COMMENCEMENT 2023

Friday, July 14
Albany, New York
PROCISIONAL

MUSICAL RENDITION
“Pomp and Circumstance”

MACE BEARER
Christopher Cassirer, ScD, MPH
Provost and Chief Academic Officer

GONFALONIERS
Scott V. Dolan, PhD
Executive Dean,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Christine W. Thorpe, EdD, EdM, CHES
Executive Dean,
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

OPENING OF COMMENCEMENT

WELCOME
David Schejbal, PhD
President

MUSICAL RENDITION
“The Star-Spangled Banner”
by
Daniel Pascoe Aguilar, PhD, MDiv
Founding Director, Center for Social Justice
Chief Diversity Officer

PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS
David Schejbal, PhD
President

SALUTATION
Matt Loeb
Chair, Board of Trustees
GRADUATE ADDRESS

Jason Michael DeLonais
Master of Science in Criminal Justice, 2022
Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts, 2009

AWARDING OF HONORARY DEGREE

David Schejbal, PhD

Presenting to
Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Gretchen Evans
Doctor of Humane Letters (honoris causa)

Presented by
Matt Loeb
Chair, Board of Trustees
and
Charlene Dukes
Vice Chair, Board of Trustees

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Gretchen Evans

AWARDING OF DEGREES

Presentation of Degree Candidates
Christopher Cassirer, ScD, MPH
Provost and Chief Academic Officer

Conferring of Degrees
Matt Loeb
Chair, Board of Trustees

Awarding of Degrees
Academic Deans
David Schejbal, PhD, President
Matt Loeb, Chair, Board of Trustees
Christopher Cassirer, ScD, MPH, Provost and Chief Academic Officer
PRESENTATION OF ALUMNI TORCH
Mark Bowman, BS ’00, President, Alumni Association
Ruth Lown Turman, BS ’96
Jason Michael DeLonais, BS ’09; MS ’22

CLOSING REMARKS
David Schejbal, PhD
President

RECESSIONAL
“Pomp and Circumstance”

We request that guests remain seated until the conclusion of the recessional.

The flags on the stage are symbols of the many countries represented by this year’s graduates. Flags include:

- Argentina
- Australia
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- China
- England
- Germany
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Switzerland
- Thailand
- Turkey
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States

Recipients of Graduate Awards were recognized earlier.

For bios of the award recipients, visit:
www.excelsior.edu/commencement/graduate-awards/
Honorary Degree
Doctor of Humane Letters (honoris causa)

Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Gretchen Evans

Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Gretchen Evans, a highly decorated veteran and nationally known motivational speaker, entered the U.S. Army at 19 years old. Shortly after completing basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Evans became an intelligence analyst for commander in chief (Europe) before studying German and Italian at the Defense Language Institute as a counterintelligence agent. Following her graduation from language school, Evans attended basic airborne training at Fort Benning. A graduate of the Sergeant Majors Academy at Fort Bliss, she held leadership roles in multiple combat engagements and had several other deployments throughout her 27 years in the Army.

During her final assignment, Evans was responsible for the security and personnel on bases and forwarding operation bases in Afghanistan, overseeing more than 30,000 ground troops. She earned many medals and awards, including the Bronze Star, the Presidential Unit Citation Medal, Global War on Terrorism ribbons, multiple Meritorious Service Medals, and other awards.

In 2006, Evans was severely wounded by incoming fire while serving in Afghanistan. The rocket blast caused her debilitating injuries, including a traumatic brain injury, internal injuries, and the loss of all hearing. After her combat injury, PTSD diagnosis, and subsequent retirement from service, her transition from military life to civilian life was difficult. With grit, gumption, resilience, and determination, Evans navigated through a changed life and found her new passion and purpose in advocating for veterans of all services.

