



---

---

# HARDING UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

---

---

9 a.m., May Fourth, Two Thousand Twenty-Four

George S. Benson Auditorium

Searcy, Arkansas

# HARDING UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

9 a.m., May Fourth, Two Thousand Twenty-Four

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

*tap to advance to each section*

**3** Speaker Biography: Dr. Ross Cochran

**4** Order of Service

**5** Candidates for Degrees

**5** College of Bible and Ministry

**6** Paul R. Carter College of Business Administration

**14** Cannon-Clary College of Education

**20** Candidates for Special Honors

**23** Board of Trustees and Officers of  
Administration

**25** Alma Mater and Hymn

**26** Harding University History

## ROSS COCHRAN



Having joined Harding's College of Bible and Ministry faculty in 1986, Dr. Ross Cochran has served as a professor of practical theology since 2007. He retires today after 38 years of service to the University.

Dr. Cochran graduated from Harding in 1979 with a bachelor's degree in Bible. He earned a Master of Theology from Harding Graduate School of Religion in 1984 and a Doctor of Philosophy in 1994 from Boston College.

Dr. Cochran previously served as a minister at the Holmes Road Church of Christ in Memphis, Tennessee, the Natick Church of Christ in Massachusetts, and the Downtown Church of Christ in Searcy, where he was also a shepherd from 2007-2021. He served as director of Camp Tahkodah from 2004-2011.

He is the author of several publications including *Not Off Limits: Questions You Wish You Could Ask at Church*. Currently, he is constructing a curriculum to train communicators for Heartbeat, the ministry of Landon Saunders.

He is a member of the boards for White County's chapter of Court Appointed Special Advocates and Kibo Group's Midnight Oil Coffeehouse.

Dr. Cochran received the Alpha Chi Faculty Award in 2000, the Petit Jean yearbook dedication in 1996 and 2017, and the Teacher Achievement Award in 1999, 2006 and 2024. As a three-time recipient, he is now recognized as a distinguished professor.

He and his first wife, Nita Allen, were married for 35 years until her death in 2016. In January 2022, he married Stephanie Carter Howell. His children are Chris Cochran, his wife, Caroline, Allen Cochran, and Hannah Cochran. His blended family includes Katherine Howell Yates, and her husband, Addison, and Emma Howell Ashburn, and her husband, William.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL..... “Variants on the Alma Mater”

Music by **William Holloway, Ph.D.**, Professor Emeritus

Performed by **Harding University Symphony Orchestra**

Orchestrated and conducted by **Michael Chance, DMA**, Professor Emeritus

WELCOME ..... **Michael D. Williams, Ed.D.**

*President*

HYMN ..... **Kyle Pullen, DMA**

“Higher Ground”

*Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities*

SCRIPTURE READING ..... **Byron Howell, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Professor of Business Administration*

OPENING PRAYER ..... **Greg Brooks, DNP**

*Professor and Carr College of Nursing Assistant Dean for Student Affairs*

REMARKS ..... **Charles Ganus, J.D.**

*Chairman, Board of Trustees*

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER ..... **President Williams**

ADDRESS..... **Ross Cochran, Ph.D.**

*Distinguished Professor of Bible and Ministry*

RECOMMENDATION OF CANDIDATES

FOR DEGREES..... **Marty Spears, Ph.D.**

*Provost*

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

FOR DEGREES..... **Anessa Westbrook, D.Min.**

*Associate Professor of Bible and Ministry*

**College of Bible and Ministry**

**Paul R. Carter College of Business Administration**

**Cannon-Clary College of Education**

“Corner of the Sky” from “Pippin”

by Stephen Schwartz..... **Dawson Teague**

*Alyssa Koay, DMA, Assistant Professor of Music, Collaborative Pianist*

*Candidate for Degree*

“The Lord Bless You and Keep You”..... **Lance Hawley, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor of Old Testament, Harding School of Theology*

ALMA MATER..... **Kyle Pullen, DMA**

*Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities*

CLOSING PRAYER ..... **Jeff Morgan, M.S.**

*Assistant Professor of Kinesiology and University Athletic Director*

RECESSIONAL..... “Variants on the Alma Mater”

*(Audience will remain seated.)*

# COLLEGE OF BIBLE AND MINISTRY

Monte Cox, Ph.D.  
Dean of the College

\* Arkansas Eta Chapter of Alpha Chi  
o Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society

## Description of Honors:

Cum Laude – Grade-Point Average of 3.50-3.74

Magna Cum Laude – Grade-Point Average of 3.75-3.89

Summa Cum Laude – Grade-Point Average of 3.90 or higher

The listing of graduates, degrees and distinctions in this program is preliminary and subject to final certification of graduation.

The permanent transcript of the University registrar is the official record of earned degrees.

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

NAME	MAJOR/SECOND MAJOR OR DEGREE	HOMETOWN
Aidan Patrick Broome <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bible and Divinity	Thompson's Station, Tennessee
Malachi L. Brown	Bible and Divinity	Eureka, Missouri
Landon Fellows Gardner <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bible and Family Ministry	Beebe, Arkansas
Brandon Paul Hanoch	Bible and Family Ministry	Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
Dylan J. Holland <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bible and Family Ministry	Fayetteville, Arkansas
o Courtney Elizabeth Eby <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bible and Ministry	Wakarusa, Indiana
David James Price <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bible and Ministry	Kokomo, Indiana
Brandon Wade Furbie	Bible and Missions	Panama City, Florida

College of Bible and Ministry graduates also include 25 second majors in Leadership and Ministry, Theological Studies, and Missions.

