



East Central University
Commencement
December 2020





Congratulations to East Central University's Fall 2020 graduates. You made it. You have shown versatility, dedication, and persistence in accomplishing your goals. Not only is accomplishing a college degree a monumental task, you overcame the obstacles a global pandemic presents. Your ability to adapt makes you that much more ready to tackle post-degree challenges. Your success is just as rewarding and valued, even though you may not be walking across a stage to receive your diploma. We at ECU are proud of you and thank you for your time, dedication and energy spent achieving your goals.

As graduates, you have transitioned into a new role within the ECU family. You are now alumni and we look forward to hearing about your success.

To the parents, spouses, family and friends of graduates, thank you for supporting them, and investing in their lives and future. Your support plays a vital part in their success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Peterson".

SYMBOLS OF AUTHORITY - OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



In 1990, East Central University commissioned a mace and medallion bearing the University's seal. The symbols are traditional inaugural elements used for centuries in the pomp and circumstance of academic ceremonies. They have become part of the commencement exercises for graduating classes since their commission.

Originally a medieval weapon capable of breaking armor, the use of maces for ceremonial purposes began in the 13th century and has evolved through the ages to become a symbol of authority. The mace

is generally carried before the president and dignitaries, composing the platform party in commencement processions.

ECU's 3-foot, 3-inch mace is fashioned from walnut, somewhat resembling a torch, and crowned with a clear polymer flame reminiscent of the lamp of knowledge. A gold-finished medallion of the institution's seal, five inches across, is inset into five sides of the hexagon-shaped head of the mace. The sixth side bears a gold-finished plate inscribed with the names and tenures of each of ECU's nine presidents. It can be removed and new inscriptions added when the reins are passed to another president in the university's future.

The chain and seal of office is a medallion of ECU's official school crest on a chain which the president will wear over her robes as part of her academic regalia. University seals evolved historically from churches. In ancient times, seals were used to authenticate documents. One of the earliest English seals reportedly belonged to King Edward the Confessor. Since colonial days in the United States, seals have been used to attest to official papers, deeds and diplomas.

The ECU seal sculpted into the die used to make the medallion for the ceremonial seal and chain used in inaugurations is the same seal used to verify the authenticity of official ECU grade transcripts. Its crest-shaped face carries the Latin words, "Gratia scientiae fiunt homines," which roughly translated means, "by the grace of knowledge we become persons." Its design incorporates the front of ECU's first building, Science Hall, the lamp of knowledge and two tigers.



THE UNIVERSITY

East Central Normal School was established by legislative act in 1909 as one of three regional state normal schools founded that year in the eastern half of Oklahoma, the part which had been Indian Territory before the founding of the state in 1907. Three similar institutions had been established earlier in Oklahoma Territory, which became the western half of the new state. The six institutions for many years served virtually identical purposes in the state's program of higher education.

The normal school program consisted of four years of preparatory or high school work and two years at the college level. Graduates of the normal schools were awarded lifetime licenses for teaching in the public schools of the state. In 1919, the six state normal schools were authorized to increase their college programs to four years of teacher education and to confer bachelor's degrees. At that time, they were designated teachers' colleges. In 1939, they were authorized to expand their programs to include degree programs in arts and sciences as well as education, and the designation was changed to Oklahoma state colleges.

In 1954, East Central State College and the other Oklahoma state colleges were authorized to offer their first graduate work in a fifth-year program for teachers leading to the Master of Teaching degree. In 1969, the state colleges were authorized to change the name of this advanced degree from Master of Teaching to Master of Education. Other master's degrees have since been added.

In 1974, the Oklahoma State Legislature officially changed the name from East Central State College to East Central Oklahoma State University and in 1985 the official title became East Central University. The academic schools and colleges of the University are the following: the Harland C. Stonecipher School of Business, the College of Education and Psychology, the College of Health and Sciences, the School of Nursing, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, the School of Fine Arts, and the School of Graduate Studies.