Today, Evans focuses her efforts on improving the lives of her fellow veterans by actively serving as a mentor, coach, and community activist. In 2019, Evans assembled a mixed ability team of disabled combat veterans and civilians with disabilities to compete in the “World’s Toughest Race.” Team UNBROKEN inspired millions with their resolve to not let their injuries define who or what they could achieve in life. Evans is the 2022 recipient of the Pat Tillman Award for Service awarded at the ESPN ESPY Awards and a 2021 inductee of the U.S. Army Women’s Foundation Hall of Fame.
Class of 2023 in Attendance

College of Nursing and Health Sciences

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences confers associate, bachelor’s, and master’s degrees in the following areas of study: nursing and health sciences.

Associate

Anteja Acevedo  
Sable Aiguosatíle  
Clara Seraida Ali  
Camille Nicole Allen  
Monique Alston  
Jennifer Anne Baden Ahmed  
Nekeshia Bailey  
Olivia A. Baldwin  
Jean E. Bell  
Kamara Bennett  
Shreen Nicola Bent  
Ducarmelle Blaise  
Tara Boland  
Heather Booker  
Dianne B. Boone  
Solitaire Branch  
Kimberly Ann Brennan  
Fudiatu Buck  
Jennifer M. Burns  
Delisse Calhoun  
* Angela Callowich  
Antoinette Stephanie Campbell  
** Fallon J. Campbell  
Misty Nicole Campbell  
Erica Chan  
Tarick Christian  
Mirta C. Colin  
Courtney Marie Collingham  
Louis Colzie  
Karalee Cromwell  
Cynthia Cueto  
Ianna Maria Daley  
Victoria Dann  
Jamie Davis  
Melissa Anne DeFreese  
Jennifer Ann De Jesús  
Laurel DelRosario  
Ian Joseph Dennen  
Jeraine Ellis  
Rianne D H Evans  
Juanita Exantus  
Livia Eyde  
Adrienne H. Fisher  
* Katherine T. Fisher  
Justine Flores  
Nicolette Flores  
Aimee Fojtik  
Amy Foster  
Monica Mecca Francis  
Kimberly E. Gaddy Waugh

Associate Degree Honors:  
* Honors (3.5–3.74)  
** High Honors (3.75–3.89)  
*** Highest Honors (3.9–4.0)  

Bachelor’s Degree Honors:  
• Cum Laude (3.5–3.74)  
•• Magna Cum Laude (3.75–3.89)  
••• Summa Cum Laude (3.9–4.0)  

This list includes participants registered as of June 26, 2023.
Class of 2023 in Attendance

Rahab Wambui Gaitho
* Samantha Ganz
Esther W. Gitau
Elizabeth Gonzalez
Precius Goodwin-Dixon
Simone N. Grant
Ebony Green
Sherita Patricia Green
Julie Lynn Gress
Pamela Hargrove
Devinna Hicks
Carrie Hightower
Sherri Hill
Joanna Hodge
Tamara M. Holness
Cynthia Horst
Jennifer Hull
Charttise Jackson
Clare Victoria Jarvis
Ericka Jean-Marie
Lina M. Jimenez-Mendoza
Saphire Johnson
Sharmey Dell Jonas
Shaquana N. Jones
Parminder Kaur
Stephanie Krill
Deidre Kumpf
Theresa Ann Kunkel
Ashel Lawrence
Fabiola Lawson
Diane Lissaint
Jornette Ivy Malone
Deepti Mannan
Sheffield Marcus
Renee D. Martinez
Kristina McKoy
Tigist Mekuria
Theresa Evon Metzcher
Robert B. Morgan
Meshack Mutten
Alice W. Ndungu
Danielle Nier
Maribel Nieves
Nerlande Noel
Latasha Nolan
Gesha Alexis O’Reilly-Bourne
Krystle Kayla Overstreet
Kristen Parlman
Farah Pasard
Tracy Patchel
Sherese W. Payne
Diana Persaud
Yolaine Fontaine Pierre
Melissa K. Ponto
Carey Porter
Tamisha Price-Johnson
Tomeka Lashawn Pugh
Jeree Quezada
Amber Ramirez
Natasha Rhyne
Elsie D. Rivera Johnson
Shadore Robinson
Taheesha Robinson-Hines
Carmen Belen Rosario
Jennifer Rudis
Amber Marie Schmuck
Aja Scott
Jade L. Scott
Pinky Nugbo Selma-Wesseh
Leaie Smith
Melikia Amanda Softleigh
Daccu Bamidele Sonubiishaq
Deron Stephenson
Candise Taylor
Josephine Taylor
Sherrianne T. Thane
Brenda R. Tirado
Rachel J. Torgersen
Class of 2023 in Attendance

