



# Fall 2013 Commencement

Saturday, December 21, 2013  
American Bank Center Arena  
10:00 a.m.

A Member of The Texas A&M University System

# Fall 2013 Commencement

## President/CEO Flavius C. Killebrew, presiding

### Prelude and Processional\*

Carrier of the Mace ..... Dr. Bryant Griffith  
 Professor, College of Education  
 Recipient, Regents Professor Award

Welcome.....Dr. Killebrew

Presentation of the Colors .....TAMU-CC Army Islander Battalion

National Anthem ..... Ms. Janell Stallard  
 Sophomore, music major, College of Liberal Arts

Greetings .....Dr. Jon Mogford  
 Vice Chancellor for Research, Texas A&M University System

Commencement Address..... Mr. Sam L. Susser  
 Chairman and CEO of Susser Holdings Corporation

Presentation of Degree Candidates..... Dr. Christopher Markwood  
 Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

College of Business ..... Dean John Gamble  
 College of Education .....Dean Arthur Hernandez  
 College of Liberal Arts ..... Dean Kelly Quintanilla  
 College of Nursing and Health Sciences..... Dean Mary Jane Hamilton  
 College of Science and Engineering..... Dr. L.D. Chen  
 College of Graduate Studies.....Dean JoAnn Canales

Conferring of Degrees .....Dr. Killebrew

Announcing..... Mr. Michael Rendon  
 University Registrar

Hooding of Doctoral Candidates..... Candidate's Major Professor  
 College of Education Assisting: Dean Hernandez

Hooding of Master of Fine Arts Candidates ..... Candidate's Major Professor  
 College of Liberal Arts Assisting: Dean Quintanilla

Hooding of Ph.D. Candidates ..... Candidate's Major Professor  
 College of Science and Engineering Assisting: Dr. L.D. Chen

Assisting (Graduate) .....Dr. Markwood

Assisting (Undergraduate) ..... Dr. Paul Meyer  
 Vice Provost

Commissioning..... LTC Gerald Avila  
 Professor of Military Science

Alumni Presentation ..... Mr. John O. Steward, '06 & '10  
 President, TAMU-CC National Alumni Association

*Alma Mater*..... Ms. Yvonne Alaniz  
 Mr. James Dickens  
 Ms. Janell Stallard  
 Mr. John Washington, IV

### Recessional\*

\*Audience will remain seated.

## *Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi*

### **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

#### *Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership*

Gwendolyn S. Diggs  
Kristin Nicole Hoover

Amy Lynn Mathews-Perez  
John Andrew Prezas

David B. Rodriguez  
Minerva M. Salazar

Debra Ann Stanley

### **COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING**

#### *Doctor of Philosophy in Marine Biology*

Michael Reuscher

### **COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS**

#### *Master of Fine Arts*

Kevin Dean Ramler

April Marie Taylor

### **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS**

#### *Master of Accountancy*

Lauren Rose Dooley  
Shannon Marie Haun  
Chenyang He  
Ching Fang Liu

Deborah J. Meadows  
Lianda Nelwan  
Rupal G. Patel  
Leslie Diffie Ruta

Valentina Alexandrovna Rybalova  
Koret Cecille Sanchez  
Jordan David Shanley  
Xueting Song

Yue Wang  
Meng Xie  
Zongting Yao

#### *Master of Business Administration*

Mary Z. Afuso  
Vanessa Bedoya  
Sandra Marie Browne  
Dezerae Michelle Carmona  
Fatma Bengu Cetinkale  
Thomas John Eitzen  
Juan Sebastian Garzon Coronado  
Chau Tran Minh Hoang  
Xiaoling Huang  
Michael Roel Ibanez

Andre Michael Jonckheere  
Matthew David Jones  
Spencer William Kirksmith  
Adrienne Michelle Lain  
Jeffrey Kent Laird  
Ha Pham My Le  
Yunsong Li  
Hung-Han Lin  
John David Lowe  
Roel Daniel Molina

Hang Thi Thanh Nguyen  
Khoa Dinh Nguyen  
Loan Thi Kim Nguyen  
Melih Ozturk  
Sushil Chandra Pallemoni  
Tri Cong Pham  
Cuong Quoc Phan  
Sasisom Phetsri  
Tuan Minh Phung  
Geoffrey Martin Rabinovich

