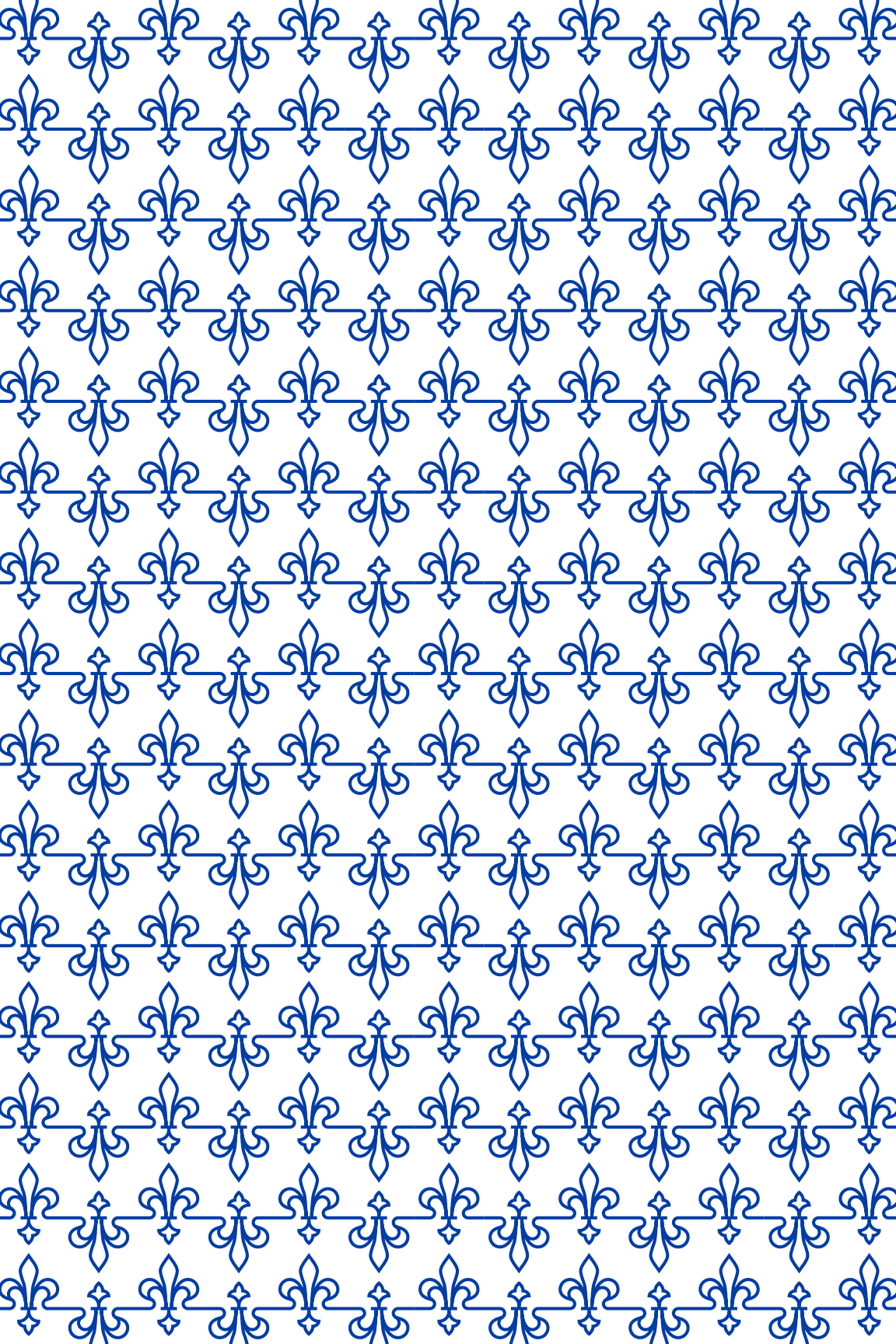
SLU

2024 COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 18
Chaifetz Arena
St. Louis, Missouri



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

—

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024
CHAIFETZ ARENA
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

ORDER OF THE PROCESSION

ALUMNI MERIT AWARDEE RECIPIENTS

COLORS AND PARKS COLOR GUARD

BEARER OF THE MACE

UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES

UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE STAFF AND CONSTITUENCY LEADERS

ACADEMIC DEANS

CANDIDATES FOR HONORARY DEGREES

PRESIDENT

ENDOWED CHAIRHOLDERS AND PROFESSORS

MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

ANNOUNCER
Troy Hargrove, M.B.A.
Associate Dean, School for Professional Studies

PROGRAM

BEARER OF THE MACE
Michael D. Barber, S.J.
College of Arts and Sciences

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Michael Lewis, Ph.D.
Provost

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
SLU Mastersingers

INVOCATION
Steven Schoenig, S.J.
Associate Professor and Associate Chair, Department of History

VARSITY SONG
SLU Mastersingers

SALUTATION
Fred P. Pestello, Ph.D.
President

STUDENT ADDRESS
Sky Carroll
College of Arts and Sciences

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Jon Hamm
Award-winning Actor

CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREES
P. Maria Joseph Christie, S.J.

