172nd
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021 • 9:00 A.M.
Robert L. Vaughan Center
1704 Weeksville Rd, Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Elizabeth City State University
Spring Commencement
May 8, 2021
9:00 a.m.

Robert L. Vaughan Center
Elizabeth City, North Carolina
May 8, 2021

Welcome to Elizabeth City State University’s 172nd Commencement Ceremony. We are delighted to celebrate our spring 2021 graduates who have successfully navigated uncharted waters in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, we salute their courage, resilience, and hard work as we recognize their accomplishments.

Graduates, you now join a distinguished group of more than 20,000 ECSU alumni who continue to make a difference in their communities and beyond.

Thank you to the families of our graduates for your continued support. Because of your dedication, our graduates will now take the next step as they become productive and engaged citizens continuing to prosper and grow.

On behalf of the entire University family, I extend our sincere congratulations on this significant milestone in your life. We are extremely proud and honored to have been a part of this achievement. You have been an intricate part of the rich history, tradition, and values of this wonderful university, and we charge you with continuing to live with dignity and integrity so that you inspire others to achieve.

Go forth and conquer your dreams!

With Viking Pride,

Karrie G. Dixon, Ed.D.
Chancellor
Program

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL .............................................. Fanfare and Processional ................................. Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

*POSTING OF THE COLORS ................................................ ECSU ROTC Color Guards

*NATIONAL ANTHEM .............................................................. “The Star Spangled Banner” .......................... Francis Scott Key (1779-1843)

*MUSICAL SELECTION .......................................................... “Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing” .......................... James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938)

The University Choir

and J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954)

Dr. Walter R. Swan, Conductor

*INVOCATION ........................................................................ Apostle Edna Lawrence

Good Works Community Church

WELCOME ........................................................................... Dr. Stephanie D.B. Johnson, ECSU Board of Trustees

GREETINGS ........................................................................ Mr. Jimmy Chambers ‘22, President, Student Government Association

MUSICAL SELECTION .......................................................... “I’ll Never Turn Back No Mo’” .......................... Arranged by Hall Johnson

The University Choir

Dr. Walter R. Swan, Conductor

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER .................................................. Chancellor Karrie G. Dixon

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS .................................................. Dr. Anita Brown-Graham

tcIMPACT Initiative Director, Distinguished Gladys Hall Coates, Professor of Public Law and Government, UNC School of Government

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS .......................................................... Chancellor Karrie G. Dixon

2020-2021 BOARD OF GOVERNORS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ..................................... David M. Powers, UNC Board of Governors

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE .................................. Dr. Farrah Ward, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

OATH OF OFFICE ................................................................ LTC Robert Freeman, Department of Military Science

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES ........................................................ Dr. Farrah J. Ward

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Ms. Melanie Baker and Mr. George Bright, Announcers

CONFERRING OF DEGREES .................................................. Chancellor Karrie G. Dixon

FAREWELL REMARKS ......................................................... Ms. Astazzia Robinson ’21

Senior Class President

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNIVERSITY ................................................. Mr. Clarence Goss '97

Board Member, ECSU National Alumni Association

CHANCELLOR’S CHARGE TO GRADUATES ...................................... Chancellor Karrie G. Dixon

REMARKS .......................................................... Chancellor Karrie G. Dixon

*ALMA MATER ................................................................. Joy W. Brown & Evelyn A. Johnson

The University Choir

Dr. Walter R. Swan, Conductor

*BENEDICTION ................................................................. Apostle Edna Lawrence

Good Works Community Church

*RECESSIONAL ................................................................. Fanfare and Recessional ................................. James Ployhar (1926-2007)

*Audience, please stand.
Anita Brown-Graham, Gladys Hall Coates Distinguished Professor of Public Law & Government and Director of ncIMPACT Initiative, brings together critical stakeholders to help communities create collaborative change to overcome challenges. She and her team have tackled the need for higher educational attainment, opioid misuse, economic mobility, and community economic development. Sought-after speaker and moderator, Brown-Graham serves as host for the ncIMPACT television program on PBS NC. The public affairs program features innovative community collaborations across North Carolina.

Anita R. Brown-Graham rejoined the UNC School of Government in September 2016 to lead the public launch of ncIMPACT—a special initiative that seeks to expand the School’s capacity to work with public officials on complex policy issues. She and her colleagues bring together critical stakeholders to help communities create collaborative change to overcome challenges, including keys to economic recovery after COVID, the need for greater numbers of post-secondary credentials and degrees, expansion of prekindergarten, and opioid misuse. Sought-after speaker and moderator, Brown-Graham serves as host for the ncIMPACT television program on PBS NC. The public affairs program features innovative community collaborations across North Carolina.

