

Convocation

School of MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY

May 15, 2021



COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

TO OUR GRADUATES

Today you are graduates of the University of Illinois. It is a remarkable achievement, and we hope that you celebrate the occasion with loved ones. Commencement is a joyous and deeply symbolic event for all, including the faculty members and staff who have supported you on your journey. It is profoundly disappointing that we are unable to celebrate it together this spring. The Class of 2021 will long be remembered, however, for not only what was lost, but for your resilience and determination as you finished your degree in the face of one of the greatest challenges in our nation's history. Congratulations, and we look forward to learning of your future success.

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Saturday, May 15, 2021, 11 a.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

CONVOCATION COORDINATOR WELCOME AND REMARKS

Tina M. Knox, Assistant Director for Advising and Recruitment

VIRTUAL PROCESSION OF GRADUATES

Please join in at home by staging your own procession for your family and friends.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES WELCOME AND REMARKS

Matthew Ando, Associate Dean for Life and Physical Sciences,
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

RECOGNITION OF CANDIDATES RECEIVING SPECIAL AWARDS AND HONORS

PRESENTATION OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CANDIDATES

PRESENTATION OF MASTER OF SCIENCE CANDIDATES

PRESENTATION OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE CANDIDATES

Distinction Recipients (Biochemistry, MCB
and MCB Honors Conc.)

Biochemistry, Specialized Curriculum Candidates

MCB Honors Concentration Candidates

Biology Candidates

MCB Candidates

TASSEL TURN

Please join your fellow graduates by moving your tassel from right to left.

CLOSING REMARKS

Tina M. Knox, Assistant Director for Advising and Recruitment

SINGING OF "HAIL TO THE ORANGE"

Hail to the Orange, Hail to the Blue, Hail Alma Mater, Ever so true.

We love no other, So let our motto be, Victory, Illinois, Varsity!

LAS ADMINISTRATION

Gene E. Robinson, Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Swanlund Chair in Entomology

Angela Graham, Assistant to the Dean

Barbara Hancin-Bhatt, Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs

Robert Kessler, Assistant Dean for Finance and Resource Planning

Kelly A. Ritter, Associate Dean for Curricula and Academic Policy

David H. Tewksbury, Executive Associate Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Area Centers

Matthew A. Ando, Associate Dean for Life and Physical Sciences

Clare Haru Crowston, Associate Dean for Humanities and Interdisciplinary Programs

Joan M. Volkmann, Associate Dean for Advancement

Isabel Molina-Guzmán, Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion

W. Brad Petersen, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing

Derek Fultz, Director of Facilities

Randy McCarthy, Faculty Director of ATLAS

SCHOOL OF MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY

ADMINISTRATION

Milan K. Bagchi, Director, School of Molecular & Cellular Biology

Satish Nair, Head, Biochemistry

Supriya Prasanth, Head, Cell & Developmental Biology

James M. Slauch, Head, Microbiology

Claudio Grosman, Head, Molecular & Integrative Physiology

CONVOCATION PLANNING STAFF

Timothy E. Bowers, MS, Academic Advisor, Molecular & Cellular Biology

Jennifer H. Brandyberry, MS, Academic Advisor, Molecular & Cellular Biology

Chester M. Brown, PhD, Anatomy & Physiology Lecturer and Academic Advisor, Molecular & Cellular Biology

Aaron J. Godwin, DMA, Academic Advisor, Molecular & Cellular Biology

Jeffrey M. Goldberg, MPA, Senior Coordinator of Student Academic Affairs, Biochemistry

Jack S. Ikeda, PhD, Lecturer and Academic Advisor, Molecular & Cellular Biology

Kristopher A. Jones, MA, Office Support Associate, Molecular & Cellular Biology

Bradley G. Mehrtens, MS, Instructor and Academic Advisor, Molecular & Cellular Biology

Shawna L. Naidu, PhD, Senior Coordinator for Instruction - Honors, Molecular & Cellular Biology

Shawna M. Smith, Graduate Program Coordinator, Molecular & Cellular Biology

MEDIA PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Aurora M. Cruz-Torres, MS, Academic Advisor, Molecular & Cellular Biology

CEREMONY COORDINATOR

Tina M. Knox, EdM, Assistant Director for Advising and Recruitment, Molecular & Cellular Biology

ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic dress, consisting of cap, gown, and hood, originated about the twelfth century and was worn primarily for warmth. Subsequently, the material of the gown and lining, and the shape of the hood, represented the economic and social, as well as academic status of the wearer.