Brianna Maria Torres  
Brooke Trelinski  
Maureen O. Ugonabo  
Krystle L. Vicens  
Joycelyn D. Walker  
Bianca M. Warner  

Arnetta Rivers Warren  
Todd Willbur  
Brittney Williams  
Michael Edward Williams  
Denise Wise  
LeeAnn Wyant  

Bachelor’s

• Kayode S. Adetunmbi  
Lawrenzia Ayisi Cuellar  
Chasmine Renee Blackwell  
Laina Bloncourt  
Inessa R. Bowen  
Jennifer Brooks  
Adrienne Cassidy  
Candace Chapman-Hanley  
Genelle Coley  
Aymara Concepcion  
Brittany Disorbo  
Justin A. Francis  
Tina Frolich  
Stella Gatanas  
Jennifer A. Giordano  
Lindsay Andrea Gogola  
Latoya Denise Hook  
Jessica Horne  
Melisa Elaine Jamison  
Dieulira P. Jeanoute  
Heidy Jamille Joglar Rosario  
Mohammed A. Kamel  
Andrew Michael Karkotsky  
Zlata Kekic  
Jeanne d'Arc Kengni Kom  
Chantale Lamontagne  

Ashley Lawrence  
Mary A. Marotta  
Sarah F. McGoldrick  
Cheryl Mooney  
Kuditshini Kakese Mukendi  
Rahamim Nahem  
Christiana Obiamaka Oduah-Thomas  
Eleonita Pasion-Fermin  
Michelle Pavia  
Kelly Ann Pilato  
Joan Earline Brown Pittman  
Constance Y. Reynolds  
Elisabeth Ann Santiago  
Tiffany Scott  
Karen B. Showalter  
Kelly Jean Slaven  
Paige Y. Smith-Bryant  
Rasheika Stephens  
Lamar James Stewart  
Amy Jean Surman  
Pauline J. Tyndale  
Joan Louise Valentine  
Leanne M. Vriend  
Lenee M. Williams  
James Bryan Witte
Class of 2023 in Attendance

Master’s

Joanna Maureen Luna Banas
Casey Bartlett
Carmelita Bryant
Karen Cardoza
Sandra L. Champagne
Dewoyne Dominique Daye
Tonya P. Dumas
Sasha A. English
Shanece L. Gaither
Stephanie Garthrite
Rebecca Gijanto
Michelle Vanesia Gordon-Walker
Nicole Davalie Harris
Denise Irena Harville
Courtney M. Hibbs

Leonard Livingston Johnson
Jessica Kaplan
Everlyn Wambui Kariithi
Samantha Lee Miller
Samra Mirza
Jacky Ng
Monica Pendelton
Marjorie Cecilio Pinano
David Ricks II
Kristina Rodriguez
Cassandra Secor-Podzielski
Rashmi Suman

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences confers associate, bachelor’s, and master’s degrees in the following areas of study: business, liberal arts, public service, and technology.

Associate

Paul Thomas Beckman
Yanitza Betances Leger
Teraisha Monea Christian
* Alisa Marie Coon
Owen Davillier III
Carlos Leslie Duncan Jr.
* Billy Edwards
Chadrak Fertil
Jennifer L. Fretwell
Shawn Pedro Grasty
Lisa Hermann
William R. King
Jasmine Ti’Anda LaRue

Anjo C. Magbojos
Theresa Ann Marroccelli
Melvin Mathers
* Ryan J. Montalvo
Shanier Rosalind Parker
Sarah Michelle Rivera
Shaketa Shantaye Robinson
* Kimberly Brooke Shaw
Shawn L. Smith
Sydney Olivia Smith
Beatrice E. Tucker
* Jeffrey B. Watkins
Teresa Angelina Wilson-Mack
Class of 2023 in Attendance

