

ND
Cme.

West Virginia State University

**Hazo William Carter, Jr.
President**

West Virginia State Community and Technical College

**Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.
President**

***"Making Higher Education
A Part of Your Future"***

Annual

Commencement

**Sunday, May the Twenty-Second
Two Thousand and Five
at Two O'Clock in the Afternoon**

**Charleston Civic Center
Charleston, West Virginia**

Commemorating and Celebrating the Sixty-Fifth Anniversary of West Virginia State University's Aviation Program and its Contribution to the Tuskegee Airmen

In the late 1930s the Army Air Training Command was producing only a few hundred pilots per year, all white. To increase the number of pilots available to the military, on June 27, 1939, the Congress passed the Civilian Pilot Training Act, which authorized the establishment of Civilian Pilot Training Programs at 166 colleges and aviation training centers around the nation.

Aware of the significance of this legislation, African American leaders and organizations, leading African American newspapers, concerned Congressmen, liberal coalitions and others successfully applied pressure to the Congress to include six historically black colleges in the 166 aviation programs. To the surprise of many, on September 10, 1939, West Virginia State College became the first of six historically black colleges to be authorized by the Civil Aeronautics Authority to establish an aviation program.

West Virginia State College's being selected first was due to a combination of several things to include a well-prepared application, and the College's location next to Charleston's municipal airport, Wertz Field (current location of the chemical plant). More important to the College's success were the genius, vision, political savvy, and determination of the College's president, Dr. John W. Davis; professor James C. Evans, assistant to the president and director of the College's division of trades and technical education; and music professor Joseph Grider, a certified pilot and vice president of the African American National Airmen Association. The first of several pilot training classes at West Virginia State College began on November 14, 1939.

Throughout 1940 and early 1941, the Army Air Corps refused to accept African American graduates of the six civilian pilot training programs into its officer flight program. Despite a crusade from all the major civil rights organizations to open up the Army Air Corps officer pilot training to African Americans, the attitude of the military and its policies of discrimination reflected the racist views of the dominant society in America. By nature, African Americans were considered within the dominant culture to be subservient and mentally inferior to Whites. This belief was expanded by the military into a view of African Americans as incapable of learning to fly military aircraft. Further, the Army Air Corps considered African Americans as lacking in the courage and resourcefulness required of pilots when faced with the dangers unique to war.

In the early months of 1941, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, northern congressmen, and a few officials in the War Department were bringing increasing pressure on the Army Air Corps to open its officer flight program to African Americans. Realizing the possibility of this occurring, Dr. Davis and Professor Evans attempted to cover all the bases that would ensure West Virginia State College would be the institution selected to assist the Army Air Corps in offering that training. However, despite their best efforts, Tuskegee Institute won the right to cooperate with the Army Air Corps in establishing a program to train African Americans as officers and pilots for the Air Corps.

To support what the Army Air Corps was calling the "Tuskegee Experience," the Presidents of the six schools were asked to nominate two graduates of their programs for the first class. Despite his deep disappointment in the College not being selected, Dr. Davis nominated West Virginia State College graduates George Spencer Rogers from Fairmont, West Virginia, and Mac Ross from Dayton, Ohio for the "Tuskegee Experience."

The construction of the Army Air Field at Tuskegee Institute began on June 23, 1941. The 99th Pursuit Squadron was assigned to conduct the training. The first cadet pilot

training class consisted of 13 members that included Rogers and Ross from West Virginia State College and Captain Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. In 1941, Captain Davis was still the only African American to have successfully graduated from West Point in the twentieth century.

Of the 13 cadets that began the training, only five successfully completed it. On March 7, 1942, West Virginia State College's George Rogers and Mac Ross joined two other cadets in being commissioned Second Lieutenants, and all four joined Captain Davis in receiving their wings as the first African American aviators in the Army Air Corps. Lieutenant Roberts, West Virginia State College Class of '38, was appointed Commanding Officer of the 99th Pursuit Squadron; and Lieutenant Mac Ross, Class of '40, was appointed Commanding Officer of the 100th Pursuit Squadron.

Despite West Virginia State's excitement over the success of its graduates, Rogers and Ross, its aviation program came to an end in 1942 when the War Department canceled pilot training programs at all six historically black colleges. From that point, the Army assumed the training of all African American pilots at the Tuskegee Air Field.

In a July 24, 1943 letter to President Davis, Mr. Evans states, "It is interesting to note from the press releases from Tuskegee Army Air Field, the increasing number of West Virginia State College graduates and students who are (joining the Tuskegee Airmen)." Sadly, before any graduates were deployed overseas, Lieutenant Ross was killed when his plane crashed in a training accident at Tuskegee. However, several West Virginia State graduates became a part of the 99th Fighter Squadron that fought gallantly in the North African Theater under the command of West Virginia State's George Rogers. Later, the 99th joined the 100th, 301st, and 302nd Fighter Squadrons that comprised the 332nd Fighter Group, which included many West Virginia State College alumni. The 332nd fought heroically in the European Theater of operation initially under Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. and then under the command of West Virginia State's George Rogers.

During the course of (World War II), 66 Tuskegee Airmen pilots were killed in the combat zone... They destroyed or damaged 409 German aircraft, over 950 units of ground transportation, and sank a destroyer with machine gun fire alone, which was a unique accomplishment. However, their most distinctive achievement was that not one friendly bomber was lost to enemy aircraft attacks during 200 escort missions. This success was unique because no other fighter unit with nearly as many missions could make the same claim.

After the Army Air Corps became the Air Force in 1947, it quickly and uneventfully changed from a segregated service to an integrated service. Before the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps had even begun the integration process, it appears that the success of the Tuskegee Airmen during the war resulted in more leaders in the United States Air Force being enthusiastic backers of integration than could be found in any other military service.

Consisting of many West Virginia State College graduates in command and support positions, the Tuskegee Airmen earned an outstanding record in and out of combat regardless of how it might be assessed. They performed brilliantly, despite being trained and having to operate under the most difficult conditions of segregation and discrimination, in the United States and overseas. In American military history, the extraordinary achievements of the Tuskegee Airmen in and out of combat are matched by very few military units, and indirectly, West Virginia State University contributed strongly to those achievements.

Charles T. Ledbetter, Ph.D.
Professor of Education, WVSU
(Lt. Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired)

Historical Sketch of West Virginia State University

The second Morrill Act of 1890 was intended to make training in agriculture and mechanical arts available to black citizens . Like other states that maintained segregated educational systems, West Virginia responded on March 17, 1891 by enacting legislation to create a special land-grant institution for blacks. To this end, federal funds provided \$3,000 for faculty salaries, and the West Virginia Legislature appropriated \$10,000 to purchase a farm and build a school building upon it. The institution was founded as the West Virginia Colored Institute. In 1915, the name was changed to the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, and changed again to West Virginia State College in 1929.

From its beginnings until 1915, the institution offered the equivalent of a high school education, with a curriculum devoted primarily to agriculture, trades, and teacher education. In 1915, the school was given the authority to award college degrees that included instruction in mathematics, chemistry, French, and English. The first college degrees were awarded in 1919.