Jon Hamm

Susan E. Klepper, Ph.D., and William M. Klepper, Ph.D.

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES (1818)
Donna LaVoie, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (1836)
Christine Jacobs, M.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF LAW (1843)
William Johnson, J.D., *Dean*

COLLEGE OF PHILOSOPHY
AND LETTERS (1889)
Randall S. Rosenberg, Ph.D., *Dean*

RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (1910)
Barnali Gupta, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
AND ENGINEERING (1927)
Gregory E. Triplett, Ph.D., *Dean*

TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE
SCHOOL OF NURSING (1928)
Kristine L'Ecuyer, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK (1930)
Noelle Fearn, Ph.D., *Dean*

EDWARD AND MARGARET DOISY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES (1979)
Bernard Rousseau, Ph.D., *Dean*

COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (1991)
Leslie McClure, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL FOR
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (1996)
Scott Duellman, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION (1998)
Gary Ritter, Ph.D., *Dean*

BENEDICTION

Raymond K. Robinson, M.Div.
Graduate Academic Coordinator, School for Professional Studies
Associated Minister, First Baptist Church of Ballwin

RECESSIONAL

SPEAKER AND HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

JON HAMM

DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS, CONFERRED ON MAY 18, 2024

During his lengthy career in Hollywood, Jon Hamm has become synonymous with St. Louis. Born and raised here, Hamm frequently and enthusiastically represents his hometown during interviews, appearances and events. Whether donning gear from St. Louis sports teams or mentioning local favorites like Ted Drewes, Hamm is a loud and proud St. Louisian.

Hamm's break came with his portrayal of the debonair antihero advertising executive Don Draper on AMC's award-winning drama *Mad Men.* He earned numerous accolades for his performance, including an Emmy Award in 2015 for Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series, Golden Globe Awards in 2008 and 2016, Television Critics Association Awards in 2011 and 2015, a Critics' Choice Television Award in 2011, as well as multiple Screen Actors Guild nominations.

Hamm recently starred in the fifth season of FX's critically acclaimed anthology series *Fargo.* He also appeared in Apple TV+'s *The Morning Show,* as well as Neil Gaiman's *Good Omens* for Amazon Prime Video. He has had numerous roles in films, including *Baby Driver, The Town, Top Gun: Maverick* and *Million Dollar Arm.* Most recently on the big screen, Hamm appeared in the film adaptation of the hit Broadway musical *Mean Girls.*

While initially recognized for his dramatic work, Hamm also has proven himself adept at comedy. He has hosted *Saturday Night Live* three times, and his appearances on the Emmy-winning comedy *30 Rock* from 2009 to 2012 led to three Emmy nominations for Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series. He also voices Marvin Flute on the animated Fox sitcom *Grimsburg,* of which he is an executive producer.

Hamm told the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* that he has fond memories of teaching and said it provided him with the confidence he needed to become a professional actor.

Beyond his career, Hamm champions numerous charities, including the Alzheimer's Association, Cancer Research Institute, Stand Up To Cancer and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Next, Hamm will star in the upcoming series *Landman,* a modern-day tale of fortune-seeking in the West Texas oil rigs based on the *Boomtown* podcast by Christian Wallace. He will also be the executive producer and star of the upcoming Apple TV+ series *Your Friends and Neighbors.*

Additionally, Hamm will lead the live-action television adaptation of the psychological thriller podcast *American Hostage,* in which he also starred.

Before heading to Hollywood, Hamm received his Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Missouri in 1993. After college, he returned to St. Louis and taught acting at John Burroughs School, his high school *alma mater.* One of his students was Ellie Kemper, who went on to star with Hamm in the Netflix series *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt.*

He also supports St. Louis through local philanthropy. In the summer of 2020, Hamm helped the St. Louis County Library Foundation to raise $100,000 for students in need. Also during the COVID-19 pandemic, Hamm offered a Zoom hang-out session to raise funds for the St. Louis Actors' Studio Small Professional Theater Sustainment Fund. And in 2021 he hosted a virtual conversation for SLU's St. Louis Literary Award with author Michael Chabon. Hamm continues to support John Burroughs, helping to raise funds for new performing arts and athletic centers, and has given his time to a fundraiser for SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.

