CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY
FALL 2022 COMMENCEMENT

Dr. Jill Lane
Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
PRESIDING

†PROCESSIONAL
“Pomp & Circumstance–March No. 1” — Edward Elgar

WELCOME
Dr. Jill Lane

†NATIONAL ANTHEM
“The Star-Spangled Banner” — Francis Scott Key, poem
John Stafford Smith, music

GRADUATE ADDRESS
Frederick D. Brown, Master of Public Administration

UNDERGRADUATE ADDRESS
FRIDAY 3 P.M.: Tram Nguyen, Bachelor of Science
SATURDAY 9 A.M.: Tanner Cox, Bachelor of Science
SATURDAY NOON: Ruth Park, Bachelor of Science

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
FRIDAY 3 P.M.: Honorable T. Dallas Smith
Regent, University System of Georgia
SATURDAY 9 A.M.: Erick McReynolds
Vice President, Chick-fil-A
SATURDAY NOON: Helen Tift McSwain
Senior Vice President and National Transit Director,
Rohadfox Construction Control Services Corporation

PRESENTATION OF DEANS
Dr. Jill Lane

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATE DEGREES
Dr. J. Celeste Walley-Jean
Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Inclusive Engagement

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES
Dr. Jacob Chacko, Dean, College of Business
Dr. Ebrahim Khosravi, Dean, College of Information and Mathematical Sciences
Dr. Nasser Momayezi, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

CONFERRING OF THE DEGREE
Kerry L. Heyward, Interim President

INDUCTION OF GRADUATES INTO THE NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
FRIDAY: Joseph Echols ’06 ’11, Alumni Association President-Elect
SATURDAY: Dr. Lisa Conley ’02, Alumni Association President

†RECESSIONAL
“Grand March From Aida” — Giuseppe Verdi

†All those who are able, please stand. Please remain standing until the procession has withdrawn.
Please set all mobile devices to silent mode.
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

MAJOR OF ARTS

LIBERAL STUDIES
Laketisha Lachelle Anderson
Kimberly Brown-Meadows
Brandy Franks
Meagan Standridge
Clark Thompson Thornton

MASTERS OF ARTS IN TEACHING
Daniel Austin Turner

MASTERS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Wayne Alphonso
Herman Andrews
Jalisa M. Ayewa
Patryk David Bielecki
Frederick DeShun Brown
Travis C. Cherry
Chiquita Green
Tasha Harris
Marcus T. Hodge
Jacqueline R. Hubbard
Kennedy Rae Jones
Yasmin Julio
Uteuna Luke
Caleb Martin Lee Millican
Jimmy Dontrell Montgomery
Brittany L. Odom
Joshua Robert Riggsby
Jhakeva A. Smith
Satonya So'mone Tolbert
Aimee Deshaun Veal
Tajma Monet Washington
Jacquita Genae Wyatt
Charity J. Zackery

MASTERS OF SCIENCE

CLINICAL/COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY
Taylor Symone Avery
Cierra Nicole Chaney
Brittany D. Davis
Ashlee Latoya Dennis
Cassia R. Encinia
Holly Noelle Fitch
Arreal Markala Harris
Brian Bronson Haughton
Kourtney Tere’ Hunt-Hogan
Tyniah James
Sara Rachelle Maurakis
Kyle Mosley
Kiara Parker
Jasmine Celeste Price
Loriel I. Reynolds
Taylor Alexandria Shelton
Robert Earl Smith
Natarsha Shawntell Williams

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT
Zoe Blair
Jessica Marie Bonds
G Mechelle Davis
Ketlaine Desca
Shennay Cherriise Fowler
Iasha Ann Hoque
Aessynce Yalena Caliana Hunter
Danielle Ivey
Vicki Lachel Johnson
Lakeshia Riley
Betty Nicole Taylor
Kaila Marie Treadwell

HOMELAND SECURITY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
Toni D. Harris

TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT
Elvin D. Harris
James John Jackson

