



1849 — 2024

175

YEARS

SPRING COMMENCEMENT 2024



COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Saturday, May 11, 2024

Arute Field

9 a.m. Ceremony

Carol A. Ammon College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

School of Business

2:30 p.m. Ceremony

School of Education & Professional Studies

School of Engineering, Science, and Technology

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Many members of our university community collaborated to make this commencement special. We wish to thank the teaching and administrative faculty, members of the maintenance and support staff, student leaders, and our student assistants who worked tirelessly to make this ceremony memorable for our graduates and their families and friends.

Every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of this program. However, due to printing deadlines, it is possible that the list of degree candidates as presented within the commencement booklet may not be entirely accurate. Having a name appear in this booklet does not indicate that a degree has been completed; students' degrees are officially conferred when the university certifies that all degree requirements have been met.

ZULMA R. TORO, PRESIDENT



Welcome! Thank you for joining the Central family on this special day.

Today we celebrate the culmination of a transformational journey by our students.

As we honor both our undergraduate and graduate degree candidates, I advise them to reflect on how far they have come and how far they can go. While commencements recognize the achievement of an academic milestone, they also signal the start of a new era, filled with exciting possibilities.

Our graduates are making history in more ways than one. Central is celebrating its 175th anniversary this year, and today our graduating class shares in this noteworthy milestone and contributes a memorable chapter to the Central story. The blue and white ribbons you'll see on our graduates include a 175th anniversary medallion—a gift from the Alumni Association.

It is my hope that the medallions will always remind our graduates of the distinguished company they are joining today.

Ebenezer D. Bassett, the son of a former slave, our school's first Black student, and the first African American diplomat for the United States, graduated from this institution in 1853.

Carmen Espinosa '71 was the first Hispanic person to be appointed to the Connecticut Supreme Court.

A more recent graduate, Miguel Cardona '97, served as the Connecticut Commissioner of Education before he was appointed the 12th United States Secretary of Education.

I am so proud of our remarkable alumni and students, and I thank the faculty, staff, families, and friends whose support, encouragement, and guidance have contributed to their success.

I hope you all will join us this summer as we continue to celebrate our 175th anniversary. As we reflect on Central's legacy of excellence, we can look forward to another 175 years of exceptional contributions and innovation.

And so, as the 13th president of Central Connecticut State University, it is my great pleasure to congratulate our candidates for degrees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Z. Toro'.

Zulma R. Toro, President

SATURDAY, MAY 11
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



PETER "PETE" ROSA '68, '74

Dr. Peter Rosa dedicated more than 30 years of his career to higher education in several capacities, including his tenure as vice president for Student Affairs at Central Connecticut State University. He was an admissions officer, higher education policy analyst, university lobbyist, counselor, professor, student services executive officer, and a university system trustee. He also was chief author of the state's higher education Strategic Plan for Racial and Ethnic Diversity, a document that resulted in the establishment of ConnCAP, the first state-funded program of its kind in the nation. Rosa also introduced and implemented the College Board's Spanish SAT for Connecticut's Spanish-speaking college applicants and was a founder and president of the Connecticut Association of Latinos/Latinas in Higher Education.

For his work as a community activist, Rosa was named Connecticut's first Latino Citizen of the Year by the Latino/Puerto Rican Affairs Commission in 1999. He went on to serve as president of the New Britain Board of Education and later earned a seat on the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education. After he left higher education, Rosa served for many years as senior program officer at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, which works with donors, nonprofits, and community leaders to put resources into action for Greater Hartford.

Rosa holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology/Anthropology and a master's degree in Applied Linguistics from Central and a doctorate from the University of Connecticut.



LAWRENCE "LARRY" HALL '89, '96

Larry Hall is an alumnus of Weaver High School in Hartford. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Central Connecticut State University. Since he graduated from Central, Hall has worked in higher education, assisting people of all ages in pursuing their educational goals. He has worked for Sacred Heart University, Western Connecticut State University, and is currently at Central Connecticut State University as director of Recruitment and Admissions. Hall is a member of the National Association for College Admission Counseling, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Hall also is active in the community. He is president of the Connecticut Talent Assistance Collaborative Board of Directors and a co-founder and board member of Epesi, which has helped many young people train and compete in track and field events. He is past president of the board of Judah House, a halfway house that supports women in their re-entry into mainstream society after incarceration. In addition, Hall has served as a high school basketball official for International Association of Basketball Officials. Hall has been a licensed minister at Liberty Christian Center International for the past 20 years and is actively involved with various leadership roles.

Hall resides in Southington with his wife, Persephone L. Hall, and they have three children, Tiffany, Alaina, and Isaac.

SATURDAY, MAY 11
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



WILLIAM “WYATT” BOSWORTH ’17

Wyatt Bosworth '17 serves as associate counsel for the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). He represents Connecticut businesses on matters that come before the Connecticut General Assembly's Public Health, Insurance and Real Estate, Judiciary, General Law, and Government Administration and Elections committees.

Prior to joining CBIA, Bosworth worked as a registered lobbyist with Brown Rudnick LLP where he represented corporations and non-profit organizations before various legislative committees. He also served as staff assistant to House Majority Leader Matt Ritter and has years of municipal and statewide campaign consulting experience.

Bosworth currently sits on the board of directors for Sun Scholars Inc. and has served as an elected official for the City of New Britain. During law school, he served as an editor on the Connecticut Law Review and was the recipient of the Connecticut Bar Association Labor and Employment Award.

Bosworth earned his Juris Doctorate with honors at the University of Connecticut School of Law and is admitted to the Connecticut bar. He also holds a bachelor's in Political Science from Central Connecticut State University where he graduated summa cum laude as a Barnard Scholar. As an undergraduate, Wyatt was a member of the Student Government Association and president of the College Democrats and served on the Board of Regents Student Advisory Committee.

Honoring Lieutenant Dustin DeMonte '10

On Feb. 1, 2024, the leadership team at Central Connecticut State University honored alumnus Dustin DeMonte, a lieutenant with the Bristol Police Department who was killed in the line of duty on Oct. 12, 2022.

