



University of
Pittsburgh®

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Spring 2025

Commencement

**May 1, 2025
Fitzgerald Field House**



ORDER OF EVENTS

PRELUDE

ASSEMBLY OF CANDIDATES

Robert Scherrer, EdD

President, Pitt Education Alumni Society

COMMENCEMENT PROCESSIONAL

BS	Carma Sprowls-Repcheck, PhD
Graduate Certificate	Gary Gabel, PhD
MAT	Gary Gabel, PhD
MEd	Katrina Bartow Jacobs, PhD
MA	Robert Gallen, PhD
MS	Robert Gallen, PhD
EdD	Tom Avika, PhD
PhD	Rachel Robertson, PhD
Faculty	Mike Gunzenhauser, PhD
Platform	Andrea Zito, EdD

STUDENT SPEAKERS

Nina Rorabaugh, BS, Teacher Education

Amoy Crosbourne, MS, Applied Developmental Psychology

DEAN'S ADDRESS

Eboni M. Zamani-Gallaher, PhD

Renée and Richard Goldman Dean and Professor

CEREMONY ADDRESS

Saleem Ghubril, Executive Director, The Pittsburgh Promise

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

SCHOOL RECOGNITIONS

Renée and Richard Goldman Dean **Eboni M. Zamani-Gallaher**

ALUMNI WELCOME

Robert Scherrer, EdD, President, Pitt Education Alumni Society

RECESSIONAL

FEATURED SPEAKERS

CEREMONY SPEAKER

Saleem Ghubril

Executive Director, The Pittsburgh Promise



An ordained Presbyterian minister, Saleem Ghubril has devoted his life to serving the people of his community through outreach and education programs. He is a passionate advocate for children and for the City of Pittsburgh. In 1985, Ghubril founded The Pittsburgh Project, a community development organization that provided free home renovations to hundreds of vulnerable seniors each year. It also mentored, educated, and deployed thousands of youth in meaningful volunteer community service. In 2008, Ghubril became the founding Executive Director of The Pittsburgh Promise. The

Pittsburgh Promise promotes high educational aspirations among Pittsburgh's youth, funds scholarships for post-secondary access, and fuels a prepared and diverse regional workforce. The Pittsburgh Promise has supported the post-secondary education of more than 12,500 graduates of the Pittsburgh Public Schools and provided them with more than \$182 million in scholarships.

DEAN'S ADDRESS

Eboni M. Zamani-Gallaher, PhD

Renée and Richard Goldman Dean and Professor,
Pitt School of Education



An accomplished scholar, Eboni M. Zamani-Gallaher's work focuses on equitable participation in higher education; transfer, access, and retention policies; minoritized student populations in marginalized institutional contexts; and racial equity and campus climate in postsecondary education pathways. Prior to her tenure as dean, Zamani-Gallaher served as the associate dean for equity, justice, and strategic partnerships in the School of Education. As a researcher, Zamani-Gallaher has amassed over \$11 million in external funding on projects aimed at improving the field of higher education. In addition to

her work at Pitt, Zamani-Gallaher is a leader in a variety of professional organizations. She is executive director of the Council for the Study of Community Colleges and president of the Association for the Study of Higher Education. Zamani-Gallaher holds a PhD in educational organization and leadership from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and an MS in general experimental psychology and a BS in psychology from Western Illinois University.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

At this ceremony, degrees are conferred upon persons who completed requirements in August and December 2024 and who are expected to for April and June 2025. Because candidates for April and June 2025 would not have completed degree requirements before the printing of the program, it was not possible to provide more than a tentative listing of candidates. The listing of a degree on a University academic transcript is the official testimony of degree conferral. This academic achievement is celebrated through the issuance of a University diploma.