BACHELOR OF ARTS

COMMUNICATION & MEDIA STUDIES
Nakayla Yolon Appleby
Tamia Nicole Burns
Linet Chege
Imani Cunningham
DeAndre Rashon Fordham
Daviyeh Tre’ Von High
Adrianna Marie Mason
Courtney Pack
Deiveonne Tekhia-Niki Quimbley
Taylor Shelby Williams

ENGLISH
Kareema Onaopepo Alabi
Ashley Dawn Hawkins
Amanda Lou Johnson
Andrew Manison
Malika McKinney
Raven Renee Ward
Umeaka Anesia Ward
Rebecca White

FILM PRODUCTION
Jerry Wayne Battle III
Michelle Carter
Amber Cutler
Corey Ramone Davis
Gabriel Ammon Dodson
Tatiana Tranique Gardner
Kassidy Leigh Goodwin
Hannah Christiana Haigler
Jacob Alexander Hanes
Monique Henson
Eric M. Kinard
Joseph Mitchell Landry
Jalen Benny Lee
Amara Padilla
Jeremiah Christopher Percival
Jazmine Nicole Risher
Vvy Thay
Jaylen Wright

HISTORY
Christopher Mathew Caldwell
Matthew Austin Dobson
Lauren Ferrell
Agynia Jasmine Foy
Emily Grace Friel
Jeremy Lintville
Steven Andrew Matias
Justine Pulte
Jesse E. Rubio
Chloe Mac Garringer Russell
Doyle Alexander Speak
Michaela White

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Charisse Yvette Brown
Teri Byrom
Anaya D. Conley
Matthew David Estrada
Sandra Henley
Joy A. Jackson
Vanitinine Jansene Johnson
Victoria CaMille Kimes
Lauren Faith Swint
Xavier Womack

MUSIC
Cyndrea Lexis Lewis

SPANISH
Cyndia A. Ruiz

THEATRE
Je’cori Lee Neal
Jessica Monay Williams

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGY
Sheonnie Adams
Ranial Waleed Al Juboori
Chrishaun Deandrea Alexander
Aissatou Bab
Solomon Langford Battle
Elizabeth L. Biggs
Lakeisha Vonsbey Billingsley
Chamar Brissett
Desiree Michelle Brooks
Kendell Hannah Garder
Hannah Renee Carr
Jayla L. Coley
Amina Hajdarevic
Vontarius Altorean Howard
Bradley Isaac
Crystal Elaine Johnson
Joseph Paul Levine
Trinity Elizabeth Lowe

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Emily L. Cudzilo
Kierra Monique Dotson
Georgia Vivienne Douglas
Quannecia Duffy
Dylan Alexander Eckert
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Crystal Elyse Hall
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Zaab Para
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MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
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Kafayat Bola Olajida Akande
Abdulaziz Alajlan
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Muftau Abidemi Bello
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Shaqula LaVonda Brown
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Asianna Breshae’ Willis
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Djaware Namorou
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Daja Ayan Nicholson
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Marlon P. Robinson
Sonja D. Robinson
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Sydney Smith
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Kortney Alexandra Williams
Trinity Tranise Williams
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Elwaad Mohamed Yassin
Lisa M. Selfe

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Robretta Brownlee
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Alona Morgan Dunn
Badawosso Essisiovo
Cantrell Dazaray Foster
Bushauna Ashley Freeman
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Ariel Nicole Green
Chanterria Lashay Harmon
Christina Elese Hayes
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Janiya Ny’asia Johnson
Mikeya Somieya Jones
Genesis Olivia Lewis
Briana Tanisha Lockhart
Areli Milka Macias*
Alexis Eliana Mouchabec
Van T. Nguyen
Ikenna C. Okonkwo
Tanesha Kimona Pearson Norfleet
Thu A. Trinh
Eraina Elise Williams

COLLEGE OF
INFORMATION &
MATHEMATICAL
SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARCHIVAL
STUDIES
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Sommer Lee Stockton

