

Prelude, Second Suite in F op. 28 **Gustav Holst** Processional, Pomp and Circumstance, Op. 39, No. 1 **Edward Elgar** The Star Spangled Banner Francis Scott Key Song Leader: Katherine Gould, Class of 2024 Father Michael Lillpopp Invocation Catholic Chaplain Convening the Ceremonies William A. Burke, III Chair, Board of Trustees **Opening Remarks** Dr. Mary-Beth A. Cooper President, Springfield College Tina Riordan Welcome Representative, Graduate Students Conferring of Honorary Degree Dr. Mary-Beth A. Cooper William A. Burke III Commencement Address Congressman Richard E. Neal Representing Massachusetts' 1st District Conferring of Degrees Dr. Mary-Beth A. Cooper Dr. Mary Ann Coughlin Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Readers Dr. M. Susan Guyer School of Physical Education, Performance, and Sport Leadership Dr. Brooke Hallowell School of Health Sciences Dr. Rachel Rubinstein School of Social Work and Behavioral Sciences Dr. Rachel Rubinstein School of Arts and Sciences Dr. Peg Ferguson Boyd, G'95 Welcome from the Alumni Association President of the Alumni Council College Hymn, A Song for Springfield Fred S. Hyde and Gilbert T. Vickers Song Leader: Katherine Gould, Class of 2024 Benediction Krista Spencer Protestant Chaplain Recessional, Coronation March Giacomo Meyerbeer **Grand Marshal** John Taffe **Faculty Marshals** Dr. Kathleen Mangano Dr. Missy-Marie Montgomery **Graduating Class Marshals** Samantha Birks **Jessica Lewis** Colin Mediate **Enrique Claudio**

Kaitlyn Garrity

Emma Halloran

Christopher Mette

Cam Powell

Academic Attire

At today's commencement, faculty and graduates will be attired in academic regalia gowns, hoods, and mortarboards.

The history of this distinctive costuming goes back to the medieval universities of Europe where gowns were worn every day, providing both identification of the academic discipline and added warmth in poorly heated buildings.

The formal attire for campuses in the United States was established in 1895 with the adoption of the Academic Costume Code. It enables one to identify the wearer's degree and course of study and, in many cases, the college or university that awarded the degree.

Gowns for recipients of bachelor's and master's degrees are made of black cotton without trimming. Doctoral gowns are faced down the front and back in velvet and have three bars of the same material across the sleeves. The bachelor's gown has open sleeves; the master's sleeves are longer and closed with arm slits at the elbow; and the doctoral bell-shaped sleeves extend to the wrist.

Hoods differ in length and are incrementally longer for each higher degree. The colored edging indicates the academic discipline and the lining signifies the official color or colors of the institution.

The black mortarboard with tassel is worn with each type of gown. Bachelor's and master's degree holders wear a black tassel and those who have earned a doctorate wear a gold tassel. In recent years, there has been a growing tendency to wear a colored tassel symbolizing, like the hood, the subject area in which the wearer has taken a degree.

Today, as in most academic processions, some people wear costumes that do not conform to standard patterns. This is especially true of people who hold degrees from foreign universities where colorful attire often is prescribed.

The Mace

The College Mace serves as a symbol of authority, just as it did in the Middle Ages when a mace bearer accompanied an official taking office or opening court. From the 16th century in England, and since colonial days in the United States, it has become a symbol of office used in ceremonies and is carried by the procession leader or macebearer. The Springfield College Mace was first used at the inauguration of Dr. Randolph W. Bromery, 11th president of Springfield College, on October 30, 1993, and was carried by Professor Frank Wolcott '52, grand marshal. It is traditionally carried at commencement in the spring and the convocation in the fall.

The Grand Marshal

Traditionally, the Grand Marshal carries the Mace, which bears the College seal. It is the responsibility of the Grand Marshal to lead the Academic Procession and serve as the representative of the faculty, which attests that students are, or will be, qualified to receive a Springfield College degree or certificate. Once the President announces that the degree has been conferred, the Grand Marshal raises and lowers the College Mace as a symbol that the Board of Trustees approves the conferral of these degrees.

Mary-Beth A. Cooper

Springfield College President

Mary-Beth A. Cooper, PhD, DM, became the 13th President of Springfield College in August 2013, bringing to the College her experience from a long and distinguished career in higher education administration and community service.