[return to contents](#)

# PAUL R. CARTER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Allen Frazier, Ph.D.  
Dean of the College

\* Arkansas Eta Chapter of Alpha Chi  
o Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society

## **Description of Honors:**

Cum Laude - Grade-Point Average of 3.50-3.74

Magna Cum Laude - Grade-Point Average of 3.75-3.89

Summa Cum Laude - Grade-Point Average of 3.90 or higher

The listing of graduates, degrees and distinctions in this program is preliminary and subject to final certification of graduation.

The permanent transcript of the University registrar is the official record of earned degrees.

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS**

NAME	MAJOR/SECOND MAJOR OR DEGREE	HOMETOWN
Alexis J. Capps	Applied Studies Business	Austin, Texas
Rovertos Chougkaz	Applied Studies Business	Attica, Greece
Spenser C. Dangerfield	Cybersecurity	Searcy, Arkansas
Roy E. Duncan <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Cybersecurity	Tupelo, Oklahoma
Blaze Michael McNeill <i>Cum Laude</i>	Cybersecurity	Kingwood, Texas

## **BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

NAME	MAJOR/ SECOND MAJOR OR DEGREE	HOMETOWN
Amber Darlete Bishop <i>Cum Laude</i>	Accounting	Nashville, Tennessee
Griffin Alexander Brown <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Accounting   Finance	Rogers, Arkansas
Tyler Richard Chitty <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Accounting	Nashville, Tennessee
Jacquolin Ashley Dyer	Accounting	McKinney, Texas
Christopher R. Hearn <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Accounting	Owasso, Oklahoma
Hayden K. Langdon <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Accounting   Leadership and Ministry	Norman, Oklahoma

Sasha Nickole Lewis <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Accounting	Collingswood, New Jersey
*Abby Grace Martin <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Accounting	Mountain Home, Arkansas
Bennett W. Mayes <i>Cum Laude</i>	Accounting	Sunnyvale, Texas
Jonah R. Murray	Accounting   Finance	Lubbock, Texas
James Williams Nixon <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Accounting   Theological Studies	Nashville, Tennessee
Amy Camille Reiser <i>Cum Laude</i>	Accounting	De Soto, Missouri
Clayton Brent Roach <i>Cum Laude</i>	Accounting	Springdale, Arkansas
*Jonathan Jacob Wood <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Accounting   Finance	North Canton, Ohio
Joseph D. Alejo Jr.	Finance	Lakewood, Colorado
Grant Alexander Bartley <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Finance	Carrollton, Texas
Drake H. Bass	Finance	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Steven J. Burdge III	Finance	Raymore, Missouri
Caleb M. Cole	Finance	Richardson, Texas
*Ethan C. Dycus <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Finance	Madison, Alabama
William Luke Foster	Finance	Fort Deposit, Alabama
Brian C. Hamilton	Finance	Albany, Texas
Brett M. Pierce	Finance	McKinney, Texas
Priscilla Ramiseti	Finance	Schaumburg, Illinois
*Samuel Louis Tandy <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Finance	Fayetteville, Arkansas
Joshua Beck	Information Systems	Sherwood, Arkansas
Hailey Nicole Byers	Information Systems	Augusta, Arkansas
Anna Sage Hawley <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Information Systems	Germantown, Tennessee
Jacob L. Morgan <i>Cum Laude</i>	Information Systems	Hazel, Kentucky
Wilf Jacob Rush	Information Systems	Peters Green, United Kingdom
Collin Baylor Sewell	Information Systems	Mount Vernon, Texas
Connor C. Smith	Information Systems	Searcy, Arkansas
David J. Williamson	Information Systems	Pottstown, Pennsylvania

Da Deng	International Business	Mercer Island, Washington
William Lee Fitzhugh <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	International Business	Sterlington, Louisiana
Ryleigh Lynn Hamilton <i>Cum Laude</i>	International Business	Midland, Texas
Leo Maciejek <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	International Business	Munster, Germany
Alicia Yongchao Martinez <i>Cum Laude</i>	International Business	Tarragona, Spain
Reese Alan Pettijohn	International Business	Abilene, Texas
Brenda Luz Sanchez Rosendo <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	International Business	Celaya, Mexico
Tyler J. Sterbenz	International Business	Sachse, Texas
Coulton T. Doyle	Management	Columbia, Missouri
Clark Coleman Griffin	Management	Searcy, Arkansas
Steven Grant Moore	Management	Nashville, Tennessee
Michael B. Self	Management	Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Hunter L. Sumner	Management	Carlisle, Arkansas
Sarah Elise Noelle Thiele <i>Cum Laude</i>	Management	Kansas City, Missouri
Reed McLain Wallace	Management	Maumelle, Arkansas
Cameron M. Bailes	Marketing	Spring, Texas
Courtney Rayann Coats	Marketing	Monument, Colorado
Garrett Jackson Glover	Marketing	Keller, Texas
Austin E. Hunt	Marketing	Garland, Texas
Caroline Ella Jones <i>Cum Laude</i>	Marketing	Cave Springs, Arkansas
Patricija Peric	Marketing	Zagreb, Croatia
Erin Rae Pfalser	Marketing	Cabot, Arkansas
Abbigale Lynn Reece <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Marketing	Benton, Arkansas
Grayson Todd Smith	Marketing	Franklin, Tennessee
Grecia S. Soriano Arroyo	Marketing	Liberal, Kansas
Henrique Barreto Torres	Marketing	Brasilia, Brazil
Jackson Russell Walton	Marketing	Cabot, Arkansas
Preston C. Wilson	Marketing	Trophy Club, Texas



## MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

NAME	MAJOR/SECOND MAJOR OR DEGREE	HOMETOWN
*Aurora J. Berryman	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Granbury, Texas
Ethan Mitchell Brown <i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Harding University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Urbana, Ohio
Regan N. Crawford <i>Bachelor of Business Administration, Harding University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Piedmont, Oklahoma
Jake David Croshaw <i>Bachelor of Business Administration</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Leicestershire, United Kingdom
Brandon J. Davis	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business	College Station, Texas
Emily Caroline Davis	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing	Winter Garden, Florida
Rebecca Lynn Fears <i>Bachelor of Arts, Arkansas State University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Fort Smith, Arkansas
*Lionelly Fransheska Deras	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business	Chinandega, Nicaragua
Grace Mackenzie Dodd	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance	Dallas, Texas
Megan Grace Drause	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	North Little Rock, Arkansas
Easton E. Eads <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Searcy, Arkansas
Maxime Andre Jean Faure <i>Bachelor of Science, William Woods University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Vinemont, Alabama
Grant Matthew Gloff <i>Bachelor of Business Administration, Harding University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Waco, Texas

Brennan Duane Hodges <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Mobile, Alabama
Brady J. Kraner	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance	Spring, Texas
*Abby E. Long	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Arts in Political Science   Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business	Huntsville, Alabama
Melissa Nicole Moretz	Management and Business Ethics	Winston Salem, North Carolina
Joshua Stone Nix <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Searcy, Arkansas
Rusty Eric Orr	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance	Hope, Arkansas
Georgios Petousis <i>Bachelor of Science, Harding University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Asini Argolidas, Greece
Camilo A. Porto Ochoa <i>Bachelor of Business Administration, Harding University</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Cartagena, Colombia
Braden P. Raburn	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Management	Colleyville, Texas
Ryder Jayson Reed	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Management	Whitesboro, Texas
Lisa Marie Retailleau	Management and Business Ethics	La Verrie, France
David Shawn Smith <i>Doctor of Science, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center</i>	Management and Business Ethics	Searcy, Arkansas
Allison Brooke Trask <i>Associate of Arts, Hillsborough Community College</i>	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Management	Lutz, Florida
*Jesus Jose Urueta Lechuga	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business	Chihuahua, Mexico

Lisa Niesje Van Dijk	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing	Sugar Land, Texas
Harley R. Webb	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Gatesville, Texas
Tyler A. Windon	Management and Business Ethics   Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance	Prosper, Texas

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

NAME	MAJOR/SECOND MAJOR OR DEGREE	HOMETOWN
Austin Hayes Alexander <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Information Systems	El Dorado, Arkansas
Nikole Daniela Alvarado Comandiny	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business	Tibas, San Jose, Costa Rica
Bradon John Bass <i>Bachelor of Business Administration, Harding University</i>	Information Systems	Imperial, Missouri
Aeryn N. Bowie	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business	Albuquerque, New Mexico
*Irvin Arturo Briceno Jr. <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business	Orange Walk, Belize
*Adriana Jimena Castellon	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing	Santa Rosa, Copan, Honduras
Jessica Elizabeth Davis <i>Bachelor of Business Administration, Harding University</i>	Information Systems	Sitka, Alaska
Michael D. Dewald	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Information Systems	Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
Tyler Andrew Ellis	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Information Systems	Searcy, Arkansas

Romane Guibal Britt	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Collierville, Tennessee
*Kadyn T. Harris	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Searcy, Arkansas
Hunter W. Hook	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Bentonville, Arkansas
*Daniela Idali Jacobo	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Management	Monterrey, Mexico
Koby Michael Keen	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Rogers, Arkansas
Sei Kondo	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Copley, Ohio
Joseph Michael Lawhorn <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Information Systems	Harrison, Ohio
Benjamin Michael Liddle <i>Master of Science, Harding University</i>	Information Systems	Smyrna, Tennessee
*Marlee Rae Madding	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Fort Recovery, Ohio
o Briana N. McSpadden	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Information Systems	Bentonville, Arkansas
James Davis Morgan	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Searcy, Arkansas
Congyi Pang	Information Systems	Searcy, Arkansas
Kylie Q. Phillips	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Topeka, Kansas
Parker Andrew Rickard	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Information Systems	Little Flock, Arkansas
Evan R. Shirey	Information Systems   Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting	Fayetteville, Arkansas