New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart, who holds a seat on the CSCU Board of Regents, conferred a Master of Science in Criminology to DeMonte's wife, Laura. DeMonte earned a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology from Central in 2010 and went on to a distinguished career in law enforcement.

Lieutenant DeMonte served with the Bristol Police Department for 10 years. He excelled as an officer of the law and, like any good student, he shared what he learned with those who could benefit from it most: young people in Bristol in the police explorers' program and students in the Bristol schools where he served as a school resource officer.

In her remarks at the conferral, President Toro said, "Lieutenant DeMonte exemplifies our highest hopes for our graduates. Using the knowledge he acquired at Central, he pursued a career that keeps communities safer; brings closure to victims of injustice; and offers comfort to those in need of protection. Awarding this posthumous degree is a tribute to Lieutenant DeMonte and all he accomplished."



ORDER OF EXERCISES



Processional

Bearer of the University Staff

Dr. Kimberly Kostelis,
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Bearer of the University Mace

Dr. Frederic Latour,
Faculty Senate President

Posting of the Colors

Central Police Department

National Anthem

Introductions

Dr. Kimberly Kostelis,
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Welcome

Dr. Zulma R. Toro,
Central Connecticut State University President

Greetings

Morning ceremony: Luis Sanchez,
Board of Regents for Higher Education

Afternoon ceremony: Richard Balducci,
Board of Regents for Higher Education

Remarks

Dr. Zulma R. Toro,
Central Connecticut State University President

Commencement Address

Peter Rosa '68, '74

Lawrence Hall '89, '96

William "Wyatt" Bosworth '17

Alma Mater

Presentation of Candidates

Announced by:

Dr. Gilbert Gigliotti
Professor, Department of English

Tom Pincince
Athletic Director

Darren Sweeney '98
Associate Professor, Department of Journalism

Conferral of Degrees

Recessional

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREE

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL **DOCTOR OF EDUCATION**

Elizabeth Mary Atwood-Daley	Colette J. Daye	Todd Calvin Hampton	Alejandro Ortiz
Diana Burns	Tiffany Ann Fox	Richelle Leone Johnson	Mistie Marie Parsons
Robert Ryan Carlson	Iris Gomero	Stacey Jere McCann	Heather M. Prokup
Daniel Preston Carroll	Tawana Denise Graham-Douglas	Ashley Amaka Okwuazi-Fennimore	Timothy John Watt

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL **DOCTOR OF NURSE ANESTHESIA PRACTICE**

Stephany Amendola	Danielle Diedra Gopie	Drew Stephen Reilly	Nicole Carly Stemmler
Sarah Wilson Bates	Elaine Lapaan Lacanilao	Brian Michael Roberge	Ali Lauren Strada
Sarah Jennifer Boucher	Kyle Theresa McClintock	Lena Anastasia Rosenblum	Aaron Matthew Charles Tevay
Lorika Bytyqi	Angela Katie Mercurio	Holly Maya Kanelehua Schmidt	Bridget Courtney Twohig
Jennie Marie Chekas	Sarah Ann Mooradian	Briana Pauline Serio	Callie L. Walter
Evanna Marie Devlin	Alexandra Flora Mpitsos	Erika Danielle Soley	
Leanne E. Fuentes	Marissa Danielle Provost	Matthew M. Sorak	

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL **SIXTH-YEAR CERTIFICATE**

John Elliott Anastasio <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Beverly Burgos <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Megan Lynn Davis <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Sandra Ann Gagnon <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Rebecca E. Aubrey <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Laura C. Carlisle <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Jennifer Kelli DeAngelo <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Susan Frances Gainty <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>
Maria Tucker Baseel <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Eric Michael Carroll <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Dana Anne DeCarlo <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Vanessa Rose Gallitto <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Amy Lynn Beaulieu <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Daniel Joseph Clement <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Casey Lynn DelVecchio <i>Educational Leadership</i>	John Joseph Garrish IV <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Alyssa L. Beers <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Jennifer Clinton <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Rebecca Dawne Deotte <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Joseph P. Grabowski <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Michelle Lynne Bennett <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Meghan Elizabeth Clough <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Keira Diamantis <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Rebecca Lynn Harmon <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Sarah Louise Bernhardson <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Michael Joseph Colantonio <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Jeannie M. Duval <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Abby Melissa Harvey <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Timothy Aaron Bifolck <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Michael H. Cone <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Gary Howard Dwyer <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Margaret Winland Hooley <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Ethelyn LaVesta Boisvert <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Kaylie Ann Corjulo <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Steven Angelo Fasano <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Robert Edward Johnson <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Kara Elizabeth Bordieri <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	KimberlyAnn Coyle <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Cara Marie Faucher <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Elise Nicole Kelly <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Kelley Murphy Brochu <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Jaime Lynn Crane <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Amy Lynn Finke <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Marisa Nicole Kudla <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Colin A. Broderick <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Alana Baio Crosby <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Jenna Fortini <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Elizabeth Anne Landry <i>Educational Leadership</i>
Nicholas Alexander Brzozowy <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Charlotte Rose D'Aleo <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Heather Allison Fried <i>Educational Leadership</i>	Eliza Marion Latko <i>Educational Leadership</i>