With her leadership, the Springfield College community has experienced a unified rededication to its Humanics philosophy and mission of leadership in service to others. She has continued her commitment to educational excellence by cultivating partnerships that allow students to produce new knowledge and engage diverse populations. Through collaboration and engagement, she fosters an internal environment that reflects shared governance among faculty, staff, and students, and an external environment that is safe and welcoming for the College community and its city neighbors.

During her tenure, she has successfully completed the largest capital campaign in the College's history, raising over \$50 million. In the fall of 2024, a new 76,000-square-foot Health Sciences Center was opened for students and faculty



to create an interdisciplinary space for cutting-edge teaching and learning. She followed a similar process to create the innovative Harold C. Smith Learning Commons, bringing faculty excellence, technology, and library services into a dynamic hub for research and collaboration. Her commitment to inclusivity and accessibility was demonstrated through the partnership with the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation to create an intercollegiate adaptive baseball field to benefit athletes of all abilities and contained within our championship-quality intercollegiate baseball field.

Known for her volunteer leadership, President Cooper serves as the vice chair of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Board of Governors and chair of the board of directors for Educare Springfield. She is a past chair of the board of directors of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts and the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) and remains on its board. In addition, she has served on the boards of the Council of Independent Colleges, the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, and the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation.

President Cooper's academic journey is marked by a commitment to lifelong learning. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Delaware, a Master of Education from the University of Georgia, a Master of Business Administration from the University of Rochester, a Doctor of Philosophy in Education Administration from Michigan State University, and a Doctor of Management from Case Western Reserve University.

President Cooper lives on the Springfield College campus with her husband, Dave, and their chocolate lab, Jack. Their son, Calvin, serves as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force Services, embodying the Coopers' shared values of service and dedication to community and country.

Congressman Richard E. Neal

Representing Massachusetts' 1st District Commencement Speaker Honorary Degree Recipient

Born in Worcester and raised and educated in Springfield, Congressman Neal was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1988, and served his first two terms on the House Banking Committee. He joined the Ways and Means Committee in 1993. In January 2019, Congressman Neal was elected by his colleagues to assume the esteemed position of chairman, marking the first time since 1875 that a representative from Massachusetts had done so.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Congressman Neal worked tirelessly to bring relief to the American people. The first relief bill, the CARES Act, included several provisions from the Ways and Means Committee, specifically providing federal unemployment compensation, economic assistance payments, and telehealth flexibility—which single-handedly saved the American economy.

In addition, Congressman Neal spearheaded several historic legislative achievements during the 116th and 117th Congress, including the American Rescue Plan Act, of which the Ways and Means Committee was responsible for nearly \$1 billion of the



\$1.9 trillion package. Under Congressman Neal's leadership, the bill put more money directly into people's pockets, helping them better afford childcare and health coverage. It also shored up the hard-earned retirement security for millions of Americans nationwide. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law marked the largest long-term investment in our infrastructure and economy in our nation's history. In a historic win for American families and the planet, with provisions that will lower costs while investing in Americans' health and our future climate security, Congressman Neal led efforts to pass the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), much of which was written in the Ways and Means Committee.

Congressman Neal is the dean of both the Massachusetts Delegation and the New England Congressional Delegation, as well as an at-large whip for the House Democrats. He is also the Democratic Leader of the Friends of Ireland Caucus. He played a prominent role in not only bringing the Good Friday Agreement to fruition, ending the longest period of conflict in Irish history, but also in upholding the principles of the accord.

Throughout his career, Congressman Neal has received many awards and honorary degrees, including an Honorary Degree of Humane Letters from Mount Holyoke College, an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from Ulster University in Northern Ireland, and an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from Queen's University Belfast.

Before his time in Congress, Neal was a high school teacher, member of the Springfield City Council, and mayor of the City of Springfield from 1984 to 1988.

Candidates

for Degrees or Certificates

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
(PH.D.) DEGREES
SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL
EDUCATION, PERFORMANCE
AND SPORT LEADERSHIP

Taylor Griffin Browning

Ph.D.

Webster, MA

Dissertation: The Prevalence of Metabolic Syndrome and Cardiometabolic Disease Risk Factors in Male and Female NCAA Division I Collegiate Track & Field Throwers

Faculty Sponsor: Samuel Headley

Caitlin Haworth

Ph.D.

Port St. Lucie, FL

Dissertation: A Qualitative Exploration

of Informal Roles in Sport

Faculty Sponsor: Elizabeth Mullin

Tina Elizabeth Riordan

Ph.D.