East Central University, as a unit in the state's system of higher education receiving principal support from public taxation, has sought to serve the needs of the people of the state in a democratically responsive manner. It recognizes responsibility for educational and general cultural leadership and service as an institution, for intellectual alertness and moral soundness of the members of its faculty and for maintaining an academic program adapted as effectively as possible to the capacities, needs and aims of its students.

OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Glen D. Johnson, Chancellor
Ann Holloway, Chair
Dennis Casey
Jay Helm
Jeffrey W. Hickman
Joseph L. Parker Jr.
Jack Sherry
Steven W. Taylor
Michael C. Turpen
Ronald H. White, M.D.

REGIONAL UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF OKLAHOMA

Susan Winchester, Chair
Lake Carpenter
Jeffrey Dunn
Eric Fisher
Amy Anne Ford
Joy Hofmeister (ex officio)
Jane McDermott
Gary Parker
Connie Reilly
Sheridan McCaffree (Executive Director)



As a new graduate of East Central University you will receive a free year of membership to the ECU Alumni Association, as well as an ECU Alumni lapel pin. For more information on your year of membership please visit ecok.edu/alumni. Congratulations from the ECU Alumni Association!



East Central University's Mission:

We educate and empower students to understand and transform our world.

Dr. Ed Huckeby



Dr. Ed Huckeby is one of the most respected band composers living today. Never one to rest, he is currently a freelance composer, arranger, conductor and clinician. His career has included roles in

higher education and arts administration, most recently serving as president of Southwestern Christian University in Bethany, Oklahoma, until his retirement from administrative work in 2014.

Prior to his appointment at SCU, Huckeby was chief academic operating officer and professor of Music for more than a decade at Northeastern State University-Broken Arrow. He also served as an arts administrator for Tulsa Ballet Theatre and holds the title of emeritus professor of Music at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, where during his 22-year tenure he also served as department chair and graduate dean.

Huckeby directed the Allen, Oklahoma, high school band while he earned his degree from ECU, graduating in 1970. His early music education career included eight years in Oklahoma public schools, where his marching, concert and jazz bands won state and regional acclaim. Significant success in public schools led Huckeby to the college ranks where he became internationally recognized as an outstanding music educator and composer of more than 200 published works for concert and marching band.

Huckeby's many outstanding contributions to concert and marching band literature have played an important role in the development of the contemporary band repertoire, and his recently released sight-reading and music literacy curriculum, published by the C.L. Barnhouse Co., is receiving world-wide acclaim. Huckeby has written music education articles for numerous industry periodicals, including *The Instrumentalist*, *The American Music Teacher* and *The Journal of the International Horn Society*.

Throughout his career, he has been selected as "Outstanding Young Man in America" and named to the "International Who's Who in Music." In 1996 he was inducted into the Oklahoma Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame.

Huckeby has created more than 50 commissioned works and has served as a clinician, adjudicator and conductor for instrumental ensembles around the world, including Japan, Australia, Canada and across the United States. Huckeby was named an ECU Distinguished Alumnus in 2020.

Huckeby and his wife of 50 years, Latricia, now live in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, near their daughters Angela and Amanda and their extended family.

FALL 2020

MASTER IN MANAGEMENT

Donario Charleston Archer
Kevann Natazia Burrows

Daniesha Shanae Collie
Martha Wanjiku Karugo

Matthew Sean Lindhe
Bianka Karen Mader

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Lauren Elizabeth Albright
Nickolaus Ty Allen
Ashlan Mae Anderson
Mickenzi Nicole Anderson
Marianne Louise Austin
Jedediah Dean Beck
Kyle Stephan Berryhill
Cheryl Lyn Blankenship
Rhonda Lee Blue
Veronica Darlene Tiny Booker
Mary Elizabeth Braggs
Merri Ann Callis
Phillip Kyle Callison
Kacie Lorene Cantrell
Ja'lee Ja'nae Carver
Edith Jewel Cathey
Mack Arthur Chambers, Jr
David Shane Collins
Jacob John Cortesio