JUNE 2025 GRADUATES

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Rema Abdin	Laura Greif	Rodolfo Pineda
Feyisola Akintola	Christie Hay	Melanie Reyes
Alice Anderson	Daniel Hitt	Erica Rodgers
Tara Anderson	Stephanie Hoogendoorn	Dana Romano
Mandy Austin	Greer Jones	David Roscher
Joseph Bleehash	Valerie Kerr	Rachel Santiago-Jones
Meagan Bruno	Julie Kozak	Cara Senger
Suzette Burlingame	Poornima Krishnamurthy	Brett Slider
Tequila Butler	Patience Laycak	Anna Smith
Mollie Cecere	Michele Leyshon	Latisha Thomas
Megan Chasin	Lucia Li	Daniel Tolomeo
Yiting Cheng	Jennifer Manges	Samantha Utley
Shadequa Coad	Deja Massey	Kelly Wagner
Alicia Coyle	Christopher Meaner	Stephen Walker
Allison Duclo	James Mentzer	Susan Walker
Corey Flynn	Rachel Nagy	Yvette Wisher
Amber Fontenot	Chad Palladino	Ashley Yarbinec

APRIL 2025 GRADUATES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Kaitlin Aiello	Elona Carroll	Cassidy Evans
Flynn Anthony	Angeline Chalifoux	Amanda Feher
Rocco Avena	Yu-Cheng Chen	Cecilia Fink
Claire Bailey	Ziyuan Chen	Sydney Floyd
Christopher Balaan	Jaclyn Cheng	MaryBeth Foley
Dylan Bennett	Amber Collins	Benjamin Galtman
Mary Bertocchi	Daniel Comer	Taylor Garber
Leah Blank	Sophia Connelly	Emma Gartenberg
Mariana Bolena	Jenna Cruser	Abigail Gigliotti
Emily Bolger	Joshua Daub	Sydney Gold
Nicolis Boris	Pablo de la Iglesia	Ilan Gordon
Kendall Brown	Carrasco	Auden Greenberg
Marisa Brown	Melody Dean	Tyler Gregory
Luca Caggiano	Ameya Deshpande	Connor Hakel
Evan Calhoun	Michaela Dugan	Ava Hayes
Emma Carney	Sierra Durnil	Sara Hess
Charis Carroll	Taylor Ellef	Emma Hoover

Mary Howski
Jia Yang Huang
Renee Inks
Lili Jakiela
Emily Janosko
Isaiah Jarrett
Sophie Kapolka
Eleni Karageorgis
Emily Kauffman
Javon Key
Kayla Key
Ashley Kim
Lauren Klunk
Mare Knoblock
Abigail Koontz
Nevada Kraus
Jessica Lee
Matalai Lee
Yaneana Leedie
Emily Leonard
Irvin Li
Brooke Loughran
Julia Love
Kamryn Ludwick
Wesley Luke
Natali Lutsiv
Justin Lynch
Madalyn Marinelli
Alexander Martin
Danielle Mathey
Jennifer Mayhle

Anne McCammon
Payton McCarthy
Luke McConaghy
Kelsey McGaughey
Meghan McGonnell
Fiona McIntyre
Jason Meyers
Miarra Misutka
Jack Moriarty
Micah Morrow
Hannah Mueller
Peter Novak
Cindy Obiero
Teagan O'Neill
Kaitlyn Peragine
Victoria Perlman
Jack Piganelli
Jennifer Qiu
Guru Ram
Jon Rathfon
Robert Revenis
Elizabeth Rivera
Mathilda Roberts
Ryleigh Robie
Simon Peter Rocktashel
Michelle Roman-Nunez
Shoshana Rosenthal
Addison Schermer
Lucy Schwab
Rachel Schwartz
Adam Seager

Ainsley Serianni
Caitlin Shaw
Jackson Shea
Emilee Sheridan
Catherine Singow
Olivia Snyder
Brooke Sorensen
Cashmere Starks
Benjamin Stillman
Alayna Stoneking
Mackenzie Sullivan
Zane Sullivan
Dominic Sulpizio
Samuel Sushko
Kaden Sweeney
Megan Sweeney
Luke Tesche
Natalie Thomas
Elise Thompson
Olivia Thompson
Justin Unger
Yakahiris Vazquez
Laura Vinski
Charlotte Walker
Marilyn Warren
Nathan Whatley
Elizabeth Womack
Pengfei Wu
Lyndsay Yang
Katelyn Young
Dominik Zarzycki

CERTIFICATE

Sydney Bittner
Elizabeth Cohen
Arielle Cowsette
Sarah Ditzler
Sophia Esswein
Allison Frank
Danielle Heeney
Alaina Kalin

Lindsey Kisucky
Kathryn Majewski
Tovia Marcus
Kala McCauley
Sarah McCloskey
Nathan Menhorn
Claire Priore
Grace Przybylinski