For his outstanding acting career, his advocacy for education and numerous charities, and his heartfelt and vocal support of his hometown of St. Louis, the degree of Doctor of Fine Arts, honoris causa, *will be conferred upon Jon Hamm.*

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

P. MARIA JOSEPH CHRISTIE, S.J.

DOCTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE, CONFERRED ON MAY 18, 2024

The journey of P. Maria Joseph Christie, S.J., started in his native India. Originally from the Madurai Province, Christie arrived at Saint Louis University in 1993. He spent the next six years earning multiple degrees. From there, the Jesuit priest taught in India for decades and eventually landed in Rome, where he currently serves as the secretary for higher education of the Society of Jesus.

As a Billiken, Christie earned his M.B.A. and doctorate in business administration with a specialization in decision sciences. His doctoral dissertation, "The Cross-cultural Comparison of Ethical Attitudes of Business Executives in India, South Korea, and the USA," is considered a seminal work in the area of cross-cultural research methodology.

In addition to his SLU degrees, Christie earned a master's degree in mathematical statistics from Madras University in India.

While in India, he served as the director and professor of decision sciences at the Xavier School of Management, Jamshedpur, one of the leading business schools in India.

In addition, for nearly two decades, he was associated with the Loyola Institute of Business Administration in Chennai, India. He was a professor of decision sciences, as well as the dean for three years and director (president of the institute) for 11 years. During his tenure, he elevated the school to be among the top 10 business schools in the country.

In the summer of 2020, he was appointed the secretary for higher education of the Society of Jesus, based in Rome. He replaced another SLU alumnus, Michael J. Garanzini, S.J., in the role after Garanzini became president of the Association of Colleges and Universities in North America.

As the secretary, Christie assists and advises the superior general of the Society of Jesus on matters pertaining to higher education. He is also responsible for promoting discernment, networking and collaboration among Jesuit higher education institutions around the world.

Outside of his role with the Society of Jesus, Christie is a member of various advisory boards and committees. With his expertise in evaluation and strategic planning, he is involved in many consultancy projects in India and abroad, mostly related to Jesuit and Catholic Church organizations.

For his leadership in the Society of Jesus and his ongoing role in promoting Jesuit higher education, the degree of Doctor of Public Service, honoris causa, *will be conferred upon P. Maria Joseph Christie, S.J.*

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

SUSAN E. KLEPPER, PH.D. and WILLIAM M. KLEPPER, PH.D.

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION, CONFERRED ON MAY 18, 2024

The Saint Louis University class of 1966 produced two distinguished educators. They just so happen to be married to each other.

Susan E. Klepper, Ph.D., and William M. Klepper, Ph.D., met their first year at SLU. Susan earned a Bachelor of Science in physical therapy and William, a Bachelor of Science in biology. They married after graduation.

William continued at SLU, completing a master's degree in education in 1967 and a doctorate in 1975. He also was the associate dean of students at SLU from 1969 to 1971.

That started his career in higher education. He went on to the University of South Carolina and the College of New Jersey before landing at Columbia University. At Columbia's Business School, he is the academic director for executive education and an adjunct professor.

Columbia University also welcomed Susan. After earning a master's degree from Hahnemann University in 1990 and a doctorate from Drexel University in 1996, she joined Columbia University Medical Center as an assistant professor of rehabilitation and regenerative medicine in physical therapy. She is now an emeritus professor.

Susan also served as a consultant to the pediatric rheumatology team at Children's Hospital of New York and as a physical therapist in private practice and with the Mercer County Special Services School District in New Jersey.

She published numerous articles during her career and was recognized as an educator. She received the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals' Distinguished Educator Award in 2015 and the Saint Louis University Alumni Merit Award in 2016.

Three years later, William also received SLU's Alumni Merit Award. He earned other honors, including the Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who's Who and the Lima Central Catholic Hall of Fame.

His book *The CEO's Boss: Tough Love in the Boardroom* was ranked as one of the top five books by *The Wall Street Journal's* livemint.com in December 2010.

William has served his community as the mayor of Ewing Township, New Jersey, as well as president of the township's school board. He also was president of the Mercer County (New Jersey) Board of County Commissioners.

For their lifelong dedication to their students and their fields, and their commitment to their communities, the degree of Doctor of Education, honoris causa, *will be conferred upon Susan E. Klepper and William M. Klepper.*

LOCATIONS

St. Louis, Missouri, and Madrid, Spain

GLOBAL EXPERIENCE

The Institute of International Education lists SLU among the top 30 U.S. universities for study abroad participation.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

SLU ranks as one of the country's top colleges by The Princeton Review, *The Wall Street Journal* and *Forbes* magazine – and as one of the country's top 10 Catholic colleges by Niche.