Bachelor’s

Myron Maurice Adams
Michael Adkins
Zayan Mohammed Alam
Zanard Kevin Allison
Mary Faith Alvey
Frederick Nimako Asumang
April M. Avina
Henry Barnett
Demarcus V. Bartee
Lafayette Bates
Adrian Tomoaki Benoit
William Russell Bischel
Eric Blake
Heather Boettcher
Cesar M. Bolanos
Bertie Benjamin Bowman
Marshall K. Branch
Bryan L. Brewer
Warren L. Britten
Michael D. Brown
Christon Allen Burke
Angie Burns
Shekina Tamil Burrell
Steven Burrows
Kevin Caldwell
Tracey L. Callaway
Heather Crystal Caratelli
Alexander Carlson
Carolyn Louise Ceresola
Fortune E. Chali
Elise Renae Christiansen
Nathan Alan Clark
John I. Cobb
Victoria Cobb
Mark Cockrell
Joseph P. Collaro
Micah Collins
Esdras Colon
David M. Corral
Lynsi Crosson
Derrick Lamond Daniels
Darrion Dean
Martina Deeb
Vanessa Janette Deel
Merida Carmen Diaz
Samantha A. DiSanto-Kahler
Juan C. Disen
Joselys Dominguez
Alexander Sholom Dzhurayev
Benjamin D. Eill
Ashley Ellett
Michel Mery Flores
Nicole Renee Franklin
Lekendrea N. Frazier
LeCledge EtJuan Garner
Theodore William Gentile Jr.
James A. M. Githiiyu
Chassity Goss
Michael J. Graham
Maxwell S. Gray
Linda C. Hesch
Jessica Ann Marie Hish
Tyson V. Hobbs
Anne Marie Hofnagel
Heather Hoover
Jenny Horling
John C. Howard
Kelly C. Jacobson

Associate Degree Honors:
* Honors (3.5–3.74)
** High Honors (3.75–3.89)
*** Highest Honors (3.9–4.0)

Bachelor’s Degree Honors:
• Cum Laude (3.5–3.74)
•• Magna Cum Laude (3.75–3.89)
••• Summa Cum Laude (3.9–4.0)

This list includes participants registered as of June 26, 2023.
**Class of 2023 in Attendance**

- Raul Jara
- Katherine A. Johnson
- Dustin Jolley
- Alban Lewis Jones
- Donald B. Jones
- Emilio J. Jorge
- David Allen Junkin
- Dina E. Kaplan
- Christopher Gilbert Keys
- Christopher Konstantinidis
- Michael E. Latham Jr.
- John Charles Lawlor
- James Layana
- Joanna Lebrun-Mix
- Andrew Lemat
- Charles Andrew Leser
- Charles W. Lia
- John Joseph Lombardo
- George Bugayong Manangan IV
- James Daryl Manuel
- Christopher Eugene Martin
- Jeremy R. Masters
- J'Sevonn Delano Mayes-Jerido
- Christine McCormick
- Douglas E. McMillan
- Justin William Meacock
- Hector Martin Medina
- Grace A. Metzger
- Sarah Margaret Metzger
- Donald Robert Midgette
- Sharon A. Morrell
- Daniellie J. Mowatt
- Caitlin Murphy
- William Murphy
- Maria Soledad Nava
- Garry B. Neal
- Naomi L. Nelson
- Gerard Rene Ngauss Palla
- Elisha Nwaukonk
- Wasiu Ademola Raymond Ogundele
- Dion R. Parker
- Robert W. Peers
- Paul Anthony Pertessis
- Nathan Pineda
- Daniel Anthony Pisani
- Tiana Marie Poellinetz
- Robert Allan Pontious
- Seth Edward Powers
- Kristopher Privitar
- John Proano
- Yiren Qiao
- Gracie L. Quiring
- Tiffany A. Quivey
- Christopher James Randolph
- Mildred Alicia Restrepo
- Richard Alonzo Reynoso III
- Tiffany Dawn Rien
- Cice Rivera
- Cody Wade Keith Roberts
- Christopher Brent Robinson
- Tiffani Shontai Robinson
- Carol J. Rogers
- Jesse C. Rumbel
- Orville Samms
- Valerie Ann Sanford
- Michelle Lynn Saunders
- Richard Saxby Jr.
- Brian P. Schmitt
- Charles Schneider
- Yosef Tekoah Seals
- Theresa M. Sedwick
- Carmine Semioli
- Paul Septimus
- Andrew Shilling
- Mason Alexander Singer
- Nicko Singkuan
- Uniqua Smith
- Nicholas Spelman
- Jessica Sunshine Spragg
- Nicole Lynn Squires
- Jerry Lee Stanley
- Amanda Stanton
Class of 2023 in Attendance