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL SIXTH-YEAR CERTIFICATE

Tara Ann Lawrie
Educational Leadership

Julie A. Leroux
Educational Leadership

Rebecca Anne Likar
Educational Leadership

Emily Ann Lorenzet
Educational Leadership

Janell Rita Lovig
Educational Leadership

Sarah Marcia
Elizabeth Madden
Educational Leadership

Cynthia Horkun Maggio
Reading and Language Arts

Kelly Taylor Marchell
Educational Leadership

Lauren Marie Martone
Educational Leadership

Rosetta Josephine Mastroianni
Educational Leadership

Shelley Marie McCone
Educational Leadership

Carolina McConnell
Educational Leadership

Ryan James McCormack
Educational Leadership

Adolph Derek Meza
Educational Leadership

Maria Dolores Morelli
Educational Leadership

Chantelle Elizabeth Morin
Educational Leadership

Leah Michele Mucciarone
Educational Leadership

Jessica Elise Mularski
Educational Leadership

Caitlin Murphy
Educational Leadership

Nirupama Chaitanya Nigam
Educational Leadership

Janet L. Olsen Cooper
Educational Leadership

Amy Lynn Pajor
Educational Leadership

Carolynn Angela Palmero
Educational Leadership

Meghan Elizabeth Payne
Educational Leadership

Ashley Lynn Pettinato
Educational Leadership

Angela Marie Plourde
Educational Leadership

Karen Margaret Prager
Educational Leadership

Allyson Christine Ribeiro
Educational Leadership

Cassidy Mary Ricciardone
Educational Leadership

Derek Daniel Roberts
Educational Leadership

Sharon N. Rose
Reading and Language Arts

Allison L. Semenuk
Educational Leadership

Lauren Christine Serafino
Educational Leadership

Jessica Ramiely Serrano
Educational Leadership

Olivia Ann Singer
Educational Leadership

Sabina DiPietro Skarzynski
Educational Leadership

Clevens St. Juste
Educational Leadership

Ann-Marie Stevenson
Educational Leadership

Colleen Michelle
Stickney-Bloom
Educational Leadership

Despina Stropolis
Reading and Language Arts

Jaime Elizabeth Strunjo
Educational Leadership

Kaitlyn Ann Synnott
Educational Leadership

Abby Ruth Terreri
Educational Leadership

Leah Christine
Maloney Thompson
Educational Leadership

Jason Gregory Titelbaum
Educational Leadership

Heather Longchamps Tooker
Educational Leadership

Steve Gerald Troche
Educational Leadership

Haley Rae Ullinger
Educational Leadership

Sabina Teresa Vance
Educational Leadership

Lana Jovelle Vasas
Educational Leadership

Marisa E. Vattana
Educational Leadership

Melanie Anne Wagner
Educational Leadership

Mariana Weinberger
Educational Leadership

Sydney Jeanette White
Educational Leadership

Emily Kate Wing
Educational Leadership

Melissa Zotter
Reading and Language Arts

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL MASTER OF ARTS

Sarah Anacleto
Biological Sciences

Andrew Paul Audibert
Mathematics

Craig Robert Banks
Public History

Justin Michael Berak
English

Kelly Michelle Brice
Applied Linguistics

Willard Jordan-Charles Brin
History

Genova Evelyn Burgos Pinto
Modern Languages

Autum Taylor Burke
Biological Sciences

Noel Andy Cain
Public History

Alexander Pennington Clark
History

Keyra Angelique
Colon Rodriguez
Applied Linguistics

Victoria Diane Karen Congdon
English

Rachel Kendy Cox
Biological Sciences

Yaneth Ofelia Czech
Modern Languages

Catherine Lynn Damato
Applied Linguistics

Jason P. Davis
Information Design

Jennifer Healey Dorn
English

Mary Elizabeth D'Orvilliers
Modern Languages

Alexander Bennett Dueben
Public History

Andrea Escobar
Modern Languages

Amanda Fahy
English

Amanda Custodio Faria
Modern Languages

Andrew Michael Fisher
Mathematics

David Keith Fortney Jr
Modern Languages

Anna Grace Fossi
Public History

Alexys Tatyana George Warren
Psychology

Nicholas Daniel Giori
Modern Languages

Besmira Gjolle
Applied Linguistics

Guadalupe Araceli Gonzales
Modern Languages

Lilac Honey Green
Modern Languages

Alexandra Nicole Hanrath
Information Design

Alyssa Jeanne Haskins
Mathematics

Zachary Michael Hunleth
Information Design

Megyn Hazel Jasman
Psychology

Bushra Fazla Karim
Applied Linguistics

Viviana Elizabeth Kelley
Modern Languages

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL
MASTER OF ARTS

Andy M. King
Public History

Renee Michelle Klucznik
English

Jani Lame
Mathematics

Marielle Juliette LeFebvre
Modern Languages

Denise Marie Lewis
English

Maria R. Martinez-Rodriguez
Modern Languages

Jacob Thomas McCarthy
Psychology

K'Ehleyr Ariana McKeever
History

Joseph William Mumley
Public History

Amber Lynn O'Regan
Biological Sciences

Maria Londono Pietsch
Modern Languages

Brayton Winfield Price
Public History

Michelle Robinson
English

Madeline Julia Rodriguez
Psychology

Taylor Scott
Psychology

Saman Shahid
Psychology

Miranda Leigh Simao
Psychology

James Tregrea Steck
Psychology

Kristin N. Stewart
Applied Linguistics

Madison L. Sundwall
English

Kavya Suresh
Biological Sciences

Genny Tobon Escobedo
Modern Languages

Helena Torres Diaz
Public History

Erica Marie Trindade
Applied Linguistics

Joseydi W. Trochez
Psychology

Isabella Alexis Vega
Biological Sciences

Roberta Verbyla
Modern Languages

Kayla Ann Verderame
Applied Linguistics

Sarah Elizabeth Waterhouse
English

Erik Thomas Wiegmann
Applied Linguistics

Christina L. Wolney
Psychology

William Daniel Yerxa
Public History

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL
MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Emma Joan Helman

Samuel Moises Ramos

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL
MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Maamle Adjoka-Nartey
 Komlan Guillaume Agbetossou
 Edward Krzysztof Anderson
 Abigail Patricia Bacon
 Jared Allan Bernabe
 Emily Lauren Blaszkowski
 Jessica Lynn Buttafuoco
 Natoya Salome Campbell
 Finnegan Patrick Carey
 Morgan Danielle Carlson
 Luisa F. Ceballos
 Reese George Hilton Clarke
 Amanda Gabrielle Despres
 George Aplex Doe
 Jadd Tanner Dolegala

Emilio Dule
 Kelly Rose Edwards
 Laura Marie Edwards
 Monika B. Francis
 Colleen Marie Girouard
 Morgan Shae Gradowski
 Yolanda C. Hacia
 Tuyen M. Ho
 Mirela Ibrahimovic
 Ali Ahmed Jaffery
 Timothy M. Johnson
 Elizabeth Ann Kenney
 Dylan Michael Knipple
 Jason Daniel LaBonte
 Katelyn Marie Leifert