In the United States, the great majority of the academic costumes now worn are in accordance with the general provisions of the Intercollegiate Code of 1895, which was revised in 1932 and again in 1960. Under this code, the bachelor's gown has pointed sleeves, the master's gown has oblong sleeves with an arc at the bottom, and the doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves. All gowns are black, although the adoption of colored gowns by individual institutions in the United States is becoming more prevalent.

The bachelor's and master's gowns are untrimmed. The doctor's gown is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves. The facing and bars may be black or may be the color of the subject to which the degree pertains. The bachelor's gown is worn closed; the master's and doctor's gowns may be worn open or closed. Women may wear white collars with the bachelor's gown when no hood is worn.

Hoods are also black. The bachelor's hood is 3 feet in length, the master's is 3 ½ feet, and the doctor's is 4 feet. Hoods are lined with the official color or colors of the college or university conferring the degree. At the University of Illinois, the lining is orange and blue. The colored velvet border of the hood, which is 2 inches, 3 inches,

and 5 inches wide for the bachelor's, master's, and doctor's degree respectively, identifies the faculty or field of study to which the degree pertains.

The black mortarboard cap is standard in the United States. Usually, all tassels are black, but where the graduating seniors do not wear hoods, as at the University of Illinois, the color of the cap tassel indicates the department of study. At the University of Illinois, candidates for degrees wear tassels on the right front quadrant of their caps before degrees are conferred, and move them to the left front quadrant after degrees are conferred. Caps are considered a part of the costume and are customarily removed only during an invocation or benediction, and then by men only.

For all academic purposes, including trimmings of doctor's gowns, edging of hoods, tassels of caps, and linings of banners, there are different colors associated with the different disciplines. The color for Liberal Arts & Sciences is white.

Caps and gowns were worn for the first time at the University of Illinois Commencement ceremony of 1897. In the early 1900s the Commencement procession marched up Burrill Avenue to the old Armory. After diplomas were received, the procession marched back to the lawn south of Green Street. The seniors sang the State song and "Auld Lang Syne" before they said good-bye to each other and the campus.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Due to print deadlines, lists may be incomplete. Students who have completed the necessary requirements to earn one of our certificates are noted with ^c for Cell & Developmental Biology, ^m for Microbiology and ⁿ for Neuroscience. Students who graduated in December 2020 are noted with ^f for Fall. Students planning to graduate in August 2021 are noted with ^s for Summer.

UNIVERSITY DISTINCTION

CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARS

Destiny Henning, MCB Honors Concentration
Eric Jung, MCB
Grace Maloney, MCB
Stella Zhao, MCB

BRONZE TABLET

Kirsten Birk, MCB
Haley Clark^f, MCB

Kailey Komnick, MCB Honors Concentration
Nitiksh Paul, MCB
Ravina Vasanwala^f, MCB Honors Concentration

COLLEGE DISTINCTION

JAMES SCHOLARS

Divya Avula^f, MCB
Connie Bao, MCB Honors Concentration
Cary Brandolino^m, MCB
Madelyn Brotnowⁿ, MCB
John Carroll Jr., MCB
Nicole Cast, MCB Honors Concentration
Annie Cheung, MCB
Liana Chidichimoⁿ, MCB
Nicole Cho, MCB
Haley Clark^f, MCB
Noah Costabilo, MCB Honors Concentration
Sierra Coyne, MCB
Nathanlown Dang, MCB
Samantha Flesch, MCB
Robert Forsyth, Biochemistry

Isabelle Friend^f, MCB
Rachel Fuller, MCB
Diana Garcia, MCB
Aaron Gephart^f, MCB
Jack Gerling^{f,n}, MCB Honors Concentration
Abigail Glavinⁿ, MCB
Eugene Hamⁿ, MCB
Destiny Henning, MCB Honors Concentration
Matthew Hopkins, Biology Teacher Education Option
Eric Jung, MCB
Michael Kim, MCB
Kailey Komnick, MCB Honors Concentration
Elizabeth Lewis, Biochemistry
Manasi Lingamaneni, MCB Honors Concentration
Tianyu Lu, MCB
Akram Mahdi, MCB
Grace Maloney, MCB
Shari Markowitz, MCB
Claire Marzolf^f, MCB
Bailey Metcalfe^f, MCB
Richard Moraga, MCB Honors Concentration
Allison Narlock, MCB Honors Concentration