Amber Stevens
Andrew Walker Stewart
Jonathan Scott Strong
Katelynn Elizabeth Tacker
• Autumn S. Taylor
  Robert A. Thompson
  Christopher Eugene Toler
  John Kien Tran
  Nicholas Roger Tuccillo
  Alvin Valdez
  Amanda Vanarsdale
• Daniel Villar Paradinas
  Charles Lavon Wardlaw
  Micheal T. Washington
• Willie L. Watson
• Gerard Andrew Webber
• Elazar Wellerstein
  Tre’Mionika Wilkes
  Whitney N. Wilkins
  Christopher Williams
  Jodi Fredricka Williams
  Zettica Wilson
  Joseph Peter Wojtaszek
  Keiara Wooten
• Gerald L. Wynn
  Andrew C. Yant
  Sydney Jeanice Young
  Austin Zago
• Theodore Adam Zegers
  Michael Zimdars

Master’s

Adeboye Olumide Ademolu
Fatimo Mary Ajiboye
Carmen Nicole Austin
William Bacallao
Rolanda D. Bailey
Brennon Belfast
Ingeborg Sebyan Black
Jessica Renay Boyd
Ermine Love Bulls
Luvia Burleigh
Ronald T. Calhoun
Christian Campos
Maciel Ceja Luna
Shirrie Danielle Chajon
Octavia Childress
Kaitlin Chmil
Donald G. Coates
Shayna F. Conz
Kelley J. Coons
Hector Luis Cordero
Nyla Cortes
Jason Michael DeLonais
Jacob Michael Domachowske
Lisa Lea-Doyle D’Urso
Sheldon O. Ellington
Barbara Farmer
Kristin Bre Anne Farr
Sheikh Hassan Farrukh
Dustin Fennell
Johnny Edward Fleurismond
James C. Franco
Lemakius Lavern Gardner
Benjamin Matthew Gendel
Mary Angel Gilbert
Alecia Nicole Graves
Arianna N. Greene
Joshua T. Grooms
Molly M. Gruss
Class of 2023 in Attendance

Rohan Hall
Angela Hitze
Carol L. Hymes
Ruth Paola Inoa
Tischara Danielle Jackson
Ashley Michelle Jamison
Monsanto R. Jefferson
Tesheka S. Jemmott
Stephanie Lee Jester
Isaiah Herman Johnson Jr.
Ariahna Kathleen Jones
Cheryl-Anne Marie Juba
Denise Lynn Kerwath
Erin King Clemens
Earnest Franklin Kirchner
Denys Jesus La Rosa
Marshall Douglas Lee
Amy L. Liburd
Sabrina Tayler Lyon
Marcal Matthews
Jewel Faith McColumn
Tammi C. McGriff
David Melendez
John Franklin Mital III
Kamlesh D. Moliya
Brian L. Nguyen
Shainza Noor
Natallia P. Patterson
Brian Keith Pettaway
Jonathan A. Pichardo
Craig Steven Polley
Jeffrey D. Quivey
Vena Sherrie Ramirez
Alexander Ramlall
Hussien J. Rizk
Cathryn M. Rocco