Felicia Michelle Leone
 Elias Lux
 Florida Minja
 Irfan Ahmed Mridha
 Kyle Alexander Muller
 Katherine Nanowski
 Hunter James Pasqualini
 Charles Leonard Penn
 Adam Michael Peterson
 Nicholas Alan Petrucci
 Anderson Heringer Prata
 Andrea DeShaune Sanders
 Faraz Shahzad
 Liri Shytia
 Hunter Martin Sigler

Arashdeep Singh
 Surinder Singh
 Patrycja Ewa Sirag
 Shiyakumari Solanki
 Madeline Violet St. Amour
 David John Terricciano
 Michael John Torniero
 William Benjamin Whittaker
 Rafael A. Wong
 Craig Warfield Wood
 Farzeen Fatima Zaidi
 Irtaza Hasnain Zaidi
 Syed Ali Mehdi Zaidi
 Olivia Rose Zurzola

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Samantha Christine Adams <i>STEM Education</i>	Sri Vatsavai Chaitra Varshini <i>Accounting</i>	Thomas Edward Eccles <i>Accounting</i>	Nicole Keely Howard <i>STEM Education</i>
Rebekka Elizabeth Agnello <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>	Jessica Lynne Chamble <i>Counselor Education</i>	Amal Said Elkassas <i>Supply Chain and Logistics Management</i>	Lindsey Taylor Humphrey <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>
Isabella Alexandra Alfano <i>Strategic Communication</i>	Barbara Wendy Chernov-Paradise <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Stephanie Felicia Felag <i>Educational Technology</i>	Emily Catherine Hunnewell <i>Criminal Justice</i>
Sean Patrick Anderson <i>Technology Management</i>	Ania Wrzos Childress <i>Biomolecular Sciences</i>	Nicholas Ryan Filippides <i>Music Education</i>	Aamir M. Idrees <i>Accounting</i>
Leigh Ryan Jones Appleby <i>Strategic Communication</i>	Sonia Marie Childress <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>	Redmond James Foley <i>Accounting</i>	Amber Islam <i>Special Education</i>
Emmanuel Augustin <i>Counselor Education</i>	Patryk Chorzepa <i>Technology Management</i>	Tiandre Kareen Forde <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>	Malgorzata Jaksina <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>
Tanvir Azad <i>Computer Information Technology</i>	Jennifer Carol Cioffi <i>Mathematics</i>	Rudae Christina Marie Gadson <i>Athletic Training</i>	Phillip Lloyd James <i>Accounting</i>
Brittany Marie Barber <i>Counselor Education</i>	Joshua Tyler Clinton <i>Data Science</i>	Julien Daniel Gagnon <i>Counselor Education</i>	Ewa Jasinska <i>Accounting</i>
Erica L. Bardes <i>Educational Technology</i>	Bonnie Ann Colleton <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>	Leslie Garcia <i>Counselor Education</i>	Hank Jean-Jacques <i>Physical Education</i>
Hannah Emily Barger <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Jaclyn Ann Colossale <i>Counselor Education</i>	Shannon Garrick <i>Biological Sciences</i>	Kristen Denise Johnson <i>Teacher Leadership</i>
Stephen Daniel Benoit <i>Data Science</i>	Erik Charles Cooper <i>Educational Technology</i>	Anna Gawel <i>Educational Technology</i>	Christopher Dean Jones <i>Accounting</i>
Shanice Quania Berkeley <i>Technology Management</i>	Shanielle LaNae Copeland <i>Strategic Communication</i>	Megan Paige Geddes <i>Educational Technology</i>	Caroline Grace Kennedy <i>Teacher Leadership</i>
Jason T. Bernard <i>Music Education</i>	Cassidy Marie Corey <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Bianca Cecilia Gomez <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>	Sarvenaz Keshavarz <i>Criminal Justice</i>
Lissa Black <i>Biomolecular Sciences</i>	Zoey Anne Corey <i>Special Education</i>	Sarah Elizabeth Gossman <i>Counselor Education</i>	Mohammed Khalal <i>Computer Information Technology</i>
Joshua Louis Blumenthal <i>Art Education</i>	Sydney Lauren Corneau <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>	Allison Joan Graham <i>Accounting</i>	Sharayu Dipak Khedekar <i>Computer Information Technology</i>
Adriana Fazzino Boice <i>Special Education</i>	Zachary Michael Correll <i>Accounting</i>	Victoria Gramuglia <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Thais Pereira Del Boni Kim <i>Biomolecular Sciences</i>
Virginia Brown <i>Strategic Communication</i>	Kristen Corso <i>Special Education</i>	Jessica J. Grant <i>Physical Education</i>	Shelby Jade Kimball <i>Special Education</i>
Darcy Marie Bucevicius <i>Special Education</i>	Katelyn Nicole Cummings <i>Teacher Leadership</i>	Gabrielle Rose Grasso <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Vilma Koleci <i>Accounting</i>
Kimberly Beth Budge <i>Special Education</i>	Zachary James Dalton <i>Computer Information Technology</i>	Kristen Elizabeth Hallecks <i>Special Education</i>	Haley Marie Kolesnik <i>Physical Education</i>
Nicole Lynn Burns <i>Counselor Education</i>	Danielle Barbara David <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Rachel Hanson <i>Teacher Leadership</i>	Madeline Grace Kosa <i>Criminal Justice</i>
Brian James Buszka <i>Accounting</i>	Anna Davila <i>Accounting</i>	Laura A. Heckmann <i>Teacher Leadership</i>	Kevin Krawczyk <i>Supply Chain and Logistics Management</i>
Vincent Peter Capra <i>Computer Information Technology</i>	Amanda May Dewees <i>Supply Chain and Logistics Management</i>	Abigail Grace Helt <i>Educational Technology</i>	Theodore Richard Krystopa <i>Teacher Leadership</i>
Rosaura Carbajal Valladares <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>	Jose Luis Diaz <i>Supply Chain and Logistics Management</i>	Shane Russell Henry <i>Construction Management</i>	Patricia Roza Krzynowek <i>Counselor Education</i>
Rachel Casasanta <i>Educational Technology</i>	Jamie Alexandra Dingus <i>Counselor Education</i>	Valentina Hernandez <i>Criminal Justice</i>	Samantha Marie Kushel <i>Counselor Education</i>
Jessica Casiano <i>Counselor Education</i>	Nicholas James DiPietro <i>Accounting</i>	Caleb Ray Hodgkins <i>Construction Management</i>	Heather Diemond Labbe <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>
Jon Caturia <i>Counselor Education</i>	Getachew Meheretu Dires <i>International Studies</i>	Gregory Alan Hofler Jr. <i>Teacher Leadership</i>	Robert Ian Landfear <i>Special Education</i>
Jared Anthony Cervero <i>Biomolecular Sciences</i>		Ronald D. Holmes <i>Marriage and Family Therapy</i>	Megan Rebecca Langlais <i>Reading and Language Arts</i>

