Hooding

2022

2022 DOCTORAL HOODING CEREMONY
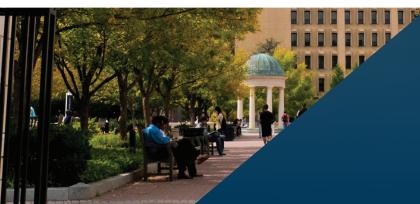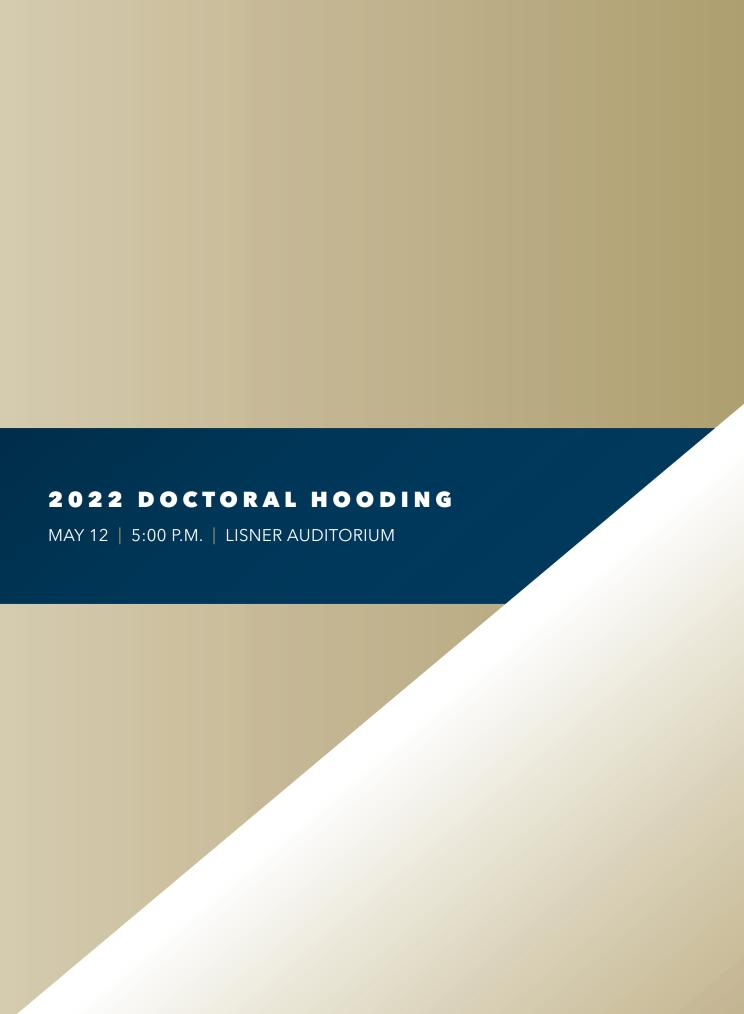
THE TWELFTH OF MAY, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY TWO

Columbian College
of Arts & Sciences

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2022 DOCTORAL HOODING

MAY 12 | 5:00 P.M. | LISNER AUDITORIUM

In 1819, the Reverend Luther Rice, Obadiah B. Brown, Spencer H. Cone, and Enoch Reynolds (all Baptist ministers) set in motion the reality of a college in the District. These men raised the needed funds to purchase land in the nation's capital, petitioned the Congress for a charter, and began organizing a college.

On February 9, 1821, President James Monroe signed the Act of Congress which created the College. By design of the Congress, a special provision was included which required that "persons of every religious denomination shall be capable of being elected Trustees; nor shall any person, either as President, Professor, Tutor or pupil, be refused admittance, or denied any of the privileges, immunities, or advantages thereof, for or on account of his sentiments in matters of religion."

The original seal was designed by James Peale in 1821, at the time of the founding of the Columbian College. This is the seal that the graduates are wearing today as medals. The seal features a Biblical lion lying down with a lamb and Greek text in an open book. The Greek translates to "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God."

In 1873, the name Columbian College was changed to Columbian University and the seal was changed slightly to reflect this. The Latin text around the outside was changed from "Columbiani Collegii" to "Universitatis Columbianae Sigillim." In addition, some text was added to fill up the rest of the open book, since the Greek phrase only took up part of one page. In 1905, after the name changed to the George Washington University, the old seal was replaced by a completely new one.

The original Columbian College seal is currently on display in the Memorabilia Room of Gelman Library.

Paul J. Wahlbeck
Dean

Congratulations, Graduates!

This day marks the beginning of a new and exciting journey. As a graduate of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, you now carry with you the skills that our university's namesake considered essential for responsible citizenship, skills that will help you be informed and effective global citizens. I encourage you to use your studies as a foundation for contributing to your communities and making a difference in whatever field you pursue.

As students of the arts and sciences, you were driven by your desire to explore new ideas, to think broadly, be creative, ask questions and tackle new challenges. You took chances, combined your academic rigor and achievement with a spirit of exploration and adventure, and enhanced your intellectual and personal growth through GW's unique connections across the nation's capital and around the world.

During your time here, you collaborated with world-renowned scholars; benefited from research grants that positioned you to explore exciting innovations; and had access to the world's top research and cultural institutions—from the Library of Congress to the National Institutes of Health to the Smithsonian. You've also had a front-row seat to history and have experienced some truly special "only at GW" moments.

The relationships you established will provide a strong network to keep you connected with this institution and the world beyond our campus. Wherever you go, be proud to call yourself a George Washington University graduate. It is a privileged group, one that will reward you both personally and professionally.