Brown-Graham is a William C. Friday Fellow, American Marshall Fellow, and Eisenhower Fellow. Past and current board service includes Aspen Institute: Thrive Rural, Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC Foundation, Consensus Building Institute, Made in Durham, NC IOLTA, OnBoardNC, Research Triangle Park, Triangle Community Foundation, and Z Smith Reynolds Foundation.

In 2013, the White House named her a Champion of Change for her work at IEI, and the Triangle Business Journal named her a 2014 Woman in Business for her policy leadership in the state and a 2017 CEO of the year. The UNC School of Government named her the Gladys Hall Coates Distinguished Professor in 2020.

She earned an undergraduate degree from Louisiana State University and a law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
Highlights

Historical Highlights

Founding
On March 3, 1891, Hugh Cale, an African-American representative in the N.C. General Assembly from Pasquotank County, sponsored House Bill 383, which established a normal (teaching) school for "teaching and training teachers of the colored race to teach in the common schools of North Carolina." The bill passed, and Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) was born. The institution’s first name was Elizabeth City State Colored Normal School (1891-1939).

Early Leadership
The first leader, Peter W. Moore, was called a Principal (subsequent leaders would be called President, then Chancellor). Moore served as Principal and then President until his retirement as President Emeritus, on July 1, 1928. During his tenure, enrollment increased from 23 to 355 and the faculty from two to 15 members. During the tenure of the second president, John Henry Bias, the institution was elevated from a two-year normal school to a four-year teacher’s college (1937). Two years later, the institution’s name was officially changed to Elizabeth City State Teachers College (1939-1963). The growth and elevation to teachers college changed the mission to include training elementary school principals for rural and city schools. The first Bachelor of Science degrees in elementary education were awarded in May of 1939.

Continued Growth
Between 1959 and 1963, the institution became more than a teaching college, adding 11 academic majors to the original elementary education major. In 1961, the college joined the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) accrediting group and maintains its accreditation with that body to the present. In 1963, the N.C. General Assembly changed the institution’s name from Elizabeth City State Teachers College to Elizabeth City State College (1963-1969) and on July 1, 1969, the college became Elizabeth City State University. In 1971, the General Assembly redefined the University of North Carolina system with 16 public institutions, including ECSU. Together, those institutions became constituents of The University of North Carolina (July 1972).

Today
Academics. Currently ECSU offers over 30 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, with several online degree options. From business to education to aviation and emergency management, ECSU prepares students to compete in the global work force. We achieve our commitment to the highest quality education by maintaining a rigorous focus on academic excellence through liberal arts programs and using innovative and flexible technology-based instruction models to enhance our signature areas: integrating technology with education, improving human health and wellness, and advancing the natural and aviation sciences. As of May 2020, undergraduate and/or graduate degrees have been conferred upon more than 20,000 students.

Rankings. Over the years, the university fared well among publications that rank institutions. ECSU has earned national acclaim for its advancements: U.S. News and World Report ranked ECSU #7 Top Public Schools, #14 Top Performers in Social Mobility, #22 Top HBCUs, #36 Best Regional College, South (2020-21). Washington Monthly ranked ECSU #11 Best Bang for the Buck Colleges (2020-21). ECSU ranks 4th in Best Colleges Top 10 HBCUs in the Nation (2021). ECSU has, for the sixth time, been ranked as one of the nation’s Military Friendly Schools for small public universities, ranking 5th in the nation for small schools (2021-22). Military Times ranked ECSU 84th in the nation for Best Bet for Vets (2020). Best Historically Black Colleges ranked ECSU #6 (2020).

Leadership. On December 14, 2018, Dr. Karrie G. Dixon was named 12th Chief Executive Officer and 7th Chancellor of Elizabeth City State University. Dr. Karrie G. Dixon was installed on October 11, 2019.
Elizabeth City State University
Chief Executive Officers

Hugh Cale
Founder and member of the N.C. General Assembly

Peter Weddick Moore, A.M., LL.D.
Principal, 1891-1928
President Emeritus, 1928-1934

John Henry Bias, A.B., LL.D.
President, 1928-1939

Harold Leonard Trigg, Ed.D.
President, 1939-1945

Sidney David Williams, A.M., D.PED.
President, 1946-1958
President Emeritus, 1969-1974

Walter Nathaniel Ridley, Ed.D.
President, 1958-1968
President Emeritus, 1988-1996

