



**UCDAVIS**

Commencement  
Spring 2025



**UCDAVIS**

# Spring Commencement

COLLEGES OF

AGRICULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

ENGINEERING

LETTERS AND SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025

**GOLDEN 1 CENTER  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA**

# SPRING COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025 • 9:00 AM AND 2:00 PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025 • 9:00 AM AND 2:00 PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2025 • 9:00 AM

## ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

*Pomp and Circumstance, March No. 1*

## STAGE PARTY AND FACULTY

Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

Friday, June 13 9:00 AM and Sunday, June 15 9:00 AM

Friday, June 13 2:00 PM and Saturday, June 14 9:00 AM

Saturday, June 14 at 2:00 PM

*Performed by*

**SAURA PAL**

**BEN SAETERN '25**

**MAGGIE LU '25**

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

**JANET REILLY**

CHAIR, UC BOARD OF REGENTS

Friday, June 13 and Sunday, June 15

**KATHERYN RUSS**

CHAIR, ACADEMIC SENATE,  
COMMENCEMENT MARSHAL

Saturday, June 14

**DAN POTTER**

VICE CHAIR, ACADEMIC SENATE,  
COMMENCEMENT MARSHAL

## COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

**GARY S. MAY**

CHANCELLOR

## KEYNOTE VIDEO ADDRESS

**JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ**

FORMER NASA ASTRONAUT AND UC REGENT

## SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Sunday, June 15 9:00 AM

**JANET REILLY**

CHAIR, UC BOARD OF REGENTS

## FACULTY COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Friday, June 13 9:00 AM

**STEVEN LUCK**

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR  
COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE

Friday, June 13 2:00 PM

**MARINA ELLEFSON**

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF TEACHING  
COLLEGE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Saturday, June 14 9:00 AM

**JESÚS M. VELÁZQUEZ**

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE

Saturday, June 14 2:00 PM

**JORGE MAZZA RODRIGUES**

PROFESSOR  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Sunday, June 15 9:00 AM

**SUSAN GENTRY**

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF TEACHING  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

## STUDENT COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Friday, June 13 9:00 AM  
Friday, June 13 2:00 PM  
Saturday, June 14 9:00 AM  
Saturday, June 14 2:00 PM  
Sunday, June 15 9:00 AM

ALEXA KWAN  
KRYSTLE CATAMURA  
SHANLEA 'SEN' TABOFUNDA  
NIKHITA TOLETI  
HALA AL SAIDALI

## PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

GARY S. MAY  
CHANCELLOR

## UC DAVIS MEDAL

MIKE CHILD '76 AND RENÉE CHILD '76

## PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

*Graduates will be crossing 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

*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!*

## RECESSIONAL

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.

### **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*

### **MICHAEL BRADFORD**

*Vice Provost and Dean,  
Undergraduate Education*

### **STEPHEN CAVANAGH**

*Dean, School of Nursing*

### **RICHARD 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*

### **KARL ENGELBACH**

*Associate Chancellor,  
Office of the Chancellor*

### **ANNALISE FRANZ**

*Associate Dean for  
Undergraduate Education  
and Student Success, College  
of Letters and Science*

### **WILLIAM GARRITY**

*University Librarian and Vice  
Provost of Digital Scholarship*

### **ANU JOHL SINGH**

*President,  
Cal Aggie Alumni Association*

### **PHILIP KASS**

*Vice Provost, Academic Affairs*

### **SHAUN KEISTER**

*Vice Chancellor, Development  
and Alumni Relations*

### **MALISA LEE**

*Vice Provost,  
Enrollment Management*

### **JOHN MARX**

*Vice Provost, Academic  
Programming at Aggie Square*

### **GARY S. MAY**

*Chancellor*

### **DANIEL POTTER**

*Vice Chair, Academic Senate*

### **JANET REILLY**

*Regent, Chair of Board,  
University of California*

### **KATHERYN RUSS**

*Chair, Academic Senate*

### **CLARE SHINNERL**

*Vice Chancellor, Finance,  
Operations and Administration*

### **TOM SMITH**

*Dean, School of Education*

### **MICHAEL SWEENEY**

*Vice Chancellor,  
Office of the Campus Counsel*

### **DEBORAH THOMPSON-AUSTIN**

*Vice President,  
Cal Aggie Alumni Association*

### **DANA TOPOUSIS**

*Chief Marketing and  
Communications Officer*

### **RENETTA GARRISON TULL**

*Vice Chancellor,  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion*

### **H. RAO UNNAVA**

*Dean, Graduate School  
of Management*

### **MARK WINEY**

*Dean, College of  
Rinlinal Sciences*



## 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 milestone, a day you will never forget. No matter where your journey began or the twists and turns along the way, you made it! Today is your moment to celebrate with friends, classmates and loved ones as we honor this significant achievement and look forward to the bright futures ahead of you.