Please know that the GW community will always be open to you, wherever and however you choose to keep in touch. I encourage you stay connected through our social media platforms and read about our continued progress—and your continued impact—in our alumni publications. When the opportunity arises, I also hope you come back to Foggy Bottom to attend an event, participate in a campus forum or visit a faculty member.

Congratulations and all my best wishes as you embark on a future of promise and unlimited possibility!

Sincerely,

Paul J. Wahlbeck
Dean
Columbian College of Arts and Sciences

ORDER OF EXERCISES

PRELUDE ....Corcoran Brass

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONS..Deans, Faculty and Students

WELCOME ....Chad Heap
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies

**AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE
MENTORING OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS** ....Presented by Evangeline J. Downie
Associate Dean for Research

DOCTORAL MENTOR AWARDEE ....Sandy Kawano
Assistant Professor of Biology

CHARGE TO DOCTORAL CANDIDATES...Paul Wahlbeck
Dean

HOODING OF THE DOCTORAL CANDIDATES .... Dean and Faculty Advocates

ALMA MATER..Millicent Scarlett
Adjunct Professor of Music

RECESSIONAL ....Corcoran Brass

The hooding program is meant to be a guide to the ceremony.
Although every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy, the program is not an official record of an individual's degree.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

American Studies

Edward Alexander Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Inductee .... Thomas Dolan

Dean's Graduate Instructorship .... Thomas Dolan

Anthropology

Columbian College Dean's Graduate Instructorship .... Shweta Krishnan

Earthquake Hazards Program Funding .... Lara Rodriguez-Delgado

Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant .... Lara Rodriguez-Delgado

Biological Sciences

Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship .... Siddharth S. Kulkarni

Dean's Graduate Instructorship .... Matthew K. LeFauve

Smithsonian Institution Pre-Doctoral Fellowship .... Siddharth S. Kulkarni

Cosmos Scholars Award .... Yaprak Ozakman

Chemistry

Benjamin D. Van Evera Memorial Prize -

Effective Graduate Teaching Assistants .... Maegan Dailey, Kenneth Heidel, Rinipal Kaur

Economics

Columbian College Dean's Graduate Instructorship .... Han Liu

The World Bank Academy Award- Best Research Paper .... Nisan Gorgulu

English

Philip J. Amsterdam Graduate Teaching Award .... Turni Chakrabarti

English

Dean's Graduate Instructorship .... Ashley L. Valanzola

The Chateaubriand Fellowship in the Humanities and Social Sciences .... Ashley L. Valanzola

Charles Herber Prize for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student .... Lauren Jannette

Cosmos Scholars Grant Program .... Lauren Jannette

Shirley H. and Robert L. Richards Endowment Scholarship .... Terrance Rucker

Human Paleobiology

Three Minute Thesis Competition – First Place .... Kimberly K. Foecke

Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant .... Kimberly K. Foecke

AWARDS AND PRIZES

Mathematics

Graduate Student Teaching Award..Jingjing Xu

James H. Taylor Graduate Mathematics Prize .... Dionne F. Ibarra

Knots, Strings, Symplectic Geometry and Dualities Junior Fellowship.. Dionne F. Ibarra

Molecular Medicine

Edward Alexander Bouchet Graduate Honor Society Inductee...Kristy O. Johnson

NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual Fellowship.. Katherine Blackmore

Dimitris N. Chorafas Foundation Award .... Katherine Blackmore

Public Policy and Administration

National Science Foundation Dissertation Research Grant.. Sang-Min Park

Physics

Gus W. Weiss Prize for Outstanding Student in Physics... Giovanni Angelini

Political Science

The Albritton Center for Grand Strategy Pre-doctoral Fellowship...Kendrick Kuo

American Center of Research (AORC) Fellowship .... Steven D. Schaaf

Barbara W. Tuchman Prize – Best Paper by a Graduate Student .... Kendrick Tai-Cheng Kuo

Boren Fellowship for International Study.. Steven D. Schaaf

Cosmos Scholars Grant Program...Jangai Jap

The Bradley Foundation Fellowship .... Julian G. Waller

Harvard Kennedy School International Security Program Fellowship...Daniel Z. Jacobs

Statistics

Fritz Scheuren Prize...Yang Liu

Minna Mirin Kullback Memorial Prize...Yang Liu

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE MENTORING OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

The Award for Excellence in the Mentoring of Doctoral Students is given to a faculty member nominated by students in the Ph.D. and Psy.D. programs of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences. Mentoring and advising are crucial to the intellectual life and career trajectories of doctoral students across the arts, sciences and professions. A good mentor is a source of wisdom and expertise, an inspiring role model, a compassionate critic, a sounding board, an advocate and a career counselor. The 2021-2022 Award for Excellence in the Mentoring of Doctoral Students is presented to Sandy Kawano, Assistant Professor of Biology.

Sandy Kawano
Assistant Professor of Biology

Dr. Kawano joined the faculty of the George Washington University in 2019. A biological scientist and principal investigator in GW's "Fins and Limbs lab," she seeks to explain how evolutionary changes in the musculoskeletal system facilitate or constrain the diversification of animals in different environments. Her research addresses questions regarding the evolution and ecology of phenotypic and functional diversity through the lens of comparative biomechanics and functional morphology. She is the author or co-author of articles published in the *Journal of Experimental Biology, Evolutionary Ecology,* and *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, and regularly teaches graduate and undergraduate courses focused on the foundations of evolution, organismal form and function, and human physiology.

Graduate students in the Department of Biological Sciences praise Dr. Kawano's "dedicated care and support of her students," especially during the pandemic. As an instructor, she "adjusted quickly to the changing needs of both the university and her students without sacrificing content or rigor" and, as one student observed, did her best "to make sure that every individual student's career and research interests were addressed." When several students mentioned their interest in pursuing non-academic careers, Dr. Kawano invited professionals from outside the academy to speak to the class. She helped students employ new types of software and analytical tools in their research, outlined clear course expectations, incorporated "varied forms of assessment" in her classes, and created an environment that allowed students to "learn content more deeply with her guidance."

