

COMMENCEMENT



**Widener University
Delaware Law School**

May 19, 2023

ACADEMIC DRESS

The history of academic dress begins in the early days of the oldest universities. A statute of 1321 required all “Doctors, Licentiates, and Bachelors” of the Portuguese University of Coimbra to wear gowns. In England during the second half of the 14th century, the statutes of certain colleges forbade “excess apparel” and prescribed the wearing of a long gown. It is still a question whether academic dress finds its sources chiefly in ecclesiastical or in civilian dress. Gowns may have been considered necessary for warmth in the unheated buildings used by medieval scholars. Hoods may have served to cover the tonsured head until superseded for that purpose by the skull cap. The cap was later displaced by a headdress similar to ones now recognized as “academic.” European institutions continue to show great diversity in their specifications of academic dress.

In the United States, the practice of wearing academic apparel dates back to colonial times, but there was no uniform standard of approved attire until 1895 when a commission of leading American educators devised a code of academic dress. Although modified in 1932 by the American Council on Education, this code continues to govern the style of academic dress today.

GOWNS The gown for the bachelor’s degree has pointed sleeves and is worn closed. The gown for the master’s degree has an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist, with the sleeve base hanging down in the traditional manner. The rear part of the sleeve’s oblong shape is square cut and the front part has an arc cut away. It may be worn open or closed. The gown for the doctor’s degree has bell-shaped sleeves and may be worn open or closed. Bachelor’s and master’s gowns have no trimmings, but the doctor’s may be faced on the front with black or colored velvet and with three bars of the same across the sleeves. If color is used, it is the color distinctive of the subject to which the degree pertains, and it matches the edging or binding of the hood. The colors associated with the different disciplines include the following:

Arts, Letters, Humanities—White	Medicine—Green
Commerce, Accountancy,	Music—Pink
Business—Drab Brown	Nursing—Apricot
Economics—Copper	Philosophy and Psychology—Dark Blue
Education—Light Blue	Physical Education—Sage Green
Engineering—Orange	Public Administration—Peacock Blue
Fine Arts—Brown	Public Health—Salmon Pink
Journalism—Crimson	Science—Golden Yellow
Law—Purple	Social Work—Citron
Library Science—Lemon	Theology—Scarlet

HOODS Hoods are lined with the official color or colors of the college or university conferring the degree. The binding or edging of the hood is the color indicative of the subject to which the degree pertains.

CAPS Mortarboards are generally worn as part of the academic costume. The long tassel fastened to the middle point of the cap’s top is either black or the color appropriate to the subject, except that the doctor’s cap may have its tassel of gold threads. It is customary for degree candidates to wear the tassels on the right front side before degrees are conferred and to shift them to the left when the degrees are awarded.

THE MACE A ceremonial staff carried by the Grand Marshal of the University to open and close academic convocations.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Processional: “Pomp and Circumstance”

Elgar

*(The audience will remain seated for the Processional
but rise for the singing of the National Anthem.)*

Opening of the Ceremony

Alicia B. Kelly
Interim Dean & Professor of Law

The National Anthem

Quattuor Non Advocatorum

Welcome

Stacey M. Robertson, Ph.D.
President, Widener University

Alumni Association Welcome

Renae B. Axelrod Hammer, Esquire ‘91
President, Alumni Association

Response

Caleb Kincaid
Class Salutatorian

Introduction of the Commencement Speaker

The Honorable Scott W. Reid ‘02
Magistrate Judge
Eastern District of Pennsylvania

(Introduced by Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Paul S. Beideman)

Commencement Address

The Honorable Scott W. Reid

Outstanding Faculty Award

Dean Kelly

Remarks

Dean Kelly

The Conferring of Degrees*

President Robertson

Closing

Dean Kelly

(The audience will remain seated until the Recessional is completed.)

Faculty Marshals are Associate Dean Alice E. Eakin and Associate Professor Maryann Brown

**Since final action cannot always be taken before the printing of this program, Widener University reserves
the right to add or remove names and academic honors from the list of candidates for degrees.*

Restrooms on the Delaware Campus are located in Polishook Hall.

