Spring Commencement

UC DAVIS

COLLEGES OF
AGRICULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
ENGINEERING
LETTERS AND SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024
SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024
SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

GOLDEN 1 CENTER
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
SPRING COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024 • 9:00 AM AND 2:00 PM
SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024 • 9:00 AM AND 2:00 PM
SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024 • 9:00 AM

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL
Pomp and Circumstance, March No. 1

STAGE PARTY AND FACULTY
Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Performing by
CRISIA REGALADO ’24
CHERYL KUO ’23
MAGGIE LU
ANANYA YOGI ’24

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

AHMET PALAZOGLU
CHAIR, ACADEMIC SENATE
AND COMMENCEMENT MARSHAL

KATHERYN RUSS
VICE CHAIR, ACADEMIC SENATE,
COMMENCEMENT MARSHAL

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

GARY S. MAY
CHANCELLOR

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

MIKE BROWN
HEAD COACH, NBA’S SACRAMENTO KINGS

KEYNOTE VIDEO ADDRESS

JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ
FORMER NASA ASTRONAUT AND UC REGENT

FACULTY COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Friday, June 14 9:00 AM
JAY STACHOWICZ
PROFESSOR OF EVOLUTION AND ECOLOGY
THE COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Friday, June 14 2:00 PM
DEBBIE FETTER
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF TEACHING IN THE DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION IN THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Saturday, June 15 9:00 AM
COLLEN BRONNER
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF TEACHING IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Sunday, June 15 2:00 PM
RUSS HOVEY
PROFESSOR OF ANIMAL SCIENCE IN THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Sunday, June 16 9:00 AM
JANINE WILSON
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF TEACHING IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS IN THE COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE
STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER
Friday, June 14 9:00 AM
Friday, June 14 2:00 PM
Saturday, June 15 9:00 AM
Saturday, June 15 2:00 PM
Sunday, June 16 9:00 AM

NISHI BHAGAT
LAICEE BROWN
JESSE GOODMAN
SONORA SLATER
CAROLINE WILLIAMS

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

GARY S. MAY
CHANCELLOR

UC DAVIS MEDAL
Saturday, June 15

DARRYL GOSS, ‘83 AND LOIS GOSS, ‘85
PHILANTHROPISTS

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
Graduates will cross the stage at this time

Bachelor of Arts
Bachelors of Science
Bachelor of Arts and Science

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

GARY S. MAY

CONCLUDING REMARKS

CAL AGGIE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ALMA MATER
HAIL TO CALIFORNIA (1907)
Clinton R. Morse

Recessional

Hail to California, Alma Mater dear
Sing the joyful chorus, Sound it far and near
Rallying ‘round her banner, We will never fail California, Alma Mater, Hail! Hail! Hail!

STAGE PARTY, FACULTY AND GRADUATES
Access to graduate seating is prohibited. The audience is requested to remain seated until the graduates and stage party have exited the main floor.
The Platform Party*
The Platform Party is comprised of the Chancellor and other executive members of the administration, College deans and invited special guests. The Platform Party’s responsibility is to participate in the ceremony and may be called upon to perform additional duties including serving as the Commencement Marshal. Generally, the members of the Platform Party are seated on the stage throughout the proceedings.

HUSSAIN AL ASAAD
Professor, College of Engineering

SHIRELY AHN
Professor, College of Engineering

DANA ALLEN
Assistant Vice Chancellor and Executive Director, Cal Aggie Alumni Association

ESTELLA ATEKWANA
Dean, College of Letters and Science

SIMON ATKINSON
Vice Chancellor, Research

KEITH BAAR
Professor, College of Biological Sciences

GEORGE BAXTER
Chief Innovation and Economic Development Officer

DIANE BECKLES
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

MICHAEL BRADFORD
Vice Provost and Dean, Undergraduate Education

NOLI BRAZIL
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

COLLEEN BRONNER
Faculty Speaker
Associate Professor of Teaching, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering

ANDRÉS CARVAJAL
Professor, College of Letters and Science

STEPHEN CAVANAGH
Dean, School of Nursing

RICH CORSI
Dean, College of Engineering

MARY CROUGHAN
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

JEAN-PIERRE DELPLANQUE
Vice Provost and Dean, Graduate Studies

HELENE DILLARD
Dean, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

SUSAN EBELER
Associate Dean and Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

KEITH ELLIS
UC Regent

KARL ENGELBACH
Associate Chancellor, Office of the Chancellor

VALERIE EVINER
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

DEBBIE FETTER
Faculty Speaker
Assistant Professor of Teaching, Department of Nutrition, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

EUGENIA MAGNOLIA DA SILVA FERNANDES
Professor, College of Letters and Science

KATHREEN FONTECHA
Professor, College of Letters and Science

ANNALEISE FRANZ
Associate Dean and Professor, College of Letters and Science

DAVE FURLOW
Professor, Department of Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior, College of Biological Sciences

RENETTA GARRISON TULL
Vice Chancellor, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

WILLIAM GARRITY
University Librarian and Vice Provost of Digital Scholarship

SUSAN GENTRY
Professor, College of Engineering

LACI GERHART
Associate Professor of Teaching, Department of Evolution and Ecology, College of Biological Sciences

DARRYL GOSS
UC Davis Medal Recipient

LOIS GOSS
UC Davis Medal Recipient

MILMON HARRISON
Associate Vice Provost, Academic Programs

RUSS HOVEY
Faculty Speaker
Professor, Department of Animal Science, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

ANU JOHL SINGH
Vice President, Cal Aggie Alumni Association

ANDREW JORDAN
Professor, College of Letters and Science
SCOTT JUDSON  
President, Cal Aggie Alumni Association

PHILIP KASS  
Vice Provost, Academic Affairs

SHAUN KEISTER  
Vice Chancellor, Development and Alumni Relations

KRISTEN KIESEL  
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

JONATHAN LONDON  
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

MIRIAM MARKUM  
Associate Professor of Teaching, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, College of Biological Sciences

JEREMY MASON  
Professor, College of Engineering

GARY S. MAY  
Chancellor

JAMES MCCLAIN  
Professor, College of Letters and Science

DRAGAN MILENKOIC  
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

SOMEN NANDI  
Professor, College of Engineering

AHMET PALAZOGLU  
Chair, Academic Senate

JOEL PORQUET-LUPINE  
Professor, College of Engineering

DANIEL POTTER  
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

TED POWERS  
Executive Associate Dean, Academic Affairs

PABLO REGUERÍN  
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

SUBASH RISBUD  
Professor, College of Engineering

KATHERYN RUSS  
Vice Chair, Academic Senate

CLARE SHINNERL  
Vice Chancellor, Finance, Operations and Administration

JAY STACHOWICZ  
Faculty Speaker  
Professor, Department of Evolution and Ecology, College of Biological Sciences

MICHAEL SWEENEY  
Chief Campus Counsel, Office of the Campus Counsel

YAYOI TAKAMURA  
Professor, College of Engineering

KATHRYN TEIXEIRA  
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

JOHN TEMPLE  
Professor, College of Letters and Science

ANNE TODGHAM  
Professor, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

DANA TOPOUSIS  
Chief Marketing and Communications Officer

RENETTA GARRISON TULL  
Vice Chancellor, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

TALITHA VAN DER MEULEN  
Assistant Professor of Teaching, Department of Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior, College of Biological Sciences

REBECCA LEE VAN STOKKUM  
Professor, College of Letters and Science

CLAIRE WALTERS  
Professor, College of Letters and Science

ZHANG WANG  
Professor, College of Letters and Science

JANINE WILSON  
Faculty Speaker  
Associate Professor of Teaching, Department of Economics, College of Letters and Science

MARK WINEY  
Dean, College of Biological Sciences

*Listed Alphabetically by Last Name
Academic Regalia

The ceremony of commencement is the most formal occasion celebrated by the university, and the participants traditionally wear academic dress, their official robes of office.

The origins of academic dress date back to the Middle Ages, when learning was largely confined to the church. The cap, gown and hood of modern usage descended from articles of dress worn by church dignitaries, likely for warmth in unheated buildings.

