

# University of Houston Spring 2024 Commencement

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Friday, May 10, 2024 • Fertitta Center





### **College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**

### **Commencement Ceremony**

Friday, May 10, 2024, 7:00 p.m. Fertitta Center

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#### Message from the President

Dear University of Houston Graduates,

Congratulations on receiving your college degree. Today, your longtime dream becomes a reality, and I join your family and friends in celebrating this milestone with you. I am a big believer in the power of dreams and resiliency. To graduate from college, despite the challenges of the past few years, is a testament to your

unwavering commitment and ability to dream big.

Whether you're the first in your family to graduate from college or hail from collegiate scholars, your hard work and determination have brought you to this milestone. You are a generation who faced a global pandemic yet stayed focused on your studies and goals. You excelled against the odds, and this adversity has prepared you to face the professional world with more grit than any generation before. I applaud you for all that you have achieved.

Please take time to thank your professors, advisors, family and friends who supported you on this journey. It takes community to accomplish your goals, and I ask that you stay humble and give back to those in need as you go on to even greater heights.

You have received a Tier One education from the University of Houston. This is the home of industry leaders, nationally top-ranked academic programs, world-renowned faculty, the nation's top-ranked basketball program, cutting-edge research and so much more. I know in my heart that you are now ready to compete and become leaders in your chosen careers. Now, work hard, dream big and shine on.

Go Coogs!

Warmest regards,

Renu khator

Renu Khator President, University of Houston







#### Message from the Provost

Dear Spring Graduates,

You've traveled a long road to reach this moment, but here you are! Congratulations on earning a degree from the University of Houston.

Whether you're the first in your family to graduate from college or perhaps a second-generation Cougar, today's ceremony marks a

significant moment in your lives. It's also special for the University of Houston as your success has been our priority since you first stepped foot on campus.

Now, you embark on new journeys. Some of you may be entering the workforce. Others may be headed to graduate school. No matter your destination, please remember those who helped you get to this point.

Stay in touch with peers, professors and staff members and remind them that their guidance supported your academic journeys. Also, thank your spouses, siblings, parents, grandparents and others in attendance today for their daily inspiration.

Of course, be sure to truly recognize the one person responsible for today's celebration—you! You balanced classes, work, family and other obligations. It wasn't easy, but you did it. Now, you are poised to reap the rewards of a degree from UH.

Although you are leaving this wonderful campus, you will remain a member of our University family. You now carry the proud tradition of past UH graduates and will represent our institution in your professional endeavors. Be proud of your time here, and let others know that you are now and forever a Cougar.

Once again, congratulations!

Sincerely,

Diane Z. Chase

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, University of Houston

**Commencement Ceremony** 

### **University of Houston System**

#### **BOARD OF REGENTS**

Tilman J. Fertitta, Chairman
Alonzo Cantu, Vice Chairman
John A. McCall Jr., Secretary
Durga D. Agrawal
Gregory C. King
Beth Madison
Jack B. Moore
Tammy D. Murphy
Ricky Raven
Mielad Ziaee

### **University of Houston**

#### **PRESIDENT**

Renu Khator

#### PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Diane Z. Chase Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Raymond S. Bartlett Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance

> Bettina Beech Chief Population Health Officer

Eloise Brice Vice President for University Advancement and Alumni

Dona Hamilton Cornell Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel

Susie Gronseth
President, UH Faculty Senate

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Vice President for Marketing and Communications

Michael Johnson Chief of Staff Paul R. Kittle Vice President for Student Affairs

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Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics

Jason Smith
Vice President for Government and Community Relations

Stephen J. Spann
Vice President for Medical Affairs and
Founding Dean, Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine

#### **Commencement Ceremony**

### **University of Houston Deans**

Heidi Appel
Dean
THE HONORS COLLEGE

Leonard M. Baynes

Dean

Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen

Distinguished Chair, and Professor of Law

UH LAW CENTER

Andrew Davis
Founding Dean
Cullen Foundation Endowed Dean's Chair
KATHRINE G. McGOVERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Christina H. Gola
Interim Dean
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES

Jim Granato Dean Hobby School of Public Affairs

Catherine Horn

Dean

Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Sarah C. Larsen

Dean

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Interim Dean

GRADUATE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

Teri Elkins Longacre Dean Undergraduate Student Success – Integrated Studies

Daniel P. O'Connor

Dean

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Patricia Belton Oliver

Dean

ACSA Distinguished Professor

GERALD D. HINES COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Paul A. Pavlou

Dean

Cullen Distinguished Chair

C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

F. Lamar Pritchard Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Pharmacy COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Dennis Reynolds
Dean
Barron Hilton Distinguished Chair
CONRAD N. HILTON COLLEGE OF
GLOBAL HOSPITALITY LEADERSHIP

Pradeep Sharma Interim Dean Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen Distinguished University Professor CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Stephen J. Spann
Founding Dean
TILMAN J. FERTITTA FAMILY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Kathryn M. Tart
Founding Dean
Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Nursing
ANDY AND BARBARA GESSNER COLLEGE OF NURSING

Michael Twa
Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Optometry
College of Optometry

Dan E. Wells

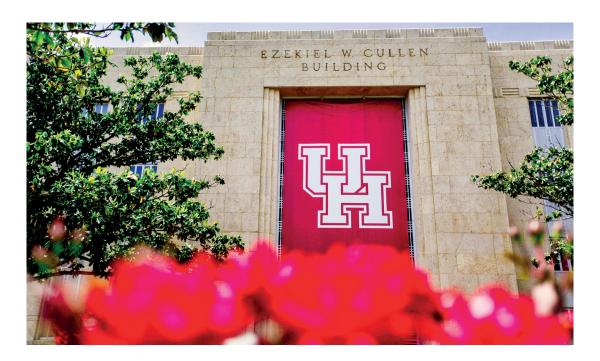
Dean

Distinguished Professor of Science

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

**Commencement Ceremony** 

### **University of Houston History**



The University of Houston was established as the Houston Junior College in 1927. As the college grew, it prospered and officially became the four-year University of Houston in 1934. Two years later, the college attained land for a permanent campus, and in 1939 it constructed its first building, the Roy G. Cullen Building. The University became a state institution in 1963.

The University includes 14 academic colleges, one school, and the multidisciplinary Honors College that teach a wide array of subjects – from math, arts and engineering to law, pharmacy and business. What started as a campus with a single building has grown into a world-class university, offering more than 270 undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 46,000 students annually.

UH is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university, and its public service and community activities, such as cultural offerings, clinical services, policy studies and small business initiatives, serve a diverse metropolitan population. Likewise, the resources of the Gulf Coast Region complement and enrich the University's academic programs, providing students with professional expertise, practical experience and career opportunities.

In keeping with the University's commitment to excellence, UH raised the benchmark of academic achievement when Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, awarded UH the approval to start a chapter in 2015. This designation welcomed UH to an elite group of the nation's most esteemed colleges and universities.

#### **Commencement Traditions**

Academic costumes of today have a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townspeople wore long flowing robes and gowns. The materials and colors were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns were developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. Scholars wore robes and hoods to protect their shaved heads. Later, skullcaps were worn on the head, and the hoods became a cape that could be pulled over the head during unpleasant weather.

As additional universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adapted by their faculties for bachelor's (apprentices of the arts), master's (teachers) and doctoral (teachers who had completed postgraduate studies). When caps and hats came into fashion in the 15th century, the hoods became ornamental, draped over the shoulders and down the back.

The academic hat was first worn as a symbol of the master's degree and existed in various forms. The mortarboard style comes to us from Oxford University. When academic costumes came to America in 1754, styles were quite varied. In Europe, they still are; however, in our country, usage has been standardized by the Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume.