In 1919, the College turned increasingly to the development of a strong academic curriculum, with emphasis upon academic excellence. First of America's Negro land-grant colleges to earn accreditation, it has the distinction of having the longest continuous accreditation in the North Central Association of the public four-year institutions in West Virginia.

The 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* United States Supreme Court decision had an immediate and dramatic impact on West Virginia State. Within two years, the institution was transformed from a small black college to a racially integrated one. Since that time, program offerings have expanded and new ones developed as the College keeps pace with the demands of students and the needs of the larger community.

With reinstatement of its 1890 land-grant status, which was transferred in 1955, and accompanying Federal funding, WVSU strengthened its mission of teaching research and service to the community. The first masters degree programs began in the Fall 2003 semester. With the passage of Senate Bill 448 during the 2004 legislative session, the name was changed to West Virginia State University.

From a modest beginning with forty students, West Virginia State University has emerged into a multipurpose institution serving a diverse student body. From a small tract of land and a building, the University has developed into a multimillion dollar educational complex.

The Academic Procession

The Academic Procession is composed of administrators, honored guests, faculty, graduates, and the University Board of Governors. This procession is led by a marshal, a graduate of West Virginia State University, who seats the graduates, faculty, and platform guests. The faculty enter by academic rank, wearing costumes that had their origin in the Medieval English University system. The costumes were devised to distinguish academic persons from lay persons, since everyone wore robes or gowns to ward off the cold. The recession, then, is in reverse order, with the platform guests leaving the dais first, followed by the graduates and the faculty.

The colors of the academic dress have a significance deeply rooted in the tradition of academic life and are specified by a uniformed code maintained by the American Council on Education. Caps are black and are usually mortar boards with tassels. Doctors of Philosophy wear gold tassels, usually of metallic thread; other degrees wear black or discipline colors.

The bachelors' gown is simple and black with long, pointed sleeves. Masters' gowns, also black, are longer than bachelors. Older gowns have sleeves that terminate at the elbow, while those since 1960 have sleeves extended to the wrist. Doctors' gowns are full, with bell-like sleeves. The front is marked by velvet panels, and the sleeves are marked by three velvet bars. While most gowns are black with black velvet, one variation is to replace black velvet with velvet in the discipline color. A second variation is a colored gown, usually of the university's colors.

All hoods specify the level of degree, the discipline studied, and the awarding institution. First, degree level is signified by the size of the hood with bachelors' smallest, masters' larger, and doctors' quite large and of a different shape. West Virginia State University does not award hoods to bachelors. The width of the velvet trim also conveys the degree. Secondly, the discipline is indicated by the color of the trim edging the hood to form the throat over the gown. Finally, the color of the hood's lining specifies the awarding institution. The colors are displayed in combinations that are drawn from heraldry.

The colors of the tassels worn by candidates for baccalaureate degrees represent the fields of study in which the degrees will be conferred. At West Virginia State University, the following colors are used to designate the various degrees.

Bachelor of Arts	White
Bachelor of Science.....	Yellow
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration	Drab
Bachelor of Science in Communications	Yellow
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice	Royal Blue
Bachelor of Science in Education	Light Blue
Bachelor of Science in Recreation Service	Yellow
Bachelor of Science in Social Work.....	Citron
Associate Degree.....	White

The Mace

The Academic Mace precedes the entire procession. The Grand Marshal carries in his hand this ceremonial staff that is used as a symbol of authority. Its placement and removal from a place of honor signifies the opening and closing of ceremonial sessions. The mace had its origin in the Middle Ages, being used first as a weapon by royal bodyguards to protect their monarchs in processions. Today, the mace is primarily used in academic processions, particularly in English speaking countries.

The original mace used by West Virginia State University had historical significance in that it was created from a spindle used in the staircase of West Hall, the second building erected on the campus in 1895. This mace was restored by James Huffman when he was the Assistant Director of Admissions at the University.

The mace we use today was designed by former Art Faculty member, Dr. Cubert Smith. This circular ring design in its center symbolizes the five schools of the University: Arts and Humanities, Business and Economics, Natural Science and Mathematics, Professional Studies, and Social Sciences.

The Academic Mace for West Virginia State Community and Technical College was designed by Terrance Sturant, Professor in the Computer Science Department and Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr., President of the College. The circular design of laurel signifies the link to West Virginia State University. The center of the design includes symbols for Knowledge, Opportunity, and Success which embody the overall mission and purpose of the Community College.

Order of Exercises

Arnold Cooper, Ph.D., Presiding
Vice President for Academic Affairs
West Virginia State University

THE PRELUDES—

Star Trek (Through the Years)..... arr. John Moss
The Genius of Ray Charles arr. Michael Brown
The Last Battle Ralph Ford
West Virginia State University Concert Band
James Florkevick, B.A. and James Anderson, B.S., Directors

THE PROCESSIONAL—

Fanfare –Pomp and Circumstance–March I Edward Elgar
The Marshal
The Candidates for Degrees
The Faculty
The Platform Party

THE POSTING OF THE COLORS Color Guard
Yellow Jacket Battalion
United States Army Reserve Officers Training Corps

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM..... Francis Scott Key

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thru the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

(The audience will remain standing until after the Invocation)

THE INVOCATION.....The Reverend John R. Davis, M.Div.
Pastor, Kanawha United Presbyterian Church
Charleston, West Virginia

THE GREETINGS Ian Burdette, Ph.D.
West Virginia State University Board of Governors

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER..... Hazo W. Carter Jr., Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State University

THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

The Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV
United States Senator, State of West Virginia

Order of Exercises

THE U.S. SENATE RESOLUTION PRESENTATIONS HONORING THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN ... Senator Rockefeller

First Lieutenant (Ret) United States Army (Army Air Corps),
Wilson V. Eagleson

Staff Sergeant, United States Army
Benjamin Perkins

Colonel (Ret) United States Army, George Roberts (Posthumously)
Mrs. Edith Roberts, accepting

The Senate Resolution for West Virginia State University
President Hazo W. Carter, Jr., accepting

THE MUSICAL SELECTION

The Battle of Jericho arr. Moses Hogan
West Virginia State University Concert Choir
J. Truman Dalton, Ph.D., Director

THE RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENTS

FACULTY Arnold Cooper, Ph.D.
Jerry R. Thornton (32 years .. Department of Business Administration
STAFF Cassandra B. Whyte, Ed.D.
Phyllis Holsclaw (16 years) Work Force Investment Act Program

THE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE PRESIDENTIAL

PARTNERSHIP AWARDS Ervin V. Griffin, Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State Community and Technical College
American Electric Power
Kanawha Coalition for Community Health Improvement

THE 18TH ANNUAL HAZO W. CARTER, JR. PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

Hazo W. Carter, Jr.