Students are especially grateful for the time that Dr. Kawano has devoted to "developing a culture of equity and inclusivity in her classes and within our department." She has "worked tirelessly" with graduate students and faculty to make "changes in the mentor-mentee culture of the department," "drafting a mentorship guide…which details the peer-reviewed literature on best practices for establishing a healthy and supportive mentor-mentee relationship" and providing students with a safe space to talk about issues of concern. "Whether I need help navigating my research projects, finding disability support options, or advice on graduate program milestone decisions," one of her advisees noted, "I know that I can always go to Dr. Kawano for guidance." Others praise Dr. Kawano's willingness to be "transparent about lab matters," to "share drafts of her grant applications," and to provide students with an "opportunity to learn more about running a lab." She is not only a "gifted scientist, teacher, and mentor," one student remarked, but "also knows when you need encouragement, or chocolate."

DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Serena N. Anand*

Advocate: Cheri Marmarosh, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: The Revolving Door: Repeated Transfers for Patients with Disorganized Attachment Styles

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Aiyanna Archer*

Advocate: Lara Sheehi, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Black is Human: Racial and Emotional Attunement in a Black Therapeutic Dyad

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Shereen Ayoubi*

Advocate: Lara Sheehi, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Islamophobia in Clinical Treatment: Healing Through Understanding

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Elizabeth Bagioni*

Advocate: Katherine Marshall Woods, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Working Towards Personal Healing: Using a Displaced Corporate Trauma Event to Build Emotional Resilience for Individual Trauma Survivors: A Single Case Study Examining a Corporate Trauma Event

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Kelly Banks*

Advocate: Lara Sheehi, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: When the External Infiltrates and Activates the Internal: Exploring Transference and Countertransference Reactions in an Intraracial Psychotherapy Dyad at a Predominately White Institution

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Stephanie Benson*

Advocate: Karen L. Weise, Adjunct Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Similarities in the Therapeutic Dyad: Positive Implications and Negative Consequences of Shared Demographic and Non-Demographic Factors

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Pamela Blackwell*

Advocate: Lara Sheehi, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Blackness as an Intervention: How Racial and Cultural Similarities between a Black clinician-Black patient in a Psychodynamic Psychotherapy Dyad Enhance the Therapeutic Experience

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Ryan Corl*

Advocate: Loring Ingraham. Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: An Evolutionary Perspective on Mutual Emotion Regulation As an Empathic Tool for Adaptation

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Debanjoli Das*

Advocate: Paul Gedo, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: The Spectrum of Privilege: A Case Analysis of How Power and Privilege Can Enter the Therapeutic Dyad

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Joanna Diab*

Advocate: Cheri Marmarosh, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: How Identities and Internal Dynamics Stimulate Prior Trauma and Affect Couples

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Yuval Freund*

Advocate: Cheri Marmarosh, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Asking a Member to Leave the Group – the Effects of a Dismissive Attachment on Group Psychotherapy

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Aislinn Gherman*

Advocate: Sarah Hedlund, Clinical Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: The Intersection of Religion and Trauma: How Religious Roles Require Flexible Treatment Techniques When Working with Survivors of Sexual Assault

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Margaret Hilton*

Advocate: Cheri Marmarosh, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Taking off the Masks: When Being "Nice" is Not Helpful to Patients

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Aditi Joshi*

Advocate: helen DeVinney, Adjunct Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Forgotten Heritage: How Trauma and Acculturation Make the Self a Stranger

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Joseph Kosowsky*

Advocate: Cheri Marmarosh, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: "Coming Out." Therapist Self-Disclosure

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Sanjana Kumar*

Advocate: Lara Sheehi, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: The Role of Identification in a Therapeutic Dyad of Assumed Cultural Sameness

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Kaitlyn Lavey*

Advocate: James Sexton, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Implementing a Transdiagnostic Approach when Character Pathology and DSM-5 Diagnostic Criteria Overlap: A Case Study of Vulnerable Narcissism and ADHD

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Helen Rathbun*

Advocate: Karen L. Weise, Adjunct Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Therapist Self-Disclosure and Transgender Affirming Psychodynamic Therapy

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Sydney Rosen*

Advocate: Cheri Marmarosh, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: From Caregiver to God: An Attachment Theory Perspective on Religion in Psychotherapy with an LGBTQ+ Patient

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Amy Sproul*

Advocate: Cheri Marmarosh, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: Non-Corporeal Relationships and Disorganized Attachment: Exploring Transference through Religious Displacement

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Victoria Todd*

Advocate: Lara Sheehi, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology

Major Area Paper: The Clinical Use of Race in a Same-Race Psychodynamically Oriented Dyad

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

The doctoral internship in Clinical Psychology is a year-long intensive clinical training experience required for licensure as a clinical psychologist. Students apply in a highly competitive nationwide match process to secure a position congruent with their training needs and career aspirations. The following sites are the locations where this year's graduating class has trained.