Tiffany Ann Ramon  
Ulysia D. Rutkoski  
Xiaodi Shang  
Lu Sun  
Alper Tastan  
Ha Thi Kim Tran  
Huong Thi Thu Tu  
Tanapong Worakasemsuk  
Chengdi Xin  
Shuangyu Zhang

### **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

#### *Master of Science*

Kathryn Marie Aleman  
Lorinda Ann Benavidez  
Heather Rene Bervinkle  
Julie Dawn Blackwell  
Kristen Leigh Brashear  
Sharon Cabrera  
Brandy Kathleen Calhoun  
Michelle Nell Cano  
Cassandra Loraine De La Vina  
Liza Monique De Los Santos  
David Lawrence Emrich  
Alyson Noelle Espino

Audrey Febrianty  
Shelley M. Floyd  
Stephanie Nicole Galloway  
Roana Kasandra Garcia  
Velma Gonzalez  
Mark Stephen Hendrix, II  
Jessie Ann Herschap  
Bridget Eileen Horan  
Tsung Hsuan Hsieh  
Joshla Chalese Isaac  
Alison Nicole Johnson  
Otencia Tamar Johnson-Robinson

Samantha Lynn Klassen  
Tam Nguyen Thi Le  
Megan Dat Lee  
Lauren Donette Lilly  
Kandace Gail London  
Yvonne Luna  
Anju Bala Manchanda  
Frances Doria Martinez  
Sean Espil Mooney  
Victoria A. Munoz  
Shahla Nadem-Mollaei  
Valerie Ann Nesmith-Arechiga

My Ha Nguyen  
Lucinda P. Nurre  
Chanati Pongthornpisut  
Cori Nichole Power  
Melissa Anne Rigney  
Melissa Rodriguez  
Patricia Imelda Rodriguez  
Harrison Leopold Ross  
Eva R. Sepulveda  
Michele Lee Skeen  
Michelle Lynn Sumner  
Lorraine Yvonne Ysassi

### **COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS**

#### *Master of Arts*

Cindy Andrea Amaya  
Laura Ann Bierstedt  
Amy J. Brandt  
Omar Corona

Carlos Antonio Garanzuay  
Gregg Ray Griffith  
Elizabeth Drees Holscher  
Karyn Michele Linsteadt

Jeffrey Jay Riddle  
Stephanie Marie Rivera  
Annastacia Jean Spaugh  
Tiffany Denise Trevino

Rashelle Amanda Young

#### *Master of Public Administration*

Stacey Lynn Barrera  
Kris Alan Carpenter

Dawn E. Doyle  
Reba Nell George

Marcos Rene Gonzalez  
Peniel Martinez

Jordan Rebecca Matney  
Jonie Vanessa Petitta

## COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

### *Master of Science in Nursing*

Uloma Nwanyiezue Eke      Ogechi Hope Iwuanyanwu      Krystle Elizabeth Ramo      Tracy Ann Sudduth  
Chimezie Michael Iwuanyanwu      Amy GERALYN McClure

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

### *Master of Science*

Paniz Bighash      Lucy Maria Flores      Orlando Nino      Rajesh Kumar Srirangam  
Shravva Bramadi      Mariana Alejandra Gonzalez      Lee Alan Schoech      Mark Edward Syphus  
Edwin Dale Cochran      Julie Irena Lann      Chester Gene Scotch, Jr.      Ming-Yang Teng  
Rachel Rae Fern      Luz Marina Lumb      Bilal Yousuf Siddiqui      Christopher Ivan Trombley  
Manuel Enrique Fernandez      William Wade McGee      Teresa Lynn Smithson      Shuyi Zhao

