CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY Morrow, Georgia



CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY SPRING 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 Rachel Gaines, Master of Strategic Leadership Development

UNDERGRADUATE ADDRESS Afzal Yacoob, Bachelor of Science

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS FRIDAY: Laura Cansicio, Vice President, Partnerships and

Development for Community Organized Relief Effort

SATURDAY 9 A.M.: Rose Scott, Executive Producer and Host,

90.1–FM — WABE

SATURDAY NOON: Andrea Rivera, Founder, H3 Media

PRESENTATION OF DEANS Dr. Jill Lane

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR Dr. J. Celeste Walley-Jean

GRADUATE DEGREES Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Inclusive Engagement

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR Dr. Jacob Chacko, Dean, College of Business

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES Dr. William Michael Scott, Interim Dean, College of Health

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 FRIDAY: Joseph Echols '06 '11, Alumni Board Member

NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 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 Please remain standing until the procession has withdrawn.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.

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS

LIBERAL STUDIES

Kelli Brown Kimberly Brown-Meadows Clark Thompson Thornton

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Kendrick Jacob Andrews
Kimesha Lashay Brooks
Christopher Chow
Shandie Tomea Everett
Elizabeth Gross
Brittany Denise Marks
Brian Lamont McNeil
Mathew Murray
Toyin Gabriel Olaye
Janira Ricketts
Kevin Javier Romero
Yiorweh Juwehta Russell
Ashley Martin Truitt
Ronni Leah Washney
Anthony Willing

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Ayana Mbeke Bernice Bethea Quinteiara Codesha Coachman Mary Frances Howard Kennedy Rae Jones Christina Burden Marlin Bilquis K. Martin Earnest W. Rainer III

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

Brittany Tyray Allen
Rawle Blair
Corrine Lashaie Carter
Pamela Roque Castro
Sykot Das
Ketlaine Desca
Margaret Nelson Evans
Quanisha Shenell Fuller
Michael A. Greene
Shawn Patrick Henderson
Sedrie Bernard Henley
Danielle Ivey
Askari Douglas Lyons
Jerrica Morales
Alyi Marie O'Neal

Kayla S. O'Quinn

Yvonette A. Pearson Tewanna Nashay Rolling Angela Sheron Russell Morgan Thacker

HOMELAND SECURITY/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Samuel Stephens

TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

Di'keya Unshunray Carr Todd Clack Victor B. Freeney Geoffrey Mckenzie

BACHELOR OF ARTS

COMMUNICATION & MEDIA STUDIES

Ananda Armstrong
Jamiea Lashawn Arnold
Linh Bui
Rajine Anyse Fields
Oscar Lee Harris
Falana M. James
Brittanie L. Larkins
Chantal Larson
Jasmine A. Rainer
Kierra Sinkfield
Trevon J. Walker
Joshua T. Webb

ENGLISH

Kareema Onaopepo Alabi Peaches M. Andrews Antonio L. Burch Tracee Dixon Maci M. Marxsen Kennedie Demetria Miley Torielle D. Roberson Adrienne Michelle Vinson Umeka Aneesia Ward Michael Craig Watts

FILM PRODUCTION

Natalie Elizabeth Barbara
Gabriel Ammon Dodson
Carlos V. Douze
Anthony S. Dukes
Byron Flashey
Tatiyana Tranique Gardner
Mason J. Gillard
Dennis Jerome Gould
Gregory David Gowers
Verlenzo Nehemiah Hawk
Chassidy Shauntel Levell
Danielle C. Lockhart
Gabriela N. Lopez
Paul Powell
Celeste Smith

Ngan T. Truong Quentez Demarco Tyrus Ronald Tyrone Walker Everett Paul Whallon

HISTORY

Lauren Ferrell Shania Alexia Flowers Czariah Grier Jeremy Linville Pamela Lynette Reed

HISTORY WITH TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Anaya D. Conley

LIBERAL STUDIES

Charisse Yvette Brown Shacoria Ne'cole Elliott Sahra Mohmud Elmi Precious Horsey Jada Nicole Jackson Marlaina Jean-Baptiste Jasmyne Lanet McGaughy Larrel F. Simpson Nailah Aisha Thomas Brilliant D. Williams

MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION

Yakayia Angelic Cousin Chase O. Dunbar Arienna D. Floyd Halie Marie Snodgrass Emily Christine White