ENROLLMENT

SLU educates 15,204 students, more than ever before, with unprecedented international enrollment that more than doubled in a single year. Students come from all 50 states and 96 countries. SLU-Madrid's fall enrollment reached 1,104.

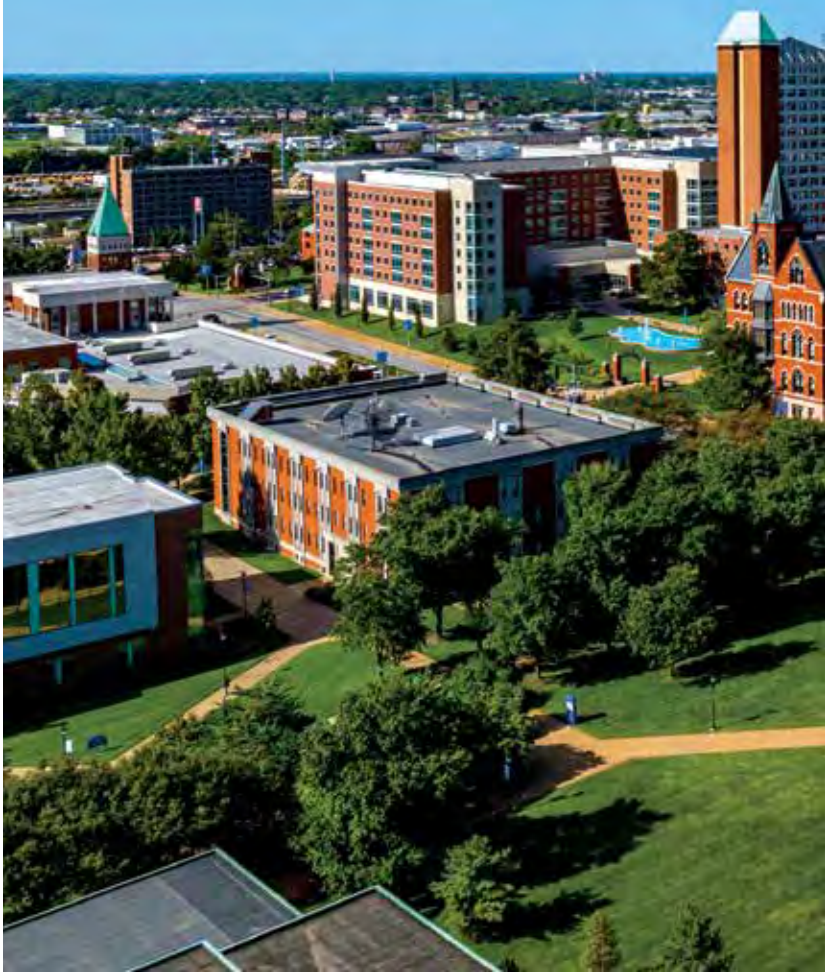
ECONOMIC GROWTH

With an endowment that exceeds $1.8 billion, SLU is a major catalyst for urban renewal in the heart of a vibrant city. More than $2 billion in development is underway in Midtown St. Louis, with SLU in the center of the neighborhood's growth.

ABOUT SLU

Founded in 1818, Saint Louis University is one of the oldest and most prestigious Catholic universities in the United States. The University is recognized nationally for world-class academics, life-changing research and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Now in its third century, Saint Louis University continues to be guided by its enduring Jesuit mission, with an unwavering commitment to serve a higher purpose while always seeking the greater good.



SERVICE

1.6 million hours of service are completed by the SLU community annually. Eighty percent of students volunteer each year, nearly triple the national average among college students.

RESEARCH

One of only 16 Catholic universities with a Carnegie Classification of "high" or "very high" research activity, SLU has $60 million in annual externally funded research expenditures.

ATHLETICS

An NCAA Division I institution, SLU is a member of the Atlantic 10 Conference and competes in 18 sports. Recent successes include six consecutive A-10 conference championships for the women's soccer team and the 2024 WNIT Championship for the women's basketball team.

MASCOT

The University's unique mascot, the Billiken, is a mythical good-luck figure who represents "things as they ought to be."

ALUMNI

SLU's new graduates join more than 137,000 alumni who lead lives of meaning and purpose around the world.

It is with great honor that Saint Louis University names **Michael D. Barber, S.J.,** as mace bearer for the 2024 commencement exercises. Barber, professor of philosophy and former dean of SLU's College of Philosophy and Letters and College of Arts and Sciences, received bachelor's and master's degrees from Saint Louis University in 1971 and 1972 respectively. He earned his Master's of Divinity at Loyola University Chicago in 1979 and his doctorate at Yale University in 1985.