Marion Dennis Thorpe, Ph.D.
President, 1968-1972
Chancellor, 1972-1983

Jimmy Raymond Jenkins, Ph.D.
Chancellor, 1983-1995
Chancellor Emeritus, 1995-

Mickey Lynn Burnim, Ph.D.
Chancellor, 1995-2006

Willie James Gilchrist, Ed.D.
Chancellor, 2007-2013

Charles L. Becton, J.D.
Interim Chancellor, 2013-2014

Stacey Franklin Jones, Ph.D.
Chancellor, 2014-2015

Thomas E. H. Conway, Jr. Ph.D.
Chancellor, 2016-2018

Karrie G. Dixon, Ed.D.
Chancellor, 2018-
Regalia

Academic Regalia

The pageantry of today’s academic procession harks back to the middle Ages. From the monk’s habit has evolved the long black gown, and from the cowl, which monks wore as shoulder covering, comes the hood. The square “Oxford Cap” with stiff crown, known as the mortarboard, was developed from the skull caps worn by churchmen. American colleges and universities adopted the custom of wearing the gown, hood, and cap from English universities, and this ceremonial attire has withstood centuries of modifications in form, fabric, and color from its early European inception.

In 1895, a uniform code for academic costumes was adopted by most colleges and universities in the United States. This code prescribes the style of gown and hood worn by the degree recipient.

THE GOWN

BACHELOR’S GOWN - black, has long pointed sleeves, and is worn closed.

MASTER’S GOWN - also black, is usually worn open, and has longer, narrower, closed sleeves which extend below the knee.

DOCTORAL GOWN - usually black also, but may be of a color representing the institution granting the degree; two, five-inch wide velvet panels extend from the collar to the hem along the front edges of the gown, worn closed, and the bell-shaped sleeves have three velvet bars.

Colors

Modern times have allowed some variation in color scheme, including both the color of the gown and sleeve stripe, but most generally, discipline colors are restricted to the hood. The lining of the hood is usually done in the colors of the institution conferring the degree, and the bars of color on the hood represent the academic field in which the degree was awarded. Although not all-inclusive, examples of discipline colors are:

Arts, Letters, Humanities ................................ White
Business Administration/Commerce ................. Drab
Economics ................................................. Copper
Education .................................................. Light Blue
Fine Arts (including Architecture) .................. Brown
Journalism .................................................. Crimson
Law .......................................................... Purple
Library Science ........................................... Lemon
Medicine ................................................... Green
Music ......................................................... Pink
Nursing ....................................................... Apricot
Oratory (Speech) ......................................... Silver Gray
Philosophy ................................................ Dark Blue
Physical Education ..................................... Sage Green
Public Administration/Foreign Service ............ Peacock Blue
Public Health ............................................ Salmon Pink
Science Golden ........................................... Yellow
Social Science ........................................... Cream
Social Work ............................................. Citron
Theology ................................................... Scarlet
The Mace

Bearer of the Mace

The Mace, representing the ceremonially symbol of authority, is worn by the highest grade point average of an undergraduate non-transfer graduating senior earning all credits at ECSU. It was designed by Professor Alexis Joyner, former Chair of the ECSU Art Department, and unveiled at the installation of Chancellor Mickey L. Burnim on October 18, 1996. The Mace is 70 inches tall and consists of three dynamic centers of significant components. The focal point is a replica of a Viking’s head, cast in bronze, with brass rays extending from the center depicting knowledge, enlightenment, wisdom and democracy; a bronze seal of the University adorns the reverse side. Chosen for its durability and dark, rich color, the Mace’s wooden staff is crafted from black walnut, topped with a hand-turned polished brass finial, and is footed with a base replicating the ancient, time-defying pyramids.

GRADUATION HONORS
To be eligible for degrees with distinction, a student must have earned at least 60 semester hours in residence at Elizabeth City State University. The student must also have the required overall average in all course work attempted and at least a 3.00 cumulative grade point average in all transfer courses.