Middleboro, MA

Dissertation: Professional Quality of Life Among Athletic Trainers: A Mixed Methods Approach

Faculty Sponsor: Jessica Barrett

DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY
(PSY.D.) DEGREES
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Marley J. Balasco

Psy.D.

South Hadley, MA

Dissertation: Defining Religious Trauma to Promote Liberatory Action in Treatment: A Qualitative Study of Lesbian, Gay, and

Bisexual Experiences

Faculty Sponsor: Tatiana Gray

Kyrsten Marie Belini

Psy.D.

North Adams, MA

Dissertation: Illuminating Her Voice: A Phenomenological Investigation of the Lived Experiences of Women with Bipolar

Faculty Sponsor: Sean DeMartino

Chen Liang

Psy.D.

Shenyang, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
Dissertation: International Graduate Students'
Acculturation Experiences: A Phenomenological

Study

Faculty Sponsor: Sally Hage

Gregg Mancari

Psy.D.

Northampton, MA

Dissertation: The Relationship Between the Conformity of Masculine Gender Norms and

Sexual Satisfaction

Faculty Sponsor: Tatiana Gray

Jaleesa Marshall-Jeng

Psy.D.

Bloomfield, CT

Dissertation: The Strong Black Woman and Help Seeking Behaviors of Black Female Principals

Faculty Sponsor: Mia Tran

Jonathan D. Perlow

Psy.D.

Enfield, CT

Dissertation: : Belonging in Group Therapy

and the GTBS

Faculty Sponsor: Allison Cumming-McCann

Shawn Aaron Saylors

Psy.D.

Easley, SC

Dissertation: Exploring Identity from Military to Civilian Life: A Phenomenological Study

Faculty Sponsor: Sally Hage

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY (D.P.T.) DEGREES

SCHOOL OF

HEALTH SCIENCES

Russell C Allen

D.P.T. Auburn, ME

Anjelia S. Altebrando

D.P.T.

Miller Place, NY

Robyn Kathryn Arena

D.P.T.

Vergennes, VT

Lia Cristine Baroncini

D.P.T.

Madison, CT

Leah Rebeccah Berke

D.P.T.

Niantic, CT

Emma Riley Blomstrom

D.P.T.

Easthampton, MA

Luke C. Bourque

D.P.T.

Pomfret Center, CT

Hayley Byers

D.P.T.

Milford, CT

Chloe Elizabeth Campellone

D.P.T.

Vernon, CT

Michael Louis Casinelli

D.P.T.

Shelton, CT

Tess Murphy Chilcott

D.P.T.

Pembroke, MA

Enrique Luis Claudio

D.P.T.

Enfield, CT

Kinsey Colby

D.P.T. Easton, CT

Alyson Lauren Coyle

D.P.T.

Pembroke, MA

Emma Kay Donohue

D.P.T.

East Hampton, CT

Sydney Ayşe Fackrell

D.P.T.

Hamburg, NJ

James Edward Foley

Fair Haven, NJ

Heather Lynn Fontaine

Brimfield, MA

Sarah Elizabeth Gallo

D.P.T.

Plantsville, CT

Cole Weston Greenberg

Chester, NJ

Megan Elizabeth Hacia

D.P.T.

Windsor Locks, CT

Jessica Lynn Hart

DPT

Middletown, CT

Sara Elizabeth Labadorf

D.P.T.

Huntersville, NC

Stacie Faith Leonard

D.P.T. Taunton, MA

Oi Li

D.P.T.

Springfield, MA

Kaitlyn Elaine Lindsay

D.P.T.

West Boylston, MA

Ashley Ellen Macdonald

D.P.T. Bristol, CT

Ariane C. Maxwell

Hamden, CT

Grace H. Moore

D.P.T.

Glastonbury, CT

Carlos Daniel Antonio Moreno

D.P.T.

North Reading, MA

Gabriel Quinn Noguer

Pembroke, MA

Bethany Lee Poland

Cranston, RI

Anthony Feitosa Soares

D.P.T.

Worcester, MA

Sara A. Swetland

Manchester, NH

Jake Michael Thorley

D.P.T.

Manorville, NY

Adam B. Willametz

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Rachel Nicole Williams

D.P.T.