Emergency Help: In the event of a medical or security emergency, please ask a Campus Safety Officer for assistance.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

HONORABLE SCOTT W. REID '02
Magistrate Judge, US Courthouse
Eastern District of Pennsylvania

The Honorable Scott W. Reid serves as a United States Magistrate Judge in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Before his appointment as a Magistrate Judge, Judge Reid served for over 6 years as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. His experience included defending federal agencies and employees in Title VII, Federal Tort Claims Act, Administrative Procedure Act, Bivens, immigration, quiet title, and some appellate litigation. His duties also included prosecuting affirmative cases on behalf of the United States under the False Claims Act, Controlled Substances Act, and federal civil rights statutes. He served on the Critical Incident Response Team, Chair of the Summer Internship Committee, Black Affairs Program Lead, Co-Chair of the Youth Court program, and as a member of the Diversity Committee. Before joining the United States Attorney's Office, Judge Reid was employed as a Member Attorney with the Cozen O'Connor law firm. In addition to his work for the United States Attorney's Office, Judge Reid has also served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Temple University Beasley School of Law as a Trial Advocacy professor.

Judge Reid has dedicated his career to serving the legal community. During the course of his career he has served as an advisory board member and past president of the Barristers Association of Philadelphia, member of the Widener University Board of Overseers, fellow with the Leadership Council for Legal Diversity, member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association House of Delegates and Minority Bar Committee, chair of the Diversity In the Profession Committee and member of Board of Governors of the Philadelphia Bar Association, member of the American Bar Association TIPS Leadership Academy, and member of the National Bar Association.

Judge Reid has been honored by a number of organizations, including: the Barristers' Association of Philadelphia J. Austin Norris Award, National Bar Association-Women's Law Division President's Award, Barristers' Association of Philadelphia Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, Under 40 Award by The Philadelphia Tribune, National Bar Association 40 Under 40 Award, West Chester University "Drum Major for Justice Award", Induction into the West Chester University Alumni Legacy of Leadership, Recipient of the Kappa Alpha Psi, Kappa Gamma Chapter Webb Hallman Alumni Achievement Award, and Kappa Alpha Psi, Chester Alumni Chapter Achievement Award.

Judge Reid received a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Chester University and a Juris Doctor from Widener University School of Law. While in law school, Judge Reid served as the president of the Black Law Students Association, senior staff on the Delaware Journal of Corporate Law, and received the Outstanding Student Service Award.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

DOCTOR OF JURIDICAL SCIENCE IN CORPORATE & BUSINESS LAW

Muath Waleed Albader
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Mohammed Alharbi
Eslah Salah Alkathiri
†Osama Abdullah Almutairi

Hassan Difallah Alzahrani
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Inès Cesbron
Thomas Francois René Chatelet
Clara Gayet
Garance Sixtine Lissandre Hilaire
Margeurite Viard

† Mid-year Graduate

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†Lorraine Avery-Easterwood

Ciera Jayne Kobal

Tommy Kha Nguyen

Elyse Wallace

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Susan V. Gausman

†Jamilah F. Perry

Angela Nichole Tunstall

MASTER OF JURISPRUDENCE IN HEALTH LAW

†Alajah Lavae Crowe-Walker

Crystal Lynn Fairchok

Elizabeth Rodriguez

Katie Ann Roof

†Shaqualya Monique Sneed

JURIS DOCTOR

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⁵ Sharuk J. Amra	^{1,4,5} Jacqueline G. Conner
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³ Elizabeth Antoinette Baffone	[†] Steven J. Costello
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[†] Adriane Rose Baker	³ Giovanna Crozier-Fitzgerald
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Yese Adeniyi Balogun	Alexa M. Curran
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² Jacob Parker Basht	² Andrew Joseph Czerkawski
Adam Clark Bender	⁵ Gabrielle D'Andrea
Sydney Danielle Betts	³ Demetrius Miles Davis
³ Shelby Hallowell Bingaman	Charlotte Anne Deering
Nailah Shanza Bjotvedt	Amanda M. Dezzi
Noah M. Blank	Nafissatou Dicko
Victoria Denise Bolling	⁵ Marie Grace Dickson
Dominic Anthony Borelli	Edward D. Di Pietro, Jr.
Mackenzie Bryanna Boyer	Colin Donovan
^{†,3} Derek J. Brandt	Taylor Leigh DuBois
³ Zoe Elizabeth Braunstein	Alec Q. Duffy
⁵ Lauren M. Broome	Matthew P. Edenhofner
Evan M. Brown	Ikenna Christopher Ejimonyeugwo
^{3,6} Marc K. Brown	Jacob Ryan Elks
Daniel J. Bruno V	³ Victoria Elizabeth Elliott
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^{3,5} Rachel Carlson	Andrews J. Fernandez
Theodore T. Carroll	Matthew D. Ferrer
⁵ Tania C. Carter	⁵ Melanie Lynn Fey
Kayla Joan Catts	[†] Tony C. Forest
Joseph F. Cerra IV	Matthew Tyler Fountain