CUM LAUDE (With Honor) White Cord Awarded for a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 to 3.59

MAGNA CUM LAUDE (With High Honor) Gold Cord Awarded for a cumulative grade point average of 3.60 to 3.79 with no grade below “C”

SUMMA CUM LAUDE (With Highest Honor) Scarlet Cord Awarded for a cumulative grade point average of 3.80 to 4.00 with no grade below “C”
Graduation Candidates for Graduation

HONORS Baccalaureate

SUMMA CUM LAUDE (With Highest Honor)
- Tykira Shanay Beasley, Graphic Design
- Christin Gabriella Castro, English
- Jahera Ellanajha Marie Dangerfield, Criminal Justice
- Cameryn Ann Dowdy, English
- Parker Allen Hammer, Biology
- Lydia Elizabeth Kuehnert, Homeland Security
- Tyler Christian McCoy, Engineering Technology
- Jarrett Aaron Moss, Aviation Science
- Kyle Harper Nixon, Accounting
- John Cameron Pope, Aviation Science
- Pele G. Rankin, Business, Administration
- Samara Vernisha Silver, Biology
- Kevin Eric Fitzgerald Simmons, Mathematics
- Kaiya Lee Smith, English
- Victoria A. Smith, Kinesiology
- Olivia Grace Vaughan, Elementary Education
- Justine Monique Walston, Social Work
- Katelyn Marie Williams, Accounting
- Kouassi Franck Josias Yao, Business Administration

MAGNA CUM LAUDE (With High Honor)
- Darylnetta Le'Shae Bell, Birth through Kindergarten
- Maria Monique Blount, Business Administration
- Darius Cameron Daftarian, Computer Science
- Omedia Nyree Griffin, Criminal Justice
- Alexandra Caroline Gummere, Birth through Kindergarten
- Noah Reese Gunter, Aviation Science
- Cameron James Harmon, Aviation Science
- Taylor L. Jones, Business Administration
- Jason Latron Powell, Business Administration
- Kyra Diana Purvis, Communication Studies
- Jasmine Re’Gina Roundtree, English
- Zakary Thomas Stewart, Aviation Science

CUM LAUDE (With Honor)
- Elizabeth Abigail Banegas, Criminal Justice
- Alexis Britney Blackwell, Psychology
- Michael Delorian Broady, Criminal Justice
- Ikisha Leanna Brothers, Business Administration
- Moniah Dal’shaunda Bullock, Emergency Management
- Corey Demonte Cherry, Kinesiology
- Roosevelt Chestnut, Kinesiology
- Jairus Anthony Davis, Psychology
- Tyzrionna Nicole Ellison, Business Administration
- Jennifer Paige Ganser, Business Administration
- Faith Jazlynn Hackney, Criminal Justice
- Alexis Lynn Harmon, Engineering Technology
- Nyla Paige Harris, Biology
- Alexis Lynn Harmon, Engineering Technology
- Nyla Paige Harris, Biology
Zaccheus O. Hobbs, Sport Management
Brett Chandler Holl, Aviation Science
Alise Kashawn Howell, Social Work
Michelle Maxada Johnson, Kinesiology
Amaya Keashia LaRay Jones, Computer Science
Brandon Shamar Joyner, Business Administration
Janell Mona'e Kornegay, Psychology
Theresa M. Kronlage, Chemistry
Telicia Leonard, Business Administration
Gelyn Mangum Merritt, English
Laveisha Shenae Moore, Social Work
Daquan O'Brian Rascoe, Computer Science
Taeyonn Valentino Reynolds, Computer Science
Jarvis Jamar Riddick, Communication Studies
Monet Danielle Riddick, Psychology
Naja Sheree Robinson, Graphic Design
Brandon Jamal Roddy, Sport Management
Niyanna Michelle Shaw, Birth through Kindergarten
Ashley May Synyard, Special Education
Keyara Shanaye Whitley, Criminal Justice
Janiya Selena Wiggins, Criminal Justice

**MASTER OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**
Sean Daniel Lynam, School Administration, South Mills, NC
Cotina Eason Skinner, School Administration, Hertford, NC

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICS**
Maenecia Lewis Cole, Mathematics, Elizabeth City, NC
Hope C. Eppes, Mathematics, Chesapeake, VA
Matthew Devon Hill, Mathematics, Elizabeth City, NC
Linae Midgette Jacox, Mathematics, Elizabeth City, NC
Thomas Hilton Johnson, III, Mathematics, Burlington, NC
Brandon Christopher Simmons, II, Mathematics, Ahoskie, NC
Douglas James Smith, Mathematics, Sunbury, NC
Darlette Precious Mary Spencer, Mathematics, Rocky Mount, NC

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY**
Johvan Hill-Dick, Biology, Elizabeth City, NC

**MASTER OF EDUCATION**
Lina Simona Curvo Blasco, Elementary Education, Elizabeth City, NC
Dymon Ayana Brookins, Elementary Education, Elizabeth City, NC
Jennifer Leigh Butler, Elementary Education, Moyock, NC
Chelsea Heflin Eaves, Elementary Education, Poplar Branch, NC
Pamela Taylor Griffin, Elementary Education, Elizabeth City, NC
Carly Elizabeth Osmon, Elementary Education, Nags Head, NC
Aisha Litonya Massie Robinson, Elementary Education, Durham, NC
Robin Victoria Walden, Elementary Education, Elizabeth City, NC