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

### *Bachelor of Business Administration*

Jacob R. Abrego      Yang Gao \*      Erica Marie Martinez      Ursula I. Sierra de Hernandez  
Mallorie Grace Aguirre      Jeanetly Garcia \*      Erick Licurgo Martinez      Stephanie Nichole Spitzenberger  
Heather Renae Barr      Kimberly Ann Garza      Jacinda Aris Martinez      Aristoniki P. Theodossiou  
Paul Allan Besse      Andrew Scott Gorman \*      Leanne Mascall      Liwei Tian  
Vasha Bhatari \*      Thomas A. Greenly      Travis James Mauzy      Duc An Tran ‡  
Matthew Ryan Bullard      Dustin Roy Hall      Hannah Marguerite McDowell      *Honors Program Graduate*  
David B. Burns      Jamil Hasan Farajov      Will Robert Messer      Pengfei Wang  
Callie Renee Byerly      Leeanna Frances Hemmer      Philip Jacob Mick      Ting Wang •  
Timothy C. Cain      Delia Hernandez      Brian A. Morales      Yi Fei Wang  
William Daniel Calderon      Jennifer Thuy Vy Hoang      Missy Moreno      Glenn Alan Wilkinson, Jr.  
Pengcheng Chen \*      Rachel Ann Holdsworth      Megan Nichole Murray      Ashlee Nicole Winstead  
Shi Wei Chen \*      Samantha J. Jones      Leslie Anne Newman •      Cody Patrick Winstead  
John Michael Clark      Ayberk Kapusuz      Luynh Thi Hong Nguyen •      Amber A. Ybarra  
Eric Michael Corbell      Minsub Kim      Xuan Thanh Nguyen \*      Enes Yilmazer  
Meagan Elaine De La Garza      Jennifer Renee Kindred      *Honors Program Graduate*      Xingyang Yue \*  
Kimberly Delafuente      Stephen Bryce Koenig      Carmen Renaye Osier \*      Lanlan Zhang \*  
Jeannette Diaz      Jeffrey Ryan Kraus      Joshua Robert Owens      Ying Zhang •  
Laura Ann Diaz ‡      Ceyda Kurklu      Huggins Phiri, Jr.      Boning Zhu \*  
Christopher Ryan Eisenbach \*      Khoa Minh Le      Thurmon Allen Price \*      Hou Chen Zhu •  
Suzan Abdulhadi Elkhaili      Meng Li •      Wencui Qu \*      Jinfan Zuo  
Nathan Anthony Elwin      Kuangyi Liu ‡      Barbara Rodriguez  
Samuel Guzman Esquivel, Jr.      Elizabeth Lopez      Gilberto M. Rodriguez  
Abigail Taylor Fay ‡      Sarah Lundin      Corben Alexander Rutter  
Rey Flores      Anthony Joseph Lyssy ‡      Wenbo Shao

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

### *Bachelor of Science*

Raymond Alvarado      Ashley Celeste Duzich      Jenney Michelle Karasek \*      Derrick Cooper Price  
Victor Barron, II      Lindsey Michelle Fest      Jordan Rae Klaevemann      Brian Michael Quinn  
Bon Joe Beltran      Cameron Lee French •      Justin Ryan Kutra      Domenica Neilla Risi  
Teah Andrea Bishop      Robert Zain Glover      Joaquin Diego Lozano      Travis J. Rowden ‡  
Breanna L. Briggs      Heather Denise Gonzales \*      Courtney Laray Luckerson      Lindsey Noelle Sandoval  
Lee-Anna Renee Cadena      Jessica M. Green      Kelsie Alexis Lunning ‡      Hannah Rene Siddall  
Andrew Joseph Cantu      Jeri Quin Hall      Adam Charles Moss      Grant E. Smith  
Kaileigh Anne Christensen •      Brent Wade Hendrix      Shelby Leigh Nicholls      Louis D. Williams, IV  
Mark Nathanael Cole •      Thurston D. Hillmon, Jr.  
Stefanie Renee Culp      Sam Houston, IV

### *Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies*

Bryanna Aguilar \*      Macey Erin Dobias      Rachel Illgen \*      Courtney Blair Metz •  
Ashley N. Andrews •      Karen Vavasseur Dural ‡      Courtney Raye Laurence      Brooke Ellen Miller •  
Lauren R. Aniol      Jillian Claire Ervin      Lori Anne Lerma •      Michael Rene Montes  
Monica Arriaga \*      Marlena Ferretiz \*      Jessica Lee Long      Kelly Kristine Murphy •  
Beverly Lorraine Brooks •      David R. Garcia      Victor Lopez •      *Honors Program Graduate*  
Ashlee Beth Caka      Deliana Garza      Jennifer Elizabeth Lucas \*      Victoria Reyna Oviedo •  
Ruth Idalia Castillo \*      Terrie Ann Goben •      Robert Wayne Maroney      Teresa Anna Pannone  
Kari Lynne Comparato      Hailey Elissa Hammor      Alexandra Marie Martin •      Sydney Alexis Paustian