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Yaovi Amegandjin
Christian A. Avila
Bernardin Carzo
Bill T. Danh
Nonye P. Ebebguna
Aquila Ja’maria Giford
Xavier C. Hawkins
Omar Hayles
Tobias Hollins
Cammie M. Hubbard
Jessica Ashley Johnson
Henry Jacob Kearse

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IN
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Mustapha Contehe
Henrietta Darden
Jasmine N. Groves
Amanda Kay Maples

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Tanner James Cox
Adetomiwa Daniel Gbogboade
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HONORABLE T. DALLAS SMITH  
REGENT, UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

Dallas is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer at T. Dallas Smith & Company. Dallas is an innovator and thought leader in the commercial real estate community and is intentional about cultivating and developing diverse talent to help shape the commercial real estate industry.

Dallas began his commercial real estate career in 1982 at Atlanta Air Center Realty under the guidance of Thomas W. Tift, Jr. In 1989, he became the first African American broker at Cushman & Wakefield of Georgia. His affiliation with the company opened doors for many minority brokers. In 1995, he pioneered the brokerage division for H.J. Russell & Company, an African American-owned construction and management firm. In 2006, with the blessing of the late Herman J. Russell, Dallas opened T. Dallas Smith & Company, specializing in tenant representation. T. Dallas Smith & Company has led projects across the country with metrics exceeding eight million square feet of tenant and buyer representation in office and industrial space, and more than five thousand acres of land acquisitions. Since its inception, the team has grown exponentially, and with their combined experiences have successfully led transactions totaling over $16 billion in aggregate value.

Dallas has received many recognitions and awards, including: 100 Most Influential Georgians for 2022 & 2021; 2022 Georgia 500, Georgia Trend Magazine; 2022 & 2021 Atlanta 500, Atlanta Magazine; Atlanta Business Chronicle – Most Admired CEO Award (2021 & 2017); and the Atlanta Business League 2021 Entrepreneur of the Year award.

Dallas was appointed Regent of the University System of Georgia by Governor Kemp in 2020 as an at-large member. He is a former member and chair of the Georgia Department of Economic Development Board of Directors. He holds a degree in Business Administration for Georgia State University.

ERICK W. MCREYNOLDS  
VICE PRESIDENT – DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION - CHICK-FIL-A, INC.

Erick W. McReynolds is a Vice President with Chick-fil-A, Inc., leading Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I). His charge is to partner with all stakeholder groups to develop a comprehensive, enterprise-wide strategy to build individual and organizational DE&I capabilities.

In his 15-years at Chick-fil-A, Erick has served as Team Director, Business Consultant, and the Executive Director-Field Operations, Midwest Region for Chick-fil-A. His responsibilities included creating a healthy team culture, developing and leading Team Directors and Business Consultants, accountability for the Operator relationship with CFA, Inc. including franchisee selections, and leading cross-functionally to ensure calibration and alignment with key functional leaders.

Prior to joining Chick-fil-A, Erick was a Senior Business Analyst with Sprint, Inc. in Overland Park, Kansas and a Regional Sales Executive with International Paper Company in Memphis, Tennessee and was later relocated to Kansas City.

Erick earned a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from Florida A & M University’s School of Business and Industry (SBI) and was actively involved in multiple SBI companies, the Boys and Girls Club of Tallahassee, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

A native of Kansas City, Kansas, Erick currently resides in Smyrna, GA. He is in the Leadership Georgia class of 2022, on the Clayton State University Foundation Board of Trustees, enjoys serving at church, exercising, great restaurants and travel.
HELEN MCSWAIN
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND NATIONAL TRANSIT DIRECTOR,
ROHADFOX CONSTRUCTION CONTROL SERVICES CORPORATION

Helen Tift McSwain is Senior Vice President and National Transit Director at Rohadfox Construction Control Services Corporation. In her role, McSwain directs the national strategy and transit operations for the 43-year-old minority and woman-owned construction management and design firm.