American University

Appalachian State University

Brigham Young University

Catholic University of America Counseling Center

College of William and Mary

Butner Federal Correctional Complex

George Mason University

Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital

Howard University Counseling Service

Lenox Hill Hospital

Martinsburg VA Medical Center

Mid-Atlantic Internship Consortium

Saint Elizabeth's Hospital

Shared Vision Psychological Services Incorporated

Southern Illinois University

Towson University

University of Colorado

University of Dayton Counseling Center

University of Virginia Student Health

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Giovanni Angelini

Physics

Co-Advocate: William J. Briscoe, Professor of Physics

Co-Advocate: Patrizia Rossi, Research Professor of Physics

Dissertation: Probing Quark Dynamics in Semi-Inclusive Charged Pion Electroproduction with CLAS12

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Pavel V. Avdeev

Mathematics

Advocate: Max A. Alekseyev, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computational Biology

Dissertation: Mathematical Models of Ancestral Genome Reconstruction

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Victor E. Balseca

Economics

Advocate: Arun S. Malik, Professor of Economics

Dissertation: Essays on Environmental and Health Economics

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Megan A. Barela-Hudgell

Biological Sciences

Advocate: L. Courtney Smith, Professor of Biology

Dissertation: The Complexities of the Sea Urchin Immune System: Dynamic Changes in Coelomocyte Populations and the Evolution of the SpTransformer Gene

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Andrew P. Barnett

Clinical Psychology

Advocate: Maria Cecilia Zea, Professor of Psychology

Dissertation: Reciprocal Causal Relationships in Condom and PrEP-related Beliefs and Behavior Among Young Men Who Have Sex with Men

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Alexander R. Beck

Political Science

Advocate: Christopher Warshaw, Associate Professor of Political Science

Dissertation: We Can Make It If We Run: Local Politics, Electoral Competition, and Descriptive Representation in the United States

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Joshua F. Benson

English

Advocate: Tara G. Wallace, Professor of English

Dissertation: Literary Prophylaxis: Race, Sex, and Disease in Nineteenth-Century British Novels

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Katherine Blackmore

Molecular Medicine

Co-Advocate: Colin N. Young, Associate Professor of Pharmacology and Physiology

Co-Advocate: David Mendelowitz, Professor of Pharmacology and Physiology

Dissertation: Forebrain-Hypothalamic Circuits, Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress, and Sexual Dimorphism in Hepatic Steatosis during Obesity

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Seth A. Brown

Public Policy and Administration

Advocate: Dylan Conger, Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration

Dissertation: Unpacking the Mechanisms in Teacher Evaluation Systems: Evidence from the Impact Evaluation of Teacher and Leader Performance Evaluation Systems

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Turni Chakrabarti

English

Co-Advocate: Kavita Daiya, Professor of English and of Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies

Co-Advocate: Tara G. Wallace, Professor of English

Dissertation: Disruptive Widowhood: Rights, Resistance, and Agency in the Indian and British Novel

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Hyunjung Choi

Mathematics

Advocate: Yanxiang Zhao, Associate Professor of Mathematics

Dissertation: Numerical Methods for Block Copolymer Systems with Long Range Interaction

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Ivette M. Contreras-González

Economics

Advocate: Paul Carillo, Professor of Economics and International Affairs

Dissertation: Essays on Applied Microeconomics in Latin America

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Maegan Dailey

Chemistry

Advocate: Claire Besson, Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Dissertation: Lanthanoid (III) Diphthalocyanines and Goblet-Shaped Complexes: Old and New Architectures for Molecular Qubit Candidates

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Thomas S. Dolan
American Studies
Co-Advocate: Dina Rizk Khoury, Professor of History and International Affairs
Co-Advocate: Melani McAlister, Professor of American Studies and International Affairs
Dissertation: Unusual Figures: Race, Empire and Unseeing the Global Middle East
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Shiqi Dong
Statistics
Co-Advocate: Zhaohai Li, Professor of Statistics and Biostatistics
Co-Advocate: Aiyi Liu, Senior Investigator, Biostatistics & Bioinformatics Branch, NICHD/NIH
Dissertation: On Combination of Elliptically Distributed Biomarkers to Improve Diagnostic Accuracy
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Hongfei Du
Statistics
Advocate: Fang Jin, Assistant Professor of Statistics
Dissertation: Uncertainty Quantification in Deep Learning Model and Nested Data Problem
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Brian A. Dumm
English
Advocate: Marshall Alcorn, Emeritus Professor of English
Dissertation: Enantiosemy and Transcendental Homelessness in Herman Melville's Moby-Dick, Ernest Hemingway's In Our Time, and Michael Ondaatje's Warlight
Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Brett P. Eaton
Microbiology and Immunology
Co-Advocate: Christopher L. Cooper, Director, Viral Vaccines, Vaccine Design and Development Laboratory
Co-Advocate: David Leitenberg, Associate Professor of Microbiology, Immunology and Tropical Medicine and Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Dissertation: Cellular Immune Evasion Mechanisms of New World Encephalitic Alphaviruses
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Daniel Z. Epstein
Political Science
Advocate: Sarah Binder, Professor of Political Science
Dissertation: The Investigative State
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Lawrence M. Fatica
Hominid Paleobiology
Advocate: Shannon McFarlin, Associate Professor of Anthropology
Dissertation: Skeletal Phenotypic Variation in Gorilla: Ecological, Phylogenetic, and Ontogenetic Perspectives
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Vincent M. Ficarrotta
Biology
Advocate: Arnaud Martin, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences
Dissertation: Investigations into Two Modes of Ultraviolet Reflectance of Pierid Butterflies
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Kimberly K. Foecke
Human Paleobiology
Advocate: Alison S. Brooks, Professor of Anthropology and International Affairs
Dissertation: Deconstructing the $\delta15N$ Paleodietary Proxy: Implications of Culturally-Mediated Food Behavior for Trophic Position Reconstruction
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Kira O. Foley
Industrial/Organizational Psychology
Advocate: Lynn R. Offerman, Professor of Industrial/Organizational Psychology and Management
Dissertation: Inclusion from Afar: The Impact of Virtual Work on the Effects of Inclusive Leadership
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Shuyang Gao
Statistics
Advocate: Hosam Mahmoud, Professor of Statistics
Dissertation: On Some Classes of Urn Models with Multiple-drawing
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Nisan Gorgulu
Economics
Co-Advocate: Remi Jedwab, Associate Professor of Economics and International Affairs
Co-Advocate: Stephen Smith, Professor of Economics and International Affairs
Dissertation: Regional Development and Growth: Impact of Politics, Geography and Digital Governance
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Hernando R. Grueso Hurtado