#### **GERALD D. HINES COLLEGE** OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Violet Hood: Violet Master's Degree Tassel: Black

#### KATHRINE G. McGOVERN **COLLEGE OF THE ARTS**

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Brown Master's Degree Hood: Brown Hood (Music): Pink Tassel: Black

**Doctoral Degree** Hood: Pink Tassel: Red

### C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Tassel: Red

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Dark Blue Master's Degree Hood: Drab Tassel: Black Hood: Dark Blue **Doctoral Degree** 

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION** 

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Light Blue Master's Degree Hood: Light Blue

Tassel: Black

**Doctoral Degree** Hood (Ed.D.): Light Blue Hood (Ph.D.): Dark Blue

Tassel: Red

#### **CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Orange Master's Degree Hood: Orange Tassel: Black **Doctoral Degree** Hood: Dark Blue

Tassel: Red

#### **CONRAD N. HILTON COLLEGE OF** GLOBAL HOSPITALITY LEADERSHIP

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Navy

Master's Degree Hood: Navy, Red and White

Tassel: Black

Hood: Dark Blue **Doctoral Degree** 

Tassel: Red

#### **Commencement Ceremony**

#### **UH LAW CENTER**

Master's Degree Hood: Purple

Tassel: Black

**Doctoral Degree** Hood: Purple

Tassel: Red

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: Citron
Master's Degree Hood: Citron

Tassel: Black

**Doctoral Degree** Hood: Dark Blue

Tassel: Red

## TILMAN J. FERTITTA FAMILY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

**Doctor of Medicine Degree** 

Hood: Kelly Green Tassel: Red

## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Bachelor's DegreeTassel: Golden YellowMaster's DegreeHood: Golden Yellow

Tassel: Black

**Doctoral Degree** Hood: Dark Blue

Tassel: Red

## ANDY AND BARBARA GESSNER COLLEGE OF NURSING

Bachelor's DegreeTassel: ApricotMaster's DegreeHood: Apricot

Tassel: Black

**Doctoral Degree** Hood: Apricot

Tassel: Red

#### **COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY**

Master's Degree Hood: Gold

Tassel: Black

**Doctor of Philosophy Degree** 

Hood: Royal Blue Tassel: Red

**Doctor of Optometry Degree** 

Hood: Seafoam Green

Tassel: Red

#### **COLLEGE OF PHARMACY**

**Bachelor's Degree** Tassel: Olive **Master's Degree** Hood: Olive

Tassel: Black

**Doctor of Philosophy Degree** 

Hood: Royal Blue

Tassel: Red

**Doctor of Pharmacy Degree** 

Hood: Olive Tassel: Red

# GRADUATE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

Master's Degree Hood: Citron

Tassel: Black

**Doctoral Degree** Hood: Citron

Tassel: Red

#### HOBBY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**Bachelor's Degree** *Tassel:* Peacock Blue

Master's Degree Hood: Peacock Blue

Tassel: Black

# UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS – INTEGRATED STUDIES

Bachelor's Degree Tassel: White

### **Ceremonial Symbols**



#### THE SEAL

Throughout history, seals have been used to authenticate official documents. The University of Houston and UH System seals both bear the Official Seal of Arms of General Sam Houston, as handed down to him from his noble ancestors. It includes the escutcheon in the center of the seal — consisting of checkered chevrons denoting nobility — and three martlets, gentle lowland birds that symbolize peace and deliverance. A winged hourglass is placed above the shield. Surmounting this is the motto "In Tempore," meaning "In Time." The greyhounds indicate speed of giving aid. The UH seal was first adopted in 1938 as the present campus was established. Although the look of the seal has evolved over the years, the first version was etched into the floor of the Roy G. Cullen Building.



#### **UNIVERSITY MACE**

The University Mace, which is carried in academic processions, is a staff symbolizing the University's authority and unity. The tradition of the academic mace began in the late 14<sup>th</sup> century when two ancient instruments, the royal scepter and the battle mace, were combined to form a university president's symbol of authority.

#### THE ALMA MATER

All hail to thee,
Our Houston University.
Our hearts fill with gladness
When we think of thee.
We'll always adore thee
Dear old varsity.
And to thy memory cherished,
True we'll ever be.

Words and music by Harmony Class of 1942

**Commencement Ceremony** 

#### **Academic Honors**

Academic honors are based on the requirements of the catalog year students entered the University. The final designation for honors is determined by the Provost's Office upon final completion of all degree requirements.

Undergraduates who have graduated with the stated academic honors have achieved the following grade point averages earned in the last 54 hours completed at the University of Houston.

> Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors) 3.90 TO 4.0 Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors) 3.70 TO 3.89 Cum Laude (with Honors) 3.50 TO 3.69

This roster does not include the names of degree holders who chose to withhold information under the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

### Summa Cum Laude – 4.0 GPA Graduates

The following graduates are recognized for achieving Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 cumulative grade point average while also completing their degree within four years of starting their first semester in college at the University of Houston.

#### **SPRING 2024**

#### Nabira Adnan

Bachelor of Science in Psychology College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

#### Christopher Andrade

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

#### Abdullah Ansari

Bachelor of Business Administration in Management of Information Systems C.T. Bauer College of Business

#### Tiffany Bui

Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

#### Zofia Bulhak

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Bachelor of Arts in English College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

#### Jia Chen

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

#### Ryan Crites

Bachelor of Business Administration in Management C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

#### Sarah Elizabeth Gawlik

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

#### Alejandro Hadad Roura

Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

#### Julieta Jara

Bachelor of Business Administration in Management of Information Systems C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

#### **Commencement Ceremony**

#### **SPRING 2024 (continued)**

Nicole Laz
Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems
Cullen College of Engineering

Jacob Mai
Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting
C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Kiara Moncada Martin
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Christina Nguyen
Bachelor of Science in Health
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Tran Nguyen
Bachelor of Science in Biology
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Veronica Nwanna
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Isha Patel
Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting
C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Amy Penaloza
Bachelor of Science in Teaching and Learning
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Michelle Pride
Bachelor of Science in Digital Media
Cullen College of Engineering

Kimberly Richardson

Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Justin Rizzo
Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing
C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Melika Salehi
Bachelor of Science in Biology
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Karenina Urquieta
Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance
C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

#### **Commencement Ceremony**



### **Honorary Degree**

#### **DOMINIC NG**

#### Chairman and CEO, East West Bank

A distinguished alumnus and longtime supporter of the University of Houston, Dominic Ng is Chairman and CEO of East West Bank, the largest publicly listed independent bank headquartered in Southern California. Since joining East West in 1991, Ng has transformed the bank from a small savings and loan association with \$600 million in assets into a global full-service commercial bank with over \$70 billion

in assets. Under his leadership, the financial powerhouse was ranked as the No. 1 performing bank in 2023 by S&P Global Market Intelligence and Bank Director.

An influential voice in finance, Ng advises heads of state and government on economic growth as chair of the 2023 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Advisory Council. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on the governing boards of Mattel, Inc., the University of Southern California and the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures.

A thought leader, Ng has been published in Forbes, the Los Angeles Times, Nikkei Asia, and the South China Morning Post, among others. He's earned numerous honors for his business and philanthropic contributions, including the Alexis de Tocqueville Award — United Way Worldwide's highest distinction — Banker of the Year by American Banker, Businessperson of the Year by the Los Angeles Business Journal and Forbes' 25 Most Notable Chinese Americans.

Ng graduated magna cum laude from the University of Houston in 1980 with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He and his wife, fellow UH alumna Ellen Wong, have been financially supportive of UH since 1990. Generous with their time and resources, the two hosted multiple events in the Los Angeles area in support of the University's historic "Here, We Go" campaign.

Ng supported himself through UH by tutoring student-athletes, including football players during the glory days of Coach Bill Yeoman. Holding fast to his love for UH and connection to student-athletes, Ng and Wong made a major gift to establish the Dominic and Ellen Ng Academic Center for Excellence inside the UH Athletics/Alumni Center. The 9,000 square-foot academic-support space, which opened in 2018, fosters collegiate excellence with dedicated areas for tutoring and group study, redesigned classrooms, and technology-driven amenities.

The Center's presence has left an indelible mark on UH's student-athletes, helping propel their academic and future success.

The Doctor of Humane Letters degrees, honoris causa, given for exemplary service to the University of Houston or society at large, is the highest honor UH can bestow.



### **President's Medallion**

#### **TDECU**

TDECU is the largest credit union in Houston and the fourth largest in Texas, providing a full range of financial

services to its more than 370,000 members. Established in 1955 to provide financial help to the hourly worker, today, its original \$35 loan has turned into over \$4.7 billion in assets. Moreover, TDECU provides philanthropic support to help its local communities thrive through a focus on educational, health and economic development.