Sophia Schramm
Tovia Selvan Marcus
Rachel Shannon
Holly Short
Jami Siegal
Heather Stein
Killian Thomas
Alicia Wilson

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Paul Frank Biedka
Gabrielle Buccino
Emma Coletta
Benjamin Davidson
Joseph Doonan
Colleen Dougherty
Joelle Farah

Connor Foran
Taya Hoetzlein-Sirman
John Hollihan
Yutian Jia
Lauren Johnston
Andrew Knight
Kellan Kolar

Jacob Kosky
Anya Koyner
Emma Krofcheck
Morgan Mattia
Dagny McCann
Timothy Mcconkey
Frank Menz

Maris Miller
Teresa Miller
Mia Naccarato
Kevin O'Brien
Benjamin Peters
Katherine Pugar
Kathryn Riggs

Elise Romero
Austin Rosenkrans
Nicholas Schake
Nicholas Szwaczkowski
Adam Taylor
Carson Thieret
Lauren Towner

Sarah Trexler
Alexandra von Briel
Shanshan Wan
Linda Washburn
Andrew Weis
Austin Yasofsky

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Brooke Aymar
Jessica Berger
Grace Brown-Scherer
Amanda Cooke
Keely Daniels
Rachel Daum
Sarah Ditzler
Abigail Duncan
Sophia Esswein
Carly Fanning
Clare Fitzpatrick
Lindsey Fortes
Jillian Gaudio
Danielle Heeney
Kaori Hornberger
Arianne Johnson
Shayna Josowitz
Emily Maher
Mary-Catherine
Mahoney

Laura McClain
Sarah McCloskey
Olivia Mekhail
Cassandra Miller
Mindy Miller
Ruth Miller
Larissa Moelber
Isabella Narduzzi
Taylor Niggel
Lauren Paulus
Michelle Pilyugin
Elodie Prigent
Claire Priore
Brooklyn Rensberger
Skyy Sales
Jordan Salomone
Madeleine Sauter
Sophia Schramm
Holly Short
Hallie Sill

Tyler Smida
James Smith
Kara Soles
Elisa Tenido
Claire Terry
Killian Thomas
Kevin Totty
Gabrielle Trojan
Tri Van
Tangeniqua Washington
Nekiya
Washington-Butler
Ashlyn Weidenhammer
Heidi Wertz
Matthew Whaley
Amelia White
Alicia Wilson
Tierra Wilson

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Lily Bossler
Kayli Clemens
Amoy Crosbourn
Haley Flynn
Elizabeth Heck

Yinuo Jin
Jala Jordan
Navreen Kaur
Grace Kraft
Ava Quinn

Madeline Rushford
Leanne Santavicca
Misako Sebata
Yuhan Wu
Sicheng Zhang

MASTER OF ARTS

Audrey Buzard
Madelaine Maloney
Nisha Nairang

Dustin Podgorski
Rachael Stowe
Rayne Young

Zachary Young

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Jose Garcia
Kristin Klingensmith
Melanie Manes
Rachel Nagy

Cherri Rogers
Samantha Schmitt
Oksana Stalczyński
Yvette Wisher

Zachary Zebrasky

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Hilary Chelednik
Chelsea Jimenez

Briana Rodriguez
Michael Tumminia

Xiaofan Zhang

DECEMBER 2024 GRADUATES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Francesca Citrone
Ryan Duffy
Jadaysia Hedgepeth
Jessica Jones

Kamryn Kostelnik
Lea Pallof
Rivers Rodanthe
Nina Rorabaugh

Vic Saylor
Samantha Snyder
Nekiya
Washington-Butler

CERTIFICATE

Will Guess
Chet Henderson
Taylor Hrabosky
Xiyan Li
Amber Miller

Mindy Miller
Debbie Myers
Devika Nair
Sara Payo
Karley Pedrick

Ziyun Qian
Madeline Schuck
Ece Ulus
Timothy Witsenske

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Karman Ellerhorst
Deborah Geary
Taylor Hrabosky
Amber Miller

Devika Nair
Karley Pedrick
Ziyun Qian
Madeline Schuck

Sydney Urbine

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Eva Heidinger

Xiyan Li

Valeria Vasquez Gomez

MASTER OF ARTS

Miles McFall

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Chet Henderson
Sonia Jaiswal