The cap, of serge or broadcloth, is worn by holders of all degrees, but those with doctorates are entitled to wear a gold tassel and may substitute a velvet tam.

Gowns for the bachelor’s degree have pointed sleeves; for the master’s degree, oblong sleeves; and for the doctoral degree, round, bell sleeves with bars of velvet either in black or in the degree color. The hoods are lined in school colors.

The University of California colors are blue and gold.

The Marshal

The Marshal is typically a distinguished faculty member who leads the stage party procession. The University Scepter is displayed prominently during the ceremony. The chair of the Academic Senate serves as the UC Davis Commencement Marshal.

The University Scepter

The symbolism of the scepter is that the four bronze pieces are representative of the four colleges of UC Davis and each features a unique engraving. Together, they uphold the university (the orb).

AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES: A topographical pattern to represent the study of the environment, water, energy, and human-made systems.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES: A double helix to represent the study of life.

ENGINEERING: A molecular structure to represent the technicalities of scientific principles.

LETTERS AND SCIENCE: A simple crosshatch pattern, often used in grips, to represent how vast the studies within the college are.
The Chancellor’s Medal
The Chancellor’s Medal is worn at ceremonial observances as a part of the chancellor’s regalia. At the center is the University of California seal. The back of the medal displays the name of the chancellor and year he or she was inaugurated.
To Degree Candidates,

Congratulations on reaching this wonderful milestone! Today is your moment to celebrate with classmates, families and loved ones, and to honor this significant accomplishment.

When you came to UC Davis, you joined a community driven to make the world a better place. You understood that academics are paramount, but you discovered that the college experience is about so much more. You learned to outgrow the expected, to exceed what’s needed and to do what’s just.

Now, you are ready to take on this next chapter of your life with great confidence and enthusiasm. With its deep commitment to excellence and world-class faculty setting the bar high for students, UC Davis has prepared you to succeed. You not only met that bar, but you pushed beyond. Wherever life takes you, or wherever you take life, remember this is just the beginning of your journey.

You’ll find members of our Aggie family all around the world, and I encourage you to use this valuable network and remain connected with our campus.

I hope you leave UC Davis with cherished memories that will last a lifetime. I encourage you to keep close our values of excellence, openness to diverse perspectives and embracing new ideas. Now is the time to imagine what’s possible and to consider how you will make an impact and contribute to the public good.

The world is waiting for you. Go Ags!

Best regards,

Gary S. May
Chancellor

Message from Chancellor May

“Remember to use your knowledge and powers for good. Every day, try to learn something new, help someone and make the world a better place.”
– CHANCELLOR GARY S. MAY
Message from Provost Croughan

Dear Aggie Graduate,

Congratulations on reaching this pivotal moment! This is a day of celebration for you, your loved ones, your friends, your faculty, and our entire campus as we witness you successfully achieving your goal. We are so very proud of you!

Undoubtedly, your educational journey has required you to overcome numerous challenges, and you had to dig deeper to discover new levels of your own potential. Throughout your studies, you demonstrated resilience and tenacity, even while facing uncertainties and unpredictability of a changing world. You have endured, and all you have accomplished has led you to this day.

As a UC Davis degree candidate, you have met the highest standards and rigorous requirements of your major at this world-class university. While you have grown and changed over your time here, you have left those around you changed. You enriched our campus community by sharing your personal strengths, your passion for learning, and your enthusiasm for engaging with others. You have expanded your awareness and learned new concepts, employed critical thinking and collaborated with others, and forged friendships that can last a lifetime. No matter where your path leads from here—whether it is entering a career field, continuing your studies, joining the Peace Corps, or embarking upon other public service—you are ready to make a positive impact and succeed.

As a proud Aggie alumna myself, I know UC Davis has prepared you very well for your future. Cherish the memories and friendships formed during your time here. Stay connected with your alma mater and your fellow Aggies. Go out and do good in the world. I look forward to welcoming you back to campus as fellow alumni!