MUSIC

Akosua Achiah Adwini-Poku Shayla L. Hutchinson

THEATRE

Quiahna Ambrose Margaret Emily Harrington Celeste Amari Walker

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGY

Idowu S. AjAyi
Aissatou Bah
Lakeisha Vonshay Billingsley
Chamar Brissett
Kadedra Alexis Davis
Anthony Lee Dawson
Nekyla L. Hill Hines
Vontarius Altorean Howard
Crystal Elaine Johnson
Raniah Waleed Al Juboori
Long H. Lam
Sierra Rae Manesh

^{*} DENOTES MEMBERS OF THE CLAYTON STATE HONORS PROGRAM

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Kevin Matthew Menendez* Devonte Carlisle Middlebrooks

Alexandria Miles Amanda Patrice Miller Christine Nicole Mobley

Khai Q. Ngo Nana Nguyen Aisha D. Nobles Kayla Yvette Pendleton Luz K. Pulido

Khadijah K. Ross Jocia Stewart

Timia Da'Shawn Thompson Michael Antonio Tigner Antoinette D. Truss Markisha Whitfield Marlan Peyton Williams

CHEMISTRY

Anthony A. Gideon Linae T. Landry Rohandip Singh Sekhon Arya Shahbazi-Asl Afzal Yacoob*

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Kiara S. Bains Alecia Dixon

Schumeter Dianndrea Driscol

Raven Samone Dumas Jamaya Emory Erica R. Greeson Amiracle R. Henry

Tiara Monae Jackson Cindy A. Lee

Thanh Phuong Thi Nguyen Thomas Romell Robertson Chakell Jone'se Taylor

Shakeidra Mickeon Tucker-Montgomery

Derrick A. Ward
Anthony Washington, Sr.
Chelsei Nicole White
Chanice Evonne Williams

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Alanna Michelle Conyers Macie Jordan Harrell Dakayla Janae Haywood Raven Johnson Page Marie Munn Betty Saylor

INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

Sakeena Ali Alisa Diane Anderson Jermaine Rashawn Brown Melody Collins Alana Corein Douglas Sheana Michelle Drake
Octavious W. Foster
Elan Sarai Johnson
Nyisha J. Jones
Tamika R. Knight
Jeanette Leeks
Noel Clarice Maynor
Raven Symone McQueen
Geormanni C. Moran

Oraphan Charmaine Nwabuike

Isa Tien An Pham

Johnathon Kavon Prescott

Katrina J. Salley

Quanashia Mon'a Smith Laronda Contessa Stargell Latonya Ann Stocks

Nicole Valcin Kyle J. Williams

Mary Shanetra Williams

LEGAL STUDIES

Tyran Denise Asadi Ivan Bolanos Tesha R. Burton Antarica Oriana Fuller Adrienne Hacker

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Laquanna Applelonia Garraway Monique Latric Miles Kiara S. Riley

PSYCHOLOGY & HUMAN SERVICES

Justin Wayne Angebrandt Daphone Lashun Banks Tahja Z. Barnes Kiara Bell Destiny J. Berry Anitrea N. Cager Alton Lamar Chaney Tameya Corbett* Tameka Dacosta

Diamond A. Demeritte Kierra Monique Dotson

Azalea Destiny Douglas Deana N. Drains

Jakema D. George Myah Janae Gomez Angela Nicole Hart Maxherline Hilaire

Andrew J. Honeycutt Mikaiya Z. Hoosier Kristin Elan Jackson Tennille Jacobs

Kiana James Jeannell S. Johnson Taliah Rashaun Jones

La Tonya Aniata Julien

Clarenda S. Kelly London Alexis Lee Kishma N. Liburd Neici Lunchana Marshall Aniyah M. Martin Ashley Lyn Martin Chloe V. Melson Diane Marie Mitchell Tamasha Murphy Destiny Celisa Nesbitt David Nguyen Jasmine Chioma Ohaya Suzanna Elizabeth Orr Monique Charnell Patrick Winifred Laure Paul Dashae C. Reeves Ashley Brianna Reynolds Nia Novena Robertson Tyra Robinson Shakira Donna Sandiford Andrasa Leann Scott Shamiya Searcy Berivan S. Sheikha **Evette Gabriel Sims** Solf Slice Candace Smart Brooklynn Smith Celeste Shantell Smith Alexis Smith-Jones Shameika J. Spinks Korpo Teah Precious Marie Turner Santreia D. Turner Jada Iyanni Williams