When you became a part of our UC Davis family, you joined a community of free-spirited cyclists, catalysts of change and cultivators of land and ideas.

You became part of a community dedicated to creating a more sustainable and just world.

Today, you graduate after making many critical contributions to our mission and community. You participated in groundbreaking research, mentored others to pursue their dreams and offered your service to the community around us.

You came with big dreams and achieved even bigger goals.

You outgrew the expected.

No matter where your journey takes you next — whether into a career, the armed services, the pursuit of more education, or even right here at UC Davis — you are more than ready to make a difference. With your drive and Aggie education, you have the power to create opportunities for people around you, empower every voice, and build a healthier planet for future generations to come.

Remember that you will always be an Aggie. You'll find members of the UC Davis family in every corner of the world, and I encourage you to stay connected as alumni and return to campus often.

Celebrate this achievement today and know the world is waiting for your passion, your talent and your vision.

Grow forth and show there are no limits to what Aggies can achieve!

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,

Please accept my sincerest congratulations on your graduation! Today marks the culmination of years of work as your loved ones, friends, faculty, and the entire campus celebrates you successfully achieving your goal. What a spectacular moment this is!

As a UC Davis degree candidate, you have met the high standards and rigorous requirements of your major at a world-class university. You have expanded your awareness and learned new concepts, employed critical thinking and collaborated with others, and formed friendships that can last a lifetime. While you have grown and changed over your time here, you have also helped those around you to grow and change. Your personal strengths, your passion for learning, and your enthusiasm for engaging with others has made this community better. I commend you on all that you have accomplished to get here.

I wish you well on your next chapter, whether you are entering your career field, continuing your studies, or embarking upon public service. As a proud Aggie alumna myself, I know UC Davis has prepared you very well for your future and you will succeed.

In closing, I ask that you stay connected with your alma mater and come back to campus to visit us as alumni. We want to be part of your lifelong journey and celebrate all you accomplish in your career and in life. Go Ags!

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Croughan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary S. Croughan  
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

## Keynote Speaker • June 13–15



### **JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ**

**Former NASA Astronaut and UC Regent  
President and CEO of Tierra Luna Engineering**

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.

# Faculty Commencement Speakers 2025



**FRIDAY, JUNE 13 9:00 AM**

**Steven Luck, Ph.D.**

*Distinguished Professor, Psychology  
College of Letters and Science*



**FRIDAY, JUNE 13 2:00 PM**

**Marina Ellefson, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor of Teaching,  
Molecular and Cellular Biology  
College of Biological Sciences*



**SATURDAY, JUNE 14 9:00 AM**

**Jesús M. Velázquez, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor, Chemistry  
College of Letters and Science*



**SATURDAY, JUNE 14 2:00 PM**

**Jorge Mazza Rodrigues, Ph.D.**

*Professor, Land Air and Water Resources  
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences*



**SUNDAY, JUNE 15 9:00 AM**

**Susan Gentry, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor of Teaching,  
Materials Science and Engineering  
College of Engineering*

To read more about the faculty speakers please view [here](#).

# Student Commencement Speakers 2025



**FRIDAY, JUNE 13 9:00 AM**

**Alexa Kwan**

*College of Letters and Science*



**FRIDAY, JUNE 13 2:00 PM**

**Krystle Catamura**

*College of Engineering*



**SATURDAY, JUNE 14 9:00 AM**

**Shanlea 'Sen' Tabofunda**

*College of Biological Sciences*



**SATURDAY, JUNE 14 2:00 PM**

**Nikhita Toleti**

*College of Letters and Science*



**SUNDAY, JUNE 15 9:00 AM**

**Hala Al Saidali**

*College of Biological Sciences*

To read more about the student speakers please view [here](#).