Alumni

Wilson V. Eagleson
Benjamin Perkins
George Roberts
Gary L. Swingle

Order of Exercises

THE AWARDING OF HONORS Janet Amos, Ed.S.
Dean of Academic Affairs for the Community and Technical College
and

John Teeuwissen, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs
West Virginia State University

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

HONORS

Sharon K. Asbury
Michael Allen Blades, Jr.
Katherine Allison Browning
John S. Bryant
Casey Lynn Casto
Gregory Blaine Hannan
Shelly Denise Hardy
Gloria Jeannie Hensley
Connie Ann Johnson
Amanda Sue Kennedy
Eric William Neal
Kyla Dawn Nichols

April Lynn Peck
Kara Makita Pendleton
Melissia Bailey Pugh
Collen D. Quigley
Jamie Lynn Sager
Deana K. Sigmon
Jamie Dawn Snodgrass
Barbara Lynn Straughter
Mary Beth Totten
Elizabeth Lee Walker
Harry Lee White, Jr.
Arvil G. Wiley, Jr.

HIGH HONORS

Anna Louise Bailey
Helen Cantwell Fletcher
Sally Rae Kessell
Nathalie Anne Langsdorf
April Dawn Lilly
Hope Marie Meadows
Don Russell Mechling

Branigan Elise Moles
Kimberly R. Morris
Catherine Jo Mullins
Jessica Jo Skeens
Michelle Lynn Smith
Timothy Lee Trail

HIGHEST HONORS

Nforbuh Valery Asangmbeng
Ashley Dawn Baldwin
Patty Gwynn Goff
Kerstin G. Howard

Tabatha Lynn Mullenax
Kathleen Renee Roach
Cynthia Ann Vickers

BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS

CUM LAUDE

Autumn Melinda Anderson
Kandia Chamene Barnes
Jacqueline Annette Bevan
Crystal A. McKinney Boros
Lisa Ann Bragg
Melissa Marie Cadle
Krista Renee Call
Delaine Lamira Carter
Shannon Marie Catron
Mandy J. Cummins
Joyce E. Ellis
Angela Charlene Ferguson
Donna Jean Gillenwater
Danielle Maria Green
Michael James Griffin
Wilson Phillip Hanshaw, III

Brandy Ember Hart
Alicia Dawn Hess
Regina L. Higginbotham
Carmen Lee Kinder
Philip Scott Lavigne
Amber Nicole Leftwich
Christopher Oren Milan
Kyla Dawn Nichols
Tracy Lynn Ong
Jeffery Wayne Riley
Shanda Sue Shamblin
William E. Stump
Holly Leigh Sutherland-Jones
Charles Richard Vincent, Jr.
Velvet Lahoma Mae Worstell

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Debra J. Boggess-Dempsey
Shaun Michael Chapman
Veronica Yvette Clay
James Seth Davidson
Dennrick Flores
Beverly Ann Hager
Joshua Andrew Hess
John Wayne Hill, Jr.

Brandon Eli Hughes
Amy Katharyn McDaniel
Andrea Brooke Parsons
Christie Lea Reese
Amanda D. Runion
Michelle Lynn Smith
David Michael Terry
Justin Monroe Winter

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Christie Leanne Bumgarner
Lucinda Lynn Whittington Burns
Dale Lee Bush
Daniel B. Cooper
Joshua Lee Dobyns
Lindsey Ann Downey
David Mark Dunn
Emma Jane Hamilton
Aaron Joseph Harless
Loretta Mae James
Marcia Dawn Meeks

Heidi Leigh Morris
Melissa Lea Morton-Fishman
David Michael Poole
Onala Turardekouna Rakisheva
Kathleen Renee Roach
Tracy M. Shaffer
Lucy Kara Shamblin
Amy Renae Spurlock
Emily Marie Traube
Stacy Dawn Witt

WITH DISTINCTION

Patricia Hale Booker
Billy Shane May

Monique A. Rogers
Lee Michael Vaughn

THE PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

WEST VIRGINIA STATE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

CANDIDATES FOR THE ASSOCIATE OF ARTS AND

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREESEdith Worrells, M.B.A.
Chair for the Division of General Education and Transfer Programs

Janet Amos, Ed.S.

Dean of Academic Affairs for

West Virginia State Community and Technical College

Ervin V. Griffin, Sr., Ed.D.

President, West Virginia State Community and Technical College

WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATES FOR THE

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREEDavid Wohl, Ph.D.
Dean for the School of Arts and Humanities

CANDIDATES FOR THE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE Katherine Harper, Ph.D.
Dean for the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Arnold Cooper, Ph.D.

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Hazo William Carter, Jr., Ed.D.

President, West Virginia State University

THE CONFERMENT OF DEGREES President Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.
and

President Hazo W. Carter, Jr.

After the conferring of degrees by Presidents Griffin and Carter, the names of the candidates will be announced by the Registrar, John L. Fuller, Ph.D.

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Justin Scott Anastasio

Evan Christopher Anthony

Nforbuh Valery Asangmbeng

Sharon K. Asbury

Ashley Dawn Baldwin

Robert Lee Barefield, III

Charles Douglas Barnette

Charlene Shannon Bird

Michael Wesley Blades, Jr.

Amanda Lea Brady

Craig Anthony Brown

Katherine Allison Browning

John S. Bryant

Christina Marie Carden

Casey Lynn Casto

Gary G. Chandler

Otilia Monique Davis

Jennifer Elaine Edmonds

NOTE: A name on the program does not assure that final degree requirements have been met.

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE *(Continued)*

Myia M. Flemmings	Eric William Neal
Helen Cantwell Fletcher	April Lynn Peck
Aurisa Inting Gardner	Kara Makita Pendleton
Darlene R. Gay	Marie Louise Perry
Damon Allen Graves	Cynthia Rose Petry
Gregory Blaine Hannan	James Randolph Peyatte
Shelly Denise Hardy	Daniel Lionell Powell
Christina E. Hatcher	Melissia Bailey Pugh
Jennifer Amanda Helmick	Colleen D. Quigley
Gloria Jeannie Hensley	Joshua Lee Roberts
Rachel Hill-Brown	Kelly Rena Robertson
Kerstin G. Howard	Monica Carroll Rogers
Prince A. Hunter, Jr.	Eugenia Francine Scott
Sandra Cheryle Jeter	Leslie Michelle Shamblin
Shirley S. Jividen	Adam Lee Short
Connie Ann Johnson	Deana K. Sigmon
Richard William Johnson	Jessica Jo Skeens
Eden Tenna Kebede	Cheryl Ann Smith
Ryan Matthew Keller	Eric Matthew Smith
Amanda Sue Kennedy	Jamie Dawn Snodgrass
Nathalie Anne Langsdorf	Terra Lindsey Stowers
Jason D. Lewis	Barbara Lynn Straughter
April Dawn Lilly	Kristen N. Surratt
Jill Denise McCormick	Adam Bristow Taylor
Brett Joseph Matthews	Mary Beth Totten
Hope Marie Meadows	Timothy Lee Trail
Jonathan David Meadows	Cynthia Ann Vickers
Don Russell Mechling	Elizabeth Lee Walker
Michele Griffith Milam	Kevin Wayne Wickline
Brannigan Elise Moles	Arvil G. Wiley, Jr.
Kimberly R. Morris	Brian Keith Wiseman
Tabatha Lynn Mullenax	Matthew Edward Woody
Catherine Jo Mullins	Paul R. Zitzelsberger

FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN ARTS

Sally Rae Kessell
Kathleen Renee Roach

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

Tabitha Lynn Abbott	Elizabeth Carol Miller
Amanda Dawn Austin-Smith	Kyla Dawn Nichols
Anna Louise Bailey	Lisa Nicole Stevens Nichols
Patricia Hale Booker	Jacob I. Pack
Kedion Adeoye Carter	Nieesha Trinette Prince
Samantha R. Davis	Angel Marie Roos
Ann Elizabeth Gilmore	Jamie Lynn Sager
Patty Gwynn Goff	Michelle Lynn Smith
Keith Odell Hawkins	Kareemah M. Stuart
Lynn Carrington Ingram	Jason L. Volley
Tara Beth Jennings	David M. Walker
KeAnna Michelle Johnson	Kea Chantell Young
Michael A. LaMarr	Tiffany Renee Young
Christina Marie Martin	

FOR THE DEGREE OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Ronda Yvonne Anderson	Michael Lynn Perdue
Norman Kenneth Breckenridge	Patricia Lea Skaff
Stephanie Dawn Chapman	Jeremy T. Tate
Robert Murray Cramer	Tina Marie Waseem
Brandon Michael Pack	Harry Lee White, Jr.

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

Kandia Chamene Barnes	Christopher Curtis Miller
Doye Anne Byrd	Robert J. Morris
Melissa Marie Cadle	Ibn Yusef Muhammad
Christopher Francis Carney	Jill Forth Oxley
Shaun Michael Chapman	David Michael Poole
April Eunece Clark	Heidi Marie Richardson
Annette Renee Conner	Jennie Sue Riddle
Travis Shane Criner	Jeffery Wayne Riley
Angela Michelle Cunningham	Crystal Lynette Rodgers
Benjamin Dillard, Jr.	Monique A. Rogers
Jennifer L. Drake	William Hugh Rouse
Dennirick Flores	Michelle Lynn Smith
Danielle Maria Green	Amy Renae Spurlock
Virginia Susan Harris	Jessica Danielle Whitt
Amanda Rae McVey	Joshua David Whitt
Tennysa Fawn Margaret Mace	Joshua David Williams

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF REGENTS BACHELOR OF ARTS

Douglas Edward Alvey	Timothy Brian Hill
Debra J. Boggess-Dempsey	Maria Teresa Holdershaw
Crystal A. McKinney Boros	Michael O'Dell Holstein
Lonnie Ray Bryson	Paul Hunt
Dale Lee Bush	Melvin Stewart Hunter, Jr.
Katherine Elizabeth Cappellari	Adam Charles McClung
Bryant Michael Chapman, Jr.	James Randolph Peyatte
Daniel B. Cooper	Clifford Anthony Pierro
Scott Arthur Dempsey	Jason Everett Price
Melissa Ruth Diehl	Terri Jo Ranson
Bridget Linett Dillard	Russell Frank Saunders
Jeremy David Dolin	Rusty Clayton Sims
April MaShawn Eakle	William E. Stump
Joyce E. Ellis	Mark David Templeton
Julia JoAnn Fox	Philip Paul Townsend
Donna Jean Gillenwater	Tabitha Ann Trent
Sharon Ann Godwin	Sherry Lynn Wages
Stacy A. Hager	David Michelle Walker
William Scott Harless	Kisha Renee Walker
James Dean Hatfield, II	Patrice Leann Williams
Tony Lee Hazelett	Linda Sue Young

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Jacqueline Annette Bevan	Melissa Lea Morton-Fishman
Mandy J. Cummins	Andrea Brooke Parsons
Laura Ann Dennis	Onala Turarbekovna Rakisheva
Ann Marie Gatskie	Lucy Kara Shamblin
Rachel Rebecca Greene	Jeremy Michael Sisson
Joshua Andrew Hess	Charles Richard Vincent, Jr.
Kimberly D. Hoover	Velvet Lahoma Mae Worstell
Philip Scott Lavigne	

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Nicholas Alan Biron
Doye Anne Byrd
Shannon Marie Catron
Jessica Yvonne Cooke
James Seth Davidson
Kristin Lee Dent
David Mark Dunn
Tara Rose Edens
Allison Renee Eskew
Angela Charlene Ferguson
Ryan Christopher Hall
Reginia Lynn Higginbotham
Reathel Monteese Hutchinson
Brian L. Hutchison
Alvie Aaron Kelly
Aimee Turner Lacy
Connell Andrew Lee
Nicole Dawn Lightner

Ronnie Paul Meadows
Christopher Oren Milan
Gloria Lynn Moffatt
Craig Matthew Musilli
Louria Galford Nester
Misty D. Nichols
Troy Brandon Painter
Darlene Dee Parsons
Nathan Alan Parsons
Thomas Patrick Pasinetti
Gregory Allen Rawlings
Gary Wayne Riffle
Melissa Kay Samples
Emily Marie Traube
Anyia Maria Valdes
Rebecca Kennedy Warnick
Frank James Waugh, Jr.
Christine A. Wilkinson

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS

Lisa Ann Bragg
Christie Leanne Bumgarner
Krista Renee Call
Doris Ann Fields
Carrie Anne Fleshman
Danette Hightower
Brandon Eli Hughes
Carmen Lee Kinder

Amber Nicole Leftwich
Aliya Masood
Vanessa Kaciemarie Pritt
Stacy Jo Harper Reed
Kathleen Renee Roach
Trina Denise Sweeney
Andrew D. Walters

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Robert Lee Barefield, III	Hollis Tarry Lewis
Heather Jamie Bess	Tracy Lynn Ong
Anthony Ricardo Buracchio, Jr.	Sherri Ann Rhodes
Sarah Lynn Collins	Edward Warren Schoettker
Michael A. Fowler	Carmella L. Suggs
Michael James Griffin	David Michael Terry
Wilson Phillip Hanshaw, III	Jason L. Volley
Aaron Joseph Harless	Matthew Brandon Walters
Kera Eloné Hill	Justin Monroe Winter
Lorretta Mae James	Michelle Leeann Withrow

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Autumn Melinda Anderson	Amy Katharyn McDaniel
Kelly Don Boggess	Billy Shane May
Lucinda Lynn Whittington Burns	Heidi Leigh Morris
Delaine Lamira Carter	Joyce Ann Mullins
Joshua Lee Dobyns	Christie Lea Reese
Lindsey Ann Downey	Amanda D. Runion
Dennirick Flores	Tracy M. Shaffer
Beverly Ann Hager	Shanda Sue Shamblin
Kristy Elaine Halstead	Holly Leigh Sutherland-Jones
Brandy Ember Hart	Lee Michael Vaughn
Alicia Dawn Hess	Stacy Dawn Witt
John Wayne Hill, Jr.	Rebekah Ferguson Young
Kimberly Ann Lay	

Candidates

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCE

Jessica Leigh Church
Emma Jane Hamilton

Marcia Dawn Meeks
Martha Gale Poore

FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK

Patricia Hale Booker
Veronica Yvette Clay
Erin Rider Culhane
Samantha Renee Davis
Leigh Ann Lewis
Kyla Dawn Nichols
Lisa Nicole Stevens Nichols

Nieesha Trinette Prince
Jason Green Rogers
Kareemah M. Stuart
Betty Jane White
LaQwanza Phylicia Star Williams
Kea Chantell Young
Tiffany Renee Young

Order of Exercises

THE PRESENTATION OF GRADUATING OFFICER

George A. Nelson, M.A.
Lieutenant Colonel United States Army and Professor of Military Science

Aaron J. Harless
Second Lieutenant United States Army – St. Albans, West Virginia

THE STUDENT ADDRESS David Dunn '05

THE ALUMNI PLEDGE Ann Brothers Smith, Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State University National Alumni Association, Inc.