He first joined SLU in 1985 as an assistant professor of philosophy, and he has served the University in a wide variety of roles since that time, including as the dean of two colleges, as acting chair of the Department of Philosophy and as the Hotfelder Distinguished Chair in the Humanities.

A noted scholar, Barber has written seven books and more than 100 articles in the general area of phenomenology and the social world. His seventh book, *Religion and Humor as Emancipating Provinces of Meaning,* was published in 2017. He is also editor of *Schutzian Research,* an annual interdisciplinary journal. He served as president of the Interdisciplinary Coalition of North American Phenomenologists. Barber's research interests include phenomenology, social philosophy, philosophy of religion, philosophy and race.

THE SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY MACE

The Saint Louis University mace represents the Catholic, Jesuit and urban influences that distinguish the University. Commissioned in 1987, the SLU mace is an outward sign of the president's authority and is seen at all University formal academic occasions.

Handcrafted in bronze by a St. Louis artisan, the mace is 30 inches long, topped by a Christian cross that is supported by the SLU seal. Beneath these elements are two wolves at a cauldron, a symbol from the coat of arms of the House of Loyola, from which descended St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus.

The entire crown of the mace rests upon three fleurs-de-lis taken from the royal standard of King Louis IX of France, after whom both the University and the City of St. Louis are named. The names of every SLU president are inscribed on the handle.

The origins of the mace as a symbol trace back to medieval times, when churchmen would carry clublike staffs into battle because the use of swords was forbidden under biblical injunction. Today, maces are seen most often at university ceremonies and as part of the pageantry of European governmental functions.

THE MARSHALS OF SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY HAVE A CENTRAL ROLE IN THE UNIVERSITY'S MOST SIGNIFICANT ACADEMIC OCCASIONS. THE POST OF MARSHAL IS ONE OF HONOR, WITH MARSHALS APPOINTED BY THEIR COLLEGE OR SCHOOL TO SERVE AS CEREMONIAL LEADERS. MARSHALS WEAR DISTINCTIVE MEDALLIONS INDICATIVE OF THEIR ROLE.

UNIVERSITY CO-MARSHALS

Christopher H. Thomas, Ph.D.
Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business

Joanne C. Langan, Ph.D.
Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing

COLLEGE/SCHOOL MARSHALS

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Elena Bray-Speth, Ph.D.
Thomas J. Finan, Ph.D.
Lisa M. Willoughby, Ph.D.
Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Tyler De Shon, Ph.D
Adam Merando, M.D.

SCHOOL OF LAW
Kerrin M. Kowach, J.D.
Yvette J. Liebesman, J.D.

RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Patricia Bagsby, Ph.D.
Rob A. Boyle, Ph.D.
Debra N. Pike, M.B.A.

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
Stephen Belt, Ph.D.
Gajapriya Tamilselvan, Ph.D.
Brent M. Znosko, Ph.D.

TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE SCHOOL OF NURSING
Karen Cuvar, Ph.D.
Samantha Marquard, D.N.P.
Karen S. Moore, D.N.P.
Michelle Papachrisanthou, D.N.P.
Karen Scaglione, D.N.P.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
Shannon Cooper-Sadlo, Ph.D.
Brandy R. Maynard, Ph.D.

EDWARD AND MARGARET DOISY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Uthayashanker R. Ezekiel, Ph.D.
Rita M. Heuertz, Ph.D.
Julie Howe, M.B.A.
Lori Jones, Ph.D.
Kitty Newsham, Ph.D.
Elaina F. Osterbur, Ph.D.
Tim R. Randolph, Ph.D.
Amanda Reed, M.A.E.
Christine M. Werner, Ph.D.

COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
Travis M. Loux, Ph.D.

SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
Stacy Godlewski, M.S.
Matthew J. Grawitch, Ph.D.
Troy P. Hargrove, M.B.A.
Srikanth P. Mudigonda, Ph.D.
Maria Weber, M.S.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Jessica A. Leonard, Ph.D.
Kathryn M. Pierce, Ph.D.
Mark M. Pousson, Ph.D.
Jon Turk, Ph.D.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
Martha H. Allen, M.L.S.
Miriam E. Joseph, Ph.D.
Katy Smith, Ph.D.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT
Alex A. Ocasio, Ph.D.

ALUMNI MERIT AWARDEES

ON MAY 17, SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY RECOGNIZED THIS YEAR'S ALUMNI MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS. MANY OF THOSE HONOREES ARE SPECIAL GUESTS AT TODAY'S COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY, SETTING A STRONG EXAMPLE OF SERVICE AND SUCCESS FOR THE 2024 SLU GRADUATES.