Andrew Ivan Sleege

Information Systems |  
Bachelor of Business  
Administration in  
Accounting

Center Point,  
Iowa

\*Austin B. Taylor

Information Systems |  
Bachelor of Business  
Administration in  
Accounting

Franklin,  
Tennessee

\*Dawson Brandt  
Teague

Information Systems |  
Master of Business  
Administration in  
Management and  
Business Ethics |  
Bachelor of Business  
Administration in  
Accounting

North Little Rock,  
Arkansas

Kade McCrae Walker

Information Systems |  
Bachelor of Business  
Administration in  
Accounting

Colorado  
Springs,  
Colorado

\*o Luis Levi Zelaya  
Martinez

Information Systems |  
Bachelor of Business  
Administration in Finance

Ojojona,  
Honduras

[\*return to contents\*](#)

# CANNON-CLARY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Raymond “Donny” Lee, Ed.D.  
Dean of the College

\* Arkansas Eta Chapter of Alpha Chi  
o Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society

## **Description of Honors:**

Cum Laude – Grade-Point Average of 3.50-3.74

Magna Cum Laude – Grade-Point Average of 3.75-3.89

Summa Cum Laude – Grade-Point Average of 3.90 or higher

The listing of graduates, degrees and distinctions in this program is preliminary and subject to final certification of graduation.

The permanent transcript of the University registrar is the official record of earned degrees.

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS**

NAME	MAJOR/SECOND MAJOR OR DEGREE	HOMETOWN
Emma Rae Hartis <i>Cum Laude</i>	Early Childhood/ Special Education Integrated B-K	Combine, Texas
Rachel Michelle Slyter <i>Cum Laude</i>	Early Childhood/ Special Education Integrated B-K	Little Rock, Arkansas
Wesley JA Austin Coleman	Education Studies	Little Rock, Arkansas
Dawna J. Johnson	Education Studies	Rogers, Arkansas
Hannah Brooke Milner <i>Cum Laude</i>	Education Studies	Huntsville, Arkansas
Caroline Morgan Adams <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Madison, Tennessee
Lexie Beth Chambless	Elementary Education	Hope, Arkansas
Carly Kay Collett	Elementary Education	Searcy, Arkansas
Lena Dallas <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Punta Gorda, Florida
Kendra LeAnne Degner <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Muscatine, Iowa
Angelika Falkowska <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Crystal Lake, Illinois
Eleanor J. Fantauzzo <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Pittsford, New York
Dulce G. Garcia	Elementary Education	Rogers, Arkansas

Danielle Mae Gunter <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Siloam Springs, Arkansas
Gracie Marie Hamlett <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Falkville, Alabama
Bailey Anne Hammond	Elementary Education	Tyler, Texas
Kassidy Megan Hearn <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Damon, Texas
Krystle Rose Henderson	Elementary Education	Fayetteville, Arkansas
Emma Ophelia Hendricks	Elementary Education	Searcy, Arkansas
Jesica Ibarra <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Rogers, Arkansas
Kayla Nicole Johnson <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Royal, Arkansas
Ta'Mya Janel Jones <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Sherwood, Arkansas
Madison A. Kenne <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Holly Springs, North Carolina
Katherine LeAnn Kirk <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Hickory Creek, Texas
*Aubrey Allison May <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Viola, Arkansas
Regan L. McClure	Elementary Education	Denison, Texas
Mercedes Nicole Moore	Elementary Education	Rowlett, Texas
Naomi L. Parks	Elementary Education	Stuttgart, Arkansas
Morgen Kayla Puryear <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Gravette, Arkansas
Jennifer Anne Redmon	Elementary Education	Piggott, Arkansas
Lucy Ann Rosser <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Shelby Madelyn Stratton <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Oxford, Alabama
Shealyn Elisabeth Wade <i>Cum Laude</i>	Elementary Education	Centennial, Colorado
Sydney Ann Roach <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Middle Level English, Language and Math	Bald Knob, Arkansas
Amanda Lynn Brown	Middle Level English, Language and Social Science	Maynard, Arkansas
Lorelei Roxanne Glover <i>Cum Laude</i>	Middle Level English, Language and Social Science	Carrollton, Texas
Suzanne Cheryl Myers <i>Cum Laude</i>	Middle Level English, Language and Social Science	Mountain Home, Arkansas

Hannah Elisabeth Wilkie <i>Cum Laude</i>	Middle Level English, Language and Social Science	Hot Springs, Arkansas
Marissa Ann Bennett	Middle Level Math and Science	Houston, Texas
Meredith M. Blue	Special Education	Bentonville, Arkansas
Breanna Nicole Leonard <i>Cum Laude</i>	Special Education	Searcy, Arkansas

