

College of Professional Studies Convocation

MAY 11, 2023





75TH ANNUAL

Convocation Ceremony

Honoring the Part-Time Student Graduates
of Syracuse University

Class of 2023

Program

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Cherri Wells
College Marshal

Tamrie Oliver
Student Speaker

College of Professional Studies Faculty and Instructors

Mirza Tihic
Keynote Speaker

Art Thomas, Ph.D.
*Executive Director of the Office of Professional Acceleration and
Microcredentials, College of Professional Studies*

Rosemary B. Kelly
Assistant Dean, College of Professional Studies

Ryan O. Williams, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, College of Professional Studies

Reverend Brian E. Konkol, Ph.D.
Dean, Hendricks Chapel

Michael J. Frasciello, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Professional Studies

Kent Syverud
Chancellor and President

PRESIDING

Michael J. Frasciello, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Professional Studies

INVOCATION

Reverend Brian E. Konkol, Ph.D.
Dean, Hendricks Chapel

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Mirza Tihic
Faculty, College of Professional Studies

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER

Rosemary B. Kelly

Assistant Dean, College of Professional Studies

STUDENT SPEAKER

Tamrie Oliver

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES SERVICE AWARDS

Recognizing excellence in service to Syracuse University part-time students.

DEAN'S EXCELLENCE AWARD

To Be Announced

STAFF SERVICE AWARD

Office of Government and Community Relations

Kate Flannery

Quanira Irby

Cydney M. Johnson

Laura Kolton

Lori Levengood

Jake Losowski

Joe Nehme

Sara Peirson

Kathleen Pitt

Kevin Quinn

FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD

Katherine Sosa, Ph.D.

Instructor, Bachelor of Professional Studies Program

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Nancy C. Gelling Award

Recognition of the Alumni Scholar with the highest grade point average

Michael Crandall

Edward Furcinito

Scott Howard

Sylvia Wyckoff Award

Recognition of outstanding achievement in the College of Visual and Performing Arts

George Lambert

Hortence Cochrane Award

Recognition of outstanding achievement in the David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics

Aglaeth Vazquez

Alumni Scholars

Members of the Class of 2023 with the highest grade point averages

Michael Crandall

Joseph Fernandez

Edward Furcinito

Scott Howard

Joshua Kompf

Tamrie Oliver

Andrew Ostrander

Timothy Sullivan

Dania Tompkins

Cherri Wells

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Rosemary B. Kelly

Assistant Dean, College of Professional Studies

BENEDICTION

Reverend Brian E. Konkol, Ph.D.

Dean, Hendricks Chapel

SINGING OF ALMA MATER

Tara Sandlin

Vocalist

Ida Tili-Trebicka

Assistant Teaching Professor, Setnor School of Music

University Organist

See inside of back cover for lyrics.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mirza Tihic

Mirza Tihic is an assistant teaching professor at the College of Professional Studies and adjunct professor of entrepreneurship with the Department of Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises (EEE) at the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University.

Tihic continues to serve in a research role as a member of the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) Research and Analytics team, where since 2020 he has been playing a leading scientific role in the launch and day-to-day management of the National Survey on Military-Connected Entrepreneurs initiative, a multi-year study of military-connected (veteran and military spouse) entrepreneurs.

Between 2015 and 2019, Tihic was the Assistant Director for the Office of Vice Chancellor for Veteran and Military Affairs. He oversaw efforts and initiatives supporting veterans, military members, and members of military families on campus at Syracuse University. Tihic had served in a variety of administrative roles at Syracuse University's Institute for Veterans and Military Families. Here he supported programs and initiatives directed at education and entrepreneurship for veterans, and managed program support services.

Tihic previously served as Program Director for the Falcone Center for Entrepreneurship at Syracuse University's Martin J. Whitman School of Management. There he supported the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans (EBV), inclusive entrepreneurship through Start-Up NY and many more.

Tihic's scholarly research focuses on the intersection of entrepreneurship and disability. His research aims to expand the traditional barriers related to small business services and include the complete entrepreneurial ecosystem of people with disabilities and veterans. An interest of Tihic is understanding the broader social network and its role in influencing entrepreneurial decisions given the disability-related challenges they face. A presentation of this work was well received at the 2019 and 2022 Babson College Entrepreneurship Research Conferences, and the paper associated with the presentation won the 2019 G. Dale Meyer Best Paper Award and was published in the *Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research*.

Tihic is involved with several start-ups. He is co-founder of Syracuse's North Side Learning Center, a family literacy center that helps immigrants and destitute individuals in the community. He also is part of his family's real estate business.

Originally from Bosnia, Tihic holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics, master's in neuroscience, MBA, and a PhD from Syracuse University.

CLASS OF 2023

Certificate, Associate and Bachelor's Degree Candidates

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

ASSOCIATE IN ARTS

Autumn Battle
Susanna Carey
Julie McGee
Kathryn Mueller

Jonathan Quealy
Khadija Sharif
Margaret Thompson
Laura Walsh

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Aya Al-Obaidi
Cody Benbow
Mackenzie Brooks
Joseph Carringer
Daniel DiPietro
Kayla Ford
Mark Gosek
Scott Howard**

Jonathan Kokolakis
Kelly McMahon
Anthony Osei Tutu
Andrew Ostrander*
Rich Pitzeruse Jr.
Robert-Lamar Taylor
Michael Toia
Dania Tompkins*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Suzanne Morgan

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Trevor Kwiatek

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

BACHELOR OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Aaron Armelino
Michael Crandall**
Sabrina Davis-Thomas
Cassandra Franco
Edward Furcinito**
Gary Gillespie
Sara Inman
Lisa Kennedy
Joshua Kompf*
Jessica Lighthouse†

Regina McArthur
Julie McGee
Tamrie Oliver**
Stephen Polkinghorne
William Preston
Shaei Rodriguez
Timothy Sullivan**
Cherri Wells**
Zachary Wisniewski

CERTIFICATE

Sabrina Davis-Thomas
Jaime Heath
Gabrielle Lake

Richard MacPherson
Asia Strong

COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

George Lambert

DAVID B. FALK COLLEGE OF SPORT AND HUMAN DYNAMICS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Halimeh Abdel-Aziz[†]
Chevon Janczuk[†]

Aglaeth Vazquez

MAXWELL SCHOOL OF CITIZENSHIP AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Lamyae Kerzazi

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Sheera Buckley
Erika Guca

Aaron Stukey

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION STUDIES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Joseph Fernandez^{†*}

[†] Member of Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society

* Alumni Scholar (GPA 3.9 or higher)

Student Leadership Certificates

ICONSLT COLLABORATIVE

The following students are being recognized for outstanding leadership as a Program Manager within the iConsult Collaborative.

Chakshushri

Manali Ghorpade

Ruchita Harsora

Srishti Sanghvi

Pranav Sheth

Nikita Sirwani

Ankita Vartak

NANHI KALI

The following students are being recognized for outstanding leadership as a member of Nanhi Kali.

Chakshushri

Sagarika Barde

Sanjana Dubey

Ashitosh Gupta

Ruchita Harsora

Rahul Khairnar

Sahaj Kandelwal

Aishwary Patel

Nidhee Patil

Alma Mater

WHERE THE VALE OF ONONDAGA
MEETS THE EASTERN SKY
PROUDLY STANDS OUR ALMA MATER
ON HER HILLTOP HIGH.
FLAG WE LOVE! ORANGE! FLOAT FOR AYE,
OLD SYRACUSE, O'ER THEE.
LOYAL BE THY SONS AND DAUGHTERS
TO THY MEMORY.

- Junius W. Stevens, Class of 1895