All the best,

Mary S. Croughan
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
Hernández was born in French Camp, just south of Stockton, and spent much of his childhood tending fields from Southern California to the Central Valley. Hernández didn’t learn to speak English until he was 12, but knew he wanted to be an astronaut the moment he heard a radio broadcast announcing NASA’s first Hispanic astronaut.

He would go on to graduate with a bachelor’s degree from the University of the Pacific before earning a master’s at UC Santa Barbara.

He spent 16 years at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and co-developed the first full-field digital mammography imaging system.

He joined NASA in 2001 and after 11 rejections, was selected to its astronaut class in 2004. Five years later, he flew to the International Space Station as flight engineer and performed robotic operations aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery, which turned 40 years old this month. He was also the first person to ever Tweet in Spanish from space.

After leaving NASA, Hernández ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 2012. He now serves as president and CEO of Tierra Luna Engineering, an aerospace consulting firm.

In his first season as head coach of the Kings, Brown guided Sacramento to the seventh-best record in the NBA and helped the Kings secure the third seed in the Western Conference. For his efforts, Brown became the first coach to be unanimously voted NBA Coach of the Year. With more than 30 years of NBA coaching experience, Brown has won four NBA championships as an assistant coach. In November 2020, Brown coached the Nigeria men’s national basketball team in the International Basketball Federation, or FIBA, qualifiers in Rwanda and in August 2021, the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. He also served as a coach for the NBA’s Basketball Without Borders Africa 2023, which brought together 80 boys and girls from 25 African countries. Brown is a graduate of the University of San Diego.
Faculty Commencement Speakers
2024

FRIDAY, JUNE 14 9:00 AM
Jay Stachowicz, Ph.D.
Professor, Evolution and Ecology
College of Biological Sciences

FRIDAY, JUNE 14 2:00 PM
Debbie Fetter, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Teaching, Nutrition
College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 9:00 AM
Colleen Bronner, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Teaching,
Civil and Environmental Engineering
Vice Chair for Undergraduate Studies
College of Engineering

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 2:00 PM
Russ Hovey, Ph.D.
Professor, Animal Science
College of Agriculture
and Environmental Sciences

SUNDAY, JUNE 16 9:00 AM
Janine Wilson, Ph.D.
Associate Professor,
Teaching and Economics
Undergraduate Chair, Economics
College of Letters and Science

To read more about the faculty speakers please visit:
Student Commencement Speakers
2024

FRIDAY, JUNE 14 9:00 AM
Nishi Bhagat
College of Letters and Science

FRIDAY, JUNE 14 2:00 PM
Laicee Brown
College of Letters and Science

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 9:00 AM
Jesse Goodman
College of Letters and Science

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 2:00 PM
Sonora Slater
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

SUNDAY, JUNE 16 9:00 AM
Caroline Williams
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Read more about the student speakers: https://www.ucdavis.edu/news/uc-davis-student-commencement-speakers-share-remarkable-journeys
University
Undergraduate Student Awards
2024

UNIVERSITY MEDAL
Brooke Morey
College of Letters and Science
Anthropology

The University Medal is the highest award given to a UC Davis student completing his or her bachelor’s degree. Each year, one student is chosen to receive this prestigious award and be recognized for scholastic excellence from among the top candidates within the four UC Davis undergraduate colleges.

THE VELOYCE GLENN WINSLOW JR. AWARD
Andrew Tran
College of Biological Sciences
Biological Sciences

The V. Glenn Winslow Jr. Award is given to the most outstanding graduating male. Recognizing service and leadership in university and community activities, as well as excellent scholarship, the award is given to a student who is held in high esteem by other students.