THE ALMA MATER..... *Martha Spencer/ Ernest Wade*
arr. Bill Ray '81
Led by Mark Templeton '05

THE CLOSING REMARKS Arnold Cooper

THE BENEDICTION..... The Reverend Braxton Broady, D. D., Pastor
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Charleston, West Virginia

THE RECESSIONAL
The Raider's March..... John Williams

The audience is requested to remain seated until the graduates have recessed.

GRAND MARSHAL

Professor R. Charles Byers '68

ASSISTANT MARSHALS

Professor Debra M. Anderson-Conliffe '76

Professor Kenneth W. Blake '74

Professor Rita M. Brown '75

Professor Clyde P. Campbell '64

Professor Charlotte L. Finney '61

Professor Patricia King '85

Professor Sandra K. LaVoie '82

Professor John Richards '78

Professor Patricia Shafer '71

Professor Charles E. Smith '87

Professor Craig Spaniol '66

Members of the Classified Staff Council and Student Leadership Program serving as ushers

WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION, INC.

2004-2005

Scholarships and Awards

Presidential Scholars

Tara Alvey
Jennifer Barido
Tiffany R. Barnette
Tunisia Beatty
Donald A. Birkelund
Victoria L. Bowers
Alice Brenan
Dane Campbell
Erin P. Cantrell
Anthony T. Courts
Tabetha G. Davis
Meagan A. Estep
Kaylee B. Guthrie
Joshua A. Hess
Ashley S. Howery
Jessica Humphreys
Erin L. Kiser

Stacy R. Landis
Joshua M. Miller
Kati E. Miller
Amber R. Nichols
Samson M. Osoro
Christopher D. Priestley
Ryan N. Pritt
Tyler Roach
Crystal Roberts
Amber L. Shirkey
Bryan K. Stover
Amanda M. Stowers
Stephanie J. Sutton
Sabrena A. Thomas
Ashley E. Thompson
Jason L. Walls
Joshua Walls

Valedictorian Scholars

James Click
Ronald McGrady
William Rickert

Other Foundation Scholars

Anna L. Harpold Scholarship
Leah Roadman

Arnett & Foster Scholarship
Helen L. Welch

Basudeb Dasarma Scholarship
Sarah F. Lucas

C. H. James II Scholarship
Stephen A. Craig
Adam N. Mullins

Class Of 1952 Scholarship
Candice Murphy

Epps Family Scholarship
Patrick Baker

Gary Swingle Accounting Scholarship
Shannon M. Catron

General/Memorial Scholarship
Beth Fletcher
Laura B. Kelly
Kristen Olsen
Ashley Ramsey
(Parson's Fund)
Diana Seymour
(Parson's Fund)
Amanda Simms

Dr. Ervin V. Griffin Scholarship
Dane Campbell
Rumon Toatley

James Tilson, Sr. Scholarship
Jennifer L. Hanson

John L. Bess Scholarship
Leila Cardosa
Edward Fruit
Jenny Joseph

John F. Haskin Endowed
Laura M. Chaplin

Ivin Lee/Dallas Staples Endowed
Ashley D. Baldwin
Haneefa Clinton

Institute Plants Endowed
Kandace M. Basham
Saundra C. Jeter

Lark & Thomas Hutto Endowed
Tyler Roach

Lucy B. Hairston Endowed
Tunisia K. Beatty
Kevin E. Cartwright

Lulu Johnson Endowed Scholarship
Stephanie Jewell Muhammad

Maier Foundation, Inc. Endowed
Veronica Clay
Suzanne M. Powell

Margaret Anne Cyrus Mills Endowed
Kimbra J. Clinton
Stephanie Comer

Mary McGhee Hairston Endowed
Autumn M. Anderson
Jonathan Anthony
Devin L. Banks
Tunisia K. Beatty
Kevin Boyd
Lakeisha Brown
Jameka R. Bryan
Kyle Carney
Randi J. Cary
Haneefah N. Clinton
Leslie Dean
Belinda Fuller
Larhonda R. Garrett
Fiyori Habtemariam
Kera E. Hill
LaTasha N. Hughes
Aruna I. Kamara
Dakota E. King
Sherise L. Malone

Nicholas McClinton
Kanesa McCoy
David A. McDaniel
Nachette Montgomery
Hershel Moultrie
Tandiwe Mpabanga
Firezewd Namaga
Anthony C. Roberts
Megan E. Roundtree
Carla I. Scott
Brian E. Spivey
Michael T. Steve
Trina D. Sweeney
Leroy Taylor
Ronald Thomas
April Thompson
Rumon S. Toatley
Brandon Truesdale
Anya M. Valdez
Carlos L. Wilson
Danyell Wray
Shanique W. Wray
Kevin L. Young

Ron Gehringer
Jessica Godby
Mara Kestner
Samantha Kinder
Mary Miller
Micah Nichols
Candace Phillips
Kimberly Picklesimer
Blair Ruddle
Tiffany Scott
Ashlee Stevens
Carmella Suggs
LaQwanza Williams
Leah Wilson
Brandon White

Roland Wayne Cline Endowed
Scholarship
Jonathan Nisbet

Ronald Coleman Memorial
Scholarship
Mohammed Ibrahim

Mary T. Patterson Scholarship
Kevin Boyd

Rosa Parks Memorial Book
Scholarship
Mary Stevens

Mary Wanda King Scholarship
Pamela Bush

Salser Book Scholarship
Chanda Salser

Marvin D. & Eunice P. Mills
Endowed
Dakota King

United Bank Endowed
Ronnie Meadows

McDowell County Scholarship Fund
Patrick A. Jones

United Supreme Council Scholarship
Nicole Robinson

Naomi M. Garrett Endowed
Dane Campbell
Tandie Mpabanga

Verizon - West Virginia Scholarship
James S. Davidson
Melissa Lea Morton-Fishman

Oree Banks Scholarship
LaSha Anderson
Bryan Batten
Curtis Collins
Tony Cornett
Chris Dunn

Walter D "Pat" Evans Endowed
Todd R. Strickland

William White Scholarship
Andrew Conner

Honor Societies

ELECTED TO ALPHA DELTA MU— NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN SOCIAL WORK

