ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVENTH
SPRING COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2020
11:00 A.M.
VIRTUAL CEREMONY
Dear Wesley College Family,

Welcome to the 2020 Wesley College Virtual Commencement Celebration. I hope this program provides you and your families, in some small way, the memories and joy that all of you have provided all of us during your time here at Wesley College – you are a special Class, and it has truly been a blessing to be part of your educational growth and lives for the past four years.

To our collective family and friends, thank you for your steadfast support of our students, our College, and our future. Your support and engagement has been, and will continue to be, an important aspect of the educational process.

Though we cannot all be physically together, not recognizing the great Class of 2020 celebrating your remarkable achievements, was not an option, and quite frankly, never considered. We hope this Virtual Commencement Celebration, though not how we all had envisioned your Commencement three months ago before our way of life was so drastically changed, provides each one of you a lasting reminder of your accomplishments and times while here at Wesley College.

You will now enter the ranks of over 16,000 alumni of Wesley College, carrying forth the legacy of excellence that all who came before you helped to establish. History awaits, and your time is now. Your faculty, staff, and I am so very proud of each one of you, and look forward to the successes that lay ahead for you as Wolverine alums.

All The Best & Go Wolverines!

Robert E. Clark II,
President of the College
ALMA MATER

Hail, dear Wesley Alma Mater,
devotion we offer thee.
Help us to uphold thy honor
with truth and loyalty.

In thanks for the gift of knowledge
our joyful voices we raise
to offer Wesley College
this song of grateful praise.

We will always think of Wesley
when college days are gone.
She will be our inspiration
as years go on and on.

In thanks for the gift of knowledge
our joyful voices we raise
to offer Wesley College
this song of grateful praise.

MISSION STATEMENT

Wesley College is a United Methodist institution of higher education that seeks to be among the finest student-centered learning communities in the liberal arts tradition. Consistent with our Methodist heritage, the College affirms meaning and purpose in life through justice, compassion, inclusion and social responsibility that enhance community life and respect for the environment. Wesley College exists to liberate and empower its students with the knowledge, skills, ethical attitudes and capacity for critical thinking needed to achieve personal and professional goals and to contribute to the local and global society.
COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE

Greetings from the Wesley College President
Mr. Robert E. Clark II

Greetings from the Board of Trustees
Mr. William Strickland, Chair, Board of Trustees

Greetings from the United States Senate
The Honorable Tom Carper & Chris Coons

Greetings from the United States House of Representatives
The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester

Greetings from the State of Delaware and City of Dover
Senator Trey Charles Paradee, Delaware State Senate
Senator Colin Bonini, Delaware State Senate
William F. Hare, Dover City Council President

Greetings from the Dean of Students
Dr. Wanda Anderson

Remarks from the President of the Student Government Association
Mr. Toluwanimi Babalola, Class of 2020

Presentation of Student Awards
Dr. Cynthia Newton

Faculty Awards
&
Dr. Malcolm D'Souza

American Chemical Society Student Award

Awarding of Faculty Emeriti and Honorary Doctorate

Congratulations from Alumni
Mrs. Christine McDermott ’98

Graduate Procession
Class of 2020

Presentation of the Candidates for Degrees
Dr. Jeffrey K. Gibson

Conferring Degrees and Awarding Diplomas
Mr. Robert E. Clark II

Alma Mater
Ms. Amy Kellen ‘08, M ‘17
Accompaniment arr. Dr. James Wilson

Congratulations Class of 2020 Videos on Behalf of Faculty & Staff Members
Graduation Ceremony Website Link: https://wesley.edu/commencement-2020
Faculty Recognition Awards

The Wesley College Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students, greatly appreciate our retiring faculty members. Each has contributed within the College in so many important ways. Within their departments, they were essential in building the quality programs we are able to offer our students — past, present, and future. From all of us, we thank you for your service.

Faculty Emerita and Honorary Doctorate Degree of Business

Professor Marilyn H. Johnson is retiring from Wesley College after serving the institution for 38 years in various capacities.

Faculty Emerita
Professor Julie A. Fisher

Dr. Julie Fisher, Professor of Nursing, has been a member of the Wesley College family for 30 years in the Department of Nursing.