MARY JEANNE GILHOOLY AWARD
Sloka Suresh
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Global Disease Biology

The Mary Jeanne Gilhooly Award is given to the most outstanding graduating female. Recognizing service and leadership in university and community activities, as well as excellent scholarship, the award is given to a student who is held in high esteem by other students.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND INCLUSION AWARD
Seena Nasser
College of Letters and Science
Cognitive Science and Political Science

The Social Justice and Inclusion Award is in recognition of the graduating student of any gender who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to social justice in the areas of leadership, scholarship, and service. The honored student has served as a change agent and made a tangible impact on campus community promoting equity and inclusion.
The **Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research**, also known as the **Dean Keith Simonton Prize** is given annually to a graduating senior who has completed outstanding research in any academic subject.
The UC Davis Medal

The UC Davis Medal is the highest honor the University presents to individuals in recognition of extraordinary contributions that embody the campus’s Vision of Excellence. Medalists inspire and support the success and engagement of our students, faculty, staff and alumni, and foster a bold and innovative spirit in teaching, research and public service.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

The UC Davis Medal recognizes individuals of rare accomplishment, “to be heralded today and in perpetuity,” as extraordinarily special members of the UC Davis community.

The design of the UC Davis Medal represents, both figuratively and literally, the legacy of contributions UC Davis has made to the world in research and scholarly endeavors.

Depicted on the medal are the campus name and its motto, “Let There Be Light.” In the upper left quadrant are the life-giving rays of the sun. Below them, leaves of the bay laurel symbolize our proud history of achievement. Lines in the lower right quadrant may be seen as energy radiating from a source, roads leading to the future, or rows of crops in fertile California fields.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 RECIPIENTS

Lois Goss ’85 and Darryl Goss ’83

Read more about Lois and Darryl Goss:
In Memoriam

Today, we honor the lives of remarkable individuals of our university community who have passed. To recognize these cherished members of our academic, staff and student community who are no longer with us, we have also reserved a memorial chair at each ceremony to honor their memory and achievement.
The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences has helped shape California and the world in monumental ways for more than 100 years. Our collaborative spirit and committed, diverse faculty, students and staff make us uniquely capable of creating solutions that improve the food we eat, the air we breathe, the animals we nurture, the communities we engage and the planet we steward.

Our mission is to promote agricultural, environmental and social sustainability through research, teaching, and public engagement to meet the challenges of global change in the 21st century. The college is highly regarded both nationally and internationally in environmental and human and social sciences, and consistently ranked first in the nation in agriculture, plant and animal sciences, forestry and agricultural economics.

Across the college, undergraduate students pursue a broad array of majors in agricultural, environmental and human and social sciences, and faculty earn national and international recognition for teaching, research and outreach. We continue to remain dedicated to solving critical issues with food, water, climate change, conservation and human health to improve quality of life throughout California and beyond.
Message From Dean Helene Dillard

Dear Graduates,

Today we celebrate your efforts and your incredible achievement as a UC Davis graduate. Your degree signifies your educational successes and preparation for greater opportunity and provides inspiration and meaning to your community.

At UC Davis, we are dedicated to creating solutions for the greater good of society, and you leave here with the tremendous capacity to make a difference. I hope your experience has piqued your interest in the richness of the world around you and that you have developed a deeper understanding of your potential for possibility and creativity.

Congratulations!

Your fellow Aggie alumna,

Helene R. Dillard
Dean and Professor
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
The UC Davis College of Biological Sciences is one of only three colleges in the United States dedicated solely to the study of biological sciences. Our faculty, researchers and students explore fundamental questions about life to advance the planet’s knowledge and meet the demands of the 21st century.

We strive to provide our students with a strong understanding in foundational science that supports careers in human and animal health, ecological conservation and environmental protection, food security and production, and many other disciplines across the life sciences.

THE MISSION OF THE COLLEGE IS TO:

• Create and deliver exceptional and innovative undergraduate programs in the biological sciences.
• Develop future leaders in the biological sciences through an excellent graduate and postdoctoral education.
• Foster an environment in which faculty members and students perform creative and substantial research that advances discovery in the biological sciences.
• Impact the university, the state of California, the nation and the world through service, community engagement and scientific leadership.

The College of Biological Sciences offers undergraduate majors in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Biological Sciences; Cell Biology; Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity; Genetics and Genomics; Human Biology; Marine and Coastal Science; Molecular and Medical Microbiology; Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior; and Plant Biology, and Systems and Synthetic Biology. Undergraduate enrollment in the college has grown to more than 6,000 students.
Message From Dean Mark Winey

Dear graduates,

Congratulations, class of 2024. Today, we celebrate your many accomplishments.