Patricia Hale Booker
Veronica Yvette Clay
Erin Rider Culhane
Leigh Ann Lewis

Kyla Dawn Nichols
Lisa Nichole Stevens Nichols
Tiffany Renee Young

ELECTED TO ALPHA KAPPA DELTA— INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGY HONOR SOCIETY

Michelle Lynn Smith

ELECTED TO ALPHA KAPPA MU—NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Jacqueline Annette Bevan
Christie Leanne Bumgarner
Jason Wallace Burton
Krista Renee Call
Shannon Marie Catron
Daniel B. Cooper
Beverly Ann Hager
Emma Jane Hamilton
Amber Nichole Leftwich

Melissa Lea Morton-Fishman
Katherine Lou Peal
Kathleen Renee Roach
Tracy M. Shaffer
Lucy Kara Shamblin
Amy Renee Spurlock
Emily Marie Traube
Justin Monroe Winter

ELECTED TO ALPHA MU GAMMA— NATIONAL COLLEGIATE FOREIGN LANGUAGE HONOR SOCIETY

Melissa Lea Morton-Fishman

ELECTED TO ALPHA PHI SIGMA— NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Otilia Monique Davis
Aaron Joseph Harless

Loretta Mae James
Justin Monroe Winter

ELECTED TO ALPHA PSI OMEGA— NATIONAL THEATER HONOR SOCIETY

Doris Ann Fields

**ELECTED TO BETA KAPPA CHI—
SCIENTIFIC HONOR SOCIETY**

Joshua Andrew Hess
Melissa Lea Morton-Fishman
Andrea Brooke Parsons
Onala Turarbekovna Rakisheva

Christie Reese
Lucy Kara Shaamblin
Jamie Snodgrass

**ELECTED TO DELTA MU DELTA—
NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC HONOR SOCIETY IN BUSINESS**

Shannon Marie Catron

Emily Marie Traube

**KAPPA DELTA PI—
INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN EDUCATION**

Lucinda Lynn Whittington Burns
Lindsey Ann Downey
Beverly Ann Hager
Brandy Ember Hart
Alicia Dawn Hess

Amy Katharyn McDaniel
Heidi Leigh Morris
Amanda D. Runion
Tracy M. Shaffer
Stacy Dawn Witt

**ELECTED TO OMRICRON DELTA KAPPA—
NATIONAL LEADERSHIP HONOR SOCIETY**

Autumn Melinda Anderson
Michael A. LaMarr

Marcia Dawn Meeks
Andrew D. Walters

**ELECTED TO PHI ALPHA THETA—
INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN HISTORY**

Dennirick Flores
David Michael Poole

Jennie Sue Riddle

**ELECTED TO PHI ETA SIGMA—
FRESHMAN NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**

Christie Leanne Bumgarner
Krista Renee Call
Lindsey Rae Downey
Brandy Ember Hart

Amy Katheryn McDaniel
Katherine Lou Peal
Katherine Renee Roach

**ELECTED TO PHI THETA KAPPA—
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE STUDENTS**

Nforbuh Valery Asangmbeng
Otilia Monique Davis
Graydon G. Duffield
Kerstin G. Howard
Sally Rae Kessell
Nathalie Anne Langsdorf

Hope Marie Meadows
Catherine Jo Mullins
Kara Makita Pendleton
Mary Beth Totten
Cynthia Ann Vickers
Kevin Wayne Wickline

**ELECTED TO PI SIGMA ALPHA—
HONOR SOCIETY FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Kandia Chamene Barnes
Christopher Curtis Miller
Katherine Lou Peal

David Michael Poole
Michelle Lynn Smith

**ELECTED TO PINNACLE—
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOR NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS**

Michael A. LaMarr
Marcia Dawn Meeks

Melissa Lea Morton-Fisherman

**ELECTED TO PSI CHI—
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOR PSYCHOLOGY**

Melissa M. Cadle
Danielle Marie Green
Sarah Kathleen Moore

Jeffrey Wayne Riley
Amy Renae Spurlock
Jessica Danielle Whitt

**ELECTED TO SIGMA PHI OMEGA—
NATIONAL GERONTOLOGY HONOR SOCIETY**

Gregory Blaine Hannan
Marcia Dawn Meeks

Marie Louise Perry
Barbara Lynn Straughter

The Hazo W. Carter Presidential Awards

1987 (Mid-Year)

Thomas W. Cole Jr., Education

1988

Prince Ahmed Williams, Alumni

Thomas E. Potter, Business

Grazia B. Ferrell, Community Service

Norma Lee Winter, Education

1989

Mary McGhee Hairston, Alumni

Grover A. DuBose, Business

The Sarah & Pauline Maier Foundation,
Community Service

Joyce Good-Pitchford, Education

1990 (Mid-Year)

Thomas R. Cabbell, Alumni

Charles H. James II, Business

Charles H. James III, Business

WV Rehabilitation Center,

Community Service

Judith G. Reed, Education

1990

Acie McGhee, Alumni

Frank P. Justice, Jr., Business

Eric Conn, Community Service

Vincent Reed, Education

1991

Georgia Floyd Morris, Alumni

Thomas Burns, Business

Tom Susman, Education

Stephen T. Williams, Education

1992

Jerri Tyson-Rollins, Alumni

Francis S. Guess, Business

Manna Meals, Inc., Community Service

Donald Gatewood, Education

1993

Howard L. Wilson, Alumni

John A. Chapman, Business

Charlie O. Erickson (posthumously),

Community Service

Jorea M. Marple, Education

1994

John T. Chiles, Jr., Alumni

William R. Russell, Business

Frank and Lera Bailey,

Community Education

James W. Rowley, Education

1995

C. Edward Gaunch, Alumni

Brooks F. McCabe, Business

Mildred T. Holt, Community Service

Philip Reale, Education

1996

Elizabeth Jane McIntyre, Alumni

Michael H. Hudnall, Business

Rodney E. Slater, Community Service

Priscilla M. Haden, Education

1997

Mary McGhee Hairston, Alumni

Walter D. Evans, Business

Paul J. Gilmer, Jr. Community Service

Campbell C. Sellers, Education

1998

Leon Vincent Williams, Alumni

Edna J. Cash, Business

Jack Spainhour, Community Service

Samuel Perry Sentelle, Education

1999

Milton C. Kates, Alumni Affairs

William Henry Harmon, Business

Ethel O. Davie, Education

Naomi M. Garrett, Education

Leon H. Sullivan, Alumni

2000

Ferguson B. Meadows, Alumni Affairs

William B. Goode, Business

Margaret Taylor, Community Service

Ronald E. Duerring, Education

2001

Herbert H. Henderson, Alumni Affairs

Richard A. Kennedy, Business

Marie C. Johns, Business

Larry L. Rowe, Community Service

Betty Caldwell Spencer, Education

2002

Miles C. Cary, Alumni Affairs

L. Newton Thomas, Jr., Business

Daisy Anderson Alston, Education

Robert T. Anderson, Sr.,

Community Service

2003

Reginald S. Lee, D.D.S., Alumni Affairs

Andy's Grill, Business

Charleston Job Corps Center,

Community Service

Barbara L. Canady, Education

2004

Jeff Woods, Alumni

Dow Chemical, Business

Paul Morris, Education

Bayer Crop Science, Community Service

Commencement Speakers

1898

Booker T. Washington

1909

William E. Glasscock
Governor, State of West Virginia

1919

Waitman Barbe
*Professor of Literature,
West Virginia University*

1923

Charles Victor Roman
Nashville, Tennessee

1925

Carter G. Woodson
Editor, Negro Life & History

1926

Eugene Kinckle Jones
*Executive Secretary,
National Urban League*

1927

James Adlai Cobb
*Judge, Municipal Court,
Washington, D.C.*

1928

Harry J. Capehart
*Associate District Attorney
of Southern WV*

1929

(May)
Charles Wesley
*Professor of History, Howard
University*

(Summer)