GRADUATE STUDIES AT CENTRAL MASTER OF SCIENCE

Miya LeAnn Laprise
Counselor Education

Eric Edward Latronica
STEM Education

Timothy Joseph Lautenbach
Biomolecular Sciences

Krista Maren Lindell
Music Education

Alexis Faith Marie Little
Counselor Education

John Jen Wei Liu
Software Engineering

Joseph Chaves Lombardi
Mathematics

Carolyn Megan Luddy
Teacher Leadership

Edmond F. Lyon Jr.
Mathematics

Tate Clinton Macdonald
Educational Technology

James Francis MacGovern
Educational Technology

Chanel Macklin
Accounting

Tyler Allen MacNeil
Software Engineering

Amanda Louise Magyarik
Accounting

Brayden James Malley
Marriage and Family Therapy

Regan Kathleen Maloney
Accounting

Christopher Daniel Manley
Construction Management

Jenny Marie Mantilla
Criminal Justice

Samina Mariam
Accounting

Randie Raye Marino
Reading and Language Arts

Burke Edward Martindale
Special Education

Adam J. Martino
Biomolecular Sciences

Simone Patrice McIntosh
Teacher Leadership

Katherine Gabrielle Molinari
Counselor Education

Angela Christina Montana
Accounting

Nancy Elizabeth Montemerlo
Reading and Language Arts

Malachi Anelka Moore
*Supply Chain and
Logistics Management*

David Charles Morin
Marriage and Family Therapy

Kaylie Elizabeth Morris
Reading and Language Arts

Michelle Boakye Morris
Marriage and Family Therapy

Avery Fowler Motycka
Criminal Justice

Madison Alexandra Murphy
Special Education

Amanda Kelly Musumeci
Reading and Language Arts

Jennifer Carroll Neale
Counselor Education

Melissa Denise Newell
Reading and Language Arts

Donna Hoang Nguyen
Software Engineering

Kelly Kristine Nickel
Art Education

Jordin-Rae Alexandra Nicolae
Counselor Education

Rheagan Kathryn Osteen
Marriage and Family Therapy

Karla E. Pacheco Rosales
Computer Information Technology

Olivia Marie Palen
Reading and Language Arts

Jarod J. Pappas
Accounting

Adam Leo Patterson
Data Science

David Perez Jr.
Counselor Education

Rachel Helen Pipke
STEM Education

Lisette Duthyeri Prospere
Marriage and Family Therapy

Veronica Louise Pytlik
Reading and Language Arts

Ethan Stanley Rankowitz
Counselor Education

Connor William Rebelo
Teacher Leadership

Nicole Elizabeth Reichenbach
Marriage and Family Therapy

Graham Rode †
Geography

Danielle N. Rich
Counselor Education

Jalexie Nickole Rio
Counselor Education

Neil Moran Roback
Construction Management

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To be considered for the award, a student must have a minimum 3.7 GPA and a record of significant community service. The students are nominated by their respective universities and presidents and must submit a personal essay and other materials to be considered for the award.

Haneen Ali Alkabasi • B.A., Political Science and Journalism

Haneen Ali Alkabasi cites volunteerism as one of her special interests, and her career at Central demonstrates that well. While maintaining at 3.8 GPA, Haneen supported numerous campus groups, state and community organizations, and nonprofits while pursuing impressive internships, including a position at the Connecticut American Civil Liberties Union. On campus, Haneen participated in the Student Government Association first as an at-large senator and, this year, as president. She was vice president of the Political Science Club; president of the Muslim Student Association; representative on the Student Union Board of Governors; a summer orientation leader; contributor to the student newspaper; and peer mentor for the Trio Program, among other roles. She volunteered for the New Britain Racial Justice Coalition; Junior Achievement; and the MealConnect Food Rescue Program and represented Central on the Board of Regents Student Advisory Committee. Haneen plans to attend graduate school in pursuit of a position as a Title IX coordinator.

Isabella Galdamez • B.S., Exercise Science

Soon after she completed her studies in December, Isabella Galdamez acquired a position as a physical therapy aide at Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine Centers, where she interned during her last semester. In Isabella, her employers gain a passionate advocate for exercise and dance who has the accolades to back her up, including the highest GPA in this year's Exercise Science class (3.96); recognition as the Exercise Science Major of the Year; the Estelle Jones Triarhos Scholarship for outstanding dance performance; and the Carol Ciotto Leadership in Dance Award, among others. Isabella is a member of the National Honor Society of Dance Arts; New England American College of Sports Medicine; and the National Academy of Health and Physical Literacy. At Central, she served as secretary and president of Dancentral; participated in the Exercise Science Club; and supported her classmates as a teacher's assistant. Isabella will continue to explore her field, with the goal of working with the dance community.