Dameria Monet Keith

SOCIOLOGY

Kenya N. Wilson

Abigail Alavez Samone La'kendra Bell Ladarius R. Cox Shandria Mignon Hamler Jamya Tieise Hanks Cantrell D. Jones Ny-Kendra L. Mattox Dezha M. Stockton

Savannahraye Evelynn Williams

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

Kai'john Emmanuel Benton Jerry D. Branch Lorenzo Travolis Farrie Shannelle Chastity Harris Niyah Jamecia Payne Tiffany Pham

^{*} DENOTES MEMBERS OF THE CLAYTON STATE HONORS PROGRAM

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN FILM PRODUCTION

Lavada C. Broomfield Brianna Jovona Butler Ladasia J. Smith Prince Tyrique Thomas

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

Demetrea Brown
Lizbeth Coronado-Aguilar
Cassie A. Crawford
Leonor C. Garcia
Briana Maria Green
John James Knapp
Michael Dexter Lokou
Cendy Nguyen
Alex Caleb Phillips
Valencia Reno Rawls
Jasmine S. Robbins-Simmons
Ayleen Tello
Stephanie D. Watkins

PARALEGAL STUDIES

Jaylon Alexander Brady Donna Yvonne Burnett Jacqueline Harris Cochran Jala Alexa Hitchens Joni Nichelle Lawson Stardasha Nelie Rouzeau

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Brevahnee Keon Adams Dyamie Sharee Baker Zakiyah S. Ballard Kathleen R. Bennett Alexis Bowden Tatiana Nicole Bradley Carleen Katrina Burris Bria Carroll Michele Shunta Daniel Ashley Davis Jeannie Michelle Detar Phylisha Latrice Forrest Latashia Meon Gay Samantha Lee Gibbs Jhade Rose Hayes Marquise Divaris Heard Debra Natalie Johnson Jeffrey Johnson Zakkiyya Johnson

Baribeeba L. Jumbo Lashika Rekee Lockett **Edward Levert Lott** Amber Lynette McKinney Bianki Adwo Mensah Jessica J. Miller Kendra Xenia Mobley Kartik Natesan Trisha Monique Nugent Courtnie D. Palmer Korrie Ayisha Payne Katherine Elizabeth Argote Pizango Destin Michael Prejean Portia Reeves Ebony Makala Ridley Channing Denise Robinson Joshua Rodgers Keyerika Monique Ross Lakisha Lashawn Sanders Marquez Denard Shorts Vanae Solomon Caroline M. Southern Jasmin Renee Springer Montinize Steward Amanda Ruth Stinson Mary Tinsley Kaylene Olivia Turner Shakelia Shalotta Waller Shelly Wilson Courtney Teanna Wyche

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Robert Anicet Belinga Yene

SUPPLY CHAIN ANALYTICS

Jemilla Brianna Flanagan Lawrence Steven Matthews II Antoinise R. Paden Musallam Qasem Treasure LaVonshae Sharpe

MASTER OF STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Devin Blackwell
Mesha Brown
Jerald Butler
Michael Byrd
Jerry Dillard
Ruth Ebenezer-Cook
April Redmond Echols
Twanda Sherneice Evans
Rachel Yvonne Gaines
Theresa Sharlene Gregory
Myralee Hill
Sarah Alyzabeth Moore
Cedric Norris
Gabriela Ortiz
Vanessa C. Shelton

Abigail Marsha Jackman Simmons Kearia Tantrice Smith Kenneth J. Stallings Nhut Duy Tran Tynesha Yvette Williams

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

ACCOUNTING

Harshani B. Athapattu Langston A. Blackstock Anthony Trayon Bryant Jonathan Daniel Jones Clara M. Lawton Karina G. Maldonado Mariana Montoya-Reyna Anna Le Nguyen Linh Ngoc Khanh Nguyen Dulce Abigail Fierros Quinones Jamika Janae Rainer Shrinidhi MohanRaj Ranganayaki Brandee Bertram Raybon Keambria S. Riggins Shunneise Tarver Rosalind Renee White

