



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
LAMAR UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MONTAGNE CENTER
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2017

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ACADEMIC DEANS

William E. Harn, Ph.D.	Dean of Graduate Studies
Joe Nordgren, Ph.D.	Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences
Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.	Dean of Business
Robert Spina, Ph.D., FACSM	Dean of Education and Human Development
Srinivas Palanki, Ph.D.	Dean of Engineering
Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.	Dean of Fine Arts and Communication
Kevin Dodson, Ph.D.	Dean of Reaud Honors College
David J. Carroll, M.L.S.	Director of Library Services





On behalf of the faculty and staff, I am pleased to welcome all of you to the commencement ceremony for the College of Business at Lamar University.

As Dean of the College of Business, I am excited about our accomplishments and about the many opportunities we are exploring to strengthen our already top-notch business education. Lamar University offers our students a superior business curriculum and a well-rounded core of arts and sciences in a College of Business that is committed to being an integral part of the business community. Our primary goal is to ensure that all of our programs continue to serve the needs of evolving and dynamic business marketplaces in Southeast Texas and around the world.

Lamar University's College of Business is distinctive because of the many important advantages we offer, including a strong and experienced faculty, who are committed to teaching and research, and who care deeply about our students. Full-time faculty teaches more than 80% of our sections, and we maintain a low student-faculty ratio; as a result, students learn in a highly interactive environment that provides close, personal attention. We also offer practical, flexible programs to respond to today's changing marketplace. Both our undergraduate and MBA programs offer full-time, part-time and online options. Our Master of Science in Accounting program offers a fully integrated five-year experience leading to the BBA and MSA degrees. Additionally, we offer an impressive network of accomplished business alumni, whose involvement in the college provides our students with speakers, internships, career opportunities and valuable ongoing support throughout their professional lives.

Thank you for joining us today as we celebrate the achievements of our students.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. R. Venta".

Enrique (Henry) R. Venta, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor of Management



CEREMONY PROGRAM

Musical Prelude	Lamar University Brass Ensemble Scott Deppe, Ed.D. <i>Director of Bands</i>
Academic Processional*	James Slaydon, Ph.D. <i>Associate Professor of Economics and Finance</i>
<i>Crown Imperial</i> Walton	Lamar University Brass Ensemble
The National Anthem* <i>The Star Spangled Banner</i> Francis Scott Key	Craig Escamilla, B.M.A., M.B.A. <i>Instructor of Management and Marketing</i>
Welcome/Introductions	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D. <i>Dean</i>
Commencement Address	Paul Trevino, B.B.A., M.B.A. <i>CEO of Christus Health Southeast Texas</i>
Introduction of Student Speaker	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.
Student Commencement Address	Katie Loftin <i>Advertising Communications Major</i>
Certification of Candidates	Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.
Conferring of Degrees	Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D. <i>President</i>



Presentation of Graduating Class Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D.

Announcement of Graduates Kaushik Ghosh, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Information Systems and Analysis

Toni Mulvaney, J.D.
Professor of Accounting and Business Law

Lamar University Alma Mater*
G. Rhodes Smartt Craig Escamilla, B.M.A., M.B.A.

*Lamar to thee we're singing
Voices raised on high.
We will forever love thee
Laud thee to the sky.*

*We will ever need thee
As our guiding star.
To us you'll always be
Our glorious Lamar.*

Academic Recessional* James Slaydon, Ph.D.

Please join us for an informal reception, located upstairs in the concourse area of the Montagne Center, following the ceremony.

**Audience please stand.*

To maintain the dignity of the program, guests are requested to refrain from unnecessary noises (air horns, etc.) and movement during the ceremony.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS FACULTY

Enrique "Henry" Venta, Ph.D., *Dean*

Accounting & Business Law

Toni Mulvaney, *Chair*

Clare Burns, *Director*

Marleen Swerdlow, *Director*

Frank Badua

Melissa Baldo

Ricardo Colon

Frank Cavaliere

Tim McCoy

Gisele Moss

David Rose

Delvin Seawright

Orrin Swift

Michael Toerner

Economics & Finance

Larry Allen, *Chair*

Chun-Da Chen

Jai-Young Choi

Charles Hawkins

John McCollough

Jimmy Moss

Karyn Neuhauser

Donald Price

James Slaydon (Mace Carrier)

Hiroki Watanabe

Information Systems & Analysis

Kakoli Bandyopadhyay, *Chair*

Cynthia Barnes

Richard Drapeau (Retired Faculty)

