.75 grade point in all junior-senior level major courses required, and complete an honors-in-the-major project.

Students graduating with honors will be recognized as such with the following after their name:

- \* Cum laude
- \*\* Magna cum laude
- \*\*\* Summa cum laude
- † Honors in the major

# GRADUATING CLASS SPEAKER

# RACHEL BARTELL A PHOENIX RETURNS TO THE FLOCK

Spring on the UW-Green Bay campus, typically a time for leisurely walks across its 700 park-like acres, was shrouded in an eerie quiet in 2021. Once bustling lecture halls were empty. The popular, well-attended class DJS 101: Introduction to Democracy and Justice Studies—historically a dynamic exchange among professors, peer mentors, and around 70 students—had morphed into a collection of individuals staring at their computer screens. This cornerstone course for future law, politics, and social service professionals had moved online.

Among those DJS students was Rachel Bartell, returning to college after an eight-year absence. She also took on the role of one of two peer success mentors, tasked with connecting with students who might be struggling in the class—a challenging assignment while also reacclimating to college life.

"DJS 101. That class was taught very differently," Bartell recalls. "Each of the professors in the department would teach for two or two and a half weeks to showcase what the major is all about." A decade earlier, Bartell was a fresh from high school Phoenix with a completely different major in mind. "I had wanted to do acting. My whole thing was I wanted to go to California."

Now, amid a pandemic, she was a returning student. The departure eight years earlier was due to a more personally lifealtering event than even a pandemic—the tragic accidental death of a close friend. Bartell is unflinchingly honest when describing the impact of the tragedy. "It just stopped my education." She returned home and found solace in friends and family. "They helped get me through those really dark times. Without them, I don't know what I would have done."

But Bartell hadn't yet decided on her next steps. "The plan was always to finish my degree. I just didn't know what I wanted to do after my life had turned upside down." The Hollywood dream had faded. "I had to go through a process of basically finding myself again."

Now she was back in school, and although she was no longer pursuing acting, her role had changed. She was needed by both students and professors. Katia Levintova, Professor of Political Science and Global Studies, and one of the professors in the DJS class, recognized Bartell's value immediately. "It is a big class," Levintova admits. "It's difficult to know what's going on with students in such a big class unless you ask." So, she hired Bartell to start asking.

Bartell's charge, along with fellow peer mentor Abby Tower, was to address the fears, anxieties, and learning challenges of their classmates. "We were there for the students to come to if they had questions or if they didn't understand something." And there were many questions. Perhaps because she was an "older" student, other students gravitated toward Bartell for help. "Often, they were afraid to ask the professor about things—I think they were nervous."

One incident that stands out to Bartell was assisting a student overwhelmed with stress. "(The student) was going through a mental health-type situation and didn't know what to do... I said 'You've got to contact the professor and don't be afraid to do that.



They're very understanding.' She helped her get an extension," Bartell shared. More importantly, she directed the student to additional support services.

Her final grade as a peer mentor? Professor Levintova notes, "I think that was probably one of the highest completion rates of this class. Rachel rose like a Phoenix, reinventing herself as a student and a professional."

From there, Bartell's resume tells the story of a tireless dynamo. Her exploration of a law career began with an internship in the autumn of 2021 at Hanaway Ross Law Firm. Not long after, Professor Levintova referred her to Petit & Dommershausen Law Offices, where she secured a full-time position. But Bartell's interests weren't confined to just the legal field. As president of the UWGB College Democrats and a member of the UWGB Law Society, she cultivated political and legal engagement among her peers.

Her proactive drive reached beyond personal goals and into the wider community. She lent her skills to Kristina Shelton's reelection campaign for the Wisconsin state assembly, amplifying her voice from local grassroots canvassing to the state political stage. Throughout this journey, her career focus evolved from law to social justice.

"I want to help people who don't have the opportunities that I've had," Bartell explains. While dreams of Hollywood or the Supreme Court might not be in her future, Bartell remains committed to continual learning. "I do want to apply to grad school," she confesses, "although, I'm not quite sure which path I want to pursue yet."

But this time, she's not afraid to seek advice. "I feel like my professors have really invested in me, and they genuinely care about my well-being and the direction of my education." They're not beyond giving Bartell her recipe for success. "They check in with me now and then. So, at this point, they're more like friends."

As Bartell contemplates the future, the direction may still be unclear, but her resolve is certain. The journey of the Phoenix has instilled in her a purpose that transcends any particular path: to enrich the lives of others. Challenges have fostered a steadfast commitment to advocacy and support, ensuring that whatever steps she takes next, they will be aimed at elevating those around her.

# COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



# LAURA MECKLER

Laura Meckler is a national education writer for the Washington Post, where she covers the news, politics and people shaping American schools. She previously reported on the White House, presidential politics, immigration, and health care for the Wall Street Journal, as well as on health

and social policy for the Associated Press. Before coming to Washington, Laura covered state government in Columbus, Ohio. She got her start covering everything from schools and cops to

the annual Pro Football Hall of Fame festival at The Repository in Canton, Ohio. Her honors include a Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University. She received the Livingston Award for National Reporting for her coverage of organ transplantation, and she was part of a team that won the George Polk Award for Justice Reporting for a series on the life of George Floyd. She is the author of DREAM TOWN: Shaker Heights and the Quest for Racial Equity, about her hometown. She now lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband and two sons.



# CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

## **COLLEGE OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE**

Susan Gallagher-Lepak, Dean

## **DOCTORAL DEGREE**

FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION
Kathleen Connell Ratteree, Ed.D.

# **MASTER'S DEGREES**

LEADERSHIP FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Amanda Tauschek, M.S.

# HEALTH AND WELLNESS MANAGEMENT

Deena Seehafer Brown, M.S. Teresa Gilvin, M.S. Eliza Kuchuk, M.S.

# NURSING

Billie Burdick, M.S.N. Amy Lynne Vang, M.S.N.

# **COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Ryan Martin, Dean

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Samantha Anderson, A.A.S.
Alyson Marie Bennin, A.A.S.+
Esther Anne Bieber, A.A.S.
Sean Blau, A.A.S.
Maxwell Cobretti Bruss, A.A.S.
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# CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

## **COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Ryan Martin, Dean

## **BACHELOR'S DEGREES**

Christiana Faith Casbourne, B.A. Alex Ray Farvour\*, B.S. Shannon Evelyn Floyd\*, B.A. Nicole Jodie Grunwald, B.A. Abigail Marie Marquardt\*\*\*, B.A. Stevie Margaret Spradlin, B.A. Rayle Elaine Winegarden\*\*\*, B.A.

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Rachel Bartell\*, B.A. Wren Reid Candler, B.A. Madigan Marie Fuhrman, B.A. Gracyn Holcomb\*\*\*, B.A. Faith Elizabeth Klein\*\*\*, B.A. Maria Lopez Larucci\*\*, B.A.

#### **DESIGN**

Sierra Rose Maes. B.A. Cameron Miller, B.A. Brittany Lynn Burkart\*\*\*, B.A. Bailey Nichole Kestell, B.A. Julianne Irene Taylor, B.A.

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Hope Noelle Hucek\*\*, B.S. Luke Eugene Krull, B.S. Jared Michael Luckow, B.S. Jared D. Marshall, B.S. Angela Nackers, B.S.

## INTEGRATIVE LEADERSHIP **STUDIES**

Amber Kay Coppernoll, B.A.

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# CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

# **COLLEGE OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE**

Susan Gallagher-Lepak, Dean

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Calli Jean Scheibe, B.S.
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Kesyanda Lynn Trader, B.S.
Pajyeebnisha Tiffany Vang\*, B.S.
Larissa Rose Zeddies-Dokey\*\*\*, B.S.

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Shannon Marie Nessinger\*\*\*+, B.S. Megan Rae Gustafson Owens\*\*\*, B.S. Rutvi Ashish Vyas, B.S. Madelyn Kate Zitzelsberger\*, B.S.

NURSING

Brittany Ann Bednar, B.S.N.
Lissa Nicholle Bertetto, B.S.N.
Sara Ann Chapman, B.S.N.
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Faviola Morales, B.S.N.

Alexia Mueller, B.S.N.
Rachel MarieRhein Nytes, B.S.N.
Hannah Roberts, B.S.N.
Melinda Sue Smith, B.S.N.
Morgan Marilyn Stary, B.S.N.
Rebekah Frances Bates\*\*\*, B.S.N.
Amanda Trudeau, B.S.N.
Bao Yang, B.S.N.



Share your celebration at

#uwgbgrad

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay acknowledge the First Nations people who are the original inhabitants of the region. The Ho-Chunk Nation and the Menominee Nation are the original First People of Wisconsin and both Nations have ancient historical and spiritual connections to the land that our institution now resides upon. Today, Wisconsin is home to 12 First Nations communities including the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, Forest County Potawatomi, Ojibwe Nation communities, Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians, and the Brothertown Indian Nation.

We acknowledge the First Nations Peoples of Wisconsin.



## **PHOENIX FIGHT SONG**

Hail! To the Fighting Phoenix
Rise up and light the flame!
Green Bay is the home of Champions
We're gonna' win this game!
Hail! To the Fighting Phoenix
We're rising up to say
Fight! Fight! Fight! For a win tonight
The Champions from old Green Bay!

## **ALMA MATER**

Let us rise above these waters, Men and women of Green Bay. Rise in knowledge, Rise in wisdom, Rise in friendship sealed today. As the Phoenix rose from flame, Let us rise and still proclaim, That we pledge our Alma Mater, And the memories of her name.

"Alma Mater" composed by Prof. Emeritus Lovell Ives with lyrics by former Prof. Peter Stambler

## **UW-GREEN BAY ADMINISTRATION**

#### Michael Alexander

Chancellor

#### Kate Burns

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

#### Sheryl Van Gruensven

Chief Business Officer and Senior Vice Chancellor for Institutional Strategy

#### **Gail Sims-Aubert**

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

#### Dawn Crim

Vice Chancellor for Advancement, Community Engagement & Inclusivity and President of the UW-Green Bay Foundation

#### **Christopher Paquet**

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Policy and Compliance

#### Janet Bonkowski

Executive Director of Marketing and University Communication

#### Josh Moon

Director of Athletics

# Susan Grant Robinson

Chief of Staff

# **UNIVERSITIES OF WISCONSIN**

#### Karen Walsh

President, Board of Regents

# Jay O. Rothman

President,

Universities of Wisconsin

## **ORGANIZATIONS LINK CAMPUS & COMMUNITY**

The following list acknowledges officers and board members of organizations that provide assistance to UW-Green Bay. Their support is critical to the success of the University and its students.

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