Southington, CT

Mitchell Anthony Wright

Halfmoon, NY

Tiffany Kaye Yago

D.P.T. Fernley, NV

MASTER'S DEGREES AND CERTIFICATE OF

ADVANCED STUDY

SCHOOL OF

PHYSICAL EDUCATION, PERFORMANCE, AND SPORT LEADERSHIP

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M.S. Green Bay, WI Ian Kyle Batacan Antonio

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Framingham, MA

Grace E. Brennan

Wilbraham, MA

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Latasha Shanelle Beckford

M.S.W.

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Sydney Katherine Brady

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Cheri A. Bragg

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Griffin Matthew Burke

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Catherine S. Cantler

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Benjamin Lockhart Carleen

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Adriana I. Cartagena

M.S.W. Manchester, CT

John Jamal Carter

M.S.W. Manchester, CT

Lisa A. Cesso M.Ed. Boston, MA

Brianna A. Chaparro

M.S.W. Meriden, CT

Hailey Alise Chatterton

мс

Springfield, MA

Darien Francis Chismar

M.S.

Magnolia, NJ

Lucille Amaro Chmura

M.Ed. Warner, NH

Norani C. Collazo

M.S.W. Springfield, MA

Jamal G. Compton

M.S.W. Windsor, CT

Gloria M. Contreras

M.Ed.

East Boston, MA

Ashley Marie Cotto

M.S.W. New Britain, CT

Leticia Cruz M.S.W. Hartford, CT

Angela Marie Cunningham

M.S.

Pleasantville, NJ

Ivette Dalina-Figueroa

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Stephanie Adriana D'Amico

M.S.W. Plainville, CT

Cyrena DaSilva

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Nickesha Smallhorne Davis

M.Ed. Bristol, CT

Brittany Nicole Dean

M.S. Conroe, TX

Samantha Marie DeCarlo

M.S.W. Lenox, MA

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M.S. Haverhill, MA Dominique Nicole DePippo

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Geoffrey Farrell Dimin

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Milwaukee, WI

Jada Ariana Dove

M.S.W.

Middletown, CT

Shaun Kevin D'Souza

M.S.

Springfield, MA

Natalie Kathryn Dunn

M.S.W. Springfield, MA

Alaijah Unique Evans

M.S.W.

New Haven, CT

Casey Genevieve Faccio

M.Ed.

West Warwick, RI

Banila Idriss Feika

M.S.W. Revere, MA

Julissa L. Feliciano

M.S.W. Hartford, CT

Magdaly Font

M.S.W. New Britain, CT

Brittany Ann Footit

M.S.W. Holyoke, MA

Doris Denise Fortune

M.S.W. Springfield, MA **Ouinton Dalone Fowlkes**

M.S.

Arlington, TX

Nylsa Hardy M.S.W. Windsor, CT

M.Ed. Dewitt, MI

Tatyana Frederick

M.S.W.

Cambridge, MA

Temple Terrace, FL

M.S.W.

Springfield, MA

Hunter Edwin Freye

M.S.W. Orlando, FL Dana Ashley Harvey

Brittany Centrilla Hargrove

M.S.W. Bloomfield, CT Anastasia Kompocholi

Elinor Lenhart Kolbier

Chandler Elisabeth Kirinovic

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Springfield, MA

Mahani Soale Fuseini

M.Ed.

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Robin C. Hessmann

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West Warwick, RI

Samantha Rose Konspore

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Kaitlin Michele Garrity

M.Ed. Chester, NH Megan Leigh Horvath

Vero Beach, FL

Bilgehan Korkmaz

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Jennifer Genthner

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C.A.G.S. Certificate of Advanced Graduate

Study

M.B.A. Master of Business Administration

M.Ed. Master of Education M.S. Master of Science M.S.W. Master of Social Work

M.S.W.* Master of Social Work enrolled in

M.S.W./J.D. program

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy, spelling, and completeness of the names in this commencement program. Appearance of a name in this program means that the student has met or is expected to meet all requirements for graduation. This program is not an official record. Thank you.

A Song for Springfield

Now raise a song for Springfield,

Let hearts and voices blend

To celebrate her praises,

Whose fame shall have no end;

While fellowship makes holy,

While eager hope elates,

And visioned youth come thronging

Her spacious gates.

Earthwide may happy childhood

Lift high its wond'ring eyes,

Strong youth bring back the vision

Of earthly paradise;

To follow truth to wisdom,

Nor faint thro' falt'ring fears,

Be this thy task, O Springfield,

Thro' all the years.



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