GENERAL BUSINESS

Will C. Alexis Courtland Alexander Avery Chelsey Lynn Bishop Maya S. Collins Charcia Ayana Culpatrick Timeesha W. Davis Shanell Duchesne Danette Gail Eatherton Martens Ernest Jessica Brielle Gray Genesis Anita Guerrier Katerine J. Hernandez Machaela M. McGinnis Merwin Mien Zachary Elijah Mills Marina New-Weems Angel Lashawn Nguyen Jashiem Lamar Porter Elizabeth Denise Powell Angeline Tutu Pratt Marcus Antwan Tate Santoria Texidor Adam N. Tran

MANAGEMENT

Justin M. Andrews Charmian D. Banks Tiondra L. Bryant Robin Johnston Campbell Cree S. Cornelius Jabari Amal Dean

^{*} DENOTES MEMBERS OF THE CLAYTON STATE HONORS PROGRAM

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Matthew Tanner DeLisle Marie Renée Devillers Quyen Kim Duong Rodney Dewayne Golden Javier Gonzalez Jannise Malissa Gray Jasmine Michaela Grinter Pia Haug Blake Cameron Heath Justin Roques Heath Jakieria Jamison Justin Deshawn Johnson Rinakia Jones Brianna Elizabeth Keith Nyomi Charmayne Knighton Kimberly Nicole Knox Jada Alexis François Lubin Eric Mahoney Candace Mcclain Latoshia N. Meadows Denise C. Nembhard Yolanda T. Polk Ella C. Regis Akimbee T. Robinson* **Emely Santos** Will Scott India R. Simmons Lucy Summeygreer Johnson T. Tran

MARKETING

Michelle Turnbow

Brittany Serita Williams

Jaliyah Iyandria Winstead

Camry Janai Buford Sydnee Esperanza Dishion Dylan Francis Duff Richard Nape Sydney E. Nelson Bryonia Rich Brandon De'andre Roberson Jacob Sanders Keiarea Deshon Thompson

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Collins Kofi Aboagye
Atta Kouadio Stephane Anzoua
Larry G. Gantt
Kristen Briana Haney
Taitzion J. Johnson-Williams
Ivan Daniel Maldonado
Cam'ryn Ray'nae McBride
Brandon Deanard Prosser
Andrew Jay Quintero
Jacquetta L. Sanyet
Joshua Caleb Smith
Keith R. Staley
Antorio Javier Wells

COLLEGE OF HEALTH

MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Tazaria Rhyazia Anderson
Beverly Bassey
Stephanie Cesar
Shukriyyah Malikah Ferguson
Fawziah Mansour Hakami
Dominique LaFaye Hodges
Courtney Yasmeene Britton Jackson
Janae A. Jackson
Craigea Ray
Justice C. Reeves
Kevin Rodriguez
Nicole D. Salary
Jada Iman Thomas

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Maggie Aline Dotson Jennifer Marie Pate LaPorsha Rivers Renita Amie Walls Anya Marie Wiedenbeck

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

HEALTH & FITNESS MANAGEMENT

Asia Lynette Bacon Trajan A. Bell Morticia Bobbietto Davenport Churchill C. Ezeokonkwo Deja Shaniya Franklin Janei E. Ivey Kenya S. James Shasanay S. Mims Samuel Negron Isabel Cristina Massa Pulido Timia Swanson Ari Jamal Zorns

HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Ryan K. Billingslea
Wanquita U. Blackwell
Ana Gabriela Ceja
Shahayla Q. Colson
Saada Uwimana Conn
Stacey Vantagon Cook
Michelle Briana Crawford
Courtni A. Culbertson
Bria J. Davis
Sierra-avery Elizabeth Drummond
Skylur Gaines
Kevia Jade Gray
Edyah A. Griffin
Mary Elaine Groover
Sabria Harrell

Caylin Jordan
Chaeriah L. Mathis
Austin Ray Miller
Tyrone Demetrius Moody
Amanda Persad
Chynna Phillips
Afrika Lashea Samuel
Imane E. Thompkins-Beckley
Anthanaysha Kiwani Thompson
Daysha Tillett
Onasokhare Matthew Uhakheme
Malia Verizzani