AWARDS AND HONORS

Vijay Nellutla^F, MCB Honors Concentration
Eilish Newcomb, MCB Honors Concentration
Nathaniel Oommen^M, MCB
Ishani Patel, MCB Honors Concentration
Mansi Patel, MCB
Nitiksh Paul, MCB
Michael Prabhu, MCB
Aila Rahman, MCB Honors Concentration
Benjamin Ray^F, MCB Honors Concentration
Manisha Reddy, MCB
Carmensa Remolina, MCB
Erin Sahm, MCB Honors Concentration
Allison Schierer, MCB
Elisabeth Schwarzkopf,
 MCB Honors Concentration
Eric Shin^F, MCB
Divya Thomas^N, MCB
Brian Tibble^N, MCB Honors Concentration
Abigail Tierney, MCB
Katelyn Toohill, MCB
Nisheka Vanjani, MCB Honors Concentration
Ravina Vasanwala^F,
 MCB Honors Concentration
Sophia Watts, MCB Honors Concentration

Elaina Wilkens, MCB
Molly Wong^F, MCB
Emma Wu, MCB Honors Concentration
Stella Zhao, MCB
Yu Zheng^{F,C}, MCB

PHI BETA KAPPA

Aaron Gephart^F, MCB
Britten Gordon, MCB
Abhishek Pandravada, MCB
Brian Tibble^N, MCB Honors Concentration
Katelyn Toohill, MCB

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

The lists are organized by degree. Because of production deadlines, lists may be incomplete. Students who graduated in December 2020 are noted with ^F for Fall. Students planning to graduate in August 2021 are noted with ^S for Summer.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

BIOCHEMISTRY

Waqar Arif^F
Lauren Carnevale^F
Logan Hurst^F
Vinh Vu

BIPHYSICS & QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY

Roshni Bano^F

CELL & DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY

Mohd Tayyab Adil
Qinyu Hao
Xiaohe Li^F

Yo-Chuen Lin^F
Nilmani Singh^F
Yuan Tian^F

MICROBIOLOGY

Danielle Campbell^F
Samantha DeWerff
Kristen Farley
Andi Liu
Preethi Thattai Ragunathan
T.V. Pritha Rao
Ananya Sen
Jiayi Sun^F

MOLECULAR & INTEGRATIVE PHYSIOLOGY

Valeria Sanabria Guillen^F
Jessica Saw^F
Sayyed Hamed Shahoei^F
Jiaren Zhang

NEUROSCIENCE

Connor Courtney
Ekaterina Gribkova^F
Ian Traniello^F

MASTER OF SCIENCE

CELL & DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY

Lindsey Behrens^F

SCHOOL OF MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY

Toni Banks^F
Michael Compagnone^F
Wei-Chun Kao^F
Danielle Schuh
Matthew Sebring
Cody Tucker^F

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Due to print deadlines, lists may be incomplete. Students who have completed the necessary requirements to earn one of our certificates are noted with ^c for Cell & Developmental Biology, ^m for Microbiology and ⁿ for Neuroscience. Students who graduated in December 2020 are noted with ^f for Fall. Students planning to graduate in August 2021 are noted with ^s for Summer.

STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH ACADEMIC DISTINCTION

Connie Bao, MCB Honors Concentration
Kirsten Birk, MCB
Madelyn Brotnowⁿ, MCB
Liana Chidichimoⁿ, MCB
Haley Clark^f, MCB
Zhixing Dai, MCB Honors Concentration
Nathanlown Dang, MCB,
Highest Research Distinction
Isabelle Friend^f, MCB
Aaron Gephart^f, MCB
Chirag Gopinath, MCB

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Destiny Henning, MCB Honors
Concentration, High Research Distinction
Michael Kim, MCB
Kailey Komnick, MCB Honors Concentration
Chenyao Ni, MCB
Nathaniel Oommen^m, MCB
Abhishek Pandravada, MCB
Mansi Patel, MCB
Nitiksh Paul, MCB
Benjamin Ray^f, MCB Honors Concentration
Elisabeth Schwarzkopf,
MCB Honors Concentration
Eric Shin^f, MCB, Research Distinction
Satheeshram Tamilselvan^m, MCB
Brian Tibbleⁿ, MCB Honors Concentration
Megan Tomlin, MCB Honors Concentration,
High Research Distinction
Katelyn Toohill, MCB
Nisheka Vanjani, MCB Honors Concentration
Ravina Vasanwala^f,
MCB Honors Concentration
Sophia Watts, MCB Honors Concentration
Elaina Wilkens, MCB
Stella Zhao, MCB

STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH HIGHEST DISTINCTION FOR RESEARCH

Students listed previously for Academic Distinction will not be listed below.