Throughout your time at UC Davis, you’ve demonstrated the passion and curiosity that define a scientist, and those same qualities will continue to serve you well as you move into the next stage of your life. You have the power to show the world why science matters, and I know you will explore, discover, innovate and define greatness in your own way. Wherever life takes you—or wherever you take life—remember the Aggie values of service and justice.

Today though, celebrate with your families and loved ones. You deserve to take a bow and enjoy what you have achieved.

Grow forth and be great, class of 2024!

Mark Winey
Ph.D., Distinguished Professor
Dean of the College of Biological Sciences
The UC Davis College of Engineering is committed to creating a sustainable world through socially responsible engineering, inspiring education and transformative research. By connecting people and technology, Aggie Engineers solve the world’s most pressing problems and make a positive impact on society and the planet.

The college’s distinguished faculty, who are national and international leaders in their disciplines, teach in eight academic departments. They leverage world-class expertise to employ and develop intelligent systems and automation, tools at the nano- and micro-scales, and technologies that will revolutionize energy systems, strengthen climate resilience, advance human health and transform mobility to bring a sustainable, healthier and more resilient world within reach. The college’s strategic vision emphasizes engineering for all and leaving no communities behind.

We like to say, “Once an Aggie Engineer, Always an Aggie Engineer.” Our engineering alumni are engaged with the college, industry, research and academia in various ways that realize our mission. They work at a spectrum of Fortune 500 companies, engineering design firms, software firms, major government agencies, universities and startup companies.

Industry and government partners support groundbreaking research and state-of-the-art labs at UC Davis. As a result, students are inspired as they turn their ideas into reality through inclusive and impactful programs dedicated to fostering startup businesses, strengthening entrepreneurial skills and harnessing technical expertise.

Together, the college’s students, faculty, staff and partners are engineering a better world for all.
Message From Dean Richard Corsi

Dear Students, Family and Friends,

On behalf of the College of Engineering, congratulations on your well-earned achievement: a degree from UC Davis that will take you far!

As an Aggie alumnus and first-generation college student, I know firsthand what this institution does for aspiring engineers, no matter their life experiences. The world needs more Aggie Engineers. Our graduates are equipped with essential engineering principles and the creativity, curiosity and determination to address the world’s most pressing problems. We are so proud of our community of scholars.

Thank you for joining us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates and the great possibilities that await their futures. I am inspired to watch them walk across the stage today, grow as engineers, and help transform our society and planet for the better.

Congratulations, Class of 2024. Go Ags!

Richard Corsi
Dean of the College of Engineering
The College of Letters and Science is the heart of UC Davis and one of the key factors in the university's excellence.

At L&S, we focus on answers, create new knowledge and remove the boundaries to holistic thinking. We are recognized as leaders in education with some of the most highly ranked programs in the country. The arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences ... the work done every day at our college defines academic excellence — both on our campus and globally. We provide an educational experience that prepares students from all backgrounds to find innovative solutions to society's most complex problems.

At the College of Letters and Science, we put great teaching and intellectual exchange at the top of our priorities. As the largest and most comprehensive college at UC Davis, we not only provide the foundation for a truly unified and distinctive liberal arts education, but we are committed to making that education accessible to all. Thirty-eight percent of our undergraduates are the first in their family to attend college, and we are proud to count more students from diverse backgrounds than any other college or school on campus.

We educate students for the future and equip them with flexible and adaptable skills for life. Because of that commitment, our graduates are recognized as leaders and innovators.

Each year, nearly half of all UC Davis students pursue College of Letters and Science degrees in one of our 110+ majors and minors. Our students find their passion and explore their curiosity through beyond-the-classroom experiences, including internships, study abroad and research opportunities alongside our award-winning faculty. Our rigorous programs of study teach students to think critically and creatively across disciplines and prepare them to succeed in any career throughout their lives.