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

### *Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies, continued*

Maria Belen Pena \*  
April Pauline Perez  
Sara Ester Poffenberger \*  
Brigitte Alexandria Prado  
Kimberly Ramirez ‡

Tanya A. Rech  
Amerika Marie Reyes  
Anamaria Reyna ‡  
Kirby Barrett Rockwell ‡  
Samantha Michelle Roper

Ana Elida Salazar  
Alyssa Brooke Silvas •  
Sydney Elizabeth Spann \*  
Deanne Sharie Stein ‡  
Priscilla Ashley Tavera

Jessica Ann Weldon  
Andrea Anna Zuniga

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

### *Bachelor of Arts*

Alexandra Marie Aceves  
Celeste Ariel Aldana  
Brianna Michele Andrade  
Veronica Nicole Anguiano •  
Joe Michael Ayala •  
John Christopher Beard  
Megan A. Bercaw \*  
Bryan Paul Bowman \*  
Michael Al Boyle  
Bethany Anne Brandt •  
Pearl Esperanza Brock  
Corey Alexander Brown  
Anthony Jason Butler, Jr.  
Michelle Renee Cadena  
Aaron Francis Cammack \*  
Katherine Elaine Camplain  
Travis William Cantwell  
Diana Ajero Caragan \*  
Jenna Anne Carbajal  
Armando Rafael Castaneda  
Araceli DeLeon  
Roy A. Deforest •  
Kimberly Anne Dussetschleger  
Ashley Veronica Dyckman  
Julie Ann Ellis •  
Whitney Leighann Ellis  
Jordan Timothy Essary  
Demarcus Roshawd Forest  
Erika Daniela Galindo  
Kim M. Galloway ‡  
Hector Galvan, Jr.  
John S. Gambill ‡  
Chelsey Brooke Gandy

Jeanetly Garcia \*  
Matthew Alan Garcia  
Yvette Marie Garcia \*  
Jennifer Garibay  
Kindell Lee Givens  
David Michael Glasson  
Gabriel E. Gomez  
Luz Lynette Gomez  
Elizabeth Lee Grant \*  
Cesar X. Guerra  
Amelia Guerrero  
Lauren Nicole Gutierrez  
Mallory Adrianna Guzman  
Hieremila Ambaw Haile  
Porsche Marjon Hargrove  
Delaney Rae Harris  
Joe Anthony Hernandez ‡  
Kristopher Michael Hernandez  
Gabriela Hinojosa  
Whitney Elaine Hottell  
Kelsey Elizabeth Howard  
Laurel Michelle Johnston \*  
Chelsea Lynn Kachurak  
Victoria Celina Kahle  
Timothy Raymond Keller  
Steven M. Kester  
Alton R. Kimber  
Matthew David Leal \*  
Jessica Ann Linderman  
Adrian Joel Longoria  
Alyssa Nicole Lopez  
Esperanza Araceli Lopez  
Laura Ann Lopez

Miguel Angel Lopez  
Melanie Ruth Lowry  
Kristen R. Lozada •  
Jessica Janeth Marin  
Sarah Amanda Martinez  
Kyle Edward Mcconnell  
Rebecca Elise Munoz  
Elizabeth Munson ‡  
Tuonz Thanh Nguyen  
Taylor Ann Nichols  
Katherine Anne Nicholson  
Laura Ann Noyola  
Javier Estevan Obregon  
Bianca Danielle Ochoa  
Candace Nicole Page  
Aide Palacios  
Victoria Renee Palomo  
Samuel Cult Pauly  
Kaylynn Joy Paxson  
Samantha G. Perez  
Tressilyn Shyvette Perry  
Malcom James Petty  
Thu Thi Hoai Pham •  
Sean Martin Poe  
Sarah Elizabeth Pons ‡  
Gloria A. Portillo \*  
Elizabeth Ann Quintanilla  
Elizabeth Kaye Quinton  
Cari Elizabeth Reed  
Starr Lynn Renteria  
Rachel R. Reyes  
Leanna Marie Richter  
Iris Alison Rios