Public Policy and Public Administration

Advocate: Stephanie R. Cellini, Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration, and Economics

Dissertation: Essays in Development Economics and Education

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Yufei Guo

Statistics

Advocate: Yinglei Lai, Professor of Statistics

Dissertation: Evaluation and Prediction of the Association Consistency between Two High-throughput Two-sample Gene Expression Datasets

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Charlotte J. Hagerman

Applied Social Psychology

Advocate: Michelle Stock, Associate Professor of Psychology

Dissertation: Interrupting the Cycle of Weight Stigma and Unhealthy Behavior: The Potential of Self-Affirmation and Self-Compassion Exercises

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Bingqi Han

Statistics

Advocate: Yinglei Lai, Professor of Statistics

Dissertation: Some Research Progress on Generative Adversarial Networks

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Aubrey J. Harrison

Clinical Psychology

Advocate: Sharon Lambert, Professor of Clinical Psychology

Dissertation: Racism in Context: An Exploration of Where and How Black Adolescent Males Respond to Racism

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Kenneth M. Heidel

Chemistry

Advocate: Cynthia S. Dowd, Professor of Chemistry

Dissertation: MEPicides: Design, Synthesis, and Evaluation of Novel Antimalarials

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Michael Horka

American Studies

Advocate: Gayle Wald, Professor of English and American Studies

Dissertation: The Historical Climate: Science Fiction, Climate Change, and the Long Crisis

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Lindsay Houck

Cognitive Neuroscience

Advocate: John W. Philbeck, Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience

Dissertation: The Influence of Environmental Factors on Egocentric Distance Judgments

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Yihe Huang

Biostatistics

Advocate: Yan Ma, Professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics

Dissertation: A Data-Driven Framework for Missing Data Imputation

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Hye Mee Hwang

Neuroscience

Co-Advocate: Kazue Hashimoto-Torii, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Pharmacology and Physiology

Co-Advocate: Joshua G. Corbin, Professor of Pediatrics, Pharmacology and Physiology

Dissertation: APOE is Associated with Neurobehavioral Deficits in FASD

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Dionne Ibarra

Mathematics

Advocate: Jozef H. Przytycki, Professor of Mathematics

Dissertation: Framed Links in 3-Manifolds, Its Applications, and Algebraic Approaches to Knot Theory

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Vanes Ibric

Political Science

Advocate: Alexander B. Downes, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Affairs

Dissertation: Distant Friends and Intimate Enemies: Toward a New Theory of Intra-Alliance Fighting

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Daniel Z. Jacobs

Political Science

Advocate: Charles Glaser, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs

Dissertation: Borrowed Power: Financial Origins of American Grand Strategy

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Taylor E. Jacovich

Physics

Co-Advocate: Alexander J. van der Horst, Associate Professor of Physics

Co-Advocate: Daniel J. Patnaude, Astrophysicist, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory

Dissertation: Examining the Hydrodynamics of High-Energy Stellar Explosions and Their Outflows

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Hyeeun Jang

Mathematics

Advocate: E. Arthur Robinson, Jr., Professor of Mathematics

Dissertation: Directional Expansiveness

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Lauren M. Jannette

History

Advocate: Katrin Schultheiss, Associate Professor of History

Dissertation: Gendering the Aesthetics of Peace: Women and Veterans in French Nouveau Pacifist Propaganda, 1915-1939

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Jangai Jap

Political Science

Advocate: Henry Hale, Professor of Political Science

Dissertation: Winning Hearts and Minds: Street-level Bureaucracy and Attachment to the State in Myanmar

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Bo Jiang

Economics

Advocate: Pamela A. Labadie, Professor of Economics

Dissertation: Financial Innovation, Market Structure and the Macroeconomy

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Kristy O. Johnson

Molecular Medicine

Co-Advocate: Jason W. Triplett, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Pharmacology and Physiology

Co-Advocate: Joshua G. Corbin, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Pharmacology and Physiology

Dissertation: Activity-Dependent Mechanisms of Visual Map Formation & Alignment

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Rinipal Kaur

Chemistry

Advocate: Vladislav Sadtchenko, Associate Professor of Chemistry

Dissertation: Experimental and Analytical Studies of Molecular Dynamics and Phase Transitions In Polycrystalline Ice at Environmentally Relevant Temperatures

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Taesik Kim

Economics

Advocate: Wallace P. Mullin, Associate Professor of Economics

Dissertation: Empirical Essays in Industrial Organization

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Chan Wook Kim

Physics

Co-Advocate: Igor Strakovsky, Research Professor of Physics

Co-Advocate: William Briscoe, Professor Emeritus of Physics

Dissertation: Measurement of the Helicity Asymmetry E for the $\gamma p \rightarrow \pi 0\ p$ reaction in the Resonance Region

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Shweta Krishnan

Anthropology

Co-Advocate: Attiya Ahmad, Associate Professor of Anthropology and International Affairs

Co-Advocate: Ilana Feldman, Professor of Anthropology, History and International Affairs

Dissertation: Ethical Kinships: Religious Assemblages and Relatedness in the Indo-China Borderlands