The College of Letters and Science at UC Davis remains a leader in producing alumni who graduate with the knowledge and tools needed to succeed in any career and who are eager and able to make the world a better place.
Message From Dean Estella Atekwana

Dear graduates,

Congratulations, Class of 2024, on reaching this incredible milestone! Through your talent, dedication, and hard work, you have earned the right to bask in this moment of achievement.

As College of Letters and Science graduates, you are now prepared with critical thinking skills, bold curiosity, and an enduring strength that the world so desperately needs right now. You are the next generation of leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators. You will succeed. You will achieve. And you will impact this world in ways that you may not be able to see right now.

We are so very proud of all that you have achieved in your time at L&S, and we’re excited to see all you will accomplish in your careers and in your lives. Please know that you will always have a home here at L&S and no matter where life takes you, you will always be an Aggie!

My very best wishes for the future,

Estella Atekwana
Dean of the College of Letters and Science
Message from Cal Aggie Alumni Association (CAAA)

Dear Graduate,

Congratulations! Earning your degree is a tremendous accomplishment, and we know that you experienced unexpected challenges along the way. The uncertainty of the past two years created additional challenges with remote learning and keeping longtime friends and fellow students apart. During these times, your support system of friends, family and loved ones became more important than ever. But, as Aggies do, you persevered and succeeded, and we commend you for all that you have overcome and accomplished.

As the Presidents of your Cal Aggie Alumni Association and the Parent and Family Council, we are so proud of you and are excited to see the bright future you will build. While today marks the end of one chapter, a new one begins. You are now an alumnus of UC Davis and are part of a global community of more than 285,000 alumni where you can connect with fellow Aggies, build meaningful relationships, help and support each other, and get career guidance all while fueling that everlasting Aggie Pride. Your Alumni Association is here to help you make lifelong connections with Aggies everywhere!

And for the parents, families and friends who provided you with encouragement along the way, we want to say thank you to them. Throughout this journey, they have been there to support and guide you, and we’ve heard how much your accomplishments mean to them. Although commencement may represent the achievement of a goal, Aggie parents, families and friends are always welcome at UC Davis to help guide and encourage future generations of students.

Visiting alumni.ucdavis.edu will give both alumni and families information on how to connect with others, stay in touch and get involved. You’ll find a series of exclusive events, unique opportunities to stay connected, and the tools to help you every step of the way as you build your future. But for now, enjoy this day, celebrate this milestone and – for both our newest alumni and their families – congratulations on a job well done!

Congratulations and GO AGS!

Scott Judson  ‘08
President, Cal Aggie Alumni Association

Rajan Seriampalayam
President, UC Davis Parent and Family Council

UC DAVIS
ALUMNI AND AFFILIATE RELATIONS

UC DAVIS
PARENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS
Aggie Parent and Family Association
EX OFFICIO REGENTS
Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
Eleni Kounalakis
Lieutenant Governor
Robert Rivas
Speaker of the Assembly
Tony Thurmond
State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Michael V. Drake, M.D.
President of the University
Joel Raznick
Alumni Regent
President, Alumni Associations of the University of California
Keith Ellis
Alumni Regent
Vice President, Alumni Associations of the University of California

APPOINTED REGENTS
Maria Anguiano
Elaine E. Batchlor
Carmen Chu
Michael Cohen
Gareth Elliott
Howard “Peter” Guber
José M. Hernández
Nancy Lee
Richard Leib, Chair
Hadi Makarechian
Ana Matosantos
Lark Park
John A. Pérez
Janet Reilly
Mark Robinson
Gregory Sarris
Richard Sherman
Jonathan “Jay” Sures

STUDENT REGENT
Merhawi Tesfai

FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES
James Steintrager
Chair of the Universitywide Academic Senate of the University of California
Steven Cheung
Vice Chair of the Universitywide Academic Senate of the University of California

The Regents of the University of California
Hail to California!

Hail to California, Alma Mater dear
Sing the joyful chorus, Sound it far and near
Rallying 'round her banner, We will never fail
California Alma Mater; Hail! Hail! Hail!

Clinton R. Morse, University of California class of 1896
Arr. Charles Cushing