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION**
T'Keyah Rose Anderson, Birth through Kindergarten, Greensboro, NC
Darylnetta Le'Shae Bell, Birth through Kindergarten, Elizabeth City, NC
Alexandra Caroline Gummere, Birth through Kindergarten, Edenton, NC
Jannell Shante Hicks, Birth through Kindergarten, Littleton, NC
Joli Marie Leimkuehler, Elementary Education, Elizabeth City, NC
Niyanna Michelle Shaw, Birth through Kindergarten, Raleigh, NC
Ashley May Synyard, Special Education, Hertford, NC
Olivia Grace Vaughan, Elementary Education, Elizabeth City, NC
Stephanie Sue White, Elementary Education, Elizabeth City, NC

Elizabeth Ashlea Cagle, Biology, Kinston, NC
Tiffany Ambria Carr, Business Administration, Tarboro, NC
Kent Deon Cash, Jr., Sport Management, Timberlake, NC
Corey Damonte Cherry, Kinesiology, Windsor, NC
Roosevelt Chestnut, Kinesiology, Raleigh, NC
Leah Collins, Criminal Justice, Raleigh, NC
Zaporia LaNaya Council, Business Administration, Scotland Neck, NC
Brittany A. Crank, Kinesiology, Elizabeth City, NC
Jazmine Rena’ Cuffee, Biology, Chesapeake, VA
Darius Cameron Daftarian, Computer Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Jahera Ellanajha Marie Dangerfield, Criminal Justice, Quantico, VA
Julian Najee David, Aviation Science, Wake Forest, NC
Andrew Michael Davis, Aviation Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Darius Davis, Computer Science, Ahoskie, NC
Demetrius Quasean Davis, Sport Management, Plymouth, NC
Derrick Lamont Davis, Jr., Business Administration, Roanoke Rapids, NC
Jairus Anthony Davis, Psychology, Brandywine, MD
Alex James Domingue, Aviation Science, Goldsboro, NC
Cornell Justin Dorsey, Business Administration, Raleigh, NC
Robert Alden Douglass, Aviation Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Jalysa Ré Ellis, Graphic Design, Bowie, MD
Tyzrionna Nicole Ellison, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Jaliashia Monae Braswell, Accounting, Goldsboro, NC
Megan Alexandria Bridges, Criminal Justice, Bethel, NC
Michael Delorian Broady, Criminal Justice, Gaston, NC
Amber Kylan Brohimer, Biology, Virginia Beach, VA
Ikisha Leanna Brothers, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Jasmine Sandrea Brumsey, Biology, Elizabeth City, NC
Ryan Joseph Buckley, Aviation Science, Hubert, NC
Moniah Dal'shaunda Bullock, Emergency Management, Warrenton, NC
Deanna Overton Byrum, Business Administration, Belvidere, NC
Sean Michael Cadien, Computer Science, Corolla, NC

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Sharon Michelle Adkins, Criminal Justice, Elizabeth City, NC
Ny’saiah G. Allen, Computer Science, Wilson, NC
Adam Joseph Alverio, Aviation Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Nathan Alexander Andre, Computer Science, Shelby, NC
Walter S. Asbell, Computer Science, Tyner, NC
Amari Ayan Askew, Criminal Justice, Elizabeth City, NC
Elizabeth Abigail Banegas, Criminal Justice, Knightdale, NC
Satyendra Nath Banerjee, Engineering Technology, Elizabeth City, NC
Ronaë Javette Barber, Business Administration, Gaston, NC
Dana Ann Barlow, Criminal Justice, Carrboro, NC
Tykira Shanay Beasley, Graphic Design, Elizabeth City, NC
Alexis Britney Blackwell, Psychology, Raeford, NC
Maria Monique Blount, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Jarrod I. Borders, Sport Management, Camden, NC
Jaiquiera Monae Braswell, Accounting, Goldsboro, NC
Megan Alexandria Bridges, Criminal Justice, Bethel, NC
Michael Delorian Broady, Criminal Justice, Gaston, NC
Amber Kylan Brohimer, Biology, Virginia Beach, VA
Ikisha Leanna Brothers, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Jasmine Sandrea Brumsey, Biology, Elizabeth City, NC
Ryan Joseph Buckley, Aviation Science, Hubert, NC
Moniah Dal'shaunda Bullock, Emergency Management, Warrenton, NC
Deanna Overton Byrum, Business Administration, Belvidere, NC
Sean Michael Cadien, Computer Science, Corolla, NC