Ashraf El-Houbi

Alicen Flosi

Purnendu Mandal

Ricardo Tovar-Silos

Yu (Audrey) Zhao

Jerry Zhang

Management & Marketing

Kabir C. "KC" Sen, *Chair*

Jeff Dyson, *MBA Director*

Soumava Bandyopadhyay

Craig Escamilla (Vocalist)

Kathy Fraccastoro

Lynn Godkin

Komal Karani

Paul Latiolais

Brad Mayer

Vivek Natarajan

Kelly Weeks

Reese Construction Management

Steve McCrary, *Director*

Seokyon Hwang

Mahdi Safa

FACULTY MARSHALS

Chun-Da Chen

Ashraf El-Houbi

Komal Karani

Purnendu Mandal

Tim McCoy

Jimmy Moss

Delvin Seawright

Orrin Swift

Ricardo Tovar-Silos

Hiroki Watanabe

DIRECTORS OF GRADUATION CEREMONY

David Short Jr., *Registrar*

Barbara Price, *Assistant Registrar*

DIRECTORS OF RECORDS & REGISTRATION

Summer Rather

Natasha Walker

GRADUATION COORDINATOR

Mildred Piert





Paul Trevino is a seasoned healthcare executive with over 28 years of healthcare experience in not for profit, for profit, and managed care sectors of the healthcare market.

As the CEO of the CHRISTUS Southeast Texas Health System, he is responsible for managing the market portfolio in Southeast Texas representing a \$358 million annual budget, 2,136 employees and 380,000 patient encounters annually. Mr. Trevino has worked for CHRISTUS Health for the last 23 years and has

served in key executive roles in multiple regions of the organization, focusing on hospital operations, network development, and physician alignment.

Mr. Trevino is a native of Corpus Christi, Texas. He attended the University of Texas, Corpus Christi State University and St. Mary University, where he obtained a Bachelors of Business Administration and a Master of Business of Administration. He has served on a variety of civic and community boards. He has been married to Kelli Hayes Trevino (a Lamar graduate) for 30 years and has three children and one new granddaughter. He and his family have spent over 16 years living in Southeast Texas.





Katie is from Saratoga, Texas where she was raised by her parents Kathy and Sam Loftin. She graduated as Salutatorian from West Hardin High School in 2013. Katie will be graduating with a Bachelor degree in Advertising Communications. She has been involved in many activities throughout her college career. She is a member of the Lamar University Ambassadors, Business Dean's Advisory Council, and LU Advertising Federation. Katie frequently volunteers at sporting events and throughout the community with LU Ambassadors. Katie is a Smith-

Hutson Scholarship recipient. Throughout her college career she has taken at least fifteen hours a semester and maintained a part-time job. Currently, Katie is a full time Retirement Services Marketing Assistant at Neches Federal Credit Union. In the future, she would like to work in the marketing/advertising industry. She would also like to work in the social media marketing field and eventually become a social media marketing manager.



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING

Emily Brieden Templeton
Margie Marissa Burrell
Kayla Lena Comeaux
Nahian Omar Faruqe
Elizabeth Flores Flores
Kristeen Kimberly Reynolds
Taylor Diana Stockton

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Hilary Lee Allen
Jeremy G. Allen
Brittany Rose Baker
Erik Veo Camacho
Keyana Janea' Carr
Dane Alexander Dennison
Gary L. Dixon
Rebekah Aline Drummond
Brent William Dyson
Marva Gail Edwards
Eugene C. Giaquinto
Md Noman Hossain
Ross Evan Johnson
David R. Jonas
Konsetta Noel Kelly
Catherine Eileen Healy Knuth
Marissa Leigh LeJune
Abby Brooke McManus
Jessica Taylor Mendoza
John Paul Nickum
Collins Obikaram Nwanne
Srinivasa Rao Para
Mikko Matias Rajamaki
Nicolai Tobias Riker
Joseph Anthony Schab
Akshay Shreekant Sutrave
Azhar Uddin
Yujia Wei
Liang Liana Zong

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT

Devon R. Kolander

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ACCOUNTING

Heather Ann Aucoin
Katherine M. Beebe
Hannah Michelle Breaux
Catherine Lynn Dunwoody
Wesley Demetrius Ferguson
Jordyn McKenzie Glenn
Cherelle S. Hodges
Tham Thi Le
Cody Michael Meaux
Amreen Meghani
Kirsten Haley Rockey
Jon Samuel Williams