# University

## Undergraduate Student Awards

### 2025

#### UNIVERSITY MEDAL

**Avantika Gokulnatha**

*College of Biological Sciences*

*Genetics and Genomics*

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

**Jack Walker**

*College of Letters and Sciences and*

*College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences*

*Spanish and Environmental Policy Analysis & Plan*

The **V. Glenn Winslow Jr. Award** honors the graduating student outstanding in the areas of leadership, scholarship, integrity and service in the university community. This award was established in 1966 to memorialize the achievements of Veloyce Glenn Winslow Jr., who died while serving as vice president of the student body at UC Davis.

#### MARY JEANNE GILHOOLY AWARD

**Cassandra Gorman**

*College of Letters and Science*

*Political Science*

The **Mary Jeanne Gilhooly Award** honors the graduating student outstanding in the areas of leadership, scholarship, integrity and service in the university community. The award was established in 1942 to memorialize the achievements of Mary Jeanne Gilhooly, recognized as an "unofficial goodwill ambassador to every prospective Aggie."

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE AND INCLUSION AWARD

**Rhea Bains**

*College of Biological Sciences*

*Neurobiology, Physiology & Behavior*

The **Social Justice and Inclusion Award** honors the graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to social justice in the areas of leadership, scholarship and service. This award will honor a student who has served as a change agent and made a tangible impact on the university community promoting equity and inclusion.

**CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH**  
**DEAN KEITH SIMONTON PRIZE**

**Claire Hsu**

*College of Engineering*

*Biomedical Engineering*

*"Impact of social stress on a neural circuit of behavior"*

**Sana Shehabi**

*College of Letters and Science*

*Cognitive Science and Statistics*

*"From Preschool to Picasso: What the Art Museum Can Learn From Children's Museum"*

**Zoa Willhoite**

*College of Letters and Science*

*Sociology and Statistics*

*"Synthesis of Raman-active Core-Shell Nanoparticle Probes for Early Diagnosis of Ovarian Cancer"*

The **Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research**, also known as the **Dean Keith Simonton Prize** is given annually to a graduating seniors 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 2025 RECIPIENTS

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Renée Child '76 and Mike Child '76

To read more about Renée and Mike Child please view [here](#).





## **College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences**

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.

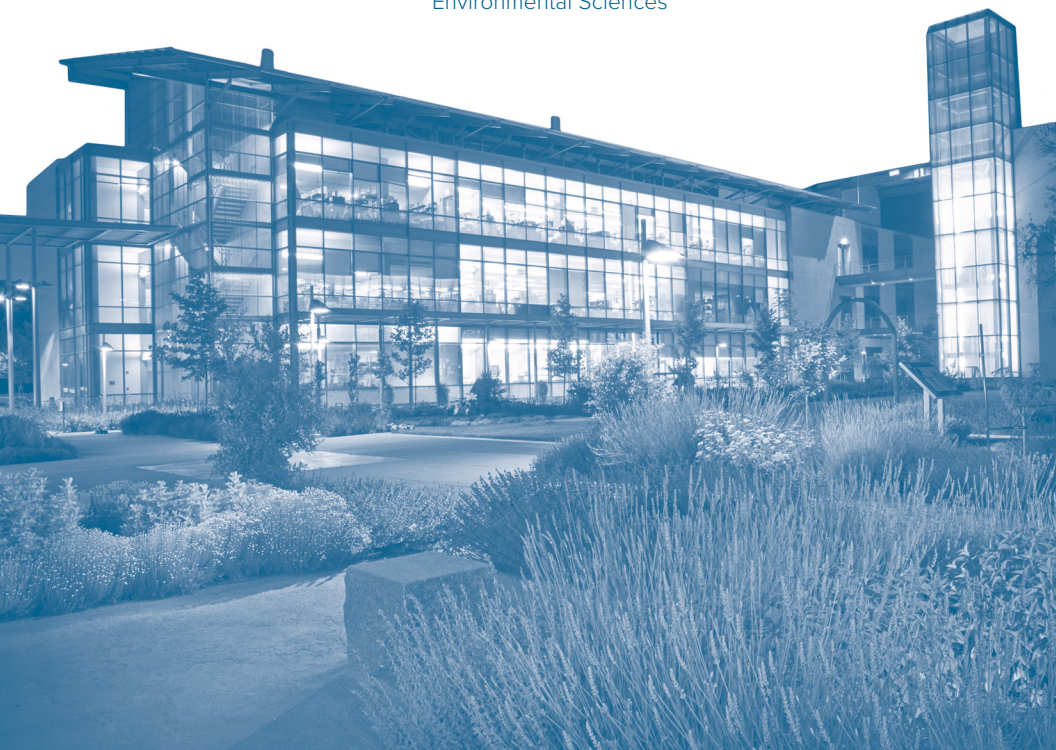
At UC Davis, we are dedicated to creating solutions for the greater good of society, and you leave here with the tremendous capacity to make a difference. I hope your experience has piqued your interest in the richness of the world around you and that you have developed a deeper understanding of your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

