

The University of Texas
Health Science Center at San Antonio



*School of
Health Professions*

*Spring 2020
Commencement Program*

*Commencement
Program*

Our Mission

The mission of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio is to make lives better through excellence in education, research, health care and community engagement.

Strategies for achieving this mission are:

- Educating a diverse student body to become excellent health care providers and scientists.
- Engaging in research to understand health and disease.
- Commercializing discoveries, as appropriate, to benefit the public.
- Providing compassionate and culturally proficient health care.
- Engaging our community to improve health.
- Influencing thoughtful advances in health policy.

Our Purpose

The purpose of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio is to provide the best in health careers education, biomedical research, patient care and community service to San Antonio and the South Texas/Border Region. Through undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate programs, the faculty is committed to educating health professionals who will provide excellent patient care and research that can be applied to treat and prevent disease.

School of Health Professions Mission

The mission of the School of Health Professions is to make lives better through excellence in education, research, health care and community engagement. We do this through:

- Educating a diverse student body to become excellent health care providers and scientists.
- Advancing health care through research and scholarship.
- Providing outstanding health care services and health care education for our community.
- Providing leadership for the health professions.

The Order of Exercises *

Processional

The audience is asked to remain seated for the procession.
Additionally, guests are requested to please silence all cell phones for the duration of the ceremony.

Academic Procession

David L. Henzi, Ed.D.
Platform Marshal

Bruce Butterfras, M.S.Ed., LP
Faculty Marshal

Mike Geelhoed, PT, DPT, OCS, MTC
Student Marshal

Presiding

David C. Shelledy, Ph.D., RRT, FAARC, FASAHP
Dean
School of Health Professions
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Greetings

William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP
President
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Commencement Address

Steven L. Wolf, PT, Ph.D., FAPTA
Professor
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine

Remarks on Behalf of the Graduates

Erika Galindo
Speech-Language Pathology

Conferring of Certificates and Degrees

William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP
President
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Presentation of Candidates
Certificate in Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic
Bachelor of Science in Emergency Health Sciences
Lance C. Villers, Ph.D., LP

Presentation of Candidates
Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences
Master of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences
Gerardo Ramos, MS, Ph.D., MT (ASCP), F-ABFT

Presentation of Candidates
Doctor of Physical Therapy
Greg Ernst, PT, Ph.D., ECS

Presentation of Candidates
Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care
Master of Science in Respiratory Care
Richard Wettstein, MMed, RRT, FAARC

Presentation of Candidates
Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology
Fang-Ling Lu, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Recessional

The audience is requested to remain seated until the procession has left the auditorium.

Music by Tromba Music

**Anticipated order of exercises prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

**Bachelor of Science in Emergency Health Sciences
Degrees Conferred December 13, 2019**

David Edward Duffy
Zachary Dunlap
Jeffrey Keefauver
Nicholas James Martin †
Gabriela Oxford
David Samuel Ray
Ryan Allen Reid
Courtney Adel Roberts
Kyle Warren Strickland †
James Mason Wortham

**Certificate in Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic
Certificate Conferred December 13, 2019**

Andrew T. Almanzar
Colton Craig Avey
Brandon M. Barnet
Thomas Blount Jr.
Tanner Friedrich Brown
Andres Jesus Cantu
Jessica Lynn Cardinal
Noah Reed Casias
Chase Alexander Celli
Juliano Daniel De Leon
Joshua A. Dyba
Katherine Taylor Habecker
Benjamin David Hickman
Tiffany Rose Jansky
Daniel Timothy Jordan
Chad Everett Kennemer
Kody Jon Langenberg
Pedro Alexander Lantigua
Sarah Jayne Maldonado
Adam Thomas Marconi
Jeremy Evan Marin
Diana Christina Martinez

† *Alpha Eta Society*

Lauren Michelle Matlock
James E. Matthews
Brandon Guy McDonald
Dennis James Meckel
Jackson Ormand Miller
Fabian Antonio Morales
Justin Christopher Morris
Christopher Ryan Moss
Josef Randall Osborn
David Anthony Ramirez II
Alex Michael Reyna
Rogelio Rubio Jr.
Deandre Salcedo
Benjamin L. Sutton
Michael Anthony Volpe