## MASTER OF ARTS

NAME	EMPHASIS	HOMETOWN
Katie Jo Adair <i>Bachelor of Science Education, Arkansas State University</i>	Excellence in Teaching	Beebe, Arkansas
Linda G. Dye <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Excellence in Teaching	Prairie Grove, Arkansas
Michael Ann Lynn Hutchison <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Excellence in Teaching	North Richland Hills, Texas
Kathy Annette LaFerney <i>Bachelor of Science Education, Oklahoma Christian University</i>	Excellence in Teaching	Searcy, Arkansas
*Clayton William Loudermilk <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Excellence in Teaching	Estill Springs, Tennessee
Perry Tatum Ashley <i>Bachelor of Science, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill</i>	Organizational Leadership	Oshkosh, Wisconsin
Susannah L. Baxter <i>Bachelor of Arts, University of Arkansas-Little Rock</i>	Organizational Leadership	Rogers, Arkansas
Sydney M. Bryant <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Organizational Leadership	Rosston, Arkansas
Jenna Byrnes <i>Bachelor of Science, Ohio University</i>	Organizational Leadership	Nichols Hills, Oklahoma
Alan Byron Howell <i>Master of Divinity, Harding School of Theology</i>	Organizational Leadership	Searcy, Arkansas
Danielle Faith Whaley <i>Bachelor of Business Administration, Texas Tech University</i>	Organizational Leadership	Norman, Oklahoma



Caleb Joshua Young  
*Bachelor of Arts, Harding  
University*

Organizational  
Leadership

Smyrna, Tennessee

## MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

NAME	EMPHASIS	HOMETOWN
Amanda Joan Arnett <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Elementary Education	Brinkley, Arkansas
Shannon Leigh Carroll <i>Bachelor of Science Education, University of Arkansas</i>	Elementary Education	Springdale, Arkansas
SammyJo Chumley <i>Bachelor of Science, University of Central Arkansas</i>	Elementary Education	Maumelle, Arkansas
Mary Lachelle Harris <i>Bachelor of Professional Studies, Arkansas Tech University</i>	Elementary Education	North Little Rock, Arkansas
Nakia Davis Woods <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Elementary Education	Jacksonville, Arkansas
Lindsey Suzanne Collins <i>Master of Arts, George Mason University</i>	Middle Level Education	Roland, Arkansas
Rose Cherrie Hill <i>Bachelor of Arts, Southern New Hampshire University</i>	Middle Level Education	Pleasant Plains, Arkansas
Christopher Wright <i>Bachelor of Arts, American Public University System</i>	Middle Level Education	Brookland, Arkansas
Amy Michelle Davis <i>Bachelor of Science Education, Arkansas State University</i>	Secondary Education	Norfolk, Arkansas
Tony Alan Roepcke II <i>Bachelor of Arts, Lyon College</i>	Secondary Education	Batesville, Arkansas
Angela Renee Berry <i>Bachelor of General Studies, Pittsburg State University</i>	Special Education B-K	Prairie Grove, Arkansas
Meg Kendall Herrell <i>Bachelor of Arts, Arkansas State University</i>	Special Education B-K	Springdale, Arkansas
Bailey Nicole Lum <i>Bachelor of Science, University of Arkansas- Monticello</i>	Special Education B-K	El Dorado, Arkansas
Vaishali Shaunfre Parker <i>Bachelor of Science, University of Central Arkansas</i>	Special Education B-K	Little Rock, Arkansas

Kelsie Taylor Steele <i>Bachelor of Science, University of Arkansas- Monticello</i>	Special Education B-K	Batesville, Arkansas
Alma Rosa Ortega <i>Bachelor of Arts, Arkansas State University</i>	Special Education K-12	Green Forest, Arkansas
Lacey Parson <i>Bachelor of Professional Studies, Arkansas Tech University</i>	Special Education K-12	De Queen, Arkansas

## MASTER OF EDUCATION

NAME	EMPHASIS	HOMETOWN
Traiven Kentez Love <i>Bachelor of Science, University of Arkansas- Pine Bluff</i>	Educational Leadership	Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Maddie Sue Adams <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Reading with Dyslexia	Morrilton, Arkansas
Mary Katherine Arnette <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Reading with Dyslexia	Little Rock, Arkansas
o Emma Forrest <i>Ashburn Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Reading with Dyslexia	Bentonville, Arkansas

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

NAME	EMPHASIS	HOMETOWN
Alexa Lauryn Donley <i>Master of Science in Education, Harding University</i>	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Red Wing, Minnesota
*Lee Pittman Howard <i>Bachelor of Science, Blue Mountain College</i>	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Memphis, Tennessee
*Dannah Noel Norris <i>Bachelor of Arts, University of Arkansas- Little Rock</i>	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Magnet Cove, Arkansas
*Zachary Tyler Vaughn Snedker <i>Bachelor of Social Work, Harding University</i>	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Alsea, Oregon
Keenan Scott Zehner II <i>Bachelor of Science, Harding University</i>	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Searcy, Arkansas
Laura Gail Beebe <i>Bachelor of Science, Harding University</i>	Marriage and Family Counseling	Birmingham, Alabama
Marlee Brooke Campbell <i>Bachelor of Science, Harding University</i>	Marriage and Family Counseling	Conway, Arkansas