Shealin Callahan • B.A., International Studies and Philosophy

Honors Program student Shealin Callahan aims to pair her passion for sports with a solid career plan. As she begins graduate studies at Fairfield University, her goal is to work in operations for a professional sports team. That focus served Shealin well, yielding several scholarships and a 3.9 GPA. Shealin says leadership and service were cornerstones of her experience at Central. She served on the Student Government Association as a commuter senator and vice chair of the External Affairs Committee; assisted her classmates as a peer advisor for the Advising Center; worked with Accessibility Services as a peer note-taker; and became the inaugural student ambassador to the Center for Community Engagement and Social Research. Shealin also led the Philosophy Club as president this year and as vice president the year before. Between classes and meetings, Shealin also pursued three internships, including her most recent at the Public Defender's Office at Connecticut Valley Hospital.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
**HENRY BARNARD DISTINGUISHED STUDENT
AWARD WINNERS**

Emily Rose Palmieri • B.S., Early Childhood Studies & Infant/Toddler Mental Health

Emily Palmieri started her academic career in the Honors Program at Augustana College in Illinois. The aspiring Theatre major reevaluated her career path and, after a gap year, transferred to Central to pursue a degree in Education. She found a great fit at Central with memberships in the Education Club, Habitat for Humanity for which she served as treasurer, and the Early Childhood Education Club, which she co-founded. Her theater and music training at Augustana naturally led her to join the Central Concert Chorale. Emily says her role as a resident assistant helped her to grow as a professional and she gained many friends among her fellow RAs. Just before commencement, Emily and her peers presented research at the 2024 New England Educational Research Organization Conference. As she finishes her undergraduate work with a 3.93 GPA, Emily will continue her studies in the Marriage and Family Therapy graduate program at Central.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT'S CITATION AWARD WINNERS

President's Citation awards are presented to seniors nominated by faculty and staff. The award recognizes accomplishments and contributions that benefit the University. Consideration is given for students who have demonstrated their commitment not only to their academics but also to leadership, student success, and community engagement activities.

Frederick Little • B.A. Strategic Communications

As a resident assistant in Gallaudet Hall, Freddie fostered an inclusive environment in the hall's living learning community and exemplified the qualities of a Central leader. He regularly suited up as Kizer the mascot for hall events and New Student Orientation sessions to welcome first-year students to campus. His Area Coordinator said Freddie demonstrated his devotion to student success through "his empathetic approach in acting as a referral agent to connect students to the necessary campus resources, mediating student concerns, and enforcing standard operating procedures and policies." In addition to his work as a resident assistant, he served on the Student Advisory Committee for Student Affairs. Freddie's academics did not suffer because of his campus activities. He made the Dean's List during his tenure at Central and became a member of Lambda Pi Eta, the National Communications Association's college honor society.

Miriam Lopez-Cruz • B.S. Nursing

In a recommendation for Miriam Lopez-Cruz, a professor describes Miriam as a rising star in the nursing profession. Despite a very busy work schedule, Miriam is always keen to give back to the campus community. During her tenure at Central, Miriam took on several leadership roles, including vice president of the Student Nurses Association; senator for the Student Government Association and vice president of its Social Committee; and a founding member of the Maternal Health Advocacy Club. As a senior mentor for Success Central, Miriam assisted many students with social, academic, and personal issues. Miriam says she became a mentor to give back to the program that helped her as a first-generation college student. A new inductee into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society, Miriam also served as a student board member for the new University Community Health Clinic and organized two American Red Cross blood drives for Maternal Health Awareness Day, among other successful projects.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT'S CITATION AWARD WINNERS

Delia McGuire • B.S. Construction Management

In addition to regular appearances on the Dean's List, Delia received the 2022-2023 Spanish Department Academic Excellence Award. She was a team leader for Central's victorious 2023 commercial construction team at the annual Associated Schools of Construction competition where Central's team won first place and surpassed renowned schools like Drexel University, Rochester Institute of Technology, and Roger Williams University. Delia partnered with Army Legacy Animal Rescue and Sanctuary in the local community to raise awareness and bring puppy playtime to relieve student stress on campus. Delia collaborated with the Women's Center to pioneer the Ladies Who Lift program, a groundbreaking initiative aimed at empowering women through strength training and fostering a supportive fitness community on campus. As the program's creator and current instructor, she played a pivotal role in cultivating a safe and inclusive space where women can explore and embrace the benefits of weightlifting.

Keziah Ninson • B.S. Biomolecular Science

An orientation leader, regular member of the Dean's List, and active on- and off-campus volunteer, the professor who nominated Keziah described her as embodying all the qualities of the President's Citation: academic excellence, leadership, commitment to student success, and community engagement. "Her mentorship of high school students both in the laboratory and classroom reflects her dedication to fostering the success of others." Keziah served as president of the Biology/Biomolecular Science Club, volunteered at the Hospital for Special Care and Maria's Place campus food pantry, and was prolific in her independent research resulting in multiple conference posters. During 2023, Keziah spearheaded the organization of Central's attendance to the Eastern Colleges Science Conference hosting nearly 40 faculty and staff. She also planned the trip again this year. After graduation, Keziah continued her academic journey at Central as she pursues her master's degree.

Bria Stanley • B.A. Criminology

Bria is described in a recommendation for the award as "an exceptional leader" whose participation as a student orientation coordinator positively influenced incoming students, as well as her fellow orientation leaders, and has effectively created a cycle of "students who are passionate about giving back to the Central community." She was called a tireless advocate for students who struggle to find their voice. As a First-Year Experience peer leader, she served a class of 25 students with whom she made long-lasting and impactful connections. Bria is credited with the successful implementation of Wellness Wednesday initiatives at RECentral that garnered significant attention and engagement from the student body. "Bria has made students feel seen, heard, and worked to advocate for more opportunities for them to feel included and supported. Bria's impact on this institution will be felt for years to follow."