Elizabeth Ashlea Cagle, Biology, Kinston, NC
Tiffany Ambria Carr, Business Administration, Tarboro, NC
Kent Deon Cash, Jr., Sport Management, Timberlake, NC
Corey Damonte Cherry, Kinesiology, Windsor, NC
Roosevelt Chestnut, Kinesiology, Raleigh, NC
Leah Collins, Criminal Justice, Raleigh, NC
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Andrew Michael Davis, Aviation Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Darius Davis, Computer Science, Ahoskie, NC
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Andrew Michael Davis, Aviation Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Darius Davis, Computer Science, Ahoskie, NC
Demetrius Quasean Davis, Sport Management, Plymouth, NC
Derrick Lamont Davis, Jr., Business Administration, Roanoke Rapids, NC
Jairus Anthony Davis, Psychology, Brandywine, MD
Alex James Domingue, Aviation Science, Goldsboro, NC
Cornell Justin Dorsey, Business Administration, Raleigh, NC
Robert Alden Douglass, Aviation Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Jalysa Ré Ellis, Graphic Design, Bowie, MD
Tyzrionna Nicole Ellison, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Moriya Elisabeth French, Psychology, Hertford, NC
Jennifer Paige Ganser, Business Administration, Myrtle Beach, SC
Jalyn Lee Garner, Aviation Science, Jacksonville, NC
Rayquan Jarmel Gary, Business Administration, Halifax, NC
Christian T. Gaskins, Biology, Elizabeth City, NC
Colin Joseph Gilley, Emergency Management, Chesapeake, VA
Patrice E. Gilliam, Biology, Windsor, NC
Sashanelle Cecelia Grey, Biology, Raleigh, NC
Omedia Nyree Griffin, Criminal Justice, Elizabeth City, NC
Corvonne Lornee’ Griffin, Biology, Elizabeth City, NC
Akasha Breonna Griffin-Ferebee, Accounting, Elizabeth City, NC
Akasha Breonna Griffin-Ferebee, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Noah Reese Gunter, Aviation Science, Sanford, NC
Faith Jazlynn Hackney, Criminal Justice, Durham, NC
Alexis Chanel Haley, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Parker Allen Hammer, Biology, Moyock, NC
James Jerome Hargett, III, Graphic Design, Elizabeth City, NC
Alexis Lynn Harmon, Engineering Technology, Raleigh, NC
Cameron James Harmon, Aviation Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Julianna Alexandra Harrell, Psychology, Elizabeth City, NC
Nyla Paige Harris, Biology, Camden, NC
Ahmauree R. Hastings, Sport Management, Pembroke Pines, FL
William Edward Helms, Emergency Management, Columbia, NC
Zaccheus O. Hobbs, Sport Management, Maysville, NC
Hanna Elizabeth Holden, Biology, Elizabeth City, NC
Brett Chandler Holl, Aviation Science, Moyock, NC
Demond L. Holley, Kinesiology, Ahoskie, NC
Armani A. Hope, Aviation Science, High Point, NC
Keyarra Ja’shea Hughey, Criminal Justice, Washington, NC
Kamal Dequon Johnson, Business Administration, Chesapeake, VA
Michelle Maxada Johnson, Kinesiology, Roanoke Rapids, NC
Alexander Bryant Jones, Aviation Science, Glenville, WV
Amaya Keashia LaRay Jones, Computer Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Taylor L. Jones, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Brandon Shamar Joyner, Business Administration, Columbia, SC
Janell Mona’e Kornegay, Psychology, Plymouth, NC
Theresa M. Kronlage, Chemistry, South Mills, NC