Vanessa Christina Roberts \*  
Shelby Annette Roffman •  
Aaron Alec Rosenthal  
James Adam Rubin, III  
Meagan Rudolph  
Angela Saiz  
Mercedes Ariana Salazar  
Robert Jesus Sanchez \*  
Shaynna Marie Scheffler  
Madeline Mason Schmidt  
Jessica Renae Scott  
Nicole Callie Shea  
Amanda Marie Spendler •  
Michelle Nicole Stinnett  
George Stockner ‡  
Yiran Tao •  
Marshall Dale Tavares  
Cassandra Renae Teran  
Julianne Michele Thomas  
Micheline Kristina Thompson  
Megan Elizabeth Tisdale  
Betty Jean Tyree  
Yadira Yvette Uhlig  
Daniel James Vargas •  
Melissa Vasquez  
Brittney Allison Vigil-Richerson \*  
Lisa M. Villarreal  
Elizabeth Welder ‡  
Joshua Lane Whipple  
Brittany Rae Williams  
Patrick Ryan Williams  
Prescott Elgin Williams  
Rui Xing

### *Bachelor of Applied Science*

Brett M. Ball •  
Rachel Elizabeth Carneglia  
Kyle Alan Christen  
Drew Anthony Hagens  
Kelsey Michelle Havelka  
Ethan Todd Heibel

Francisco J. Hernandez, Jr.  
Hailey Rose Hill  
Patrick Niel Knesek  
Carly Lynn Lormand  
Monique G. Martinez \*  
Megan Renee Montemayor

Abby Starr Moore  
Charlie Edward Ogden, Jr.  
Michael Frank Rodriguez  
Ronnie Schultz ‡  
Edward James Shannon, Jr. \*  
Micah James Sublett ‡

Krystle Elaine Torres  
Epimenio Angel Vasquez, III •  
Cara Christine Westrup

### *Bachelor of Fine Arts*

Rebecca Ruth Altsman ‡  
Kristin Renee Atwood

Amanda Joy Freeman  
Carmen D. Harris \*

Samuel B. Loyd

Angela Maria Thomas ‡

### *Bachelor of Music*

John W. Davis

Christopher David Ramirez  
Juan J. Rodriguez, Jr.

Damon Lionel Whitley, II

### *Bachelor of Science*

Sarah Maude Boxwell  
Catey L. Brockway  
Hector I. Campos  
Tiffany Ryshelle Candela  
Samuel Casanova, Jr.  
Richard Hugh Conner  
Mandi Lynn Cooper  
Ronald Bradley Crabtree

Robert Christopher Cruz  
Ryne Alexander Edward DeArmond  
Elizabeth Donez  
Annette Nicole Ewing •  
Amanda Lee Farias  
Vanessa F. Garcia  
Vanessa M. Guerrero  
Joseph Chung Heineman  
Melanie Holland  
John Irvin Hollowell  
Tye Evan Jackson  
Jessica D. Ledesma  
Nicole Marie Lopez  
Patrick A. Mitchell  
Ronnie Clay Owen, III  
Kiara Aleese Peoples

Thu T. Pham  
Tracy M. Ramirez \*  
Andrea Lizel Saenz  
Timothy James Seidel  
Olivia Ivonne Sosa  
Alyssa Aryn Tinsley  
Sylvia Valerio  
Hilary Rochelle Verduzco

## COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

### *Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences*

Miriam Courtney Bennatt	Candice Eve Dusek •	Linda Peprah	Laura Rosales
Maira Caudillo	Ian Mark Paler Elleso	Christie Marie Perez	John R. Slayton
Victoria Rae Chapa	Seth J. Horton	Victoria Kay Peyton	Dwayne Nathaniel Smith
Yifang Dang *	Chelsie Marie Lane	Adela Yvette Reyes	
Angela Michele De La Cruz •	Courtney Diane Melder	Candace Amber Rodriguez	
Taylor Nathalie Dixon	Laura Anna Mendez	Erica Rodriguez	