**Candidates for the
Certificate in Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic
May 8, 2020**

Nicholas Anthony Aldape
Christopher A. Ayala
Asante Sebastian Contreras
Andrew Joseph Creech
Thomas James Donnelly
Luis D. Escalante
William Christopher Fowler IV
Julia McKenzie Graham
Jennifer Ann Harris
Michael Rey Lira Jr.
William Bryce Martin
Elizabeth Kathleen Martinez
Connor D. McEachron
Samuel Medina
Justin Allen Meuth
Giovan A. Perez
Richard Felix Rapstine
Jeremy Albert Sanders
Tommy James Schwengler
Hunter C. Valdez
Joshua Robert Villarreal

**Candidates for the
Bachelor of Science in Emergency Health Sciences
May 8, 2020**

Zachary Jacob Avants
Joseph Daniel Blahnik †
Dustin Cole Conger
Lynette Arden Fairbanks
Ramon Nerio
Justin Kahlil Pike
Samantha McKenzie Williams †
Zachary Joseph Werner
Sarah Louise Windsor

**Candidates for the
Bachelor of Science in Emergency Health Sciences
August 14, 2020**

William Sanford Campbell
Hilton D. George Jr.
John Travis Paul

**Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences
Degree Conferred December 13, 2019**

Nhuan Phu Bui
Raisa Anais Melendez Tardi

**Candidates for the
Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences
May 18, 2020**

Brittany Nicole Gutierrez

† *Alpha Eta Society*

**Candidates for the
Master of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences
August 14, 2020**

Mara Althea Pasiliao Cabungcal †
Stefano Luca Cornia
Rebecca Coronado
Michelle De Leon
Kathrine Renee Degand
Prit Sanjaykumar Desai
Trina Ray Fenning
Stephen Albert Guerrero
Isabel Marie Hendricks
Deanna Brown Jansen
Sachin Sanjeev Khosla
Joseph Paul Lutz
Kayleen Aryanie Negron
Guillermo Ivan Nunez
Andrea Lamar Peña
Tabatha Lorraine Pittman
Xochilt Amaris Puente
Jesse Rodriguez
Jessica Noemi Salinas
Christine Sanchez
Gerardo Sandoval
Walter Freddy Soliz
Alexa B. Soto †
Simon Alexander Vera

**Master of Physician Assistant Studies
Degrees Conferred December 13, 2019**

Javier Armenta
Andrej Julian Arquitola
Madison Reid Ashley
Julia Nicole Bacak
Holly Marie Beard
Jenny Johnson Bischoff
John Anthony Bojanski
Charles Bui
Sophia Helem Cho

† *Alpha Eta Society*

Josana Elizabeth Collins
Joshua Anthony Czarnecki
Kimberley Thien Dao
Dioscar J. Delgado
Amna Dhanani
Ana Jessica Diaz
Hannah Elyse Galvan
Maureen Angela Genov
Erica Marie Giordano
Madalyn Guelker
Kristen Michelle Haley
Hannah Elizabeth Heiligman
Casey Christine Hines
Christopher Michael Kvapil
Alfredo Lopez
Elizabeth Ashley McWilliams
Camilla Mignucci
Caitlin Michelle Miko
Cassandra Yvonne Napier
Mark L. Nentwig
Nicole Marie Nutter
Evelyn Oliva
Diana Patricia Olivares
Elise Mackenzie Path
Gabriella Rachelle Rabago
Christina Louise Russell
Samantha Majken Salcedo
Caralyne Sandquist
Courtney Shaw
Alyson Oak Taylor
Desirée Aranda Voorhees
Kelly Nicole Wiswell
Missy Wu
Bethany Louise Zablotsky