HEALTH SCIENCES Damilola R. Adedara

Jakohya Bre'asha Alexander Laquia D. Alston Lauren Alexis Barthell Emilee Brooke Belk Brionna S. Best Wanquita U. Blackwell Jazmin Blancas Ja'kira M. Cecil Morgan C. Cooper Alicia Davis Shae K. Depastino Fatim Diaby Akoyia Driver Mamasa Dukuray Malique Anthony Dunn Lindsey Chavone Dunning Sequoia Kathyrn Eldridge Jamiah D. Flagg Zaire Fripp-Lowery Tammar Tameka Green Jecoria D. Gullatt Kyndall Hall Keyonna Chantel Hayes Gabrielle Annetta Hazelwood Destiny H. Henderson Marlenthia Shekia Hendrix Camron Demetric Jones Breyonna Kierra Jordan Caitlyn Madison Jordan Briana S. Kelly Kimberly Diem Luu Cierra Monique Maddox MarQuisa Antonia Maddox Akssana Miguel Jasmine Domingue Miller Kayla Moore Adaoma N. Okwara Kaitlyn P. Parker Taylor Aleena Parnell Livia Minh Nguyet Phan Rayven Iman Pickens-Lewis Jameeka Tanashi Price Karen Romero Norandi Javase Sealey

^{*} DENOTES MEMBERS OF THE CLAYTON STATE HONORS PROGRAM

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Celia A. Serafin Sydney Smith Fatou Emil Sow Jhae Springs Angela Kay Sterling Jovonah Caylan Stewart Viviane Zamuda Sumaili Aubree' Jewel Tarrant A'maria M. Thomas Mykesia Traylor Sydney Wade Hadar Isaiah Warner Sherice Katrell Whitney Shanteria Wilder Kalyssia Monique Williams Kortney Alexsandra Williams

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DENTAL HYGIENE

Morgan Sydney Albritton Cara Irene Bartlett Ariana M. Battiste Jazmyn Iyana Battle-Jennings Tiffany Born Shanikque Brand* Amanda Dorvelus* Gregory Treveyne Elliston Savannah M. Floyd Lizbeth Gomez-Flores Heather Ho Lekecia Renee Howard* Keanu C. Hughes* Andrea Lanuza Anh Kim Le Brianna Myshae Mcleod Bria C. Neal Ellie Nguyen Jason Quang Dinh Nguyen Ludell Owens **Vuthy Syrabouth** Shannon Marie Ulrich Phuong N. Vu Deja Donnee Wallace Phantasia Iyanna Walls Jehrai Reneice Wright

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Joseph S. Adamson Nadia Imari Adkins Ruth Alonge* Ariane Nicole Anderson Adriana Cristina Arce-Villa Timothy Michael Teachout Bausin Erin T. Brown Robretta Brownlee Courtney Patrice Bush

Jennifer Carranza Vannesa Stephanie Carrasco-Navarro Pennapa Saengsrichan Chounlamountry Gariann Alexandria Clayton Ashley Nicole Cloud Jasmine Yvonne Cousin* Tameka Dacosta Ehiose Patience Edigin Nkiruka C. Erinne Soolim Gnossigue Diana Ruby Gonzalez Bridget Nicole Hammons Thuy-linh T. Hoang Chloe Hull Taliyah Q. Jenkins Berly Point Du Jour Ugo U. Kalu Ashley C. Lowry Cynthia Renee Mack Peta-Gaye Mellis Alma Moreno-Valencia Francoise Nduwimana My Q. Nguyen Victoria Nowell Ruemu Victoria Odiete Adeola M. Omowumi Haly N. Page Shanice F. Payne Chloe Ilana Perkins Chantavis D. Prater-Eanes Shadejah Armani Robinson Kimberly Lynn Schultz Philip N. Vital Jessica Leigh Walden Leah Jeanell Watkins Eraina Elise Williams Tiblets Tizazu Wobia

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION & MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

Melat Worede

MASTER OF ARCHIVAL STUDIES

Virginia Lynn Angles Hannah Elizabeth Hanna Sasha Jelan Mendez Elisabeth Hodges Tasciotti

BACHELOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Enoch Y. Boateng Bernadin Carzo Albertine Queen Cavender Ashley Nikia Chance Sebastian Duenas Reginald Elloie Jordan D. Harris Cody James Harry Xavier C. Hawkins Omar Hayles Stanley Sysay Inthysone Jessica Ashley Johnson Henry Jacob Kearse Esteban Enrique Rodriguez Preston Bobby Ross Christopher Tyler Smith Nomayo Vincent-Ekunwe Barbara Anne Williams