McSwain’s thirty-year career spans across public and private business sectors. Prior to joining Rohadfox, McSwain served as vice president and regional director at Atkins North America. Her public sector experience includes various leadership roles at the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority in Atlanta, Georgia and METRA Commuter Railroad Chicago, Illinois.

McSwain’s commitment to mentoring and community service for the empowerment of women and girls, STEM education, and career preparedness has led to various roles. She has lead programs for the Women Transportation Seminar (Washington, DC); American Public Transit Association (APTA) Emerging Leaders; Georgia Supplier Diversity Corporate Mentor Protégé Program; FIRST Robotics; Dr. Lonnie Johnson STEM Activity Center; and Atkins Global STEM Outreach. McSwain is a recipient of the ATKINS Global Achievement Award for her efforts promoting STEM career awareness for girls in underserved communities.

McSwain’s civic leadership engagement includes the Board of Trustees for Clayton State University; Women’s Transportation Seminar International Board of Directors; COMTO Atlanta Board of Advisors; and WTS Atlanta Board of Advisors. She has served on the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce Board, Clayton Economic Development Board; Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) National Corporate Committee Chair and International Chair. She is an alumna of Leadership Atlanta and the American Public Transportation Association Leadership Programs. Her recent awards and recognitions include the 2020 ACEC 100 Influential Women in Georgia Engineering; 2020 WTS Atlanta Top Women in the Know; and 2020 COMTO National Women Who Move the Nation.

McSwain is a graduate of Clark Atlanta University where she completed her undergraduate and graduate studies. McSwain and her family reside in Henry County, Georgia.
FREDERICK D. BROWN
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Frederick chose the Public Administration degree to prepare for a career in public service. His choice aligned his education with his passion so that he may serve others in the most professional and ethical manner possible.

A native of Pelham, Georgia, Frederick received a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Albany State University. While studying psychology, he served as President and Vice President of the Psychology Club and Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology. Currently, he is employed as a Court Support Manager for the Fulton County Office of the Solicitor General and is a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

TRAM NGUYEN
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Tram Nguyen has earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry with a concentration in biochemistry. A graduate of Ben Tre High School (Vietnam), Tram was awarded the CRC Freshman Chemistry Award in the Fall of 2020 and the 2021 National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers Chemistry and Physical Chemistry Undergraduate Poster Presentation Award. She has co-authored a research article: “Influence of the heating rate on the thermodegradation during the mild pyrolysis of the wood” published in Wood Material Science & Engineering magazine in February, 2022 and made a poster presentation at the SERMACS conference in October this year. Tram has served as a tutor, interned at Georgia Southern in a National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduate program and in the Human BioMolecular Atlas Program at Harvard University. In the spring of 2022, Tram was a student researcher for Transatlantic Research Partnership program at Université de Lorraine (France).

Tram plans to continue her chemistry studies in graduate school with a focus on sustainable energy and green chemistry.

TANNER COX
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

A graduate of Henry County High School, Tanner plans to pursue a job in the Atlanta area as a software engineer.

Tanner has provided service to his peers as a tutor in math and computer science. In addition, he is a MailChimp Launchpad Program Graduate. Tanner plans to return to Clayton State to pursue his masters and possible study at AIM University for a career in music.

RUTH PARK
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Ruth is graduating with a degree in Integrative Studies majoring in Social Science/Leadership. She graduated from Norcross High School and works at Northside Hospital within a physician practice with plans to advance within the organization. In addition to holding dual duties as a registered medical assistant and account support specialist, Ruth cares for her parents and is the mother of a three year old toddler.