**Candidates for the
Doctor of Physical Therapy
May 18, 2020**

Jessica Marie Azzopardi
Amber Nicole Babin

Brooke Corine Baker †
Ruben Barron
Starr Eko Brown
Sheena Marie Sagrado Caramba
Mackenzie Kaylin Cross
Ivan Dominguez
Ernesto Esqueda †
Darryl Gregory Floud
Clayton Anthony Garcia
Jessica Lynn Glover
Adriana Rosalinda Gonzalez Ochoa
Christopher Alan Goodart
Mackinzee Nicole Griebel
Oscar Lee Hernandez
Antoinette Marie Hilborn
Cole Stephen Hirschhauser †
Viet Quoc Ho
Trent Philip Hyatt
Bailee Michelle Johnson
Dakota Shay Kresta
Lisa Le
Martina Mapa
Karla Stephanie Montiel
Lauren Nicole Mora
Matthew David Moraga Tercero
Quenton Ted Morgan
Riley Thomas Morgan
Carolyn Marie Parker †
Christopher Johnathan Pate
Kalie Danelle Pietsch
Hannah Rebekah Ramirez
Carl Harrington Rasmusson
Lisa Ann Reitz †
Juan Miguel Robledo †
Kayla Mae Shepherd
Kevin Steve Vallecillos
Brianna Noëlle West

**Master of Occupational Therapy
Degrees Conferred December 13, 2019**

Victoria Kristine Alejandro
Colleen Louise Anderson
Vanessa Ruby Arroyoarroyo
Kristen Denise Avila
Aleera Marie Barrera
Sarah Louise Bevins
Jemma Louise Bohlar-Marshman
Jennifer Rose Bragg
Jaimie Bless Brissette
Brady Wayne Burks
David Clyde Chavez
Allanah Gallagher
Felicia Brie Garcia
Carlos Herrera III
Maury Leigh Kissling
Jacob Anthony Linenberger
Baley Katherine Loera
Jasmyne Monique Manuel
Sarah Marie Martini
Hannah Katherine Meier
Ashley Nicole Molina
Sarah Rose Mumme
Cassie Alison Nares
Matthew Garrett Phillips
Anita Rafiq Rahim
Lauren Robbins
Maricarmen Romero-Mondragon
Devin Joseph Ryan
Kelly Celeste Snyder
Tayler Daniele Stanton
Hayley Kristen Tatom
Marlynn Bre Turner
Kimberly Marie Vela
Rita Alyssa Villalon
Patricia Victoria Villarreal
Rameez Wahid

**Master of Science in Respiratory Care
Degree Conferred August 31, 2019**

David Hunt
Megan Elizabeth McLin
Feven B. Yifru

**Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care
Degree Conferred December 13, 2019**

Keisha L. Beck
J'Taisha A. Bryant
Prasad Gorge
Heather Monique Martinez
Brenna Ann Molczyk
Shelby Marie Rumsey
Gabriel Dominic Sto Domingo

**Candidates for the
Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care
May 7, 2020**

Amalia Angweh Akwar *
Bryana Marie Aleman *
Lauren Alicia Alexander
Roxana De La Garza
Christian Fernando Gallardo
Griselda Abigail Hampton
Hien Pham

* *Lambda Beta Society*

**Candidates for the
Master of Science in Respiratory Care
August 14, 2020**

Mariana Elise Castillo * †
Bryce Phillip Collins
Luzolo Tapir Dienda
Linda Chioma Ede
Kathleen Patrice Floud * †
Nancy Yaneth Garcia Rios
Marissa Nicole Garza
Raven Nicole Hargrove *
Amber Lacy Hendrickson
Aldo Hernandez
Marilyn Hernandez †
Mahum Ijaz * †
Andrea Nicole McDaniel
Kylie Mihld
Tracy Phimmasone
Esteban Ramirez
Monica Lizeth Rodriguez
Rosalie Luciana Rodriguez
Elizabeth Iris Simon
Brandi Shanaed Spurlock
Stephen Phong Doan Thai
Phuong Phuong Tran
Erica Marie Villarreal
Catarina Rose Zuniga

**Candidates for the
Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology
May 18, 2020**

Kendall Ann Adair
Lauren Elizabeth Anderson
Marcella Alexis Arellano
Amber Jerrine Arredondo
Matthew Thomas Ballard

† *Alpha Eta Society*

* *Lambda Beta Society*

Amy Nichole Blanks
Sydney Elise Bourgeois †
Madison Jennae Box †
Michala Sue Covington
Katherine Nicole Eastman
Audrey Ann Gilmore †
Gabriella Gomez
Adilen Dina Gonzalez
Teresa Lavery Harrison
Erika G. Hayes
Diana Tuong-Vi Hoang
Jennifer Jaimez
Angela Marguerite Jenkins
Kylee Beth Kouba †
Mikayla Nadine Lewalski
Meghan McDonald
Sarah McKay
Abigail Moreno
Tammy Kim Nguyen †
Morgan Parker
Prithvi Patel
Danae Elise Pickens
Grace Rose Pitner
Sean Caitlin Putnam
Shannon Noelle Ratsch †
Joy-Alexandra Sabattus
Jessica Ann Salazar
Marissa Elizabeth Silvera
Taylor Marie Walk
Sofia Zapata †