Joseph P. Conran
(Arts and Sciences '67, Law '70)
Retired partner, Husch Blackwell LLP

Timothy Drone
(Arts and Sciences '72, Grad A&S '75, Grad Business '77)
Retired executive banker; collector of art and artifacts

Michael Ernest
(Dentistry '69)
Retired endodontist

Fr. Michael Esswein
(Philosophy and Letters '93)
Pastor, Annunciation Catholic Church and Our Lady of Providence Catholic Church

Flint Fowler
(Grad Education '97)
President and CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis

Marilyn Horst
(Grad Social Work '77)
Retired social worker, SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital

Barbara Jacobsmeyer
(Doisy '88)
President and CEO, Enhabit Home Health and Hospice

Laura S. Kaiser
(Grad Business '85, Grad Public Health '85)
President and CEO, SSM Health

James P. Kavanaugh
(Business '86)
Co-founder and CEO, World Wide Technology; investor and owner, St. Louis City SC and St. Louis Blues

Frank Magiera
(Parks '62)
Financial services professional

Nathan Merrick
(Grad Professional Studies '20)
Board member, Fish Window Cleaning Services Inc.

Toniya Singh
(Medical Residency '00, Fellowship '03)
Managing partner, St. Louis Heart and Vascular

Trudy Busch Valentine
(Nursing '80)
Former nurse; pastoral care advocate, philanthropist

PIONEER AWARD
Gregory Frey
(Education '07)
Spanish teacher, Benet Academy

Steven Frey
(Education '09)
English teacher, Benet Academy

MUSICIANS AND CHORUS

COMMENCEMENT ENSEMBLE

Director: **Robert Hughes, Ph.D.**
Professor of Music

VIOLINS
Manuela Topalbegovic
Essence Williams
Lucy Kaymakanova
Valerie Galiano-Rouge
Naveena Mutharasan
Riley Luebbers
Megan Sloup

VIOLAS
Victor Humphrey
Sansita Palakollu
Amy Pennington

CELLOS
Chris Lau
Marie Brown

BASS
Adam Allali

MASTERSINGERS

Director: **David Kowalczyk**
Instructor of Music

Sana'a Abou Antoun
Michael Bauer
Matthew Blade
Pearle Bramlett
Abby Busch
Lydia Campbell
Lauren Elsen
Kristine Hervey
Analiesa Hollowood
David Joseph
Katherine Kaiser
Jodi Katti
Lily Kinnison
Evelyn Maruszak
Taylor Mollett
Nolan Murray
Gerard Pena
Lilah Poole
Kaley Schrameyer
Sophia Siminow
Vishal Vaheesan
Ittmum Zahir

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

The colorful attire worn by graduates, faculty, trustees and officers of the University has historic roots in the distant medieval past. Dressed in cap and gown, the graduates and their professors are part of a long tradition that dates back to Paris and Bologna, Italy, to Oxford and Cambridge, England, in the days of their Catholic glory.

The exact origins of several parts of the academic garb are a bit of a mystery. Because medieval students enjoyed the status of cleric during their university years, one might guess that their attire found its inspiration in the clerical dress of medieval times. The gown seems to be an adaptation of the robe of friar or priest; the hood, of the monk's or friar's cowl; and the mortarboard cap of today recalls the skullcap of days when tonsured heads needed protection against the drafts of medieval classrooms.

Academic attire began to appear on U.S. campuses in the late 1890s. Since that time, its use has become universal for solemn university functions, and its pattern is highly uniform.

THE GOWNS

The gowns are three in number and styling. That of the bachelor is a yoked, closed-front garment with long pointed sleeves; that of the master has sleeves long and closed but slit just above the elbow to allow the forearms to protrude; the gown of the doctor has full, bell-shaped sleeves. Only the doctor's gown is trimmed — with velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on each sleeve.

THE HOOD

The hood at first seems to have been worn over the head and attached to the gown. When the skullcap was introduced, the hood was retained but detached as a separate piece and worn much as it is today.

Each degree (bachelor's, master's, doctoral) has its special hood, which varies in length and, for the doctor, also in pattern. The color or colors lining the hood are those of the college or university that granted the wearer's degree. For example, Saint Louis University is known by blue chevron on a field of white. The colored velvet binding or edging of the hood, in different widths for bachelor, master and doctor, is determined by the field of study.

THE CAP

The cap, or mortarboard, has become the universally accepted style for U.S. colleges and universities. Many European institutions still retain distinctive forms of academic headdress.