David Kostyra, Biochemistry
Clifford Yerby, Biochemistry

STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH HIGH DISTINCTION FOR RESEARCH

Students listed previously for Academic Distinction will not be listed below.

Autumn Brandenburg, Biochemistry
Annie Cheung, MCB
Matthew Gao, MCB
Chen Huang^{f,n}, MCB Honors Concentration
Rachel Jones^m, MCB
Caroline Kaminsky, MCB
Aayush Kaul^f, MCB
Wiktorja Kowalczyk^{f,c}, MCB
Rukkia Liaqat, Biochemistry
Aleksandras Lotuzas, Biochemistry
Sean MacAllisterⁿ, MCB
Vincent Prayugo^m, MCB
Haider Sarwar, Biochemistry
Toma Tchernodriniski, MCB

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Abigail Tierney, MCB
Yiren Tu, Biochemistry
Anna Vermilya^F, MCB

STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH DISTINCTION FOR RESEARCH

*Students listed previously for Academic Distinction
will not be listed below.*

Aaron DeSalvio, MCB
Aleyah Hattab, MCB
Tiffany Jong^{F, C}, MCB
Nevers Mushimata, MCB
Allison Narlock, MCB Honors Concentration
Khadeeja Shahid, MCB
Felicia Tan^N, MCB

BIOCHEMISTRY, SPECIALIZED CURRICULUM

*Students listed previously for Distinction
will not be listed below.*

Julia Ekiert
Robert Forsyth
Vidhi Gabani
Mingyi Gao
Samantha Gonski

Conor Harrington
Tyler Hodgett
Elizabeth Lewis
Alyssa Massman
Era Meco
Ben Tran
Alexandra Wierzbick^F

MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY HONORS CONCENTRATION

*Students listed previously for Distinction
will not be listed below.*

Nicole Cast
Noah Costabilo
Jack Gerling^{F, N}
Rajita Kanapareddy
Manasi Lingamaneni
Jordan Machalek
Ilber Manavbasi^S
Richard Moraga
Vijay Nellutla^F
Eilish Newcomb
Ishani Patel
Tessa Phillips
Aila Rahman

Erin Sahn
Emma Wu

BIOLOGY

Robert Colon^F
John Dugan III, Biology
Teacher Education Option
Matthew Hopkins, Biology
Teacher Education Option

MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY

*Students listed previously for Distinction
will not be listed below.*

Ivana Aboagye
Adam Abushamaa
Dakshina Acharya
Akhil Aerra
Ariana Afonso
Benjamin Ahn
Wahab Ahsan^F
Rami Alzein
Amritha Anand
Jatan Anand
Shawn Anderson
Ryan Ang

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Caitlyn Anonuevo
Eghosa Atoe^N
Divya Avula^F
Jenna Bacerra
Anna Barannikova^F
Ashley Barz
Meghna Basavaraju^F
Aarya Bavare
Britttni Belcher^F
Megan Benson
Austin Beyer
Malikah Black^F
Brianna Bowman^{F, N}
Cary Brandolino^M
Emily Brown
Natalia Brzezinski
Samantha Burgin^F
Grace Burleson
Nika Byrne
Joseph Calabrese
Yvette Calvillo
Austin Carmody
Cheyenne Carr
Christopher Carredano Toledo^F
John Carroll Jr.

Yoselin Castillo
Meghana Chaganti
Pearl Chanma^S
Andy Chen
Simna Chen^F
Ashley Childress
Nicole Cho
In Hyuk Choi^F
Thomas Tsz Him Chow^N
Tiffany Chu^F
Sierra Coyne
Kristine Cranford
Claire Cunningham^{F, N}
Quynh Anh Dao^{F, N}
Suhina Das
Caitlin Daza
Anthony Delgado Jr.
Rohan Dhiman
Thomas Dohr
Timothy Donaho III
Justin Donato
Timothy Dworkin
Jacob Emerson^F
Ronell Esquivel
Steven Faouaz^F

Elyse Fell^F
Samantha Flesch
Daryl Forney
Carolyn Francart
Rachel Fuller
Allison Galvin
Darwin Garay
Abigail Garcia^F
Diana Garcia
Joshua George
Remy Gerew
Robert Gikas Jr.
Abigail Glavin^N
Adrianna Glisan^F
Declan Glueck^C
Yuliya Gofman
Britten Gordon
Deepa Prakashini Govindasamy Rajagopal^N
Evelyn Gu
Peter Guadagno^F
Ashna Gupta^F
Suryaa Gupta
Eugene Ham^N
Christina Hamil
Sukji Han