Jessica Cundiff <i>Bachelor of Fine Arts, Western Kentucky University</i>	Marriage and Family Counseling	Memphis, Tennessee
Elise Nicole Harrison <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Marriage and Family Counseling	Scottsburg, Indiana
Kara Leigh Pillow <i>Bachelor of Arts, Ouachita Baptist University</i>	Marriage and Family Counseling	Conway, Arkansas
Makenna Elaine Roehr <i>Bachelor of Science, Harding University</i>	Marriage and Family Counseling	Escondido, California
Victoria Simmons <i>Bachelor of Science, Purdue University</i>	Marriage and Family Counseling	Jacksonville, Arkansas
Molly Robyn Freesmeyer <i>Bachelor of Science, University of Central Arkansas</i>	Professional School Counseling	Conway, Arkansas
Amanda Michelle Rushin <i>Bachelor of Science Education, Arkansas State University</i>	Professional School Counseling	Ward, Arkansas
Bridget Johnson Smith <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Student Affairs	Searcy, Arkansas

## EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST

NAME	EMPHASIS	HOMETOWN
Andrea Christine Gideon <i>Bachelor of Science, University of Arkansas</i>	Clinical Mental Health Counseling   Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Springdale, Arkansas
Andrew Stuart Healy <i>Bachelor of Arts, Harding University</i>	Clinical Mental Health Counseling   Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Maumelle, Arkansas
*Allyson Dodds <i>Master of Arts in Teaching   Master of Science, Harding University</i>	Counseling	Searcy, Arkansas
Dorian Adassa Kettle <i>Master of Science, University of Phoenix</i>	Counseling	Sherwood, Arkansas
Jalon Reshad Hughes <i>Master of Education, Harding University</i>	Educational Leadership	Conway, Arkansas
Jeffrey Fernel Neale <i>Master of Education, Harding University</i>	Educational Leadership	Pine Bluff, Arkansas

## DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

NAME	EMPHASIS	HOMETOWN
Andy William Chisum <i>Educational Specialist, Harding University</i>	Leadership	Greenbrier, Arkansas
<i>Dissertation: Teacher Grade Level Taught and Experience on Arkansas Teacher Job Satisfaction Factors</i>		
Amy Broadnax Cooper <i>Master of Education, University of Arkansas- Little Rock</i>	Leadership	Little Rock, Arkansas
<i>Dissertation: Participation in Project Lead the Way on the Mathematics Achievement of African American Students in Central Arkansas</i>		

[return to contents](#)

## CANDIDATES FOR SPECIAL HONORS

### HONORS COLLEGE GRADUATES WITH DISTINCTION

(Those who were on track, as of the start of their final semester, to complete 26 or more hours of honors credit, including four honors contracts and an honors capstone project, while maintaining at least a 3.50 GPA.)

NAME	MAJOR/SECOND MAJOR OR DEGREE	HOMETOWN
Caroline Elise Anderson <i>Light Behind the Clouds: Kindness Towards Female Characters in Little Women</i>	English	Katy, Texas
Julianne Lee Baker <i>Enhancers and Inhibitors to Evidence-Based Practice: A Case Study</i>	Interdisciplinary Studies	Searcy, Arkansas
Davis R. Burton <i>Modeling Vibration Stiffness: An Analytical Extension of Hertzian Theory for Angular Contact Bearings with a Thin Viscoelastic Coating</i>	Mechanical Engineering	Little Rock, Arkansas
Isaac Chambers Copeland <i>The Mitre and the Crown: The Relationship Between the Church and Crown in Anglo- Norman England</i>	History	Austin, Texas
Hannah Lindsay Diles <i>Conflicting Ethe in Anna Karenina: A Reexamination of Tolstoy's Complex Female Protagonist</i>	English   Leadership and Ministry	Columbia, Tennessee
Evelynn R. Foster <i>Bridging the Gap: Developing A Resource to Improve Communication Between Patients and Their Medical Teams</i>	Medical Humanities   French	Manassas, Virginia

Sadie Lynn Gaskins <i>Elucidating Interactions Between Phytohormones in Arabidopsis thaliana Germination</i>	Molecular and Cellular Biology	LaBelle, Florida
Micah Allen Gill <i>Development Under Erasure: Deconstruction in Development Studies</i>	English   Theological Studies	Florissant, Missouri
Martina Marie Gooden <i>Pesticidal Properties of Spider Venom</i>	Biology   Spanish	Fort Smith, Arkansas
Joel M. Hoppe <i>Leading a Software Development Team using the Scrum Methodology</i>	Computer Science	Highland, Arkansas
Emily R. Justice <i>Beyond Opioids Program Evaluation</i>	Social Work	Searcy, Arkansas
Shannon Elise Keyser <i>Synthesis and Characterization of Low Valent Transition Metal and Thione Imidazole Complexes</i>	Chemistry   English	Bryan, Texas
Amelia Marie Kretzer <i>Exploring Narrative Strengths in Animated Storytelling</i>	Visual Art Studio	Flatgap, Kentucky
Abby E. Long <i>Justice on Trial: A Multifaceted Analysis of Capital Punishment</i>	Master of Business Administration   Political Science   International Business	Huntsville, Alabama
Tyler James McDonald <i>Exploring KUA1 and ILR3 Protein Interactions in Arabidopsis thaliana using Yeast 2 Hybrids</i>	Molecular and Cellular Biology	Belton, Texas
Evan J. Paltjon <i>Analyzing the Role of Oncomodulin in Cochlear Rat Microglial Cells During Inflammation</i>	Cognitive Neuroscience   Preprofessional Health Sciences	Robinson, Texas
Isaac Jordan Raymond <i>Dispelling Delusion and Seeing Nature: A Comparative Analysis of Epistemological Methodology and Linguistic Creativity in Lucretius' De Rerum Natura and Hui-neng's Platform Sutra of the Sixth Patriarch</i>	Interdisciplinary Studies   Theological Studies	Siloam Springs, Arkansas
Kyle M. Shanachilubwa <i>Emotional Experiences of Black Computer Science and Engineering Students Amid Faculty-Student Interactions</i>	Computer Science	Searcy, Arkansas
Rebecca Elizabeth Stephens <i>The Influences of Sex, Color Morph, and Weather on Roosting Distributions in Overwintering White-throated Sparrows (Zonotrichia albicollis)</i>	Biology	Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