Olivia Tuohy • B.A. Criminology and Psychological Science

Today's commencement is not the end of Olivia Tuohy's academic journey. Last March, she was accepted to Central's Criminal Justice master's accelerated program and the Advanced Detective Program, both of which she is projected to complete next year. Among Olivia's many accomplishments as an undergraduate is the establishment of an honor society for Criminal Justice majors. Working with advisors in the Criminal Justice Club, Olivia completed Central's successful application to Zeta Kappa and served as its chartered president this academic year. Olivia also served as secretary and president of the Criminal Justice Club; she is a member of Psi Chi, the international honor society in Psychology; and she participated in the 2024 ElectHer women's leadership program. Olivia volunteered countless hours as a Success Central peer mentor and with Waterbury Elks Lodge #265, first as a member of the Waterbury Antlers Lodge and later as a full member. She now serves as advisor to the Waterbury Antlers Lodge.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT'S CITATION AWARD WINNERS

Luke Vermilyea • B.S.Ed. Technology & Engineering Education

Luke completed Central's Honors Program and was both a member and officer in Central C.A.R.E.S., a student club that uses its collective skills and knowledge to help those with special needs. In her letter recommending him for the citation, C.A.R.E.S. club advisor said Luke was instrumental in the success of its Go Baby Go workshops modifying battery-powered ride-on cars for children with physical disabilities. Additionally, he served as an orientation leader and campus tour guide and tour guide trainer, while also volunteering to help faculty at open houses and similar events. Luke was a peer mentor and represented Central in the 2022 Great Race from Rhode Island to North Dakota and helped bring the X-Cup division trophy to Central. He excelled in his teaching placements at Plainville Middle School and New Britain High School and participated in the annual Technology and Engineering Education Collegiate Association competitive events in Delaware.

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Over the years, the university has awarded more than 50 honorary degrees to distinguished leaders in business, industry, and government. Some of the recipients are listed below.

Doctor of Educational Leadership

2022 Merle W. Harris, '64, '73 MS,
*President Emeritus of Charter
Oak College, Member of Board of
Regents for Higher Education*

Doctor of Humane Letters

1985 Jimmy Carter,
President of the United States
1988 Gerald R. Ford,
President of the United States
Benjamin L. Hooks,
Executive Director of the NAACP
1990 C. J. Huang,
*Chairman of the
C. J. Huang Foundation*
Angelo Tomasso Jr.,
*Chairman and Chief Executive
Officer of Tilcon, Inc.*

1991 Jeanne J. Kirkpatrick,
*United States Representative to
the United Nations*

1996 Lech Walesa,
President of Poland

2018 Charles T. Fote,
Founder and CEO, The Fotec Group

2019 Scott Pioli '88,
Former NFL Executive

2023 Dr. Richard Fichman '74,
Director, Fichman Eye Center

Doctor of Laws

1999 George H.W. Bush,
President of the United States

2001 George W. Bush,
President of the United States

Doctor of Science

2015 Carol A. Ammon '73,
*Founder & CEO
Endo Pharmaceuticals*

Doctor of Social Science

1987 Henry A. Kissinger,
U.S. Secretary of State of State

1994 Brian Mulroney,
Prime Minister of Canada

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

University President: **Zulma R. Toro, PhD**

Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs: **Kimberly Kostelis, PhD**

Chief Budget & Compliance Officer: **Lisa Bucher '98**

Chief Human Resources Officer: **Christopher Wethje, Esq.**

Chief Information Officer: **George Claffey Jr. '99, EdD**

Chief Operations Officer: **Sal Cintorino '87, '90 MS**

Vice President for Student Affairs: **Kellie Byrd Danso, EdD**

University Counsel: **Stacy Votto, Esq.**

Vice President for Equity and Inclusion (Interim): **Michael Russo, PsyD**

Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management: **Christina Robinson, PhD**

Associate Vice President for Community Engagement and Experiential Learning: **Beth Merenstein, PhD**

Associate Vice President for Planning & Institutional Effectiveness: **Yvonne Kirby, MS**

Executive Director, CCSU Foundation, Inc., Vice President Institutional Advancement (Interim): **Jennifer Destefani, MA**

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs: **Carmen Veloria '96, PhD**

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs (Interim): **John Tully '95 MA, PhD**

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs (Interim): **James Mulrooney '95 MA, PhD**

Dean, Carol A. Ammon College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences: **Robert Wolff, PhD**

Dean (Interim), School of Business: **Lisa Frank, PhD**

Dean, School of Engineering, Science & Technology: **Steven Minkler, EdD**

Dean (Interim), School of Education & Professional Studies: **Paula Talty, EdD**

CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
BOARD OF REGENTS

Central is one of four universities, along with CT State (12 community colleges) and Charter Oak State College, that comprise the Connecticut State Colleges & University (CSCU) system. The Board of Regents is the system's governing board.

BOARD OF REGENTS:

JoAnn Ryan, Chair
Richard J. Balducci '65
Ira Bloom
Marty Guay
Juanita T. James
Sophia Jappinen
Dr. Jim McCarthy,
Richard J. Porth
Ari Santiago
Erin Stewart '09
Elease E. Wright
Ted Yang
Carla Galais
Luis Sanchez

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

Brendan Cunningham, PhD
Chair,
Faculty Advisory Committee
Colena Sesanker, PhD
Assistant Chair,
Faculty Advisory Committee
Danté Bartolomeo
Commissioner,
Connecticut Department
of Labor
Manisha Juthani, MD
Commissioner,
Connecticut Department
of Public Health

Daniel H. O'Keefe
Commissioner, Connecticut
Department
of Economic and
Community Development
Charlene Russell-Tucker
Commissioner,
Connecticut Department
of Education
Kelli-Marie Vallieres, PhD
Vice Chair,
Governor's Workforce
Council;
Chief Workforce Officer,
Office of Workforce Strategy

**CSCU SYSTEM
CHANCELLOR:**

Terrence Cheng, MFA

ABOUT CENTRAL

Central Connecticut State University is the largest university within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system and the state's oldest public institution of higher education.

Founded in 1849 to train teachers for the “common schools,” the New Britain Normal School graduated its first class in 1850. Its first principal, Henry Barnard, later became the first United States Commissioner of Education.

Initially located in downtown New Britain, the school moved in 1922 to its present campus. In 1933, the Normal School became Teachers College of Connecticut and was authorized to grant four-year baccalaureate degrees. In 1959, it became Central Connecticut State College; in 1983, it was elevated to university status.

As a comprehensive public university, Central is comprised of four schools — Business; Education & Professional Studies; Engineering, Science, & Technology; and Graduate Studies — in addition to the Carol A. Ammon College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. More than 100 undergraduate majors in 80 fields of study are offered at Central. Graduate Studies at Central offers 75 full- and part-time programs, along with additional specializations that reflect high academic standards for advanced study and address the state's workforce needs.