Daniel Colin Creech
Christopher Dawson
Carrie Lynne Draper
Kaylyn Sky Ducharme
Shawn Anthony Elmore
Whitnie Dawn Evans
Rebecca Marie Franco
Derwin Stanley Gist, Jr
Jennifer Paige Goethe
Shandala Jean Griffin-Durtschi
Maggie Mae Guynes
Gregory Madison Harmon
Ty Austin Harrison
Nancy Lynn Heggen
Hamilton Hernandez
David Neal Irby
Catrinia Suzette Jones
Tyson Brook Jones
Jackson Alexander Kashwer

Savanah Louise Shaw Knight
Victoria Ann Knox
Jacob Bishop Maxwell
Brady Ryan May
Lori Mashelle Mayfield
Kristal Gail McCathern
Darrin Doyl McDaniel Jr
Kyle Nicole McFarland
Caroline Alysse Pennington
Andrea Marie Raper
Sean Douglas Schadegg
Jacob Thomas Shaw
Amy Tracey Smalling
Christina Lee Spurgin
Michael Steele
Ronda Reshay Sumpter
Joshua Wayne Wolfe
Cheyenne Linzi Wollenberg
Kathryn Elaine Yarbrough

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING

Kendall Allena-Jay Hargis

Heather T Luesada

Abbie Kathryn Winchester

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HUMAN RESOURCES

Chekota Leeann Blakemore
Allison Paige Bush
Israel Uviemu Emuopfe
Michaela Corin Gayler

Shelby Lynn Green
Cali Estelle Hoggard
Kenzie Nicole Johnson
Joe Machetta

Teresa Reeser
Katherine Angela Williams

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Holliebe Collins, III

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN WATER RESOURCE POLICY & MANAGEMENT

Sherry Renee Boe

Elizabeth Alexandria Alexis
Rogers

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Ashley Dawn Adams
Hanna Michelle Barnhart *HHH*
Matthew Barnoski
Brandie Renea Barr
KaLee Natasha Beezley
Clifford Dwight Braxton
Nicole Lynn Byrd
Crystal R Calera
Maegan Ann Carney *HH*
Grant Lawrence Coffey
Azalea Julia Colmenares
Galen Eugene Cozart
Kenda A Daniel
Brittany Nicole Davis
Kevin Driskill

Jayden Nicole Edwards
Annabelle Caroline Elliott *HH**
Jason Wayne Epley
Jordan Elizabeth Fenelus
Ricky Allen Fullen
Matthew David Geisler
Alicia Gail Jarrett Gibson
Kimberly Renee Glasco
Megan Kimberlee Green *HH#**
Brenna Sulianne Hefley *HHH**
Kara Jo Hodo *HH##**
Pamela Renee Holly
Brittney C Hunter
Jonathan Jacob Labaya
Nadia Paola Martinez
Almendarez *H*

Tracy Brianne McKibben *H**
Kristen Amanda Mendoza-Keenom *HHH**
Mayra Isela Munoz
Elizabeth Ann Ramer
Isabella Roan
Joshua B Saunders
Hope Elizabeth Scott *H*
Malik Quintrel Sharp
Whitney Darlene Shipman
Karena Nachole Sistrunk
Jaden Brooke Okchamali Son
Alexis Oliver Ventura
Faustino Antonio Villagomez
Lorraine Rae Williams