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Siddharth S. Kulkarni

Biological Sciences

Advocate: Gustavo Hormiga, Ruth Weintraub Professor of Biology

Dissertation: Evolutionary Trends in the Spider Tree of Life with Appraisal of the Miniature Orbweaving Spiders (Araneae, Araneoidea, symphytognathoids)

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Kendrick Kuo

Political Science

Advocate: Caitlin Talmadge, Associate Professor of Security Studies, Georgetown University

Co-Advocate: Alexander Downes, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Affairs

Dissertation: Military Magic: The Promise and Peril of Military Innovation

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Rachel K. Landis

Public Policy and Administration

Advocate: Leighton Chun-Lee Ku, Professor of Health Policy and Management

Dissertation: An Examination of Opioid Use Disorder Outcomes among Pregnant Women in Medicaid from 2007-2012: Trends, Disparities and Association with Punitive Child Welfare Policies

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Matthew K. LeFauve

Biological Sciences

Advocate: L. Patricia Hernandez, Professor of Biological Sciences

Dissertation: Neuroanatomy and Behavior in Invasive Hearing Specialist Fishes

Graduation Term: Spring 2021

Xiang Li

Physics

Advocate: Weiqun Peng, Professor of Physics and of Anatomy and Regenerative Biology

Dissertation: Study of Transcriptional and Post-transcriptional Regulation in Immune Systems

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Han Liu

Economics

Advocate: Anthony M. Yezer, Professor of Economics

Dissertation: Three Essays on Urban Economics and Housing Finance

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Yang Liu

Statistics

Advocate: Feifang Hu, Professor of Statistics

Dissertation: Statistical Issues of Unobserved Covariates in Covariate-Adaptive Randomized Trials

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Xinye Liu

Chemistry

Director: Stuart Licht, Professor of Chemistry

Dissertation: Morphology Specific Carbon Nanomaterial from Carbon Dioxide by a Novel Molten Carbonate Synthesis

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Shunyan Luo

Statistics

Advocate: Fang Jin, Assistant Professor of Statistics

Dissertation: Statistically Consistent Interpretation of Deep Learning

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Shannon D. McQueen

Political Science

Advocate: Daniel Hayes, Professor of Political Science

Dissertation: Women's Organizations and the Partisan Gender Gap

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Hossein Niyazi

Physics

Co-Advocate: Andrei Alexandru, Associate Professor of Physics

Co-Advocate: Frank X. Lee, Professor of Physics

Dissertation: Electric Polarizability of Charged Pions from Lattice QCD

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Yaprak Ozakman

Biology

Advocate: Ioannis Eleftherianos, Associate Professor of Biology

Dissertation: Elucidating the Functional Contribution of the TGF-ß Signaling to Drosophila melanogaster Anti-nematode Immune Response

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Benjamin Parchem*

Clinical Psychology

Advocate: Maria Cecilia Zea, Professor of Clinical/Community Psychology

Dissertation: Sexual Behaviors and Identities of Sexual Minority Men Born in Latin American Countries through a Sex-Affirmative HIV Prevention Lens

Graduation Term: Summer 2022

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Sang-Min Park

Public Policy and Administration

Director: Nicholas S. Vonortas, Professor of Economics and International Affairs

Dissertation: Positioning Translational Research in the Biomedical Ecosystem: From Basic Research to Biomedical Entrepreneurship

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Xiang Peng

Statistics

Advocate: Huixia Judy Wang, Professor of Statistics

Dissertation: Topics Related to Subgroup Identification and Conditional Expected Shortfall

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Veronica Pinho

Clinical Psychology

Advocate: Maria Cecilia Zea, Professor of Clinical/Community Psychology

Dissertation: The Moderating Effects of Psychiatric Symptoms on Changes in Condom Self-Efficacy Following an HIV Prevention Intervention with Brazilian Men and Women in Psychiatric Outpatient Care

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Vyta Pivo

American Studies

Co- Advocate: Dara Orenstein, Associate Professor of American Studies

Co- Advocate: Richard Longstreth, Professor of American Studies

Dissertation: The Gospel of Concrete: American Infrastructure and Global Power

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Allison M. Polk

English

Advocate: Robert McRuer, Professor of English

Dissertation: Bonerkiller: Linking White Masculinity in Early Twenty-first Century American Texts and its Inadvertent Critique of Gender Roles to Neoliberal Values

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Amrisha Prakash

Clinical Psychology

Advocate: Sherry Davis Molock, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

Dissertation: Factors that Influence Help-Seeking Attitudes among Asian American College Students

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Caleb J. Reese

Chemistry

Advocate: Stephen G. Boyes, Associate Professor of Chemistry

Dissertation: Aromatic Polymer Brushes for Next Generation Surfaces using Surface Initiated Substituent Effect Chain Growth Condensation Polymerization

Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Lara C. Rodriguez-Delgado

Anthropology

Advocate: Alexander S. Dent, Professor of Anthropology and International Affairs

Dissertation: Becoming Seismic: Subsurface Geoscience and Everyday Political Struggles in Oklahoma's Fracking-Earthquakes Controversy

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Terrance E. Rucker

History

Advocate: Tyler Anbinder, Professor of History

Dissertation: Another Kind of Representation: Territorial Delegates and the Politics of Territorial Incorporation, 1851-1875

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Grecio Sandoval

Biostatistics

Co-Advocate: Ionut Bebu, Associate Research Professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics

Co-Advocate: John Lachin, Research Professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics

Dissertation: On Cost-Efficient Designs for Clinical Studies

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Steven Schaaf

Political Science

Advocate: Nathan Brown, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs

Dissertation: Litigating the Authoritarian State: Lawful Resistance and Judicial Politics in the Middle East

Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Kimberly M. Siegal

Public Policy and Administration

Co-Advocate: Kathryn Newcomer, Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration

Co-Advocate: Burt Barnow, Amsterdam Professor of Public Service and Professor of Economics

Dissertation: A Good Egg: An Evaluation of a Social Behavior Change Campaign to Increase Egg Consumption among Children in Rwanda

Graduation Term: Spring 2022

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Nicholas W. Talisman
Clinical Psychology
Advocate: Cynthia A. Rohrbeck, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology
Dissertation: Anxiety and Fear: Distinctions and Similarities
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Mehrit Tekeste*
Clinical Psychology
Advocate: Sarah K. Calabrese, Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology
Dissertation: Ethiopian Immigrants in the US: The Implications of Perceived Public Mental Illness Stigma and Mistrust of Mental Health Providers for Mental Health Help-Seeking Intentions
Graduation Term: Summer 2022

Hector Tzavellas
Economics
Advocate: Sumit Joshi, Professor of Economics
Dissertation: Essays on the Economics of Networks
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Ashley Valanzola
History
Advocate: Katrin Schultheiss, Associate Professor of History
Dissertation: Prevail: Jewish Women and the Preservation of Holocaust Memory in France
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Julian G. Waller
Political Science
Advocate: Henry Hale, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs
Dissertation: Beyond the Rubber-Stamp: Essays on Parliamentary Bodies Under Authoritarianism
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Kai Wang
Chemistry
Advocate: Adelina Voutchkova-Kostal, Associate Professor of Chemistry
Dissertation: Development of Supported Catalysts for Valorization of Renewably-Sourced Chemicals
Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Jiayuan Wang
Mathematics
Advocate: Joel Lewis, Associate Professor of Mathematics
Dissertation: Factorization Combinatorics in Complex Reflection Groups
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Yizhi Wang
Economics
Advocate: Maggie Chen, Professor of Economics and International Affairs
Dissertation: Essays on Chinese Firm Performance in International Trade
Graduation Term: Summer 2021

Biou Kerina Wang
Public Policy and Public Administration
Advocate: Sanjay Pandey: Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration
Dissertation: How do Transnational Private Regulations Emerge? A Causal Process Tracing Study on the Open Contracting Partnership
Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Andrew Wilson
Microbiology and Immunology
Co-Advocate: Rebecca Lynch, Assistant Professor of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine
Co-Advocate: Michael Bukrinsky, Professor of Microbiology, Immunology, and Tropical Medicine
Dissertation: Strategies to Utilize Antibodies for HIV-1 Treatment and Prevention
Graduation Term: Fall 2021

Jingjing Xu
Mathematics
Co-Advocate: Yanxiang Zhao, Associate Professor of Mathematics
Co-Advocate: Maria P. Gualdani, Associate Professor, University of Texas, Austin
Dissertation: Analysis and Scientific Computing on Some Nonlocal PDEs
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

Mingze Zhang
Statistics
Advocate: Huixia Judy Wang, Professor of Statistics
Dissertation: Copula-based Analysis for Dependent Count Data
Graduation Term: Spring 2022

* Students indicated as earning their degree in Summer 2022 must complete their internship before the degree is awarded.

DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Clinical Psychology

Chiara Abbatelli	Rachel B. Fenton	Roshan Javadian	Jordan L. Ohanesian
Connor Tyler Adams	Jaime Nicole Fryburg	Jasmine Kaur Kaleka	Adam Jacob Rosen
Cristel M. Bel	Jesse A. Greenblatt	Sydney Louise Mills	Molly Tulipan
Xi Bi	Camille Elizabeth Hawkins	Josiane Marla Moise	Jordan Brittany-Yvonne Watson
Andrew Joseph Carton	Madeline Anne Huffstickler	Savannah Rose O'Brien	Maggie Lynne Watters

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

American Studies

Sara Camille Awartani

Applied Social Psychology

Sidney L. Holt	Deepti Hemant Joshi	Zeljka Macura

Biological Sciences

Eric Timothy Kenney	Reeham Wasfia Motaher	Bryan N. Nguyen	Amulya Yaparla

Biostatistics

Jinxi Liu

Cancer Biology

Bogang Wu

Chemistry

Diana Ainembabazi	Katherine M. Hinnant	Matthew J. Lefler	Laith Zuhair Samarah

Clinical Psychology

Maria Alexandra Cimporescu	Sanam Singh Dhaliwal	Rachel Mack Kolsky	Dorothy Arden White
Catherine Gray Coogan	David William Jeffries	Makiko Watanabe	

Cognitive Neuroscience

Michelle Rebecca Kramer	Jeongyoon Lee

Economics

Ahsan Tariq Butt	Laurel Hammond	Andrea Fernanda Lopez Luzuriaga	Shiyi Wang
Huong Thu Dang	Yuxuan Huang		Qiang Zheng
Eiji Goto	Jin Ho Kim	Abhilasha Sahay	

2021 DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

English

Nora Abdullah Alfaiz   Leah A. Grisham-Webber   Farisa Khalid   Emily R. Lathrop

Genomics & Bioinformatics

James Peter Bernot   John P. Torcivia

History

Chelsea Grace Davis   Kieran John O'Keefe   Nathan P. Wuertenberg

Human Paleobiology

Elizabeth Tapanes

Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Jonathan C. Willford

Mathematics

Rhea Palak Bakshi   Iva Iris Bilanovic   Jason Tojuhwa Suagee   Xinyu Zhang

Microbiology & Immunology

Mckenzie Rea Carter   Emily Phung   Allison Powell   Indra Sarabia

Molecular Medicine

Sonali Bahl   Hayley Meredith Dingerdissen   Julia Jiaqi O'Reilly
Christopher M. Bailey   Sulgi Lee