¹ Summa Cum Laude ² Magna Cum Laude ³ Cum Laude ⁴ Wolcott Fellow (see pg 8)
⁵ Pro Bono Distinction (see pg 8) ⁶ Phi Kappa Phi (see pg 8) [†] Mid-year Graduate

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Gianna Nicolina Fredella	Derek C. Lomax
³ Shira Rebecca Freiman	Haley Quinn Lopez
³ Logan Scott Frye	⁵ Anna R. Ludwick
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James T. Hynd	³ Austin R. Niggebrugge
³ Carter Ishak	Christopher Oakley
^{2,4} Julie Marie Jopp	Nicole Christine O'Brien
^{1,4} Camilia Rose Katkocin	³ Clara Augusta O'Flynn O'Brien
Jordan M. Katz	†Sheila Elizabeth Olszewski
⁵ Chelsea T. Kimball	³ Jennifer Pagano
^{1,4,5} Caleb Kincaid	James Giocchino Panzini
Angelique N. Koutsavlis	James Park
† ³ Nicole Alexa LaBelle	Alyra Justice Parker
Mary-Kate Isabelle LaManna	^{3,5} Charmi A. Patel
Alyssa M. LaMonaca	Mark R. Paul
Adam Michael Leasure	†Samantha Justine Pecoraio

¹ Summa Cum Laude ² Magna Cum Laude ³ Cum Laude ⁴ Wolcott Fellow (see pg 8)
⁵ Pro Bono Distinction (see pg 8) ⁶ Phi Kappa Phi (see pg 8) † Mid-year Graduate

Sydney Marie Pereira
 Joseph R. Podraza
³Cortni Diana Potts
³Lauren A. Prange
 Celia Maria Prosmushkin
 Cole A. Rapkin
³Georgette Reid
³Stefan A. Resnick
 Madeline May Richard
^{†,3}Zipporah Elan Ridley
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³Kristen Rogers
 Hilary F. Rosenberg
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 Peter Elias Sawan
 Matthew Hardinge Schenkel
 Samuel Richard Schlegel II
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 Jan Van Amerongen, III
³Adam VanBuskirk

³Katherine R. Welch
³Kyle M. Westerfer
 Kollin Liam White
 Kayleigh M. Williams
 Tiffany Tomika Williams
⁵Jordan N. Withjack
 Sean Woods

¹ Summa Cum Laude ² Magna Cum Laude ³ Cum Laude ⁴ Wolcott Fellow (see pg 8)
⁵ Pro Bono Distinction (see pg 8) ⁶ Phi Kappa Phi (see pg 8) † Mid-year Graduate

WOLCOTT FELLOWS

Wolcott Fellows are appointed each spring for judicial clerkships which begin the following fall. They are chosen from the top students in their third and fourth year of study. Fellows receive credit and a scholarship to clerk for justices of the Delaware Supreme Court during the school year. Successful applicants demonstrate excellence in academic performance and possess substantial experience in research and writing.

PRO BONO RECOGNITION

Students who performed at least 60 hours (30 hours for Master of Laws students) of pro bono service sometime after the first year of law school, are recognized with pro bono distinction. Pro bono service refers to legal work that benefits educational, community, government, charitable, or religious organizations working to help those with limited means or seeking to secure and protect civil liberties or rights.

Graduates who have completed pro bono service wear a red cord to signify this distinction.

PHI KAPPA PHI

Widener University has a chapter of *Phi Kappa Phi*, the national honor society of universities. Founded in 1897, the society recognizes and encourages superior scholarship in all academic disciplines. To join, graduates must rank scholastically in the top ten percent of their class

Graduates who are members of *Phi Kappa Phi* wear a gold cord to signify this honor.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION PRESIDENTS

John T. Hinton III, 2022-2023
Alternative Dispute Resolution Society

Theodore T. Carroll, 2021-2023
American Constitution Society

James Park, 2022-2023
Asian Law Students Association

Alyra Justice Parker, 2022-2023
Black Law Students Association

Sean Woods, 2022-2023
Brehon Society

Sydney Marie Pereira, 2022-2023
Employment Law Society

Gabrielle D'Andrea, 2022-2023
The Federalist Society

Victoria Denise Bolling, 2022-2023
First Generation Law Student Association

Shelby Hallowell Bingaman, 2022-2023
Food & Drug Law Association

Zoe Elizabeth Braunstein, 2022-2023
Jewish Law Students Association

James T. Hynd, 2022-2023
OUTLaw

Lauren M. Broome, 2022-2023
Phi Alpha Delta

Anna R. Ludwick, 2022-2023
State & Local Law Society

Lisa Marie Massaro, 2022-2023
Tax & Estate Society

Lauren M. Broome, 2022-2023
Women's Law Caucus

Tania C. Carter, 2022-2023
Youth Court

AWARDS

Dean's Award

Awarded annually to a graduating student who, in the opinion of the dean of the law school, has demonstrated outstanding legal aptitude, exemplary service, significant leadership skills and the potential to become an outstanding member of the legal community.