### *Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

Charles Andrew Briggs, III	Cayla Lyn Henry *	Norma Liza Moreno	Vanessa Melissa Saldivar
Lisa Karen Brogan	Daniel R. Jimenez	Megan Nicole Mullen	Amber Michelle Schimmel
Jennie Lynn Brown	Amanda R. Juarez •	Aurora Dawn Munoz	William Drew Schultz
Sara N. Cabano •	Kenneth Joshua Kallies	Shahn Anthony Mushel	Irene Singles
Lizette Manuela Castro	Valerie Sarai Koerner	John Emeka Ndubuisi	Christopher Luke Storbeck
Courtney Jo Ann Chanler	Vanessa Saieh Lapointe	Ashok Neupane	Austin J. Stout
Elizabeth Granados Chavarria	Wilson Mario Lenhart	Amaka Nonye Njeako	Kathryn Jean Sullivan
Erin Kelly Davis	Breanna N. Lira	Jorel Orgas	Krystle Lyn Talamantes •
LaKeidre B. Davis	Lino Lopez, Jr.	Belinda Ann Orta	Ace Philip Taghap Tardo •
Victoria Erin Dixon	Sehrish Sultan Mahasaniya	Afolashade Oshinnowo	Makeila Ann Tatum ‡
Luke Michael Dotson	Sara Elizabeth Manning	Vanessa Elizabeth Perez	Rebekah Renee' Thibodeaux
Amber S. Ellett *	Isabel T. Martinez	Jamie Thu-Thuy Pham	Noemi Trejo
Morganne Delee Fikes	Liza Mata •	Shannon Dee Rackley	Cayla Rae Underwood
Sierra A. Garbe	Michael Alan Mauger	Angela Marie Ramirez	Lydia Herrera Vela
Sharon Sue Ghanem	Jennifer Ann McBride	Kim Marie Resendez	Summer Marie Wheaton •
Erik Sharkey Gomez •	Mikael William McDowell	Julie Lynne Reyes	Stacy Lynn White
Jared B. Gonzales •	Robert Holt Mendleski •	Madison Nicole Rivera	Jordan Brin Willingham
Stephen Robert Gudowski	Bryan A. Mery	Christina Rizzo	Melissa Lynn Wooten
Ryan Guerra	Dawn Ellen Michelson	Zayra Michell Rodriguez	Marissa Michelle Yopez
Cassandra Gutierrez	Monique Renee Montgomery	Monica Sharee Ruff	
Cynthia Gutierrez •	Mitchell G. Moore •	Yuracy I. Salazar	

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

### *Bachelor of Science*

Morohunmubo Oluwasade Ajayi	Ryan Douglas Fleet	Mark Joseph Minahan, Jr.	Stephanie Lorraine Rivera
Eliud Aleman	Kimberly Desirae Flores	Cassandra Renee Montalto	Christopher Ryan Rodriguez
Sara Barrera	Chris James Fraughton	Michael A. Montez	Neil Rosales
Alyssa Lynn Kothmann Biediger	Sara Jean Frazier	Kimberly Ann Morin	Luis Justin Salinas •
Elliot Michael Briell	Jeremias Georgiadis *	Kenneth Wayne Muecheck	Sara Schirmer
Alan M. Briseno	Amanda Nichole Grams	Lawrence James Muskiet	Brianne Michelle Secorsky •
Michael Anthony Bueno	George Lee Guerra	Cheryl Ann Neely	Nauful Shaikh
Erin Elizabeth Buschfort	Donald Edward Hay	Brooke Ann Nussle *	Juan Soliz, Jr.
Lamar Calvin Bush	Michael P. Head-Zottarelli	Lee Roy Obie	Brian Adam Sorrell
Joshua Kyle Carrillo	Taylor Marie Henley	Cecilia Orozco	Brandon Micheal Steele
Jose Alejandro Chica ‡	Kara Beth Higginbotham	Gabriella Orta *	Ryan Keith Taylor
Jessica Lauren Clark	Hannah Rochelle Hudson	Ernesto Ortegón, III	Shelbi N. Thomason
Jose Albert Cordova	Abbie Leigh Johnson	James Orion Outtrim	Scott Emery Tindall
Michael Anthony Cortez	Brian R. Knight	Ruben Rey Palacios	Claudia Urive
Anne Elizabeth Crago	Matthew Anand Lalmansingh	Victoria Dawn Parlamas	Eduardo Efren Valdes
Ryan Nelson Dahl	Sara Elizabeth Leal	Lenora Diane Perkins	Julian Vela
Kevin De Santiago	Jeffery Donray Machado	Veronica Picon	Tracy Fisher Weatherall
Elyse Michelle Diamond ‡	Cameron Haynes Marr *	Paloma Christina Prieto	Clinton Synnott Witherell
Charles Hart Downey, III	Brianne Celeste Martin	Nicholas Stephen Quimby	Xiao Yu •
Jason T. Dreyer	Katie Rose McCatharn	Ashley Quiroga	Zhenghuan Zhou •
Blake Aldon Ellis	Darnell Brushaud McVea	Josh M. Ramos	
Jose Alfredo Escalona-Garcia	Andrea Cristina Mercado	Ashley Roche Riley	