Lydia Elizabeth Kuehnert, Homeland Security, Morganton, NC
Julia Leonard, Biology, Goldsboro, NC
Telicia Leonard, Business Administration, Goldsboro, NC
Acacia Geneva Azyvia Lincoln, Psychology, Elizabeth City, NC
Tyler Christian McCoy, Engineering Technology, Camden, NC
Rasheed R. McDougal-Holland, Criminal Justice, Chadbourn, NC
D’Quasia Kiera McMurrin, Psychology, Elizabeth City, NC
Daniel A. Morrison, Engineering Technology, Elizabeth City, NC
Jarrett Aaron Moss, Aviation Science, Spring Hope, NC
Choyce V. Neal, Kinesiology, China Grove, NC
Kyle Harper Nixon, Accounting, Hertford, NC
Lenesha Nacole Northington, Criminal Justice, Halifax, NC
Jordan Shaquille Outlaw, Criminal Justice, Belhaven, NC
Micah Xavier Pankey, Aviation Science, Bowie, MD
Deairrius J. Payne, Kinesiology, Greenville, NC
James Le’jwan Perry, Psychology, Elizabeth City, NC
John Cameron Pope, Aviation Science, Point Harbor, NC
Jason Latron Powell, II, Business Administration, Shawboro, NC
Dante Jair Price, Computer Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Gregg Proctor, IV, Psychology, Elizabeth City, NC
Albert Tashawn Purdie, Psychology, Lumber Bridge, NC
Ahmed Rabhi, Business Administration, Chesapeake, VA
Pele G. Rankin, Business Administration, Elizabeth City, NC
Daquan O’Brian Rascoe, Computer Science, Kelford, NC
D’Anthony Willie Ravenell, Aviation Science, Charlotte, NC
Taeyonn Valentino Reynolds, Computer Science, Chesapeake, VA
Mark Drequan Ricks, Engineering Technology, Chesapeake, VA
Molli Katherine Riddick, Psychology, Edenton, NC
Monet Danielle Riddick, Psychology, Edenton, NC
Caleb DaMaine Roberson, Aviation Science, Elizabeth City, NC
Darnell Jerome Robertson, Engineering Technology, Rocky Mount, NC
Naja Sheree Robinson, Graphic Design, Durham, NC
Brandon Jamal Roddy, Sport Management, Monroe, NC
Jokia C. Shannon, Business Administration, Charlotte, NC
Samara Vernisha Silver, Biology, Hampton, VA
Kevin Eric Fitzgerald Simmons, Mathematics, Camden, NC
Talissa Ann Spruill, Sport Management, Columbia, NC
Timothy Quayshon Stallings, Biology, Elizabeth City, NC
DeVonté’ Lamont Stewart, Business Administration, Erwin, NC
Zakary Thomas Stewart, Aviation Science, Raleigh, NC
Shonari Amir Street, Criminal Justice, Haymarket, VA
Alandis D. Thompson, Business Administration, Portsmouth, VA
Luke Christopher Volk, Aviation Science, Mooresville, NC
Jason Dupree Wallace, Sport Management, Las Vegas, NV
Malik Jaquez Warren, Psychology, Garner, NC
Secret Chanel Webb, Accounting, Elizabeth City, NC
Camryn Nicole West, Biology, Elizabeth City, NC
Keyara Shanaye Whitley, Criminal Justice, Elizabeth City, NC
Janiya Selena Wiggins, Criminal Justice, Elizabeth City, NC
Katelyn Marie Williams, Accounting, Jackson, NC
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Tenisha Cheree Bazemore, Interdisciplinary Studies, Williamston, NC
J’Kobe Brooks, Music, Franklinton, NC
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Deja Nyree Fisher, History, Chesapeake, VA
Sharonda Dominique Gordon, Interdisciplinary Studies, Roanoke Rapids, NC
Sasha Monique Harris, Communication Studies, Greenville, NC
Caroline Frances Lorraine Kinney, Interdisciplinary Studies, Winterville, NC