THE TASSEL

The tassel is perhaps the most iconic souvenir of academic attire. The doctoral graduate can wear a gold or black tassel on the mortarboard. However, varying the color of the tassel based on the field of study has gained acceptance throughout academia. Colors include:

Allied health professions: Mint green
Arts: White
Business: Drab
Education: Light blue
Hospital administration: Salmon
Law: Purple
Medicine: Green
Nursing: Apricot
Philosophy: Dark blue
Public administration: Peacock blue
Science: Gold-yellow
Social work: Citron
Technology and engineering: Orange
Theology: Scarlet

EXECUTIVE STAFF

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President

Michael Lewis
Provost

Anita Borgmeyer
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Kyle Collins
Vice President and Chief Information Officer

Sarah Cunningham
Vice President, Student Development

Jessica Evenson
Vice President, Compliance and Ethics

Bob Gagne
Chief of Staff

David Heimburger
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Christine Jacobs
Vice President, Medical Affairs, and Dean, School of Medicine

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Vice President, Facilities Services

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Vice President, Human Resources

Sheila Manion
Vice President, Development

Chris May
Director, Athletics

Kenneth A. Olliff
Vice President, Research

Robert Reddy
Vice President, Enrollment Management

Rochelle Smith
Vice President, Diversity and Innovative Community Engagement

David Suwalsky, S.J.
Vice President, Mission and Identity

Danielle Uy
Vice President and General Counsel

CONSTITUENCY LEADERSHIP

Ryan Tisdale
President, Student Government Association

Judi Buncher
Chair, Staff Advisory Committee

Christine Rollins
President, Faculty Senate

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Chair

Marian "Bo" Mehan
Vice Chair

Robert Adkisson

Akberet Boykin-Farr

George Brill

Thomas Buchanan

Richard Chaifetz

W. Winston Chan

Robert Ciapciak

Jerry Dwyer

Jimmie Edwards

Eric Engler

Michael Garanzini, S.J.

Andrew Hoog

Chang-Soo Huh

Edward Ignaczak

John Johnson

Darryl Jones

Arindam Kar

James Kavanaugh

Jessie Knight Jr.

James Lally

Timothy Lannon, S.J.

Patrick Lo

Virginia McDowell

Michael McFarland, S.J.

Timothy McMahon, S.J.

Michael McMillan

Joseph McShane, S.J.

Jacqueline Drury Pollvogt

Rex Sinquefield

Patrick Sly

Philip Steele, S.J.

Holden Thorp

Martha Uhlhorn

Trudy Busch Valentine

Robert Vitale

Perry Vyas

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY "VARSITY SONG"

VERSE 1
Heirs of a royal name,
Dear Varsity,
For aye our faith and love
We pledge to thee.

Guardian of truth and light
We always knew,
Thou, whom the years have crowned,
Saint Louis U!

REFRAIN
All hail, Saint Louis U!
Valiant and strong
Noble old Varsity
Hark to our song;

Proudly our colors fly
Brave White and Blue,
Loud let the chorus swell,
Saint Louis U!

VERSE 2
Great is thy noble heart,
Tender and true,
Show us thy loyalty
Saint Louis U!

Bear we with pride and love
Thy White and Blue,
Sweet are thy memories,
Saint Louis U!

REFRAIN
All hail, Saint Louis U!
Valiant and strong
Noble old Varsity
Hark to our song;

Proudly our colors fly
Brave White and Blue,
Loud let the chorus swell,
Saint Louis U!

VERSE 3
Truth and nobility
Thy halls enshrine,
Guarding the hallow'd name
Forever thine.

May we with heart and hand
Through life renew
Thy noble victories,
Saint Louis U!

REFRAIN
All hail, Saint Louis U!
Valiant and strong
Noble old Varsity
Hark to our song;

Proudly our colors fly
Brave White and Blue,
Loud let the chorus swell,
Saint Louis U!

Composed by Alfred G. Robyn (1860-1935) Original lyrics by Paul L. Blakely, S.J. (1880-1943) Lyrics adapted by Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.

As part of Saint Louis University's bicentennial celebration in 2018, SLU reintroduced the "Varsity Song," which served as the University's *alma mater*. Previously it was last performed in the 1960s. Aaron Johnson, D.M.A., associate professor of music, adapted the lyrics and arranged the music for four-part choral performance.

Alfred G. Robyn (1860-1935), composer, organist and pianist, composed the music for the "Varsity Song" in 1909, the year he received an honorary degree from SLU. He was a prolific composer, credited with having written approximately 300 works, some of which were subsequently used in motion pictures. Robyn's connection to SLU traces back to his father, a German immigrant, who was also a composer and musician and taught for several years at SLU.