Lauren Patricia Hartnett

Dean's Award for the Advancement of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Awarded annually to the graduating student who, in the opinion of the dean of the law school, has demonstrated outstanding legal aptitude, exemplary service, significant leadership skills and the potential to become an outstanding member of the legal community.

**Zoe Elizabeth Braunstein
Sean Woods**

The Howard M. Berg Award

Awarded to an outstanding member of the graduating class whose scholarship, character, personality, activities in the affairs of the school and promise of efficacy in the practice of law deserves special recognition.

Jacqueline G. Conner

The William J. Conner Memorial Award for Administrative Law

Presented to the graduating student who demonstrates academic excellence especially in administrative law, and an interest in public service.

Caitlin E. Shortridge

The Nicole Cullison Memorial Award

This award was established in the memory of Nicole Cullison, a member of the Class of 2003, and is given to a graduating student on the basis of overall character and experience in Widener's clinics or other non-profit legal services agency. Preference is given to a graduating student who has demonstrated determination in completing his/her studies.

Jacob Parker Basht

The Erin Daly First Generation Award

Awarded to a first-generation law student who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to service to his or her community.

Victoria Denise Bolling

The Honorable Joseph W. deFuria Commencement Award

Awarded to a graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding service to the law school, high academic achievement, and effectiveness in dealing with peers, faculty, administrators and the community in general.

Shira Rebecca Freiman

The Judge J. Cullen Ganey Criminal Procedure Award

Awarded annually to the graduating law student(s) achieving the highest grades in the area of criminal law.

**Jacqueline G. Conner
Marissa E. Hill**

The Dr. Arnold V. Giusini Award

Awarded to a graduating student in the top 10% of the class, who is preparing to take the bar exam, and who has a sincere interest in eventually pursuing a career in academia.

Derek J. Brandt

The Graham Foundation Award

Awarded annually to a graduating law school student whose demonstrated commitment to the Moot Court Honor Society and intellectual excellence deserves exceptional recognition above and beyond his/her peers.

Tracey Denise Baker

The Reed Hamilton Memorial Award

Awarded to a graduating student who demonstrates excellence and a strong interest in the area of health law.

Tracey Denise Baker

The Zelda K. Herrmann Memorial Cup Award

Awarded to a female graduate who has demonstrated excellence in scholarship, significant traits of leadership, and is deemed most likely to make a substantial contribution pro bono publico.

Christina Priscilla Michael

International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award

Awarded to a graduating student who demonstrates excellence in trial advocacy by high achievement in trial practice, evidence, and pleading and procedure courses.

Kyle M. Westerfer

Russell R. Levin Memorial Award

Awarded annually to a Law Review member whose work, dedication, attitude and guidance have been of such a high quality and have so contributed to the advancement of the Delaware Journal of Corporate Law as to merit special recognition and honor.

Shira Rebecca Freiman

George B. Lindsay Foundation Award **Day: Lauren Patricia Hartnett**
Evening: Kelli Marie Natrin
Presented to a graduating regular division and a graduating extended division student for significant achievement in legal research and writing.

The Thomas P. Lomax and Nicholas Theodore Memorial Award **Lauren M. Broome**
Awarded to a student demonstrating extraordinary commitment to public service by performing the most pro bono work.

The Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association
James J. Manderino Award for Trial Advocacy **Adam Michael Leasure**
Established in 1980 to encourage proficiency in trial advocacy, this award is given to a graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in trial advocacy.

Christine McDermott Award **Emily J. Maguire**
Awarded to a participant of one of Delaware Law's clinical programs, who has demonstrated a commitment to pro bono work and of aiding victims of domestic abuse.

Moot Court Outstanding Executive Board Member **Shira Rebecca Freiman**
Awarded annually by the Moot Court Honor Society to an outstanding executive board member for distinguished service and contributions made to the Society.

Outstanding Faculty Award **(recipient to be announced during ceremony)**
Presented to a member of the faculty who, in the opinion of the graduating class, deserves special recognition for exceptional teaching ability, the highest caliber of professionalism and extraordinary dedication to the students of Delaware Law School.

Outstanding Service Awards
Awarded to those students of the graduating class who have been actively involved in the Widener community above and beyond their peers and have been of outstanding service to the school.