Courtney Nicole Roeder
Jaime Alexander Romero
Yvonne R. Shaw
Marcia Stanley
Robert J. Stout
Katrina LaVerne Strong
Ashleigh Chantel Sykes
Bonna Mae Teriele
Shanteille Terry
Alicia Nicole Thomas
Simonia Sherril Thompson-Warner
Branden Turner
Patrick G. Turner
Heather A. Varney
David M. Vernon-Gibbs
Ernesto Stein Weisburg
Kalissa Destine Williams
Shaniyah Williams
Tomica S. Williams Statham
Benjamin L. Wormsby Jr.
Mackenzie Wright
Nicholas Joseph Yannotti
Jill Young
Vittoria Zegarelli
Emblems and Symbols

Mace and Chain of Office

The mace and the presidential chain of office used in academic celebrations represent traditions dating to the 16th century. The mace, originally used as a medieval weapon, now symbolizes the authority of the university to grant degrees. The sterling silver mace of Excelsior University features the University’s logo and engraved stars symbolize the meaning of Excelsior, “Ever Upward.” The design also honors the institution’s history with an armillary sphere on top and engravings on the bands. The engravings include Scottish thistle representing resiliency, acorns representing new ideas that will grow into great oaks, and bees representing industry.

The chain of office similarly originated centuries ago and has been used traditionally in ceremonies to symbolize the office of the wearer. Matching the mace in theme, the chain of office of the president of Excelsior University features the same symbolic artisanship. The medallion bears the Excelsior University logo.

The artist for the mace, chain of office, and alumni torch is Nick Rosin, a Master of Fine Arts candidate at the State University of New York at New Paltz.

Alumni Torch

The alumni torch of Excelsior University honors the transition of our students to alumni and symbolizes the light of their scholarship, leadership, and knowledge. Engravings celebrate the alumni community through the evolution of the institution and depict stars to illustrate the meaning of Excelsior, “Ever Upward.” The different metals used in the flames represent the diversity and strength of our alumni community.

Academic Dress

The academic costume is derived from the garments worn at medieval universities. The gowns and the hoods were common at British universities before the 14th century; the square cap is thought to be a 16th-century import from the University of Paris. From the color and the size of the American academic attire, one may determine the
institution from which the wearer received the degree, the degree earned, and the academic rank. The associate and bachelor's gowns are black, knee length, and have long sleeves; the master's gown is also black, and made with a long, closed sleeve with an arc of a circle appearing near the bottom, and a slit for the arm; the doctor's gown has a full, round, open sleeve and is faced with velvet and has three bars of velvet on each sleeve. The velvet trim may be black or the color representative of the degree.

The black Oxford or mortarboard-style cap is worn for all degrees, but only the doctor's cap may be made of velvet and only doctors or presidents of institutions may wear a gold tassel on the cap.

The most distinctive feature of academic dress is the hood. It varies in size depending on whether the wearer has an associate, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree. The hoods for all degrees are lined in silk with the academic colors of the institution conferring the degree. At Excelsior, those colors are purple and white.

The trim on all hoods except the associate degree hood is velvet and the color indicates the degree granted. The following colors are used at Excelsior: white for arts and letters; drab for business areas; yellow gold for science; apricot for nursing; and peacock blue for public administration.

At Excelsior University, gold honor cords are worn by bachelor's-level graduates with GPAs of 3.5 or above having earned at least 60 graded credits and by associate-level graduates with GPAs of 3.5 or above having earned at least 30 graded credits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key to Academic Cords</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gold:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Honors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Red, White, and Blue:</strong> Military Affiliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purple:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excelsior University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Association,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributing Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Light Purple and White:</strong> Honor Society of Nursing,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tau Kappa At-Large Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Burgundy and Gold:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Sigma Lambda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Honor Society, Sigma Zeta Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Red and Gold:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Nu Sigma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Green and Gold:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma Beta Delta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maroon and White:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upsilon Pi Epsilon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduates are wearing GreenWeaver gowns made from 100 percent post-consumer plastic bottles.
The mission of the Excelsior University Alumni Association is to foster a sense of identity and community among graduates, students, and the University. The Association is committed to advocating for the interests of alumni and supporting Excelsior's mission of access, excellence, and diversity. The Association receives leadership from an Alumni Leadership Council selected by popular vote of alumni peers.