The original lyrics were written by Paul L. Blakely, S.J. (1880-1943). Blakely entered the Society of Jesus in 1897. He completed his studies at SLU and was ordained in 1912. He was a professor of literature at SLU from 1906 to 1909 and later became the associate editor of *America* magazine.

THE MISSION OF SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY IS THE PURSUIT OF TRUTH FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD AND FOR THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY.

The University seeks excellence in the fulfillment of its corporate purposes of teaching, research, health care and service to the community. It is dedicated to leadership in the continuing quest for understanding of God's creation and for the discovery, dissemination and integration of the values, knowledge and skills required to transform society in the spirit of the Gospels. As a Catholic, Jesuit university, this pursuit is motivated by the inspiration and values of the Judeo-Christian tradition and is guided by the spiritual and intellectual ideals of the Society of Jesus.

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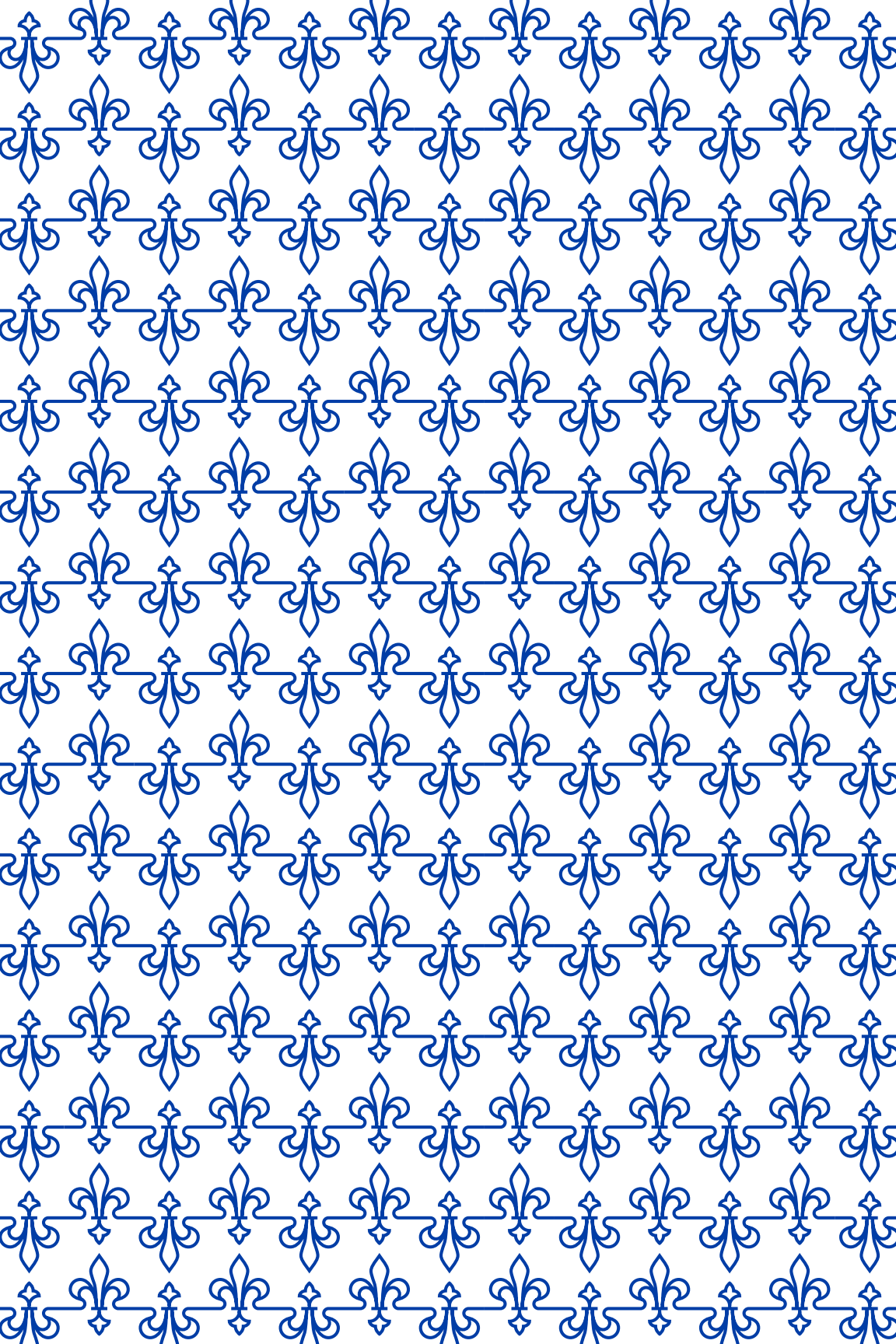

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