Grayson Reed Sutherland  
*Effective Missions Among  
Nomadic Herdsmen in  
Mongolia*

Foreign Language and  
Missions

Quitman,  
Arkansas

Emma G. Weber  
*Data-Driven Storytelling:  
How Nonprofits Cultivate Life  
Narratives*

English | Business  
Communication

Valley Center,  
Kansas

Luke Ziegler  
*The Third Horseman:  
Preventability versus  
Apocalypse in the Great  
Famine of 1315 and the Irish  
Potato Famine*

History | Spanish

Fort Smith,  
Arkansas

## HONORS COLLEGE GRADUATES

(Those who were on track, as of the start of their final semester, to complete 20 or more hours of honors credits, including four honors contracts, while maintaining at least a 3.25 GPA.)

NAME	MAJOR/SECOND MAJOR OR DEGREE	HOMETOWN
Kalyn Nicole Epperson	Child Life	Hoover, Alabama
Luis Levi Zelaya Martinez	Master of Science in Information Systems   Finance	Ojojona, Honduras
Jesus Urueta	Master of Business Administration in Management and Business Ethics   International Business	Chihuahua, Mexico
Johnathan Jacob Wood	Accounting   Finance	North Canton, Ohio

## PRESIDENT'S LIST

(Undergraduate candidates with 4.00 GPA achieved with all letter grades of A)

NAME	MAJOR/ SECOND MAJOR	HOMETOWN
Erin G. Booher	Nursing	Canal Winchester, Ohio
Aidan Patrick Broome	Bible and Divinity	Thompson's Station, Tennessee
Alayna R. Clark	Nursing	Holly Springs, North Carolina
Liliana Marie Derr	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Florence, Alabama
Ethan C. Dycus	Finance	Madison, Alabama

Kathleen G. Krejci	Nursing	Richmond, Texas
Jayda Elizabeth Lynn	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Beggs, Oklahoma
Aubrey Allison May	Elementary Education	Viola, Arkansas
Anna Grace McDonald	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Coweta, Oklahoma
Emma Grace Montague	Nursing	Denver, Colorado
Emily C. Nikolai	Nursing	Brighton, Colorado
Faith Annamarie Snyder	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Fort Collins, Colorado
Kaylie Morgan Stephenson	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Phoenix, Arizona
Kaylee Noelle Stickels	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Greenwood, Indiana
Shelby Madelyn Stratton	Elementary Education	Oxford, Alabama
Jorey Lee Thorman	Exercise Science	McKinney, Texas
Faith Anna Wise	Exercise Science	Searcy, Arkansas
Gracie Faye Wise	Exercise Science	Searcy, Arkansas
Jonathan Jacob Wood	Accounting   Finance	North Canton, Ohio

[return to contents](#)

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Charles A. Ganus, chairman	Searcy, Arkansas
James H. Cone Jr., vice chairman	Little Rock, Arkansas
John D. Reese, secretary	Searcy, Arkansas
Joe Wild, treasurer	Vero Beach, Florida
Tim Bewley	Hendersonville, Tennessee
Craig Cheatham	Colorado Springs, Colorado
Stephanie Cochran	Bentonville, Arkansas
Mark Crews	Searcy, Arkansas
Amy Emerson	Tulsa, Oklahoma
W. Harrell Freeman	Metairie, Louisiana
James D. Holsombake	Panama City, Florida
Michael Justus	Searcy, Arkansas
Robin Maynard	Afton, Minnesota
Harold R. Redd	Memphis, Tennessee
John O. Simmons	Columbia, Tennessee
Swaid Swaid	Vestavia Hills, Alabama
David V. Waldron	La Vergne, Tennessee
Robert C. Walker, past chairman	Decatur, Alabama
Rodney Waller	Arlington, Texas
Mark Weeks	Brentwood, Tennessee
Michael D. Williams, ex-officio	Searcy, Arkansas
Howard Wright	Atlanta, Georgia

## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

**MICHAEL D. WILLIAMS, ED.D.**, *president of the University*

**JEAN-NOEL THOMPSON, PH.D.**, *executive vice president*

**MARTY SPEARS, PH.D.**, *provost and chief academic officer*

**TAMMY HALL, MBA**, *vice president for finance and chief financial officer*

## UNIVERSITY CABINET

**MIKE CHALENBURG, B.A.**, *vice president for information systems and technology and chief information officer*

**AMY COX, MFA**, *chair of Faculty Leadership Council*

**MONTE COX, PH.D.**, *dean of the College of Bible and Ministry*

**ALLEN FRAZIER, PH.D.**, *dean of the Paul R. Carter College of Business Administration*

**JIM GURCHIEK, M.ED.**, *superintendent of Harding Academy*

**JULIE A. HIXSON-WALLACE, PHARM.D., MBA, BCPS**, *dean of the College of Pharmacy*

**SUSAN KEHL, PH.D., RN, CNE**, *dean of the Carr College of Nursing*

**STEVE LAKE, B.A.**, *vice president for enrollment services*

**RAYMOND "DONNY" LEE, ED.D.**, *dean of the Cannon-Clary College of Education*

**JIM MARTIN, D.MIN.**, *vice president for the School of Theology*

**MIKE MCGALLIARD, SC.D.**, *dean of the College of Allied Health*

**JEFF MORGAN, M.ED.**, *director of athletics*

**CANDICE MOORE, BBA**, *assistant vice president for university communications and marketing*

**ANDREA MORRIS, PH.D.**, *assistant to the provost*

**LUKE MORRIS, BBA**, *assistant vice president for finance*

**ZACH NEAL, MAT**, *vice president for student life and dean of students*

**MARK POWELL, PH.D.**, *dean of the School of Theology*

**DAVID ROSS, MBA**, *assistant vice president for human resources*

**DANA STEIL, PH.D.**, *dean of the College of Arts and Sciences*

[return to contents](#)



## ALMA MATER

Near the foothills of the Ozarks,  
Midst of hill and plain; Stands our glorious Alma Mater;  
Harding is her name.

Chorus:

Sing the chorus, shout it loudly!  
Echoing thro' the vale.  
Hail to thee, beloved Harding!  
Alma Mater, Hail!

Christian standard is her motto;  
Christian life is stressed; And in ev'ry branch of learning,  
Each one does his best.

Harding opens wide her portals,  
Thus inviting all  
Who would tread the path to knowledge, Heed then to her call.

## "HIGHER GROUND"

I'm pressing on the upward way.  
New heights I'm gaining ev'ry day;  
Still praying as I onward bound,  
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

Chorus:

Lord, lift me up and let me stand,  
By faith, on heaven's table land,  
A higher plane than I have found;  
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.

My heart has no desire to stay  
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;  
Tho' some may dwell where these abound,  
My prayer, my aim is higher ground.

I want to scale the utmost height,  
And catch a gleam of glory bright;  
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found,  
"Lord lead me on to higher ground."

[return to contents](#)

# HARDING UNIVERSITY

Harding University has a rich history of quality education. Harding was chartered as a senior college in 1924 when two junior colleges, Arkansas Christian College and Harper College, merged their facilities and assets, adopted the new name of Harding College, and located on the campus of Arkansas Christian in Morrilton, Arkansas. The school was moved to Searcy in 1934, and the board of trustees approved a recommended change of Harding to university status in 1979.

Harding was named in memory of James A. Harding, a pioneer Christian educator who founded Nashville Bible School (now Lipscomb University) in Tennessee. He challenged his co-workers with an enthusiasm for Christian education that remains a significant tradition at Harding University.

At the charter, J.N. Armstrong, who had served five years as Harper's president, became president of Harding College, holding the office from 1924 to 1936.

In 1936, George S. Benson returned from mission work in China to assume the presidency of his alma mater. Benson directed the college from a deep indebtedness into a state of financial stability, national recognition and academic accreditation. He retired in 1965 after 29 years of tireless service.

Dr. Clifton L. Ganus Jr., a 1943 graduate, served as president from 1965 to 1987. A former history department chair and vice president of the college, Ganus kept alive his predecessors' drive for excellence by leading a plan of campus improvement and expansion. At his retirement, Ganus became Harding's first chancellor in 1987 and then served as chancellor emeritus from 2013 until his death in September 2019.

Dr. David Burks became the fourth president in 1987. A 1965 graduate, he has been a member of the faculty since 1967 and served as dean of the College of Business Administration. Under his leadership, the University experienced record growth in enrollment and giving and, more importantly, placed significant emphasis on Christian servanthood.

Dr. Bruce McLarty, a 1978 graduate and the University's fifth president, served as president from 2013 to 2020. Prior to this role, McLarty was the first vice president of spiritual life for the University. As the result of his doctoral work, the University adopted his five-chapter curriculum, "Embracing the Mission," which focuses on maintaining the faith-based principles Harding was built upon.

Chancellor David Burks resumed the role of president in December 2020 and served until Harding's sixth president, Dr. Michael D. Williams, assumed the role on June 1, 2022. At President Williams' inauguration in September 2022, he challenged the Harding community to find and develop their Inspired Purpose, remaining committed to our historic Christian mission as we aspire to restore the world to what God intended from the beginning. Harding's 4,804 students, representing 47 states and more than 50 nations and territories, are empowered for ministry, leadership and lifetimes of service.