



COMMENCEMENT 2021

DEC. 17 | FALL 2021
150TH YEAR OF THE UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

10:30 A.M., FRIDAY, DEC. 17

PRELUDE

Virginia Tech Brass Ensemble

Jay Crone

Conductor

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Jillian Donahue

Music Education Bachelor of Arts,
Class of 2022

POSTING OF COLORS

**Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets Color
Guard**

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKERS

Timothy D. Sands

University President

OPENING REFLECTIONS

Christopher Dotter

Male Member-at-Large, Class of 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE
UNDERGRADUATE CLASS PRESIDENT

Danielle Panico

President, Class of 2022

ALMA MATER

Jillian Donahue

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ALUMNI
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Deseria Creighton-Barney

President, Virginia Tech Alumni
Association Board of Directors,
Class of 1986

ACCEPTANCE OF ALUMNI
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Debbie M. Petrine

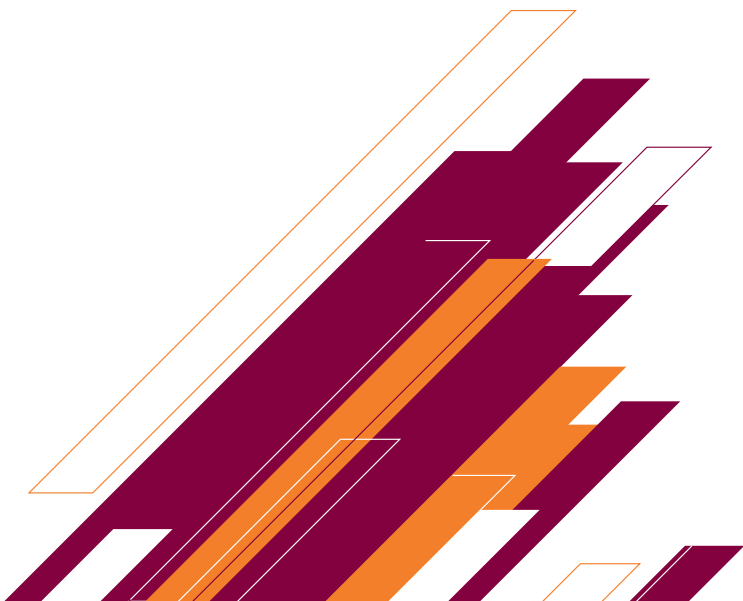
Class of 1978

Lance L. Smith

Class of 1968

INTRODUCTION OF DAN MAGUIRE

Timothy D. Sands



MESSAGE FROM THE KEYNOTE
SPEAKER

Dan Maguire

Thrive Living-Learning Community
Alumni Scholar of Practice, Class of
1994

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE
CANDIDATES

Cyril R. Clarke

Executive Vice President and Provost
and College Deans

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Timothy D. Sands

GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Deseria Creighton-Barney

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Timothy D. Sands

CLOSING REMARKS

Daisy Ng

Secretary, Class of 2022

RECESSIONAL

Brass Ensemble



GRADUATE SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT

2:30 P.M., FRIDAY, DEC. 17

PRELUDE

Virginia Tech Brass Ensemble

Jay Crone

Conductor

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Jillian Donahue

Music Education Bachelor of Arts,
Class of 2022

GREETINGS

Timothy D. Sands

University President

Cyril Clarke

University Provost

GRADUATE ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PRESENTATION AND STUDENT SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS

Aimée Surprenant

Graduate School Dean

MESSAGE FROM GRADUATE SCHOOL
STUDENT SPEAKERS

Sarah Eddin

Ph.D. in Architecture and Design
Research, Class of 2021

Anza Mitchell

Ph.D. in Education, Curriculum and
Instruction, Class of 2021

Bennett Grooms

Ph.D. in Fisheries and Wildlife
Sciences, Class of 2021

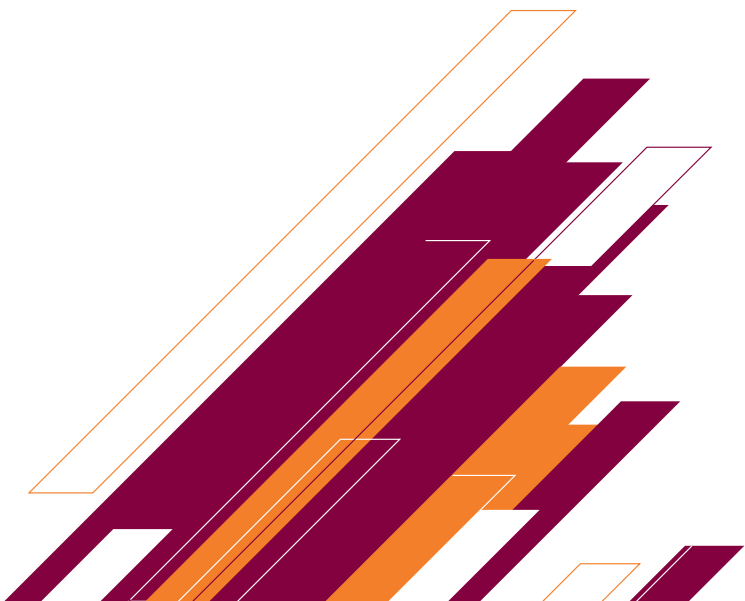
REFLECTIONS

Aimée Surprenant

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND
CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Aimée Surprenant

Timothy D. Sands



MESSAGE FROM FACULTY

Robert Weiss

Faculty Senate President

REMARKS FROM THE ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Deseria Creighton-Barney

President, Virginia Tech Alumni
Association Board of Directors,
Class of 1986

CLOSING REMARKS

Aimée Surprenant

RECESSIONAL

Brass Ensemble



UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

DAN MAGUIRE '94

Dan Maguire is an entrepreneur and chief executive officer. A 1994 graduate of Virginia Tech with a degree in management science, Maguire's career began in the government industry, where he provided information technology and related consulting services to federal agencies.

He went on to receive his MBA at the University of Georgia in 2002. He has since founded multiple technology startup companies, growing and ultimately selling them to strategic buyers. Now "intentionally unemployed," he sold his last venture company in March 2020.

Maguire serves in multiple capacities at Virginia Tech. He is a member of the Division of Student Affairs Alumni Advisory Board and the 2018 recipient of the Student Affairs Alumni Aspire Award.

He also serves as an alumni scholar of practice with the Thrive Living-Learning Community and is a member of the Apex Center for Entrepreneurs Advisory Board.

Maguire lives in Great Falls, Virginia. When not in work mode, he enjoys fishing, mountain biking, and spending time with his family, which includes three children and three dogs.

ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

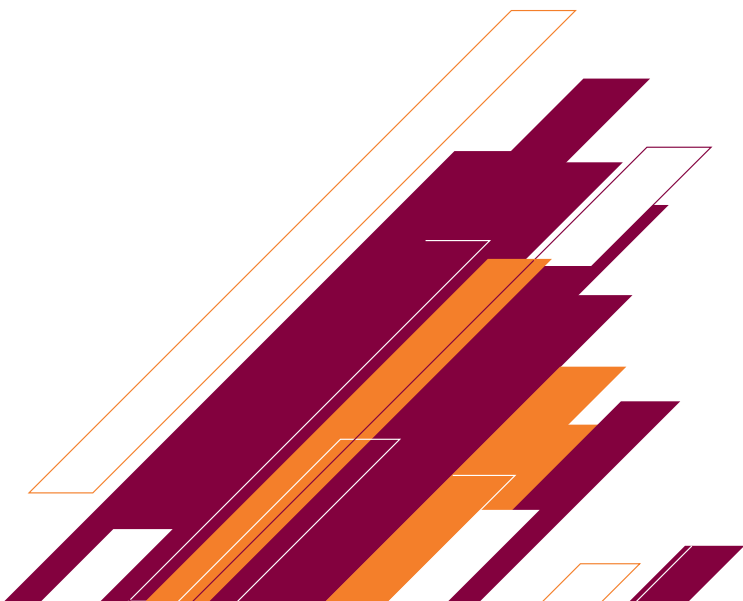
DEBBIE M. PETRINE '78

Debbie Petrine earned her bachelor's in business administration from what is now Pamplin College of Business while working as a receptionist at Heritage Hall Health Care and Rehabilitation Center. She stayed with the company after graduation, eventually becoming president and chief operating officer.