More than 85 percent of Central's graduates remain in Connecticut; as such, the university is a vital pipeline for an array of professions in the public, private, and non-profit sectors, including engineering, social services, health care, law enforcement, education, and business. The integration of liberal arts into the university's professional programs serves as the foundation for preparing a flexible, engaged, and adaptable workforce.

In January 2017, Dr. Zulma R. Toro began her tenure as the 13th president of Central. Her presidency marks two milestones for Central: She is the university's first female president, as well as its first Hispanic chief executive.



The Normal School - 1849

CELEBRATING A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE



Today's commencement ceremonies fall during an extraordinary time at Central. The university is celebrating its 175th anniversary this year, a significant milestone in its own history and that of the state. For nearly one and three-quarters of a century, Central has served as Connecticut's first publicly funded institution of higher education, providing students with the knowledge and tools to succeed personally and professionally. In recognizing its 175th anniversary, Central celebrates its history, growth, achievements, and innovations while looking toward the future.

To mark this special occasion, the Central Alumni Association gifted each graduate with a commemorative medallion to wear with their regalia. Fastened on a blue and white ribbon, the medallion depicts the official 175th anniversary logo on one side and an inscription from the Alumni Association on the other.

Learn more about our anniversary celebration at ccsu.edu/175-anniversary.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

Many of the accessories and symbols that add color and drama to academic ceremonies date back to the Middle Ages when universities dominated European intellectual life.



University Mace

University Mace

The mace was carved from mahogany. Its top, shaped like an acanthus plant found in Corinthian architecture, surmounts a deep-fluted staff. Each of the four gold-leafed medallions inlaid into the top are inscribed with a symbol: a globe to signify the university's international initiatives; a book of knowledge; a group of students emblematic of leadership and diversity; and the state seal.

University Staff

Also crafted of mahogany and similar in design to the mace, the staff is carried as another symbol of authority. A gold-leafed ball rests atop the staff, to which are attached tassels in the blue-and-white school colors.

Both the mace and staff were designed and carved by the late Peter J. Vernesoni, emeritus professor of Technology Education. Dr. Vernesoni earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Central.



University Staff

University Medallion

The medallion represents the president's leadership and continuity of the Office of the President. Engraved on the medallion are symbols representing each academic school.



University Medallion

Banners

The university banners display symbols to depict the academic disciplines of each school.

Torch:	Carol A. Ammon College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
Lamp of Learning:	School of Education and Professional Studies
Bar Graph:	School of Business
Atom:	School of Engineering, Science, & Technology
All four symbols:	Graduate Studies

Academic Attire

The tradition of academic garb came to America by way of British universities. The bachelor's gown, with its wide sleeves, is worn closed. The master's gown, which may be worn open, is distinguished by its long, pointed sleeves.

Doctoral gowns also may be worn open. Its sleeves are long and wide, and three velvet chevrons adorn each sleeve; two matching velvet panels accent the front of the gown.

Academic hoods, made of material like that used in the gown, are lined with silk in the official colors of the institution conferring the degree. The particular length, shape, and color of the hood also signify the degree.

Academic Cap

The academic cap, most often made in the Oxford mortarboard style, is constructed of black broadcloth, although the doctor's cap may be velvet.

Tassels vary in length, depending upon the degree; the doctor's tassel is usually gold. It has become customary in most schools to leave the tassel draped over the left temple at all times.

Academic Hood

Holders of Central master's degrees and sixth-year certificates wear a blue-and-white satin hood trimmed in the color representing their degree. Additionally, students earning the sixth-year certificate are presented with a white cord.

The colored trim on the hood represents the graduate's degree and area of study:

Ammon College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Master of Arts – White
Master of Science – Gold

School of Business

Master of Business Administration and
Master of Science – Drab

School of Education & Professional Studies

Doctorate, Sixth-Year Certificate, Master of Science, and Master of Teaching – Light blue
Master in Nursing – Apricot

School of Engineering, Science, & Technology

Master of Arts – White
Master of Science – Orange

Anniversary medallion

The Central Alumni Association gifted each graduate with a commemorative medallion to wear with their regalia. Fastened on a blue and white ribbon, the medallion depicts the official 175th anniversary logo on one side and an inscription from the Alumni Association on the other.

Dear Class of 2024,

Congratulations on this momentous occasion! As you don your caps and gowns and step into the next chapter of your lives, remember that you are not just graduating from Central, you also mark a significant milestone in our university's history — the celebration of our 175th anniversary!

As you transition from students to alumni, know that you join a legacy of over 95,000 living alumni who touch every corner of the globe. From local communities to international arenas, Central graduates are leaders in diverse fields including business, education, healthcare, and the arts, making significant contributions to the communities they serve.

I encourage you to embrace your role as Central alumni and become a part of our vibrant network. By staying engaged with your alma mater, you can continue to contribute to its legacy of excellence. Whether it's through participating in community service projects, serving on the Alumni Association Board or one of its committees, or sharing your expertise as a guest lecturer in one of the classrooms you learned in as a student, there are endless opportunities for you to remain connected with Central throughout your lifetime.

For more information on how you can get involved, visit the Central Alumni webpage at ccsu.edu/alumni. You can also connect with us on social media and subscribe to our monthly Alumni e-newsletter to stay informed about upcoming events and achievements within our alumni community.

Once again, congratulations on reaching this significant milestone. I look forward to celebrating with you at Homecoming in November, as we come together to commemorate both your accomplishments and our university's rich history.

Warm regards,

Steven W. Tabara '84

President, Central Alumni Association

ALMAMATER

Let us praise her glorious name, Alma Mater, blue and white.
Gather round the sacred flame, of Alma Mater's nurt'ring light.
Though we wander from her side, In our hearts she'll e'er abide.
Let her sons and daughters sing of Alma Mater triumphing.

*Lyrics by Professor Emeritus David Gerstein, Department of English
Tune "Madrid" arranged by Professor Emeritus B. Glenn Chandler, Department of Music*