Alumni Leadership Council of the Excelsior University Alumni Association

President
Mark Bowman, BS ’00, Texas*

1st Vice President
Pat Geiger, BS ’07, Texas

2nd Vice President
Jonathan Green, AS ’09, BS ’12, New Jersey*

Secretary
Steve Marciano, BS ’18, MS ’21, Florida

Members
Jessica Cheverie, AS ’02, BS ’17, MS ’21, California
Jason Copeland, BS ’14, Virginia
Timothy Leaks, BS ’19, MS ’22, Maryland
Douglas Perry, BS ’78, Indiana**
Oliver Queen Jr., BS ’06, Virginia
Anthony Spearman-Leach, BS ’92, Maryland
Ruth Lown Turman, BS ’96, South Carolina**
Samuel T. Watkins, BS ’99, Virginia
Walter Were, BS ’05, Pennsylvania
James Wright, BS ’99, California

* Denotes completing term in July 2023
** Denotes starting term in July 2023
CHAIR
Matt Loeb, CGEIT, CAE, FASAE
Principal, Optimal Performance Seekers LLC
Doylestown, PA

MEMBERS
David Baime, MS
Senior Vice President, Government Relations and Policy Analysis
American Association of Community Colleges
Washington, DC
Lt. Col. Kent A. D. Clark, MA (Ret.) (Treasurer)
Founder/Chairman of the Board, Clark Advisory Group LLC and CAG Federal Valrico, FL
Charlene Dukes, PhD (Vice Chair)
President Emerita, Prince George’s Community College
Princeton, The Dukes Group
Glenn Dale, MD
Jennifer Gentry, MS, RN, NEA-BC
Central Division Chief Nursing Officer, Providence St. Joseph Health–Oregon
Portland, OR
Daniel Greenstein, BS, MA, PhD
Chancellor, Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education
Harrisburg, PA
Karen Kocher, BA
Chief Talent/Learning Officer, Microsoft
Seattle, WA
KH Maman, MSEE, MBA
Managing Director (Ret.), Cyber Risk Services, Deloitte & Touche LLP
New York, NY
Jeanne Meister, BA, MEd
(Secretary)
Executive Vice President, Executive Networks
Copake, NY
Karim R. Merchant, Esq.
Senior Executive Officer of Development, The Arc of the United States
Washington, DC
Q. Rose Wang, MS
Managing Director, Rose Wang Strategies LLC
Bethesda, MD
Alec Whitters
CEO & Co-founder, Higher Learning Technologies
Iowa City, IA
David Kwabena Wilson, BS, MS, EdM, EdD
President, Morgan State University
Baltimore, MD
EX OFFICIO
Mark Bowman, MS, PMP
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Houston, TX
President, Excelsior University Alumni Association
David Schejbal, PhD
President, Excelsior University
Albany, NY

CHAIR EMERITI
Helen Benjamin, PhD
Chancellor, Contra Costa Community College District (Ret.)
Dallas, TX
Don Dea, MBA
Co-Founder, Fusion Productions
Santa Monica, CA
Arthur J. Gregg, BS
Lt. General (Ret.), U.S. Army
Dumfries, VA
Jerry L. Neff, BS
Brigadier General (Ret.), ARNGUS
Regional President (Ret.), M&I Bank
Bradenton, FL
Joshua L. Smith, MAT, EdD
Professor & Director (Ret.), Program in Higher Education and Center for Urban Community College Leadership,
New York University, School of Education, New York, NY
Richard Yep, MPA, CAE, FASAE
CEO, Ocean Vista Advisors
Alexandria, VA

EREMITI
William G. Harris, PhD
CEO, Association of Test Publishers
Washington, DC
Mary O’Connor, PhD, RN, CENP, FACHE
Professor, Notre Dame of Maryland University
Baltimore, MD
Jean M. Smith, BA
Vice President (Ret.), J.P. Morgan Chase, Chase Community Development Corporation
New York, NY
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