Since 2008, TDECU has generously supported the University of Houston, contributing more than \$30 million to empower its students, employees and alumni through a broad range of impactful initiatives.

In 2014, when TDECU purchased naming rights to UH's football stadium for \$15 million, it made history with the largest-ever naming rights deal for a college football stadium at that time — elevating the football program and University. Concurrently, TDECU became a sponsor of the University of Houston's Alumni Association's (UHAA) annual Cougar 100 event, which recognizes and celebrates the 100 most successful Cougar-owned or led companies. In that same year, it also opened a branch in the UH Student Center, making its financial services easily accessible to UH students, employees and the local community.

Committed to student enrichment, for years, the credit union has worked closely with the C. T. Bauer College of Business on student-led strategic research and recruited student interns from its A.R. "Tony" and Maria J. Sanchez Program for Excellence in Selling, many of whom became permanent employees.

In 2023, the credit union renewed its football stadium naming rights agreement with a \$20 million partnership, which included an expansion of its support across the University. Its renewal helped to bolster UH's prominence in the Big 12 Conference and its vision to become a top 50 university. TDECU sponsored a new loyalty program to increase fan engagement. It also expanded its support of UHAA, partnering on numerous events and programs, as well as the UH Young Alumni Association. It became a presenting sponsor of the University's Cougar Cupboard food pantry, expanding access to nutritious food, free of charge for students in need. Additionally, it began providing financial literacy workshops for student-athletes covering saving, budgeting, debt management and taxes, among other key topics. TDECU also proudly sponsored UH Athletics' Champions Circle, which connects student-athletes with leading companies that help hone and further develop their professional skills

The President's Medallion is awarded at the sole discretion of the President to individuals and organizations that have distinguished themselves by their support of the University of Houston and the community.







#### Message from the Dean

Dear College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Graduates,

Congratulations! Today, we celebrate a significant milestone in your educational career.

A few years ago, you came to the University of Houston with a personal goal. Now, you have attained it. Your degree is more than a testament

to your hard work; it is the foundation upon which you will build as you continue to learn throughout your lifetime.

As graduates of NSM, you have proven that you are driven by inquiry, exploration, and innovation. You will be the force behind discoveries that will revolutionize our lives and impact our state, nation, and the entire world.

As you leave UH and NSM, you hold the knowledge your professors shared with you, the wisdom you gained as you matured, and the benefit of personal experiences, professional connections, and friendships that will last a lifetime.

The faculty and staff of NSM are proud of your achievements. You have my best wishes for much success and happiness. Go Coogs!

Sincerely,

Dan E. Wells, Ph.D.

Dean and Distinguished Professor of Science

) E Well

**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics** 

#### **Commencement Ceremony**

Friday, May 10, 2024, 7:00 p.m. Fertitta Center

**PROCESSIONAL** Moores School of Music

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS Houston Battalion ROTC Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM Moores School of Music

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS** Dan E. Wells

Dean

Distinguished Professor of Science

GREETINGS FROM THE Julian Chenin, '18
NSM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Board Member, NSMAA

**STUDENT ADDRESS** Chris Andrade

PRESENTATION OF THE DAN E. WELLS Jeremy May

**OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARD** Associate Dean, Graduate Affairs

PRESENTATION OF ACADEMIC HONORS Donna Stokes

Associate Dean,

Undergraduate Affairs and Student Success

**RECOGNITION OF 4.0 STUDENTS** Associate Dean Stokes

**PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES** Dean Wells

Associate Dean May

Associate Dean Stokes

**CONFERRAL OF DEGREES** Dean Wells

**CLOSING REMARKS** Dean Wells

ALMA MATER Moores School of Music

**RECESSIONAL** Moores School of Music

#### **College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**

#### Commencement Ceremony

### **Spring 2024** – Candidates for Graduation

#### **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

#### **Biochemistry**

Adeniyi Gbenga Adeleye
ADVISOR: Robert J. Schwartz, Ph.D.

Azeez Babatunde Muili
ADVISOR: Robert J. Schwartz, Ph.D.