### **Officer Commissioning**

Second Lieutenant  
United States Army

Lee Roy Obie

*The names on this program include all students who have applied for graduation.  
Conferral of the official degree is based upon completion and certification of all degree requirements.*



## Commencement Speaker

**Sam L. Susser** is the Chairman and CEO of Susser Holdings Corporation. Born in Corpus Christi, Texas in 1963, Mr. Susser graduated from King High School in 1981 and from the University of Texas in 1985 with a BBA in Finance. Mr. Susser spent 1985-1987 with Salomon Brothers Inc. in the corporate finance and the mergers and acquisitions groups. In 1988, Mr. Susser joined Southguard Corporation, predecessor to Susser Holdings Corporation, as General Manager, Vice President and Director. He served as President and Chief Executive Officer from 1992 to 2013 when he became Chairman and CEO.

The Susser family's gasoline and convenience store business began when Minna Weil Schwartz won the heart of an entrepreneur. In 1938 her husband, Sam Susser (Sam L. Susser's grandfather), took over operation of two service stations in Corpus Christi that Minna had inherited and began selling fuel to local companies. The business flourished and has become the largest non-refiner fuel distributor in Texas. In addition, Sam L. Susser's father (Sam J. Susser) and uncle (Jerry Susser) invented the first system that allowed customers to purchase gasoline at the pump with a credit card from unattended stations.

From 1988 to 2013, Susser successfully completed fourteen major acquisitions, and significantly strengthened the Company's wholesale platform, which now supplies fuel to more than 590 branded dealers and more than 1,800 commercial motor fuel customers. The Company operates more than 580 convenience stores under the Stripes® brand, with more than 370 including a restaurant concept, primarily under the Laredo Taco Company banner. The Company has about 9,500 employees and produces annual revenues exceeding \$6.0 billion.

Mr. Susser is a strong supporter of education and currently serves on advisory councils for the College of Business at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, the University of Texas McCombs Business School, the Schusterman Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Texas and the University of Texas Marine Science Institute. He also serves on numerous other area and statewide boards and has been recognized for his business accomplishments and support of charitable endeavors that impact children, education, economic development and healthcare.

He and his wife, Catherine, have been married for 18 years and have three children, who are students in the Corpus Christi Independent School District. They are active members of Congregation Beth Israel.

## The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents

Mr. Phil Adams, Chairman.....	Bryan
Mr. Cliff Thomas, Vice Chairman.....	Victoria
Mr. Anthony G. Buzbee.....	Houston
Mr. Morris E. Foster.....	Salado
Ms. Elaine Mendoza.....	San Antonio
Ms. Judy Morgan.....	Texarkana
Mr. Charles Schwartz.....	Houston
Mr. Jim Schwertner.....	Schwertner
Mr. John D. White.....	Houston
Mr. Nicholas Madere, Student Regent.....	College Station

## Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Official Ring

The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi official rings are a major part of the University's tradition. Juniors and seniors wear the ring with the school name facing them. Upon the granting of degrees at commencement, graduates turn the ring around, with the name facing outward. This symbolizes that the graduate is now ready to face new challenges outside the University.