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Kervin Latrone Riddick, Interdisciplinary Studies, Ahoskie, NC
Jasmine Re’Gina Roundtree, English, Elizabeth City, NC
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Nicholas Alexander Small, Music, Virginia Beach, VA
Kaiya Lee Smith, English, Rocky Mount, NC
Lewis Sutton, Communication Studies, Charlotte, NC
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Senior Class Dedication

As final action cannot be taken by the time this program is printed, the listing of candidates and honor rankings is tentative. The university reserves the right to withdraw or add names and honors after the printing of this program.

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With Special Thanks and Appreciation

As we place a period at the end of this chapter, we look forward turning the page to begin writing our next. We are grateful for the foundation we have built here at ECSU, which will allow us to move into a world to further advance our education, join the workforce, serve our country. No matter where we go from here, we are prepared to be global citizens due to the amazing opportunities we were afforded during our undergraduate experience. Despite the unprecedented circumstances we encountered over the past year, as Vikings, we will always be resilient! Thank you to Chancellor Karrie Dixon, administrators, faculty and staff for your unwavering support. We are the Class of 2021. The Class that survived!
Commissioned

Newly Commissioned Second Lieutenants in the United States Army

2LT Alexandra C. Gummere, Active Army, Field Artillery Branch
2LT Nyla P. Harris, Active Army, Adjutant General Corps
2LT Alise K. Howell, Army Reserve, Quartermaster Corps
2LT Gireimza Z. Thomasson, Active Army, Armor Branch
2LT Telicia W. Leonard, Active Army, Armor Branch

Thesis

Thesis for Master of Science in Mathematics

Thomas Johnson III | Dr. Dipendra Sengupta, Thesis Advisor
“Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm”

Douglas Smith | Dr. Julian A.D. Allagan, Thesis Advisor
“Chromatic Polynomials of Nonlinear Hypergraphs”

Maenecia L. Cole | Dr. Julian A.D. Allagan, Thesis Advisor
“Wiener Index of Some Acyclic Graphs”

Brandon Simmons II | Dr. Julian A.D. Allagan, Thesis Advisor
“Investigating Heart Disease Datasets and Building Predictive Models”

Hope Eppes | Dr. Dipendra Sengupta, Thesis Advisor

Linae Midgette Jacox | Dr. Dipendra Sengupta, Thesis Advisor
“Using Classical Ciphers to Teach Mathematics in Secondary Education”

Matthew Hill | Dr. Dipendra Sengupta, Thesis Advisor
“Identification of viruses through Alignment-free methods”
Thesis for Master of Education

Dymon Brookins | Dr. Michelle Wages, Chair
“Preparing 3rd grade for EOG’s one standard at a time.”

Wayne Capps | Dr. Michelle Wages, Chair
“Navigating the Transition: Migrating from Online to Hybrid Instruction in the First Grade”

Robin Walden | Dr. Michelle Wages, Chair
“Virtual Education: Changing School as we know it.”

Lina Curvo Blasco | Dr. Michelle Wages, Chair
“Connecting Words and Illustrations to Improve 3rd Grade Reading Comprehension.”

Jennifer Butler | Dr. Michelle Wages, Chair
“My Journey to Becoming a Teacher Leader”

Pamela Griffin | Dr. Michelle Wages, Chair
“Teacher Leadership Through High Impact Instruction”

Chelsea Eaves | Dr. Michelle Wages, Chair
“A Journey to National Board Certification.”

Carly Osmon | Dr. Timothy Goodale, Chair
“Reflection on National Board Certification”
Thesis for Master of Science in Biology

Joseph Hedley | Dr. Banerjee, Chair
“An analysis of downstream effects of transforming growth factor beta (tgf-β) signaling on a549 lung adenocarcinoma epithelial-mesenchymal transition (emt) and the effects of co-cultured htb-118 retinoblastoma on healthy human mesenchymal stem cell gene expression”

Jovan Hill-Dick | Dr. Banerjee, Chair
“Oxide derived ag nanostructures for nonenzymatic glucose detection at low onset potential and its application in the tumor microenvironment”
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Kee, Lindsey M
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Callahan, Michael J
Hanig, Lyla G
Byers, Shameka
Lindsay, Lloyd R
Oliver, Ian
Harper, Ashley W
Tillery, Aaron R
The Oath of Allegiance

I hereby solemnly pledge unbroken allegiance to my Alma Mater in appreciation for the opportunities for development afforded me as a student at Elizabeth City State University.

I pledge active membership in the National Alumni Association wherever I may be. Through association with my fellow alumni, I shall forever do my best to uphold the ideals and traditions of my Alma Mater.

I pledge, as a person, to exemplify high ideals by rendering positive and dignified service to the community, state, nation, and world, thus living to bring honor and respect to my Alma Mater.

The Star Spangled Banner

O say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hail’d at the twilight’s last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight
O’er the ramparts we watch’d were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?
Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;

Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,

Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past
has taught us,

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has
brought us,

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on till victory is won.*

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chastening rod,

Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,

Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been
watered,

We have come, treading our path through the
blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,

Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
God of our weary years,

God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might Led us into the
light,

Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met Thee,

Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the
world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,

May we forever stand.
True to our God,
True to our native land.

*Please be seated.
The Alma Mater

To thee Dear Alma Mater,
A tribute song we sing,
Of thy true worth to all of us
O may we honor bring.

Refrain
Hail to thy lovely halls, ECSU
We’ll hear when duty calls, ECSU
Faithful and ever true, we’ll be to you.
For in our hearts, we’ll still love thee ECSU.

So now we’ll join together
For thee O'State to work
Let none of us be faint at heart
Nor any duty shirk.

Words & Melody by
Joy Wallace Brown

Harmonized by
Evelyn Adelaide Johnson