#### **Biology**

Mahmoud Mohammad Alhomouz ADVISOR: Amy Sater, Ph.D.

Sarah Michelle Empie

ADVISOR: Arne Lekven, Ph.D.

Genesis Jesenia Herrera

ADVISOR: Debora Rodrigues, Ph.D.

Richard Souheil Saoud ADVISOR: Arne Lekven, Ph.D.

Marium Waqar **ADVISOR:** Brigitte Dauwalder, Ph.D.

#### Chemistry

Roy A. Arrieta Robles

ADVISOR: Jakoah Brgoch, Ph.D.

Hossein Barzegar

ADVISOR: Jeremy A. May, Ph.D.

Symone Louise Carty
ADVISOR: Scott R. Gilbertson, Ph.D.

Clayton Paul Donald ADVISOR: Jeremy A. May, Ph.D.

Jacob Calvin Hickey
ADVISOR: Jakoah Brgoch, Ph.D.

Dung Viet Nguyen

ADVISOR: Eva M. Harth, Ph.D.

Yennie Nguyen

ADVISOR: Thomas Teets, Ph.D.

Hasaan Shariq Rauf ADVISOR: Eva M. Harth, Ph.D.

#### **Computer Science**

Alireza Ansaripour ADVISOR: Omprakash D. Gnawali, Ph.D.

Mikhail Mekhedkin-Meskhi ADVISOR: Ricardo Vilalta, Ph.D.

Nassima Noufail

ADVISOR: Fatima Merchant, Ph.D.

Urmila Sampathkumar

ADVISOR: Fatima Merchant, Ph.D.

Amanveer Wesley

ADVISOR: Ioannis T. Pavlidis, Ph.D.

Xiantian Zhou

ADVISOR: Carlos Ordonez, Ph.D.

#### Geology

Lisabeth Nicole Arellano

ADVISOR: Shuhab D. Khan, Ph.D.

Yu-Huan Hsieh

ADVISOR: John Suppe, Ph.D.

Muhammad Qasim

ADVISOR: Shuhab D. Khan, Ph.D.
Juan Pablo Ramos Vargas

ADVISOR: Paul Mann, Ph.D.

Syed Osman Ali Tirmizi
ADVISOR: Shuhab D. Khan, Ph.D.

Joanna Walker

ADVISOR: John P. Castagna, Ph.D.

Kuan Wang

ADVISOR: Guoquan Wang, Ph.D.

#### Geophysics

Teng Long

ADVISOR: Yingcai Zheng, Ph.D.

Yin-Kai Wang

ADVISOR: Robert R. Stewart, Ph.D.

Boming Wu

ADVISOR: Hua-wei Zhou, Ph.D.

Yu-Tai Wu

ADVISOR: Robert R. Stewart, Ph.D.

#### **Mathematics**

Haseeb E. Ansari
ADVISOR: Jeffrey Morgan, Ph.D.

Malihehsadat Chavooshi

ADVISOR: Alexander V. Mamonov, Ph.D.

Youssaf Ammar Menacer

ADVISOR: Demetrio Labate, Ph.D.

Yerbol Palzhanov

ADVISOR: Maxim Olshanskii, Ph.D.

Phuong Thi Kim Tran

ADVISOR: Matthew Nicol, Ph.D.

An T. Vu

ADVISOR: Demetrio Labate, Ph.D.

Heng Zhao

ADVISOR: Demetrio Labate, Ph.D.

#### **Physics**

Ian E. Harmon

ADVISOR: Mini Das, Ph.D.

Sumit Khadka

ADVISOR: Byron Freelon, Ph.D.

James R. Lesmeister

ADVISOR: Lisa Koerner, Ph.D.

Pablo Andres Lopez Duque

ADVISOR: Gregory C. Morrison, Ph.D.

Minghui Ning

ADVISOR: Zhifeng Ren, Ph.D.

Fengjiao Pan

ADVISOR: Zhifeng Ren, Ph.D.

Alejandro Ramirez

ADVISOR: Andrew Renshaw, Ph.D.