Mark Miles Fisher
*Pastor, 16th Street Baptist Church,
Huntington, WV*

1930

(May)
Henry D. Hatfield
U.S. Senator, State of West Virginia

(Summer)

John W. Davis
*Fifth President,
West Virginia State College*

1931

(May)
W.W. Sanders
*Supervisor, Negro Schools,
State of West Virginia*

(Summer)

John W. Davis
*Fifth President,
West Virginia State College*

1932

(May)
Thomas Gillis Nutter
Attorney, Charleston, West Virginia

(Summer)

James C. Evans
*Professor, Mechanical Industries, West
Virginia State College*

1933

(May)
J.B. McLaughlin
*Commissioner of Agriculture,
State of West Virginia*

(Summer)

George D. Brock
*Professor of Education,
West Virginia State College*

1934

(May)
Homer A. Holt
West Virginia Attorney General

(Summer)

Daniel P. Lincoln
*Registrar and Professor of
History, West Virginia State College*

1935

(May)
Harry H. Pace
*President, Supreme Liberty Life
Insurance Co., Chicago*

(Summer)

Richard Hurst Hill
*Pastor, First Baptist Church,
Charleston, West Virginia*

1936

(May)
John Andrew Gregg
Bishop, AME Church, Kansas City

(Summer)

David Kirby
*Secretary, West Virginia Board of
Education*

1937

(May)
Julian H. Lewis
*Associate Professor Pathology,
University of Chicago*

(Summer)

David Alphonso Lane, Jr.
Dean, West Virginia State College

1938

(May)
Ambrose Caliver
*Senior Specialist in Education of
Negros, U.S. Office of Education, D.C.*

(Summer)

Harry W. Greene
*Director, Teacher Training, West
Virginia State College*

1939

(May)
Frederick Douglas Patterson
President, Tuskegee Institute

(Summer)

William J.L. Wallace
*Associate Professor of Chemistry,
WVSC*

1940

(May)
Mordecai Johnson
*President, Howard University,
Washington, D.C.*

(Summer)

Lorena E. Kemp
*Professor of English,
West Virginia State College*

1941

(May)
Charles Hamilton Houston
Attorney, Washington, D.C.

(Summer)

Herman G. Canady
*Professor of Psychiatry and
Philosophy,
West Virginia State College*

1942

(May)
Mary McLeod Bethune
*Director,
U.S. Department of Negro Affairs*

(Summer)

Grace I. Woodson,
*Associate Professor of Education,
WVSC*

1943

(May)
Channing H. Tobias
National Secretary, YMCA

(Summer)

Henry Lake Dickason
President, Bluefield State College

1944

(May)
Roland Hayes
Concert Singer

(Summer)

Bertrom L. Woodruff
Associate Professor of English, WVSC

1945

(May)
Theodore F. Green
U.S. Senator, Rhode Island

(Summer)

W.O. Armstrong
*Principal, Dunbar High School,
Fairmont, WV*

1946

(May)
Anne Eleanor Roosevelt
*U.S. Representative,
New United Nations*

(Summer)

D.T. Murray
*President,
Negro State Board of Education*

1947

(May)
Ethel J. Alpenfels
*Anthropologist,
U.S. Bureau Intercultural Education*

(Summer)

Moses Newsome
*First Baptist Church,
Charleston, West Virginia*

1948

(May)
Percy Julian
*Division of Research & Manager of
Fine Chemicals, The Glidden Company*

(Summer)

H.D. Hazelwood
*Principal, Douglas High, Huntington,
West Virginia*

1949

(May)
Harley M. Kilgore
U.S. Senator, West Virginia

(Summer)

Vernon Johns
*College Minister, West Virginia State
College*

1950

(May)
Walter Philip Reuther
*President,
United AutoWorkers of America*

(Summer)

Charles S. Johnson
*President,
Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee*

1951

(May)
Ira De A. Reid
*Professor of Sociology,
Haverford College, Pennsylvania*

(Summer)

Corma A. Mowrey
*Past President,
National Education Association*

1952

(May)
Mordecai Johnson
*President, Howard University,
Washington, D.C.*

(Summer)

James C. Evans
*Civilian Assistant,
Secretary of Defense*

1953

(May)
Rufus B. Clement
*President, Atlanta University,
Atlanta, Georgia*

(Summer)

James W. Robinson
*State Superintendent of Negro Schools,
West Virginia*

1954

(May)
Edward Anderson Bolling
*Superintendent,
Institute School for Deaf & Blind*

(Summer)

James H. Rowland
*Attorney, West Virginia
Department of Education*

1955

(May)
Buell G. Gallagher
President, City College, NY

(Summer)

Charles A. Williamson
President, Advertising Corporation

1956

(May)
John Warren Davis
*Fifth President,
West Virginia State College*

(Summer)

Moses Newsome
*Pastor, First Baptist Church,
Charleston, West Virginia*

1957

(May)
Virgil L. Flynn
*Assistant Superintendent in Charge of
Research, Kanawha County Schools*

(Summer)

Ruth C. Norman
*English Instructor,
Stonewall Jackson High School*

1958

(May)
Frank M. Snowden, Jr.
*Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Howard
University, Washington, D.C.*

(Summer)

S.J. Baskerville, DDS
West Virginia Board of Education

1959

Cecil Underwood
Governor, State of West Virginia

1960

Justice Wise Polier
Judge, Domestic Relations Court, NY

1961

William W. Barron
Governor, State of West Virginia

1962

A.J. Gibson
*Executive Secretary,
North Central Association*

1963

Pearl S. Buck
Anthropologist

1964

William Orville Douglas
*Associate Justice,
U.S. Supreme Court*

1965

P.K. Banerjee
Minister, Embassy of India

1966

Hulett C. Smith
Governor, State of West Virginia

1967

Miles Clark Stanley
*President, AFL/CIO, Charleston,
West Virginia*

1968

William W. Jellema
*Executive Associate, Association of
American Colleges*

1969

Mildred Mitchell Bateman
*Director, Department of Mental Health,
State of West Virginia*