Matt Roberts
Stephanie Romanishan

Jared Shade

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATING STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Navreen Kaur
Nevada Kraus
Taylor Niggel
Robert Revenis

Nina Rorabaugh
Ella Tenido
Laura Vinski



AUGUST 2024 GRADUATES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Sarelm Brooks
Hannah Fedel

Michelle Pilyugin
Adrianna Sherwood

Ashlyn Weidenhammer

CERTIFICATE

Jaz Baez
Wenyng Bai
Hope Beam Albert
Susan Ciccone
Carline Crevecoeur
Allison Curtis
Akeim David
Madison Evans
Amanda Gooch
Trevor Kerr

Kathryn Konrad
Siyu Liu
Selena Magagnotti
Xintong Meng
Jennifer Pallone
Sonia Schilling-Mansour
Antoinette Sparte
Jamie Walker

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Daniel Genova
Thomas Green

Joshua Junko
Ryan Wagner

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Nicole Clydesdale
Carline Crevecoeur
Madison Evans
Stephen Genetti

Amanda Gooch
Rachel Hidek
Alexandra Idy
Trevor Kerr

Erin Kuehn
Zara Misler
Krysten Opsatnik
Daniella Pagano

Katie Parisi
Adam Sadek
Courtney Schroeder
Olivia Vioral
Jamie Walker

Yifan Wu
Wei Yuan

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Morgan Aicher
Wenyong Bai
Nathaniel Cava
Allison Curtis
Adeline Farrington
Matthew Gaston
Thomas Gibb

Corey Giles
Brianna Hennigh
Tristian Homze
Nete Khoanyane
Siyu Liu
Xintong Meng
Jade Minniefield

Delaney Purcell
Jacob Rush
Reed Seybolt
Katelyn Sherman
Zoey Wilson

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Benjamin Althof
Sharla Anke
Constance
Barnes-Watson
Hope Beam Albert
Audrey Bowser
Melvin Cherry
Juliet Crowell
Charmaine Davis

Sarah Dunifon
Nathan Einsig
Andrew George
Jamaal Gosa
Susan Graff
Michele Lagnese
Kimberly Masloski
Christine Miller
Jennifer Pallone

Nicholas Reffuge
Megan Roberts
Sonia Schilling-Mansour
Jennifer Tan
Sister Iasia Thomas
Meghan Watelet

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Anthony Holmes

Corey Humphrey

Terrence Zhang



ALUMNI WELCOME

Robert Scherrer, EdD
President, Pitt Education Alumni Society



Robert Scherrer (EdD '09) is president of the University of Pittsburgh School of Education Alumni Society. He is executive director of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, a regional education services agency serving the greater Pittsburgh area. In this role, he has developed and implemented a new strategic plan and supported school entities throughout the region. Previously, he was superintendent of the North Allegheny School District and a principal at Pittsburgh Allderdice High School and the Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy, both in the Pittsburgh Public Schools District. Scherrer earned his Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility and EdD in administrative and policy studies from the University of Pittsburgh School of Education. He also holds a BS in business education, an MEd in business education, and Principal's Certification from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

STAY IN TOUCH!

The Pitt School of Education Alumni Society invites all new alumni to stay engaged with the school.

- Attend our alumni events and homecoming activities.
- Read our alumni e-newsletter and magazine.
- Join the Pitt Commons platform to network with your peers and support students.

Keep your information up-to-date by visiting education.pitt.edu/alumni.



OUR MISSION-VISION

The Pitt School of Education has an unwavering commitment to equity, justice, and innovation.

The following statement is our mission-vision. It encapsulates what we do, what we believe, and who we continually seek to become as members of the school community.

We ignite learning. We strive for well-being for all. We teach. We commit to student, family, and community success. We commit to educational equity. We advocate. We work for justice. We cultivate relationships. We forge engaged partnerships. We collaborate. We learn with and from communities. We innovate and agitate. We pursue and produce knowledge. We research. We disrupt and transform inequitable educational structures. We approach learning as intertwined with health, wellness, and human development. We address how national, global, social, and technological change impacts learning. We shape practice and policy. We teach with and for dignity. We think. We dream. We lead with integrity. We are the School of Education at the University of Pittsburgh.



WE IGNITE LEARNING



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