Anjaly Sasikumar Menon

**ADVISOR:** Anthony Timmins, Ph.D.

Lilly A. Schaffer

ADVISOR: Oomman K. Varghese, Ph.D.

Oveis Sheibani

ADVISOR: Rene Bellwied, Ph.D.

Xin Shi

**ADVISOR:** Zhifeng Ren, Ph.D.

Sebastian Torres-Lara

ADVISOR: Andrew Renshaw, Ph.D.

Nosheen Younas

ADVISOR: Eric R. Bittner, Ph.D.

#### **MASTER OF ARTS**

#### **Mathematics**

Nicole Jeanette Anderson

#### **College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**

#### **Commencement Ceremony**

#### **MASTER OF SCIENCE**

#### **Applied Mathematics**

Fardokht Namiranian

#### Biology

Wesam Daniah Abdeljaber

Jaqueline Curiel Credo Djedje

Alan Zouheir El-Hakam

Hannah Green Jeremy D. Henry

Christianne Mycah Lane

Shams Maallah Sydni Anne Marsh Sarah Mirbahaeddin Shayan Parvizi Andrew Pieper Amal Mehboob Shekha

Anran Sun

# Izma Syed Chemistry

Hung Thanh Hong

#### **Computer Science**

Mythili Aitha

Navyasri Annamaneni

Apoorva Arya Sanjith Balachandran

Shivani Challagulla Nikhitha Chandana Chinthapalli

Haibo Chu

Lakshmi Aparna Chukka

Jaharika Dupicharla Gopinath

Qasim Ali Farooqui Jiechang Guo Wenjuan Huang Melis Irmak Ilhan Sai Padmakar Kasindula

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Revanth Kesagani Sri Vaishnavi Kosana Srilasya Kotagiri Ashutosh Kumar Iiwoo Lee Rishitha Mamidala Likhitha Mandapati Sanjana Movva

Naga Badra Kali Mylavarapu

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Sai Praneeth Senigapalli Sai Sreeja Singireddy Vaishnavi Somagutta Kottam

Akhil Syed Supriya Talasila Manogna Sai Talluri Sai Sri Charishma Vaddi Joshmitha Yalamanchili

Amala Yeruva

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Saad Alabbasi Sakhawat Ali

Bandar Mohammad Alshammary

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#### Statistics and Data Science

Jose Marco Babino Bermillo

Nabanita Gupta Lucas Smith

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#### **Mathematics**

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Amal T. Altatar<sup>2</sup>

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Julio Aldalverto Pineda Ignacio Ricaud<sup>3</sup> Isabel Rios<sup>2</sup>

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Daniel Enrique Sotillo <sup>7</sup> Rahila Fatima Syeda <sup>2</sup> Anna Tom <sup>3</sup>

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Aedan Christian S. Villegas 1

Aileen D Vu <sup>2</sup> Hoang Vu <sup>2</sup>

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Rania Agha

Talha Aziz Ahmed<sup>2</sup>

Akinwale Raphael Akinrolabu

Maria A. Alfaro

Mohammed Qussay Aljawhar <sup>3</sup> Sebastian Alvarez Luna <sup>2</sup>

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Theresa Thy Cao Ash Thomas Carter

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Mailin Denise Castro David William Caycedo <sup>3</sup> Abbinesh Chandran Aby Shibu Chelakad Kevin Chen <sup>1</sup> Carla Cobos Perez

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Matthew V. Stamm <sup>3</sup>
Melvin M. Syriac <sup>1</sup>
Malik Omar Taylor
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Brendan Sky Timberlake
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De Phat Tran
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Steven Weng <sup>2</sup> David Chia-Zong Wu

Ziming Xu <sup>2</sup>

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Naomi Zelenka Arredondo Perez

Dylan Welch Babb <sup>3</sup>
Albert Bo Chen
Jazlyn Dennise Correa
Cristina Marie Deleon
Anna Elaine Ervin
Bowen Y. Gao
Sarah C. Garcia <sup>2</sup>
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Bridget Athziri Robles
Jessica N. Rodriguez

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Bailey Hodakievic <sup>3</sup> Kevin Johnson