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Irma Korina Dixon

Caleb T Stewart

FALL 2020

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE ♦

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Gilles Maurice K Aguehounde | Madison Leigh Hill | Blake Ryan Pringle <i>H</i> |
| Sabin Amgain | Zane Holler-Willess <i>HH</i> | Kyle Garret Qualls |
| Julie Anna Arrieta | Brandie Taylor Horton | Amanda Nikole Rhines <i>HH</i> |
| Drew Michael Back | Samantha Kaylea Horton | Camryn Denise Riggie <i>HH</i> |
| Matthew Barnoski | Shelby Lynn Hubbard <i>H*</i> | Carley Michaela Roberts |
| Rachel McKay Barton | Savanna Humphrey | Carcyn Leann Robertson <i>*</i> |
| Suraj Bhandari | Seanna DaLyn Hutchins | Kyle Andrew Rodrigues |
| Ursula Veronika Bosshard <i>HH</i> | Sabina KC | Catherine Chloe Saunders <i>*</i> |
| Marissa Lynn Brady | Anita Katwal | Jesse Walker Saxon <i>HH*</i> |
| Anna Marie Bratcher | Lauren Paige Keck <i>HH#*</i> | Nabina Shrestha |
| Trevor Elijah Britt | Smriti Lamichhane | Nancy Shrestha <i>H*</i> |
| Logan Blaine Carter | Lauren Nicole Larason | Corie Michelle Silas |
| Jitendra P Chaudhary <i>HH#*</i> | Tabitha Anne Lenz <i>H*</i> | Guy Floyd Smith |
| Kennedy Shayne Clark <i>H*</i> | Derek Scott Linthicum | Ian Christopher Smith <i>HH</i> |
| LeAndra Lynn Cox | Samir Luitel | Jon Logan Smith |
| Malik Isaiah Crenshaw | Bryanna Arielle Lyon | Miranda Kay Stiles |
| Vontrick Earl Davidson | Kylea Renee Madden <i>H*</i> | Tanner Riley Stone <i>HH#*</i> |
| Cuishan Deng | Tilakram Gharti Magar | Alyssa Nicole Swadley |
| Taelor J Diener | Charles Nathan Martin | Monika Thapa |
| Phoenix John Donahue | Bayley Cheyenne Mason | Pujan Thapa |
| Ji Qiong Dong | Jerry Jacob McCarty <i>*</i> | Uresh Singh Thapa <i>HH</i> |
| Breannen Jade Eason | Morgan D'Nell McDaniel <i>H*</i> | Vishal Thapa |
| Bailey Danielle Eckert | Desiree Allyse McGee | Jennifer Lynn Tighe <i>HH*</i> |
| Amber Marie Elston <i>HH*</i> | Jacob - Rex McGee | Geovanni Trujillo <i>H</i> |
| Elisa Danielle Fields | Tracy Brianne McKibben <i>H*</i> | Kimi Deneen Vanzant <i>HH*</i> |
| Imoneta Ann Followell | Christopher Micheal McMahan | Caleb Joseph Watson |
| Prabin Gaihre | Dayton Coe Morgan | Kyler Michael Webb |
| Yogesh Giri | Caleb Dakota Moss | Micaela D Welch |
| Aiden James Green | Kalyn Nicole Neighbors <i>H*</i> | Gracye Werth |
| Thomas F Green <i>H</i> | Krishna Neupane | Robert Leo West |
| Devyn Ashly Grimm | Prajwol Neupane <i>H</i> | Matthew Paul Whitebuffalo |
| Austin Billy Gunn | Rajeev Neupane <i>H</i> | Taylor Marie Williams <i>HH</i> |
| Brenna Sulianne Hefley <i>HHH*</i> | Victoria Daun Pogue | Lauren Nicole Williamson |
| Joshua David Helstowski | Suyanka Pokharel <i>HH*</i> | Zeb Phoenix Willis |
| Kaitlyn Maraye Henson <i>H</i> | Jack Andrew Preston | Bipin Yogi |

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Kirsten Dena Bridgman <i>H</i> | Bryan Anthony Lee | Bailey J Silk <i>HH#*</i> |
| Jaley Faith Brown <i>H</i> | Abigail Kristine Mabray <i>H*</i> | Nikki Michelle Wright <i>H*</i> |
| Justin David Hudlow <i>HH*</i> | Emily Anne Marie Selman <i>H*</i> | |