Physics

Christopher Albert Culver, Jr.   Om Kant Jha   Daniel Krishnan Sadasivan
Nicholas Muller Gorgone   Benjamin Patrick Kopchick

Political Science

Colin D. Emrich   Danielle A. Gilbert   Jack Commins Hart Hasler   Brian Joseph Radzinsky
Lillian Clara Frost   Elizabeth M. Grasmeder   Kevin S. Petit   Aparna Ravi

Public Policy & Administration

Jhon Roberto Delhy Nolivos   Lindsay Trull McMahon   Aryamala Prasad   Qianqian Zhang
Daniel Kim   Drishti Pillai   Chelsea Janet Richwine

Statistics

Chen Chen   Xiang Shen   Yifan Zhou
Mohamed Lotfy Abdelwahed   Liuqing Yang
  Megheib

DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Clinical Psychology

Aaron Josef Banas

Carol Wilhelmina Clay

Courtney Ann Dinsmore

Bryce R. Gold

William Max Hurley-Welljams-Dorof

Kevin A. Isserman

Rupa Kalahasthi

Kaiwen Liu

Cristina Nesci Margolies

Emma Genevieve Nowicki

Isabella V. Sierra

Brittany Lynn Stanczuk

Marlene A. Villegas

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

American Studies

Craig Lanier Allen

Applied Social Psychology

Brianne Kathleen Molloy

Steffi A. Renninger

Biochemistry & Systems Biology

Michael J. Diprima

Biological Sciences

Keylie Marie Gibson

Stephanie Keer

Josef Barrett Stiegler

Biostatistics

Yuan Gu

Shaobo Liu

Yan Liu

Peifeng Ruan

Huan Wang

Chemistry

Jarod Fincher

James August Ridenour

Clinical Psychology

Dave Kenny Jean

Alyssa T. Poblete

Meagan Theresa Ryan

Economics

Vida Bobic

Xudong Guo

Amjad Muhammad Khan

Sinem Kilic

Tian Luan

Chad A Redmer

RaeAnn Halenda Robinson

Amir Sadegh Sadeghi

Haixiao Wu

Cheng Xu

Genomics & Bioinformatics

Konstantinos Karagiannis

2020 DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

History

Matthew G. Bias

William Seth LaShier

Milorad Lazic

Ronald Michael Leonhardt II

Human Paleobiology

Eve K. Boyle

Enquye Wondimu Negash

Jonathan Scott Reeves

Sean M. Lee

Kelly R. Ostrofsky

Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Ryan Glen Horn

Lauren A. Lanzo

Mathematics

Debdeep Bhattacharya

Konstantinos Smpokos

Microbiology & Immunology

Hung-Yen Chou

Molecular Medicine

Eden Alemneh Dejene

Coen J. Lap

Naemeh Pourshafie

Adam Paul Swiercz

Meghali Goswami

Emily Rose Levy

Nicholas Franklin Sciascia

Physics

Maria Solyanik

Ievgen Lavrukhin

Zhichao Liu

Raju Timsina

Political Science

Alexis Amelia Blanc

Miles M. Evers

Cory E. Maks-Solomon

Mara Pillinger

Jennifer Catherine Doherty

Aleksandr Fisher

Elizabeth Margaret Pertner

Phillip Jason Wininger

Public Policy & Administration

Theresa Marie Anderson

Clarence Eugene Carpenter, Jr.

Hyun Kyong Lee

Jessica M. Sharac

Ryan Thomas Baker

Xinxin Han

Yaerin Park

Margaret W. Smith

Erin J. Brantley

Mariellen Malloy Jewers

Leo Quigley

Brett Alan Theodos

Statistics

Lingzhe Guo

Arnold Thomas Saunders, Jr.

Xiaoyu Zhai

Lingjie Zhou

Jason B. Blank, Esq., B.A. '02

Dear Graduate:

On behalf of the Columbian College National Council for the Arts and Sciences, I offer my congratulations on your significant achievement and welcome you to the George Washington University alumni community. Do not overlook the greatness of this accomplishment.

As an alumnus of this historic institution, I fully appreciate the excitement of this very special moment in your lives and remember that feeling well. You are now a member of a select group of individuals, bonded by a college for which you will forever be proudly associated. I encourage you to remain involved and, more importantly, engaged with the University as you enter this next phase of your life. Your opportunities to make a difference are endless—from becoming an active member of the Alumni Association organizing regional and local alumni events, to mentoring a student, offering services as a career advisor or being a guest lecturer, and providing philanthropic support. Each of these types of engagement offer unique and wonderful opportunities to continue showing your pride in the University and passing down some of that GW spirit for generations of students to come.

My work as a volunteer in the National Council—which is comprised of alumni, parents, and friends who advise the Dean of the Columbian College—has been an incredibly rewarding experience for me. I hope you find similar avenues of engagement and have an impactful role in advancing GW's promise and potential.

Finally, it is not lost on anyone that your time here has required a high level of personal dedication and financial commitment. We are grateful for your investment and hopeful that your degree will lay the groundwork for future success in whatever career you choose.

Again, congratulations! It is both an honor and a pleasure to welcome you as a graduate of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, and I hope to see you at a GW event soon.

Raise High!

Jason B. Blank, Esq., B.A. '02
Chair, CCAS National Council for the Arts and Sciences
Partner, Haber | Blank, LLP

SHARE
YOUR DAY
#GWCommencement
#CCASOnward

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

Hail al - ma ma - ter, to thy spir - it guid - ing, Know - ledge thy close - est friend in its strength a - bid - ing, Pledge we fi - del - i - ty ne'er its place re - sign - ing, Hail thee George Wash - ing - ton.