† *Alpha Eta Society*

* *Lambda Beta Society*

**The University of Texas
Health Science Center at San Antonio
School of Health Professions**

David C. Shellely, Ph.D., RRT, FAARC, FASAHP
Dean

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Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs

Timothy A. Reistetter, Ph.D., OTR, FAOTA
Associate Dean for Research

Matthew Anderson, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Administrative Affairs

Venessa Kodosky, Ph.D.
Associate Director of Assessment & Special Projects

Lance C. Villers, Ph.D., LP
Chair, Emergency Health Sciences

Bridgett Piernik-Yoder, Ph.D., OTR
Chair, Occupational Therapy

Greg Ernst, Ph.D., M.P.T., ECS
Interim Chair, Physical Therapy

Paul B. Allen Sr., DSc, MPAS, PA-C, FAAPA
Chair, Physician Assistant Studies

Fang-Ling Lu, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Interim Chair, Communication Sciences and Disorders

George Kudolo, Ph.D., CPC, FAIC, FAACC
Chair, Department of Health Sciences

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**The University of Texas
Health Science Center at San Antonio
Executive Leadership**

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Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

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Dean, School of Dentistry

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Dean, Joe R. & Teresa Lozano Long School of Medicine

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Dean, School of Health Professions

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Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Chief Development Officer

Amy S. Tawney, M.B.A., SPHR, SHRM-SCP
Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer

School of Health Professions

Honors and Regalia

The Alpha Eta Society

The Alpha Eta Society is the national scholastic honor society for the allied health professions. To be considered for this prestigious society, doctoral and master's degree students must earn a grade point average of 3.8 or greater, and baccalaureate degree and certificate students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or greater. No more than 10 percent of a graduating class may be elected to the Alpha Eta Society.

Alpha Eta's motto, "Together We Serve," summarizes a core value of the allied health professions that all health care providers work in collaboration to care for patients and clients. The society was named for the Greek letters equivalent to the first letters of Allied Health – alpha (A) and eta (H).

Students may also be inducted into honor societies through their individual programs. Occupational Therapy students inducted into Pi Theta Epsilon are wearing blue and gold honor cords.

The Stole, Cord and Hood

The stole is a simple "shawl" of satin worn by bachelor's degree graduates that drapes across the shoulders and down the front of the gown. The stole for School of Health Professions graduates is orange, one of the ceremonial colors for The University of Texas.

Students graduating with honors wear the cords identified below.

- Summa Cum Laude - gold cords
- Magna Cum Laude - silver cords
- Cum Laude - bronze cords

Members of the Alpha Eta Society, the scholastic honor society for allied health professions, wear green cords. Red, white and blue cords identify Veterans of the United States Armed Forces and active duty military personnel. The cords are provided in appreciation of their service to our nation and defense of the freedoms we enjoy.

The Cap and Tassel

Bachelor's degree graduates of the School of Health Professions wear a colored tassel to indicate their professional discipline: golden yellow for Medical Laboratory Sciences, Emergency Health Sciences and Respiratory Care. Master's and doctoral degree tassels are black.

The Robe

Velvet trim of various colors on the front of the doctoral robe and sleeves of the School of Health Professions graduates signifies the graduate's academic or professional discipline: golden yellow for Medical Laboratory Sciences, slate blue for Occupational Therapy, teal for Physical Therapy and kelly green for Physician Assistant Studies.

Academic Ceremony and Regalia

Commencement ceremonies are grounded in ancient religious, educational and civic rituals. Today's ceremony begins with a grand procession led by the Macebearer, followed by the Graduates, Faculty, Dignitaries, Dean and President. Inspiring to observe, the procession demonstrates unity and collegiality among health care professionals while highlighting their distinctiveness with symbols of robe, cap, tassel, hood and cord.

The University Mace

The Macebearer leads the academic procession carrying the president's academic mace, a polished brass scepter that represents The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio's authority to educate students and grant degrees. The mace is decorated with the university seal and the caduceus, an ancient depiction of two snakes wrapped around a winged staff, sometimes used as a symbol of the medical profession.