The official ring is a visible, tangible manifestation of the long lasting bond between Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and its alumni. As always, it is alumni who carry the same pride in their University, and a seamless gold circle holds together the many people who have shared a dream – to earn a college education.

## University Mace

The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Mace is the wooden staff that is carried by a mace bearer leading the academic processional for commencements, convocations and special university ceremonies. Originally, the mace was a long-handled club used by knights during the Middle Ages to crush the armor of enemies. Later, ceremonial maces were carried by guards of French and English monarchs. Later still, the mace was carried or placed by a magistrate or dignitary to establish authority. In sessions of the British House of Commons, the mace is placed on the treasury table. In the U.S. House of Representatives, it is placed to the right of the speaker. Today, the University Mace is used to symbolize the authority of the University President and is a major accessory at commencement ceremonies for colleges and universities.

## Academic Regalia

The academic regalia (cap, gown and hood) date to the 12th Century European universities when they were worn primarily for warmth by the students as well as by laymen. As laymen gradually changed their garb to capes and breeches, institutions of learning prescribed the gown of black for scholars, with a hood draped down the back when not worn over the head and a mortarboard cap shaped like the mortarboard of the master workman.

In 1985 in the United States, the Intercollegiate Commission prepared a code, specifying the design and color of academic regalia for colleges and universities in the United States. Under this code, the bachelor's gown has long pointed sleeves. The master's gown has an oblong sleeve. The doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves. Gowns are generally black; however, a number of schools have adopted special regalia for the doctor's gown.

The velvet border of the hood may represent either the color of the degree or the color of the field of study. The current trend is for the color to represent the field of study rather than the name of the degree, but in earlier years dark blue was characteristic for a Ph.D. in any field. Hoods are lined with the official colors of the college or university from which the degree is received.

Caps are the traditional mortarboard except for the doctor's degree, where a four-sided velvet tam is optional. Caps from schools with special color gowns or from foreign universities may be more distinctive. Cap tassels for the doctor's degree are gold, while the tassels for the master's and bachelor's degree are black. Holders of all these degrees wear the tassel on the left. The ritual of bachelor's degree candidates shifting the tassel from right to left marks the conferring of one's first university degree.

## Hood Color Code

Arts, Letters, Humanities .....	White	Nursing .....	Apricot
Commerce, Accountancy, Business.....	Drab	Philosophy .....	Dark Blue
Economics .....	Copper	Physical Education.....	Sage Green
Education .....	Light Blue	Public Administration .....	Peacock Blue
Engineering .....	Orange	Public Health.....	Salmon Pink
Fine Arts, Architecture .....	Brown	Science.....	Golden Yellow
Library Science .....	Lemon	Social Work .....	Citron
Music.....	Pink	Speech.....	Silver Gray

## Academic Honors

Students earning academic honors wear cords in recognition of academic excellence. The following honors are awarded at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi:

- ‡ **Summa Cum Laude:** the silver honor cord is awarded to graduates whose cumulative grade point average is 3.9 and above.
- \* **Magna Cum Laude:** the blue honor cord is awarded to graduates whose cumulative grade point average is within the range of 3.7 – 3.899.
- **Cum Laude:** the green honor cord is awarded to graduates whose cumulative grade point average is within the range of 3.5 to 3.699.

*\*The honors presented during the ceremony are calculated on the student's cumulative grade point average through the semester prior to graduation. Official honors designation, which includes the calculation of the final semester's grades, will be indicated on the final transcript and diploma.*

## Honor Societies' Medallions and Cords

Students at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi have the privilege of being asked to join honor societies. Membership is based on grade point average and special criteria for each organization such as major, community service and service to a profession. Students belonging to these honor societies wear cords and medallions that represent their high achievements, colors and symbols of the organization.

## Alma Mater

From the East, from the West, from the North, the South, Alma Mater we praise your name.

As a fire in our hearts none shall ever doubt, That your spirit is kept aflame,

Many people are heard the whole land through, All lifting their voices praising you.

To the ends of the earth we your worth will hail! Alma Mater our A&M-CC!

## Music provided by:

*Symphonic Winds*

Directed by: Dr. Brian Shelton

Special thanks to the faculty, staff volunteers, the Island Ambassadors and the President Ambassadors who participated in today's events.