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Dillon J. Bergstrom
John S. Neil III

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ADVERTISING COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Amina Gibic*

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN ADVERTISING COMMUNICATIONS

Katie Coree Loftin
Zoey Lynn Stephenson



**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN FINANCE AND
ECONOMICS**

Natassia Rene Armstrong
Carson Field Earp
Leslie Carl Lightfoot III
Jacy Marie Little
Andrea Marie Rugg

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN FINANCE**

Guadalupe Alvarez
Traci Jane Bowman
Michael Gregor Feucht
Blake Joesph Knapschaefer
Cutter Lee McDowell
Justin Thien Pham
Brittaney Leighanne Westberry

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN
ENTREPRENEURSHIP,
GENERAL BUSINESS, AND
MANAGEMENT**

Deunta Tramal Byrd
Cheryl Green
Patricia Noel Lauritzen

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
GENERAL BUSINESS**

Brynn Victoria Baca
Alexis Angelique Savoie
Sarah Ann Schultz

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Lloyd Phillip Julian

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN GENERAL
BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT**

Xiomara A. Jaramillo
Luke Alexander Johnson
Heather Marie Lloyd
Anna M. Spengler
Cherie Young Spillers
Calvin Wayne Thomas II
Aaron Ray Tiller
Jermaine Woodard

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN GENERAL
BUSINESS**

Christae Janeene Combs
Heather Marie Cravy
Melissa Rae Dyson
Christopher Martin Nelson
Candice Erin Radford

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION GENERAL
BUSINESS - INDUSTRIAL
ENGINEERING**

Johnathon Anthony Bilberry
Cody James Lacombe Jr.



**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN MANAGEMENT
INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

Tricia Lynn Contreras
Dacey Leigh Davis
David Michael Guerra
Thomas Isaiah Lightfoot II
Roshan Stany Mathew
Luandrea Cherie Pope
Eric T. Truncale

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN HUMAN
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Katsiaryna Lapayeva
Rafael Lance Vargas

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN MANAGEMENT
AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
SYSTEMS**

Benjamin Curtis Collins Jr.

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN MANAGEMENT**

Trisha Olivia Bush
Bridgette Michelle Cooksey
Hunter Nicole Fontenot
Jenae Anise McDonald
Bradley Duke Sorrell
Nicolette Brynne Tate
Ryan Joseph Trahan
Taylor Brooke Vargas
Tyler Lee Warren

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION IN
MARKETING**

Jenna Marie Dunlap
Janelle Marie Harrison
Harley Ellender Rayburn
Eric Anthony Spaulding

**Reaud Honors College Graduate*

MASTERS THESES

Uddin, Azhar – *Relationship Between Firm Value and Long Term Debt: An Empirical Analysis Using the Companies of S&P 100* – James Slaydon, Supervising Professor



HONORS

An Honor Graduate must have completed 60 hours at Lamar University for a 4-year degree. A student with a GPA of 3.5 or higher on all LU undergraduate work will be awarded honors. Cum laude is 3.5 to 3.64, magna cum laude is 3.65 to 3.79 and summa cum laude is 3.8 to 4.0.

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA

Freshman Honors
Red, White and Gold Triple Cord

BETA ALPHA PSI

Accounting Honor Society
Red or White Stole with Emblem, Red and Black Double Cord

BETA GAMMA SIGMA

International Business Honor Society
Blue and Gold Cord and Stole

BETA XI CHAPTER OF PHI BETA DELTA

International Student Honors
Gold Medallion with Red and Yellow Ribbon

LU AMBASSADORS

Student Ambassadors
Red and Gold Double Cord

LU HONORS

Latin Honors
Red and White Double Cord

LU VETERANS

US Military Veteran
Red, White and Blue Double Cord

ORDER OF OMEGA

Greek Honors
Gold Stole with Logo, Gold and Ivory Cord

PHI BETA DELTA

International Honor Society
Gold Medallion with Red and Gold Ribbon



PHI ETA SIGMA

Freshman Honors
Black and Gold Double Cord

PHI KAPPA PHI

Junior/Senior Honor Society
Yellow Stole with Insignia on White Background, White Medallion with a
Blue Ribbon and Blue Cord

REAUD HONORS COLLEGE

Graduate who has completed 23 hours of honors coursework, including an
honors thesis, or 26 hours with eight hours of
upper-level credits while maintaining a 3.25 GPA.
Bronze Medallion with Red and White Ribbon

RONALD E. McNAIR SCHOLAR

First generation, low income, and underrepresented graduate who has
completed graduate-level research internship, including undergraduate
thesis and research defense.