The Academic Regalia

The contemporary tradition of wearing academic regalia for university ceremonies dates to the 11th and 12th centuries, when the great European universities were being established. At that time, students organized themselves into guilds, or associations, called universitates. Members of the universitate wore distinctive gowns to identify their group and differentiate between apprentices and masters. A "bachelor" was a man who assisted another and was usually an apprentice within the guild. A "master" was recognized by guild superiors as having reached a high level of expertise and was licensed to practice and teach as a full-fledged guild member.

The Robe

During the medieval period, men and women alike wore long robes as everyday clothing. The simplicity or elegance of the individual's robe identified them as peasants, clergy, students or royalty. To some extent, similar distinctions are made in today's academic regalia. For example, the bachelor's robe is simply designed with long pointed sleeves. It is said that the sleeves were originally used by the student, or apprentice, to carry scrolls on which their lessons were written. The master's robe is similar in style, but the long, oblong sleeves are closed. The doctor's robe is the most elaborate, with a long, flowing body, velvet trim on the front, and large bell-shaped sleeves with three velvet bars. Typically, academic robes are made of black fabric, but some universities have respectfully adopted other colors for doctoral gowns.

The Hood

The hood is a symbol of achievement — the means by which the degree and the college awarding the degree are readily recognized. The size and shape emphasize the degree level — the Doctor being the largest, followed by the Master and the Bachelor. The colors in the satin lining are those approved and authorized by the college or university conferring the degree. The colors for The University of Texas graduate are orange and white. The color of the velvet border and robe and sleeve, if any, indicates the degree earned (dark blue for Philosophy, light blue for Education, gold for Science, etc.).

Degrees and Colors

Arts	White
Dentistry	Lilac
Education	Light Blue
Fine Arts	Brown
Law	Purple
Library Science	Lemon
Medicine	Kelly Green
Nursing	Apricot
Pharmacy	Olive Green
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Public Health	Salmon Pink
Science	Gold
Veterinary Science	Gray

During today's ceremony, many faculty will be wearing doctoral hoods of varied colors that indicate the degree-granting university and the person's academic discipline. Some faculty wear hoods for the Doctor of Philosophy, trimmed in dark blue velvet, which represents mastery of learning and scholarship in any academic discipline and does not represent the academic discipline of philosophy.

Individuals with master's and doctoral degrees wear elegant hoods lined and trimmed with satin and velvet that tell about the person's academic history and credentials. Hoods were originally worn by monks to cover their shaved heads in cold weather and, when removed from the head, the hood could be used as a container for collecting alms. The master's hood is 3½ feet long, and the doctoral hood is longer and wider.

The Cap and Tassel

In the United States, two styles of caps are worn with academic robes: the mortarboard, a flat, stiff board that appears to balance on the head, and the tam (short for tam o'shanter), a soft hat made of velvet. Generally, mortarboards are covered with black fabric; tams may be of various colors, depending on the wearer's academic field or the institution's tradition. The square, flat shape of the mortarboard represents the book, a symbol of scholarship. Falling off the side of the mortarboard or tam is a tassel, which symbolizes the university mace.

Honors

The Stole and Cord

The stole is a simple long scarf or "shawl" worn by bachelor's degree graduates that drapes around the neck or shoulders and down the front of the robe. The cord is draped around the neck and down the front of the robe. The color and number of cords worn is determined by membership in an honor society and the honor designation. Detailed information regarding the stole and cord is provided with the school's program information.

Honors Designation and Recognition

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio recognizes three honors designations for undergraduate programs.

3.5-3.69

Cum Laude

3.7-3.89

Magna Cum Laude

3.9-4.0

Summa Cum Laude

This Commencement Program represents a list of students expected to fulfill all the degree requirements in their respective programs as of May 1, 2020. Although the list is verified by the Dean's Office prior to publication, we apologize in advance for any inadvertent omission or inclusion of names.

Some information adapted from:

Walters, H. (1939). *The Story of Caps and Gowns*. Chicago: E. R. Moore Company.

Sullivan, E. (1997). *An Academic Costume Code and An Academic Ceremony Guide*. Walter de Gruyter, Inc.