Since then, Petrine has founded and directed a number of health care businesses. She is currently the chair and CEO of CCR Inc., a company she founded in 2001, which operates 12 skilled nursing facilities in Virginia.

She served on the Board of Visitors for eight years and was elected as the board's first female rector in 2014. Petrine has also been a member of the boards of the Virginia Tech Foundation and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and received the Pamplin College Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2011. She is currently on the Pamplin College of Business Advisory Council and is a member of the steering committee for the Virginia Tech Carilion partnership in Roanoke.

Along with her husband, Jim, Petrine is a member of the Ut Prosim Society. The Petrines have two children and one grandchild.





ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

LANCE L. SMITH '68

Lance Smith graduated from what is now Pamplin College of Business with a bachelor's in business administration, and went on to receive a master's degree in the same field from Central Michigan University. He joined the Air Force in 1970 after completing Officer Training School, ultimately earning the rank of general.

Smith spent more than 13 years in command during war and peace and has held a wide variety of military leadership roles.

Smith's military decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal, three Silver Stars, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, three Distinguished Flying Crosses, and the Purple Heart.

Smith retired from the Air Force in 2008. He has served on the Virginia Tech Alumni Association, as well as on the boards of the North Carolina Military Foundation and Rylex Consulting. Along with his wife, Linda, Smith is a member of the university's Pylon Society.

CLASS OF 2021 LOGO AND MOTTO

2021 MOTTO

Durate Salire - Keep Jumping



CLASS OF 2021 OFFICERS

President: **Grant Bommer**

Vice President: **Grace Stevens**

Secretary: **Juliana Lee Jones**

Treasurer: **Rachel Trebour**

Historian: **Emily Calvert**

Cadet Member-At-Large: **Jenna Bender**

Female Member-At-Large: **Tate Horman**

Male Member-At-Large: **Lucas DuMez**

CLASS OF 2021 CLASS RING





THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The following information, digested from “An Academic Costume Code and Ceremony Guide” prepared by the American Council on Education, may prove helpful in identifying the costumes you will see in the Commencement Procession.

When American colleges and universities desired to adopt some suitable system of academic apparel many years ago, a conference held at Columbia University in 1895 made up of representatives from various institutions drew up a “By-Law Regulation, or Statute” for the establishment of a suitable code of academic dress for colleges and universities in the United States. This code, with modifications made in 1959, is still in force; the costumes and colors, trimmings, and patterns you will see are all traditional and interpret both degree and the field of learning. The bachelor’s gown, designed to be worn closed, has pointed sleeves; the master’s gown, which may be worn open or closed, has an oblong sleeve open at the wrist which hangs down in traditional manner. The rear part of its oblong shape is square cut and the front part has the arc cut away. The doctor’s gown has bell-shaped sleeves. It may be worn open or closed. Bachelor’s and master’s gowns are untrimmed. Doctor’s gowns are faced with black velvet with three bars across the sleeves; or the color of velvet may be that which is distinctive of the degree, agreeing with that of the edging of the hood. The colors you will see in the hoods and gowns of our faculty represent the various fields in which the degrees were taken. A few are:

**ACCOUNTANCY, COMMERCE,
BUSINESS:** Drab (Yellow-Brown)
AGRICULTURE: Maize (Pale Yellow)
ARCHITECTURE: Blue-Violet (Purple)
ARTS, LETTERS, HUMANITIES: White
ECONOMICS: Copper
EDUCATION: Light Blue
ENGINEERING: Orange Natural
RESOURCES: Russet (Rust)
PHILOSOPHY: Dark Blue
VETERINARY MEDICINE: Gray
SCIENCE: Bright Gold (Golden Yellow)

The hoods, differing in length for the three degrees (bachelor's, master's, and doctor's), are lined with the official colors of the university or college conferring the degree, usually with one color forming a chevron pattern over the other (for example, orange and maroon for Virginia Tech). Hoods are edged and bound with velvet of the color appropriate for the degree. You will see in our procession many edged with dark blue for doctor of philosophy. Mortarboards are the approved headgear. Tassels are worn on the right side prior to receiving a degree and on the left side after the degree has been conferred. The tassel may be of gold if the holder has a doctor's degree.

Among the bachelor's candidates, honor students are distinguished by special sashes in white.