1970

Richard Eugene Shearer
*President,
Alderson-Broadbush College*

1971

Arch A. Moore, Jr.
Governor, State of West Virginia

1972

Damon J. Keith
Judge, State of Michigan

1973

John W. Davis
*Fifth President,
West Virginia State College
and
William J.L. Wallace
Sixth President,
West Virginia State College*

1974

(May)
Jennings Randolph
U.S. Senator, State of West Virginia

(Mid Year)

Daniel B. Taylor
*Superintendent of Schools State of West
Virginia*

1975

(May)
James C. Malone
Vice President, Union Carbide

(Mid Year)

James R. McCartney
*Secretary of State,
State of West Virginia*

1976

(May)
Helvi Sipilä
*Associate Secretary General, Social
Development & Humanitarian Affairs,
United Nations*

(Mid Year)
Vincent E. Reed
*Superintendent of Schools
The District of Columbia*

1977
(May)
Ben L. Morton
*Chancellor,
West Virginia Board of Regents*

(Mid Year)
Henry B. Wehrle, Jr.
President, The McJunkin Corporation

1978
(May)
Robert C. Byrd
U.S. Senator, State of West Virginia

(Mid Year)
Harold Delaney
*Associate Executive Director
American Association of Colleges and
Universities*

1979
(May)
Harold L. Hodgkinson
*Executive Director, Professional
Institute of American Management
Association*

(Mid Year)
John D. Rockefeller, IV
Governor, State of West Virginia

1980
(May)
Donald M. Knox

(Mid Year)
Robert R. Ramsey
*Chancellor,
West Virginia Board of Regents*

1981
(May)
Allen Ostar
*President, American Association of
State Colleges and Universities*

(Mid Year)
Leon H. Ginsberg
*Commissioner, West Virginia
Department of Welfare*

1982
(May)
Thomas W. Cole, Jr.
*Eighth President,
West Virginia State College*

(Mid Year)
Margaret L. Workman
*Judge, Circuit Court
Charleston, West Virginia*

1983
(May)
Russell Lowell Isaacs
*President, Hecks Inc.,
Charleston, West Virginia*

(Mid Year)
Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, IV
First Lady of West Virginia

1984
(May)
Samuel Proctor
Pastor, Abyssian Baptist Church, NY

(Mid Year)
John D. Rockefeller, IV
Governor, State of West Virginia

1985
(May)
Julian Bond
Senator, Atlanta, Georgia

(Mid Year)
D. Wayne Smith
President, Friendship Force

1986
(May)
John F. McGee
President, Charleston Daily Mail

(Mid Year)
Ken Hechler
Secretary of State West Virginia

1987
(May)
Leon H. Sullivan
*Chair, Board of OIC,
Philadelphia, PA*

(Mid Year)
Thomas W. Cole, Jr.
*Chancellor,
West Virginia Board of Regents*

1988
(May)
Hazo W. Carter, Jr.
*Ninth President,
West Virginia State College*

(Mid Year)
Ralph E. Kirkman
*Professor of Education,
George Peabody College
Vanderbilt University*

1989
(May)
Grover A. DuBose
*Visiting Professor, Business,
West Virginia State College*

(Mid Year)
Harrison B. Wilson
President, Norfolk State University

1990
(May)
Mary Sarah Weddington
*Senior Lecturer, History and
Government, University of Texas*

(Mid Year)
Lauro F. Cavazos
*Secretary,
U.S. Department of Education*

1991
(May)
Gaston Caperton
*Thirty-first Governor,
State of West Virginia*

(Mid Year)
Laura Pederson

1992
(May)
Paul B. Marion
*Chancellor,
State College System of West Virginia*

(Mid Year)
Phyllis Harden Carter
*Director of State-Federal Relations,
Governor's Office, State of
West Virginia*

1993
(May)
Bettina Gregory
*Senior General Assignment
Correspondent, American
Broadcasting Company*

(Mid Year)
Barbara Harmon-Schamberger
*Secretary, Department of Education
and the Arts State of West Virginia*

1994
(May)
Margaret L. Workman
*Judge, Supreme Court of Appeals,
State of West Virginia*

(Mid Year)
Booker T. Stephens
*Chief Judge, Eighth Judicial District,
Welch, West Virginia*

1995
(May)
James W. Monroe
Major General, United States Army

(Mid Year)
Clifford M. Trump
*Chancellor, State College System of
West Virginia*

1996
(May)
Rodney E. Slater
Federal Highway Administration

(Mid Year)
Robert E. Wise, Jr.
United States House of Representatives

1997
(May)
Hazel R. O'Leary
Former Secretary of Energy

(Mid Year)
James W. Rowley
*President Emeritus, College of
Graduate Studies*

- 1998**
 (May)
 Shirley R. Watkins
Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- (Mid Year)
 Gus R. Douglass
West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture
- 1999**
 (May)
 Christine M. Corey
Senior Program Officer, Office of International Education and Graduate Programs, United States Department of Education
- (Mid Year)
 Hazo W. Carter, Jr.
Ninth President, West Virginia State College
- 2000**
 (May)
 Cecil H. Underwood
Governor, State of West Virginia
- (Mid Year)
 David Stewart
State Superintendent of Schools, West Virginia Board of Education
- 2001**
 (May)
 Marie C. Johns
President, Verizon
- (Mid Year)
 J. Michael Mullen
Chancellor, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
- 2002**
 (May)
 Miles C. Cary
President, West Virginia State College Advisory Board
- (Mid Year)
 Kaye Goodwin
Secretary, Education and Arts
- 2003**
 (May)
 J. T. (Ted) Childs, Jr.
Vice President, Global Workforce Diversity IBM Corporation
- (Mid-Year)
 Richard L. Ferguson
Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board ACT, Inc.
- 2004**
 (May)
 Boyce Courtney Williams
Vice President, National Council for Accreditation of Education
- (Mid-Year)
 Hazo W. Carter, Jr., Ed.D.
President, West Virginia State University

Commencement programs are maintained in the University Archives of the Drain-Jordan Library. For many years, the University held graduation exercises three times a year—in May, August, and a mid-year commencement at the end of the first semester in January. Mid-year graduation exercises were dropped in 1954 and re-established in 1974, while summer exercises were discontinued after 1958.

Alma Mater

Ernest Wade '30

Martha Spencer

There is a place we love so dear—
Its name we'll ever praise and revere
'Tis West Virginia State we love—
Just one more step from there is Heav'n above.

REFRAIN

West Virginia's praise we'll sing—
Lift our voices 'til heavens ring—
As we gaily march along—
We'll sing a song—
For Alma Mater
How we love her
Pride of all our loyal hearts—
From her we will never part—
Thoughts of thee will ne'er be few
Alma Mater we love you.

We'll love her more as days go by,
And send her praises to the sky;
To place her over all the rest,
And keep her e'er the dearest and the best.

Shadowed 'neath a deep blue sky;
Is STATE for whom we'll live and we'll die—
Arise! O men of God and sing;
We're loyal, and to her we'll always cling.



WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES • PLANNING AND ADVANCEMENT