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Samantha Leanne Hall <i>HH*</i> | Debra Sue Malone | Julia Rose Whitetree |
| Denica Nicole Irwin <i>HH*</i> | Bree-ann Elizabeth Martin | |

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION ♦

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sabin Amgain | Smriti Lamichhane | Guy Floyd Smith |
| Michaela Kathrine Barger | Samir Luitel | Guy Floyd Smith |
| Suraj Bhandari | Samir Luitel | Jon Logan Smith |
| Roshan Chand | Christopher Micheal McMahan | Miranda Kay Stiles |
| Jitendra P Chaudhary | Christopher Micheal McMahan | Miranda Kay Stiles |
| Tamara Darlington | Caleb Dakota Moss | Alyssa Nicole Swadley |
| Vontrick Earl Davidson | Prajwol Neupane | Alyssa Nicole Swadley |
| Thomas F Green | Krishna Neupane | Vishal Thapa |
| Thomas F Green | Krishna Neupane | Uresh Singh Thapa |
| Devyn Ashly Grimm | Amanda Nikole Rhines | Pujan Thapa |
| Anita Katwal | Amanda Nikole Rhines | |

HHH Highest Academic Achievement

HH High Academic Achievement

H Academic Achievement

♦ Students listed multiple times have earned multiple degrees/certificates

*** Alpha Chi

University Scholastic Honors

Department Honors

East Central University Commencement

December Twelfth Two Thousand Twenty

GREETINGS

Katricia G. Pierson, Ph.D.
President of the University

Connie Reilly, M.L.S.
Regent

Board of Regents of the Regional University System of Oklahoma

PRESENTATION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

President Pierson

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Ed Huckeby
BS, East Central University, 1970

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR MASTER'S DEGREES

Adrianna Lancaster
Associate Provost; Dean, School of Graduate Studies

CONFERRING OF MASTER'S DEGREES

President Pierson

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR'S DEGREES

Jeff Gibson, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

CONFERRING OF BACHELOR'S DEGREES

President Pierson

ACADEMIC ROBES AND COLORS

The caps, gowns, and hoods worn at today's commencement are based on the garb worn by the medieval priests and students who founded the first universities in Europe. Those who have earned the associate's and bachelor's degree wear a gown with a yoke, a long pleated front and long pointed sleeves, and barrel pleats across the shoulders and yoke back. Master's degree holders wear a similar gown, but the sleeves are usually oblong at the ends and open to the waist. Those holding the doctor's degree wear gowns with broad velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars across their full, round, open sleeves. Although the velvet trim is usually black, it may also be the color representing the wearer's field of learning.

Because black is traditional for academic gowns, most of the color and meaning of the academic costume is found in hoods and tassels. Master's and doctoral hoods are silk-lined with the color or colors of the institution conferring the degree earned by each wearer. The velvet border of the hood, like the tassel, shows the color of the field of learning to which the degree belongs. Among the traditional academic colors you may see today are these:

Agriculture - Maize
Arts, Letters, Humanities - White
Behavioral Science - Royal Blue
Commerce, Accountancy,
Business - Drab
Economics - Copper
Education - Light Blue

English - White
Fine Arts - Brown
Journalism - Crimson
Law - Purple
Library Science - Lemon
Medicine - Green
Music - Pink

Nursing - Apricot
Oratory/Speech - Silver Gray
Philosophy - Dark Blue
Physical Education - Sage Blue
Science - Golden Yellow
Social Work - Citron
Theology - Scarlet

EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Hail, oh hail, our Alma Mater
Loyal, brave, and strong.
To thee with voices ever ringing,
Comes our victory song.
Love and honor, strength and courage,
These we pledge anew.
Hail, oh hail, our Alma Mater.
Hail, oh E-C-U.