Tracey Denise Baker
Mackenzie Bryanna Boyer
Lauren M. Broome
Tania C. Carter
Francesca Renée Collins

Shira Rebecca Freiman
Camilia Rose Katkocin
Chelsea T. Kimball
Caleb Kincaid
Mary-Kate Isabelle LaManna

Haley Quinn Lopez
Daniel Mackrides
Alyra Justice Parker
Katherine R. Welch
Sean Woods

President's Award **Jacqueline G. Conner (2022)**
Awarded to a student in either the second-year regular division or third-year extended division who has demonstrated high scholastic achievement and who, in the opinion of the president of Widener University, possesses a high potential for meaningful future contributions to the law school, the community, and the profession.

The William Prickett Jr. Corporate Law Award **Shira Rebecca Freiman**
Awarded to a member of the graduating class planning to sit for the Delaware Bar Exam, for outstanding achievement in corporate law.

The Alexander V. Sarcione Jr. Memorial Award **Jacob Parker Basht**
Logan Scott Frye
Awarded annually to the graduating law school students displaying the greatest aptitude for the area of criminal law.

The Dean Arthur A. Weeks Outstanding Service Award **Mary-Kate Isabelle LaManna**
Awarded to a graduating student who, in the opinion of the Student Bar Association Executive Committee, has demonstrated outstanding and exemplary service, dedication and support to the Student Bar Association of the Widener University Delaware Law School.

The E. John Wherry Jr. Award **Logan Scott Frye**
Awarded to the graduating student who has demonstrated a commitment to public service practice, either criminal or civil, and who has best demonstrated a commitment to trial advocacy.

The William J. and Ella C. Wolf Award in Real Property Law **Derek J. Brandt**
Daniel Mackrides
Awarded annually to a graduating extended division or regular division student who has demonstrated excellence in real property law or real estate development.

The Charles J. Zencey Memorial Award **Matthew D. Ferrer**
Awarded to a graduating student who has by virtue of work in the Environmental Law Clinic, volunteer activities, or work experience, demonstrated a commitment to protecting the environment in the spirit of Charles Zencey, and who is likely to pursue a career that furthers environmental protection.

LAW REVIEWS

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Graduates who are members of a Law Review wear a white cord to signify this honor.

HONOR SOCIETIES

MOOT COURT HONOR SOCIETY

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ORDER OF THE BARRISTER

The Order of Barristers is a national honorary organization whose purpose is the encouragement of oral advocacy and brief writing skills through effective law school appellate advocacy programs. The Order recognizes, on a national basis, graduating law students who have excelled in moot court activities in their respective law schools.

Sharuk J. Amra
Tracey Denise Baker
Shira Rebecca Freiman

Adam Michael Leasure
Haley Quinn Lopez

Katherine R. Welch
Kyle M. Westerfer

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Julie Marie Jopp

Daniel Mackrides
Julia Riedel McDonald
Emily J. Maguire
Austin R. Niggebrugge
Georgette Reid
Michael Alexander Sommar
Adam VanBuskirk

Graduates who are members of honor societies wear a green cord to signify this honor.

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SALEM COUNTY BRASS SOCIETY

The Salem County Brass Society is a non-profit musical organization dedicated to bringing quality brass music to the citizens of South Jersey, specifically Salem County. As a large ensemble, the Salem County Brass Society has existed since the spring of 1974.

Since then, the Brass Society has been playing regularly at many area churches and is in great demand, scheduling their performances several months in advance. In addition to playing in churches, the Brass Society plays for many civic and social functions during the year, including graduation ceremonies at Widener University Delaware Law School, Salem Community College, and is in great demand to play wedding ceremonies. The highlight of the playing year is the annual Spring Scholarship Concern, which began in 1976. The Spring Scholarship Concert features noted guest artists from around the region.

Each year the Brass Society presents a \$200 savings bond and certificate to an outstanding graduating brass player at each of the five Salem County high schools. In 1986, the Brass Society began awarding a \$1,000 scholarship to a Salem County music student entering college to study music in any discipline. That scholarship has grown to \$2,000 and will no doubt increase again in the future, as support for the scholarship fund continues.

The Brass Society makes no solicitation of funds for playing at regular morning worship services, but welcomes any donations to the organization to cover operating expenses. Fees are charged for civic programs, evening concerts, weddings and other special events.

The playing season for the Salem County Brass Society extends from September through June. Inquiries should be addressed to the Salem County Brass Society, c/o Scott West, 313 Lynn Avenue, Wenonah, NJ 08090, or by calling (856) 468-7134. We can also be reached by email at: SalemCountyBrassSociety@comcast.net.