Grace Elizabeth Kendall

Erika Munoz George Reilly Pias Gabriela I. Ramirez

#### Geophysics

Alejandro Aguilar <sup>3</sup> Tyler Mai <sup>3,4</sup>

#### **Honors Biomedical Sciences**

Mawada Sami Al Faisal '
Sophia Aisha Asif '
Kevin The-Huy Dang '
Mariam Dumitrascu '
Nabeeha Hasan '
Saher Ahmed Khan '
Pavan Kureti '
Audrey Nguyen '

#### **Mathematical Biology**

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Delana M. Bui <sup>1</sup> Jocelyn M. Garcia

Gabrielle Nicole Kostecki 1

Kim Ngoc Nguyen

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Heath R. Ferris <sup>3</sup> Greg D. Finke <sup>1</sup>

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Sofia A. Gerra

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Hira Jivani<sup>2</sup>

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Ryan T. Nguyen Emmanuel Nino Matthew Nolen<sup>2</sup> Leonardo Osorio<sup>3</sup>

Randy Tien Khang Pham 1

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Quynh Nhat Phan<sup>2</sup>
Keegan Leslie Ross<sup>2</sup>
Travis Reid Schlicht
Ryan Alexandra Schultz
Taihei Shiokawa<sup>3</sup>

Anika Diamond-Moni Sotomayor

Lisset Vazquez Huyen Vu

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#### Message from the Dean

Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on your graduation from the Honors College at the University of Houston! Your talents and motivation have culminated in the impressive achievements we recognize today. For 45 years, the Human Situation course has served as a gateway of endless possibilities for many students before you. Think back to your first Human Situation lecture and how far you have come.

Honors courses have challenged you to think deeply about the nature of being human, as individuals and in societies. You've been encouraged to take what you learn beyond the classroom into research and community engagement.

The faculty, staff, and fellow students of the Honors College have been members of your team. They are now cheering you on as you begin your career or continue your studies in graduate or professional programs. We take pride in your achievements, and take comfort knowing that, though you are leaving on this new journey, the Honors College will always be a part of your life.

Stay connected with the College and use your success to inspire future generations and support the many programs and scholarships that you enjoyed during your time here.

We know that you are well-prepared to lead in your chosen field and to contribute solutions to the grand challenges we face in this ever-changing world. As you find your place in a new community, remember to be bold in action and to stand strong in the face of adversity. We believe in you.

Go Coogs!

Heidi Appel Dean

 $Professor\ of\ Biology\ \textit{\&}\ Biochemistry$ 



### The Honors College Honors

The Honors College at the University of Houston offers students special opportunities to develop their academic abilities. Below are the Honors College designations.

#### University Honors and University Honors with Honors in Major

Students who complete the Honors College curriculum (36 hours) graduate with University Honors. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with University Honors with Honors in Major.

#### Collegiate Honors and Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major

Students who fulfill the requirements for the honors program in the college of their major, including 21 hours of honors courses; who complete an Honors College minor, or who complete 21 hours of approved honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major.

#### Membership in The Honors College and Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major

Students who affiliate with the Honors College during their undergraduate years and complete fewer than 21 hours of honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis and fulfill the requirements of their major with distinction, they graduate with Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major.

#### **Honors in Major**

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Students who complete a senior honors thesis but are not members of the Honors College.

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Vincent Taylor

# CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Harry L. Goldberg James Michael Valentine

# COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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# COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Nabeeha Hasan Danielle Antoinette Henry Mazen Daniel Malak Theresa Nguyen

### Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major

# COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Veronica Nwanna

# COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Paola Guevara Montoya

### **Honors in Major**

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Charvi Chetan Negandhi
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Dylan T. Tran Eric Tran Tammy Tran Leah Yonas

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Fadel A. Al Alawi
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Douglas Owen Caringer
Samuel Ethan Collins
Oselumenosen Ekhuemelo

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Beyza Kural

Christina J. Kuruvilla Farida Lakhani

Gabrielle Alexis Braza Lea

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Colton D. Marino Hailey Ann Mcandrew Rushil Rajesh Mehta Anna Katherine Meyer Nathan B. Mitchell

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Paul Inue Gonzague Novoa-Gueneau

Shan Mohammed Pappa

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