Ruth’s passion for life and desire to grow as an individual drives her desire for lifelong education. Future plans include the pursuit of a Masters in Strategic Leadership at Clayton State and a certification in Human Resources. She wants to build leadership skills and pursue a doctorate in management/leadership so that she may conduct research in the field.
ADDITIONAL COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

MARSHALS

Faculty Marshal
Dr. Catherine Deering

Deputy Faculty Marshal
Dr. Kevin Demmitt

Student Marshal
Jeff Jacobs

READERS

December 9th
Dr. Joe Johnson

December 10th
Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller

ANNOUNCER
Dr. Royal Baxter

MUSICIANS

December 9th
Dr. Michiko Otaki, DMA keyboard
Kayla Hart, vocalist

December 10th
Clayton State University Orchestra
Kevin Holly, vocalist

USHERS
Clayton State University
Department of Campus Life
provided volunteers
ACADEMIC REGALIA

The custom of wearing a distinctive dress for academic ceremonies dates to the Middle Ages when people dressed in keeping with their class. The literate class, the clergy, wore the early academic costume; a heavy, dark gown seems to have been worn at all times. Hoods and caps were necessary during European winters because buildings where scholars lived, studied, and taught, were cold. The faculties of American universities wear distinguishing costumes, a tradition which began with Harvard in 1636. Typically, associate degree candidates wear gray gowns nearly to the knee; and baccalaureate degree candidates wear black gowns. The master’s gown has long closed sleeves with a slit for the arm. The doctor’s gown is faced with a broad strip of velvet and has three horizontal velvet bars on each sleeve.

The hood shows the greatest degree of symbolism. The master’s hood is three and one-half feet long and faced with a three-inch strip of velvet; the doctor’s hood is four feet long and faced with a five-inch strip of velvet. The color of the velvet strip on the hood indicates the field of study in which the degree was earned or granted: Science, Yellow; Arts, White; Music, Pink; Business, Drab; Nursing, Apricot; and Philosophy, Blue. Each hood is lined in silk with the colors of the institution that granted the degree.

The appropriate cap for all degrees is the familiar “mortarboard.” A black tassel, or one of the colors signifying the field or specialization, hanging to the left of the face is appropriate for all degrees. Those holding a doctorate degree may wear a soft velvet cap or the mortarboard with a gold thread tassel.

Honors—the gold honor cord identifies graduates who have completed their degree requirements with a grade point average of at least 3.5. Actual honor status is noted on the diploma and on the official permanent record. The Clayton State Office of the Registrar maintains the official list. Honor designations are contingent upon final grades.

Candidates for graduation will be awarded degrees subject to satisfactory completion of all academic requirements. Because the names must be provided to the printer several days prior to commencement, the status of some candidates listed may have changed since that time. Some candidates may not have completed all degree requirements. The listing of a name in this program does not commit Clayton State University to award a degree. An asterisk (*) denotes members of the Clayton State Honors Program.
ABOUT CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

• In 1965, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia agreed to create three new junior colleges including one to serve south metropolitan Atlanta. The local community raised $4.9 million to go along with $3.3 million from the University System of Georgia and began construction of a campus on a farm with a few lakes and a healthy stand of trees.

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• The university has changed substantially since 1969. The pace of change in the economy requires the university to continue to grow and adapt as it empowers students to seek success. Through outstanding programs, dynamic experiences, appropriate support, and an environment that reflects 21st century business and industry, Clayton State University provides students the opportunity and our region the workforce needed to complete and succeed globally. For example, in 2019, the School of Education was formed to meet the growing need for teachers in our public schools. In spring 2020, the College of Business launched a Master of Science in Supply Chain Analytics and a Master of Strategic Leadership Development program. Coming fall 2022, the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences will launch a Master of Science in Cyber Technology to address the need for cyber security skills and talent development in the south metro Atlanta region.

PRESIDENTS

Dr. Harry S. Downs, Founding President 1969 – 1994
Dr. Richard A. Skinner 1994 – 1999
Michael F. Vollmer, Interim President 1999 – 2000
Dr. Thomas K. Harden 2000 – 2009
Dr. Thomas J. Hynes, Jr. 2009 – 2021
Dr. T. Ramon Stuart 2021 – 2022
Kerry L. Heyward, Interim President 2022 –