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Dario Salazar Alvarado Kenny Scott Butler Tanner James Cox Tedarius Deontae Harris Humberto Marin Michelle Nicole Melton David Jephthe Michel Camille Denise Taylor Marronee Yarsee

MATHEMATICS

Matthew Steven Bennett Mickey H. Chester Kathryn Michaela Reese Tiffany Nashae Richardson Jamaal Odel Scott

MATHEMATICS WITH TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Abigail Rebecca Acosta Logan Paul Friddell Ngan Ngoc Bao Nguyen

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Timothy B. Baker
Sterling William Blackburn
Luckson Richard Dor
Takeshia Chuntell Foster
Mario Ibarra
Rashawn J. Medley
Preston Bobby Ross
Nhat Thong
Dakota A. Vaughn

^{*} DENOTES MEMBERS OF THE CLAYTON STATE HONORS PROGRAM

SPRING 2022 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

LAURA CANSICIO

VICE PRESIDENT

PARTNERSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZED RELIEF EFFORT

Laura Cansicio serves as the vice president of Partnerships and Development for Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE), a fearless, community-centered nonprofit on the frontlines in the battle against the global COVID-19 pandemic. CORE delivers equitable vaccine distribution, testing, contact-tracing, and resource mobilization domestically and abroad. CORE was established over 12 years ago in Haiti, where co-founders Sean Penn and Ann Lee mobilized a powerful network of doctors, emergency workers, and government officials to take immediate action to save lives and rebuild.

Laura spearheads a team responsible for major donor relations, gift-in-kind donations, cause marketing, and proposal development. Her previous experience includes working for a Member of Congress, serving as a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. State Department, and several large international non-governmental organizations. For close to two decades, Laura has worked to inspire and equip government, corporate, and foundation leaders to partner with non-profits leveraging their talent and resources to resolve issues of violence against women and basic needs gaps in the U.S. and abroad.

She is based in Atlanta, committed to serving black, indigenous, and people of color communities, and is passionate about bridging cultural complexities. Laura is originally from San Diego, California, graduated with honors from Mount Saint Mary's University, and holds a Master's in Public Administration from Columbia University. Laura also provides coaching in fundraising and is the founder of Verdant Industries, providing counsel and coaching to catapult women-led, women-centered organizations to the next level of influence, impact, and diverse revenue.

ROSE SCOTT

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AND HOST 90.1 - FM - WABE

Rose Scott is an award-winning journalist and host of the midday news program "Closer Look" heard on Atlanta's NPR, station 90.1 FM – WABE. In her role as executive producer and host, Rose has interviewed foreign heads of state, cabinet members, U.S. ambassadors, numerous consul generals, state and local elected officials as well as civic and social leaders. Closer Look has become a signature broadcast for the community and brings together viewpoints from all sectors of society.

She leads the "Closer Look" team in presenting discussions centered on affordable housing, domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, immigration, and criminal justice reform. With more than two decades of reporting in Atlanta, Rose has covered education, minority health issues, Atlanta historically Black colleges and universities, gender issues, and sports.

Prior to moving into a permanent host role, Rose covered topics dealing with Georgia's death penalty, sex trafficking of minors in Atlanta as well as the country's biggest cheating scandal found in the Atlanta Public Schools. She often moderates panels on these topics.

Well respected in the Atlanta community for her thought-provoking reporting style, Scott has been honored with several awards including a Southeast Regional Emmy Award, an Edward R. Murrow Award, Atlanta Association of Black Journalists Award, and numerous Georgia Association of Broadcaster awards. She has also received awards from the Georgia Associated Press and is a Girls Inc. Strong, Smart & Bold Award Winner.

Rose often speaks to youth groups, mentors journalism students, and volunteers with youth empowerment initiatives.

ANDREA RIVERA

FOUNDER - H3 MEDIA

Recognized in 2021 as one of the 50 Most Influential Latinos in Georgia, Andrea Rivera is a leader in Georgia's rapidly growing Latino community, where she serves on several boards, including as chair-elect of the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. A child of immigrants, Andrea is a first-generation college graduate and business owner who is passionate about creating pathways for underserved communities, working to promote higher education and entrepreneurship in her community. Her work in these areas includes serving as executive director of the Cruz Family Foundation Scholarship Program, as a board member of Hispanic Organizations Promoting Education, and as founder and past chair of EME de Mujer, the flagship organization for Latina entrepreneurs in Georgia.