Faculty Emerita
Professor Jermaine D. Whitman-Smithe

Dr. Jamie Whitman-Smithe, Professor of Education, will retire after 19 years of dedicated service in the Department of Education.
Academic Regalia

The Faculty wearing of academic robes today has a history of eight centuries. Students and teachers in medieval universities of Paris, Bologna, Oxford, and Cambridge wore long, flowing robes or gowns with hoods, which were necessary for warmth in the unheated buildings. As additional colleges and universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adopted by their faculties. When academic regalia 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. The gown, the cap, and the hood are the characteristic elements of academic apparel. The gown is usually of black material. Bachelor’s degree gowns have pointed sleeves, Master’s degrees have long closed sleeves, Doctoral gowns have voluminous bell-shaped sleeves with velvet bars. The cap, the square mortarboard in American Universities, but a round soft flat velvet hat in British, Canadian, and some European universities, bears a tassel that may be black for all ranks and degrees or may be of gold thread for Doctoral degrees and the color of the degree for Bachelor’s and Master’s. The hood, worn around the neck to hang down the back, is the principal emblem of the nature and source of the degree held. It is edged with velvet of the color of the degree, while the lining of silk bears the colors of the institution which granted the degree. Bachelor’s hoods are three feet long, Master’s three and one-half, and Doctoral hoods have wide panels at the sides. Hoods may be worn only after the degree has been granted.

Ceremonial Mace

Originally, the mace was a weapon, a club of wood or iron used in the medieval wars to break armor worn by knights. The history of the ceremonial mace in educational institutions began in the seventeenth century when Cambridge and Oxford Universities in England adopted the mace as an emblem to be carried on ceremonial occasions to symbolize the authority of the President. The Wesley College Mace was designed in 1964 during the presidency of Robert H. Parker. It is constructed of sterling silver and wood taken from various locations. The semispherical shape at the top of the cockle shells are symbols of the pilgrim and are taken from the coat of arms of John Wesley and of Wesley College. The trefoil is used to suggest the Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. The quarterfoil represents the four saints, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The crown of silver near the top of the mace supports the cross of olive wood, and the two symbolize the Christian unity of cross and crown.
ACADEMIC HONORS

Graduation with Latin Honors

Graduation with Latin Honors requires that an undergraduate complete at least 60 credit hours at Wesley College for a baccalaureate degree. Based upon all work taken at Wesley College, a cumulative GPA of 3.50 is required to graduate Cum Laude, 3.70 to graduate Magna Cum Laude, and 3.90 to graduate Summa Cum Laude from any baccalaureate program.

Graduation with Honors

Graduation with Honors requires that a baccalaureate degree student complete at least 45 credit hours at Wesley College. Based upon the work taken at Wesley College, a cumulative GPA of 3.50 is required to graduate With Honor, 3.70 to graduate With High Honor, and 3.90 to graduate With Highest Honor. Students in associate degree programs with at least 30 credit hours taken at Wesley must have a cumulative GPA of 3.50 to graduate With Honor, 3.70 to graduate With High Honor, and 3.90 to graduate With Highest Honor.

CORDS AND MEDALLIONS

Alpha Chi Cords

Graduates wearing blue and green honor cords are members of Alpha Chi Honor Fraternity, which recognizes outstanding scholarship in all fields of study.

Lambda Iota Tau Cords

Graduates wearing purple and gold honor cords are members of the Delta Phi Chapter of Lambda Iota Tau, a national honor society for English majors, minors, and those with a language arts concentration.

Philanthropy Cord

Graduates wearing dark green Cord is to recognize the students who made a Senior Class Gift

Psi Chi Cords

Graduates wearing gold honor cords with blue tassels are members of Psi Chi, the national honor society for the discipline of psychology.

Sigma Beta Delta Cords

Graduates wearing dark green and gold honor cords are members of Sigma Beta Delta, an international honor society for business.

Sigma Tau Delta

The English honor society was founded in 1924, the society has as its motto “Sincerity, Truth, Design,” and its symbols are the pen and the mace. Its colors are cardinal and black.

Sigma Theta Tau Cords

Graduates wearing purple and white honor cords are members of Sigma Theta Tau, the international honor society for nursing.

Wesley College Honors Program Medallions

Honors Program students have completed the most rigorous curriculum at Wesley College including a capstone project. The honors medallion recognizes outstanding achievement within their discipline.
The Commencement Committee would like to express our appreciation to:

**Wesley College Alma Mater**

Amy Kellen ‘08, M ‘17
Accompanied by Dr. James Wilson

**Wesley College Commencement Committee and Assistance**

Dr. Jeffrey Gibson
Edward Muntz
Allyson Mollung
Christine McDermott
   Erin Collier
   Laura Mayse
   Dan Laguerre
   April Mahoney
   JoMae Boney
   Eileen McCutcheon
   Marti Sanner
Kevin Hartley & Video Setup Helpers
   Sierra Hayes
   Tina Mosley

**A Sincere**

*Thank You*

to the public officials
from the City of Dover and State of Delaware
for sending videos of well wishes to our 2020 Graduates
The Wesley College Community
Congratulates our
Class of 2020

The Commencement Ceremony can be viewed, and messages posted @
https://wesley.edu/commencement-2020