Congratulations!

Your fellow Aggie alumna,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Helene R. Dillard".

Helene R. Dillard  
Dean and Professor  
College of Agricultural and  
Environmental Sciences



## College of Biological Sciences

The UC Davis College of Biological Sciences is a hub of interdisciplinary life sciences research. Our faculty, researchers, and students explore fundamental questions about life at all levels—from molecules to ecosystems—to expand our understanding of the challenges and solutions of our 21st-century world.

With a strong emphasis on hands-on, experiential learning and a community that values curiosity, exploration, and growth, the college equips each student with a solid foundation in basic science, preparing them for a wide range of careers. Our graduates pursue careers in human and animal health, ecological conservation, environmental protection, food security, and many other fields.

### 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; Plant Biology, and Systems and Synthetic Biology. Undergraduate enrollment in the college has grown to more than 6,500 students.

## Message From Dean Mark Winey



**Dear graduates,**

On behalf of the College of Biological Sciences, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the class of 2025 on your outstanding achievements. I wish each of you a bright and rewarding future!

Throughout your time at UC Davis, you have demonstrated the passion and curiosity that define a scientist—qualities that will continue to serve you well in 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—carry forward the Aggie values of service and justice.

But today, take a moment to celebrate with your families and loved ones. You deserve to take a bow and enjoy this incredible accomplishment.

Go forth and be great, Class of 2025!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Winey'.

Mark Winey

Ph.D., Distinguished Professor

Dean of the College of Biological Sciences





## College of Engineering

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, labs, 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 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 2025. Go Ags!

A blue-tinted handwritten signature of Richard Corsi.

Richard Corsi

Dean of the College of Engineering



## College of Letters and Science

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 challenges.

At the College of Letters and Science, great teaching and intellectual exchange are our top priorities. As the largest and most comprehensive college at UC Davis, we not only provide the foundation for a truly unified and distinctive 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 2025, 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,

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Estella Atekwana".

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](http://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!



Anu Johi Singh '04

*President, Cal Aggie Alumni Association*



Thomas Yih

*President, UC Davis Parent and Family Council*

**UC DAVIS**  
**ALUMNI AND**  
**AFFILIATE RELATIONS**

**UC DAVIS**  
**PARENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS**  
Aggie Parent and Family Association

# The Regents of the University of California

## 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*

**Geoffrey Pack**  
*Alumni Regent*  
*President, Alumni Associations of the University of California*

**Alfonso Salazar**  
*Alumni Regent*  
*Vice President, Alumni Associations of the University of California*

## APPOINTED REGENTS

**Maria Anguiano, Vice Chair**

**Elaine E. Batchlor**

**Carmen Chu**

**Michael Cohen**

**Gareth Elliott**

**Jose M. Hernandez**

**Nancy Lee**

**Richard Leib**

**Hadi Makarechian**

**Ana Matosantos**

**Robert Myers**

**Lark Park**

**Janet Reilly, Chair**

**Mark Robinson**

**Gregory Sarris**

**Jonathan “Jay” Sures**

## STUDENT REGENT

**Josiah Beharry**

## FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES

**Steven Cheung**  
*Chair of the Universitywide Academic Senate of the University of California*

**Ahmet Palazoglu**  
*Vice Chair of the Universitywide Academic Senate of the University of California*



**ALMA MATER**

*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*

**UC DAVIS**