Professionally, Andrea is the founder of H3 Media, an Emmy awarded advertising agency focused on helping businesses establish and grow their online presence through branding, web design, and digital marketing. With nine years in business and over 25 years in advertising, she is a sought-after expert in her field.

Andrea has lived in Atlanta since 1992 and is the mother of three children.

RACHEL GAINES

MASTER OF STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Rachel Gaines is an active member of several organizations at Clayton State University and in the community. She is president of Clayton State's Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM); secretary for the Student Government Association; treasurer for The National Society of Leadership and Success, and Supply Chain Roundtable; and the Graduate Affairs Committee student representative. In addition, she holds membership in Beta Gamma Sigma and Zeta Phi Beta Graduate chapters. Besides her involvement in student organizations, Gaines works as a teaching assistant under the graduate assistantship program with Dr. Margaret Thompson.

Gaines recently earned her second master's degree from Clayton State. She also holds associate degrees in business management and network communications, a Bachelor of Applied Science in Administrative Management, and a Master of Business Administration with concentrations in human resources leadership and international business. Her dream is to pursue a doctorate in business and to inspire others.

AFZAL YACOOB

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Afzal Yacoob has earned his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, with honors, and minors in biology and forensic science. Throughout his time at Clayton State University, he has juggled personal challenges while working three jobs, volunteering as a peer counselor, serving as president of the Honors Student and American Medical Student Associations, as well as founder of the Gay-Straight Alliance and STEM Cell Science Clubs.

Yacoob is a recipient of the Dean's Advisory Board Award, one of Clayton State's Academic Day Honorees, a Mailchimp and HOPE scholarship recipient, and, most recently, recipient of the James Braun Excellence in Chemistry Award.

ADDITIONAL COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

MARSHALS

Faculty Marshal

Dr. Catherine Deering

Deputy Faculty Marshal

Dr. George Nakos

Student Marshal

Jeff Jacobs

READERS

May 6th

Dr. Joe Johnson

May 7th, 9 a.m.

Dr. Susan McFarlane-Alvarez

May 7th, noon

Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller

MUSICIANS

All ceremonies

Michiko Otaki, DMA keyboard Akosua Adwini-Poku, 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 a 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.

As the first order of business, Clayton Junior College welcomed an inaugural class of 942 students in 1969. During the college's first 25 years, a strong foundation of courses, departments, and divisions along with the buildings to house those programs took shape within the forest. By the 1990's, this jewel of a campus community began to reflect its light beyond the forest, inviting the community and students to learn, to develop new skills, to hear internationally acclaimed musicians, to play intercollegiate sports, and to become an economic engine to the south metropolitan area.

In its 26th year, college enrollment topped 5,000. Clayton State College joined the NCAA Division II and the Peach Belt Conference, was renamed by the Board of Regents as Clayton State College & University and became a leader in the use of technology to deliver education.

The university matured in the 2000's and established a reputation as an institution that expected much of its students and whose faculty and staff worked hard to ensure those students succeeded. The college witnessed continued growth of degree programs, the organization of the university's four academic colleges, and the maturation of intercollegiate athletics as the women's basketball program won regional and national championships. In 2005, the name was changed to Clayton State University and the first graduate degree program was initiated. In 2008, the first resident hall, Laker Hall, opened.

As the university approached its 50th anniversary in 2019, Clayton State University grew to nearly 7,000 students, surpassed its first comprehensive fundraising campaign goal, and made a commitment to the community to be a model for engagement and student success. The university alumni, now 30,000 strong, demonstrate the power of a Clayton State degree, as they work for Fortune 100 companies, serve in legislatures and local governments, support non-profits, and create new businesses.

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.

ABOUT CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY (CONT.)

The deeds of Clayton State University faculty, staff, and students continues to reflect its light into the world as acknowledged by various organizations, including:

- #3 Best Value in Georgia, 2021 James Magazine
- #10 Top Online Programs in Georgia, 2021 James Magazine
- #20 in Top Performers on Social Mobility, U.S. News & World Report, 2021
- Top 133 Best Regional Universities in the South, U.S. News & World Report, 2020
- Top 62 Public Colleges and Universities in the South, U.S. News & World Report, 2020
- Clayton State AmeriCorps members served more then 130,000 hours of community service.

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 –