NASA Blue Stole with Lettering, Lamp of Knowledge Medallion with
Red, White, and Blue Ribbon

SMITH-HUTSON SCHOLAR

Smith-Hutson Scholarship Recipient
Black Stole with Red Trim



THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

In its essential features, the academic regalia worn at American college exercises had its beginning in the Middle Ages. The oldest universities in Northern Europe grew out of church schools, and both faculty and students were regarded as part of the clergy. Hence, as their regular costume, they wore clerical garb borrowed largely from the monastic dress of their day.

The academic gown and hood were first regularly adopted by the University of Cambridge in 1284 and by the University of Oxford a little later. The custom transplanted to this country in Colonial times by King's College in New York, now Columbia University. In 1895, American universities and colleges decided to standardize their academic styles and developed the intercollegiate code of academic costume. The style follows in the vein of the Cambridge tradition. The distinctive caps, gowns and hoods worn at present-day college and university functions denote the institution that granted the degree, the field of learning in which the degree was earned and the level of the degree – bachelor, master or doctorate.

The gown is usually of black material (serge or worsted for bachelors, the same or silk for masters and silk for doctors). Bachelor's gowns have pointed sleeves and master's have long pouch-like sleeves, which reputedly were once used to carry books. Doctor's gowns are faced with panels of velvet down the front and three bars of velvet across each sleeve.

The hood, worn around the neck so as to hang down the back, is the principal emblem of the nature and source of the degree held. The colors in the hood lining are the colors of the school conferring the degree. The color of the border indicates the scholarly field of the wearer. Hoods may be worn only after the degree has been granted.

The cap, the square mortarboard in American universities, but a round, short, flat velvet hat in British, Canadian and some European universities, bears a tassel which may be black, or it may be colored



according to the scholarly field of the wearer. Only the doctors' cap may be of velvet.

The degree colors are used for the edging of all hoods and may be used for the velvet facing and sleeve bars of doctors' gowns and tassels on bachelors' and masters' caps. This includes: Arts and Letters – White, Commerce – Drab, Education – Light Blue, Engineering – Orange, Fine Arts – Brown, Humanities – Crimson, Law – Purple, Library Science – Lemon, Medicine – Green, Music – Pink, Pharmacy – Olive, Philosophy (Ph.D.) – Dark Blue, Physical Education – Sage Green, Science – Golden Yellow and Theology – Scarlet.

UNIVERSITY MACE

Originally a medieval weapon and later carried by Sergeants at Arms guarding kings and high church officials, the mace has gradually assumed a purely ceremonial character symbolizing authority. As used in formal academic processions, the mace derives from the early university history. The Lamar University mace is traditional in design. The mahogany shaft is crowned by a head on which are mounted four representations of the university seal. The president of the Faculty Senate, who leads the academic procession, carries the mace in today's ceremony.

ACADEMIC GONFALONS

Gonfalons, banners that are designed to hang from a crossbar, have historical roots dating back to the 12th century when they served as the official emblems to represent the various districts of Florence, Italy. In more recent times, gonfalons have been adopted by academia to serve as symbols to represent each college within a university. Each college has their own representative banner with the dean from the respective college carrying the gonfalon in the academic processional.



Lamar University engages and empowers students with the skills and knowledge to thrive in their personal lives and chosen fields of endeavor. As a doctoral granting institution, Lamar University is internationally recognized for its high quality academics, innovative curriculum, diverse student population, accessibility and leading edge scholarly activities dedicated to transforming the communities of Southeast Texas and beyond.



Special appreciation is extended to volunteers for serving as ushers for today's commencement ceremony.

This program is not an official graduation list. This printed program lists students who are eligible to graduate pending the outcome of final examinations and final grades. Therefore, it should not be used to determine a student's academic or degree status. The student's permanent academic record is kept by the Records Department, P.O. Box 10010, Beaumont, Texas 77710. *Students, faculty and staff members are selected without regard to their race, color, creed, sex, age, disability or national origin, consistent with the Assurance of Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Executive Order 11246 as issued and amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.*