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Yu Jin Han
Mira Hassan
Beau Hendren-Santiago
Caroline Hernandez^F
Brianna Hitchingham
Christine Hong
Melissa Horton
Zackary Houghton
Sydney House
Michael Hrabak^M
Andrew Hwang
Kristi Isola
Justin Jacobs^F
Nadia Jahromi^N
Sachin Jajoo
Daniel Jesuthasan^N
Yunyi Jiang
David Johnson^F
Leia Jones
Akhil Joseph
Bhavya Joshi
Tanvi Joshi
Eric Jung
Nolan Kaleel
Florence Kang

Norikazu Kasai
Meghana Kaza
Neil Kelekar^F
Thomas Kennedy
Zuhair Khan
Roumaissa Kibech
Alexander Kozuch
Trevor Krause
Sean Krueger
Nireesh Kuganeswaran^F
Ethan Kuruc
Joshua Lain
Matthew Laubscher^F
Esther Lawal^F
Eunice Lee
Joanne Lee
Mark Lee^F
Micah Lee
Sung Ho Lee^N
Caroline Leffler
Alexander Leja^M
Amber Lewis
Danielle Leyva^F
Yikun Li
Zixiao Li^S

Andy Lieu
William Lim
Yisong Lin
Madeline Link^F
Angela Liu
Anna Liu
Michelle Liu
Gabrielle Loeck
Sofija Lopotaite
Tianyu Lu
Akram Mahdi
Grace Maloney
Matthew Malter
Aichem Malubay
Keely Mannoochahr^S
Dante Marcozzi
Shari Markowitz
Jennifer Martinez
Leslie Martinez-Delgado
Claire Marzolf^F
Srija Matukumalli^{F, N}
Austin Mayfield
Moustapha Mbaye^F
Ashley McKee^C
Zachary Meeker

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Karan Menon^F
Sanjna Menon
Bailey Metcalf^F
Ryan Michet^M
Blashko Milenkovski^N
Sanya Mishra^F
Tomas Misiunas
Arnav Mitra^F
Oliwia Mlodawska
Aiman Mohammad^N
Shaan Moheet
Anna Mugg
Muzammil Muztar
Ariel Myint^F
Lauren Novy^F
Angela Nuccio^N
Shelby Nunamaker
Saif Onbargi
Vanessa Ortiz^M
Lauren Pabyanskus
Joshua Palces
Ryan Pandya
Kajal Patel
Niyati Patel^C
Parth Patel

Aldo Perez
Liliana Perez
Dylan Peters
Gabija Petrus
Yegor Piatrou
Tonu Pius
Matthew Popovic^F
Saakshi Pothina
Michael Prabhu
Gabriella Prado
Ellis Qualls
Ammara Qureshi^N
Daniel Raab
Jessica Rajkumar
Eddie Ramirez
Surabhi Rao
Anisha Reddy
Manisha Reddy
Carmensa Remolina
Zoriamin Rivera Jr.^{F, N}
Kendall Robbins
Zachary Robins
Orlando Rojas
Madeline Ruestman
Kathy Ryan^F

Nishith Sagubadi^F
Adam Said III
Julija Sakutyte
Sreehitha Sanku
Allison Schierer
Nicholas Severin
Dhananjay Shahdadpuri
Abhinu Sharma^C
Nicole Silber
Fatimata Soumare
Nathaniel Srinivas Rao^F
Nicholas Stone
Douglas Stuehler Jr.
Ricardo Suarez
Eva Sue
Osman Syed
Jayana Tabbilos^F
Jarrett Tan^F
Stephanie Tan
Dylan Tapia
Neha Tewary
Divya Thomas^N
Arch Topouzian
Eduardo Torres
Rameen Usman

GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Sameep Vakharia^F
Garrett Vandermyde
Rose Varney
Melissa Vasquez
Kristina Velcani
Sandra Villalobos
Thomas Villanueva
Aldo Vivero
Quinta Wang
William Wang^F
Neeti Warhekar
Jackie Way
John Webster^M
Eunice Whang
Ryan Wickenhauser
Adrian Wierzbick^F
Molly Wong^F
Kristin Woo^F
Olivia Wuethrich
Kerraline Wurl^F
Xihe Xu
Jingyi Yang
Sunjung Yang
Yiwei Yang
Daniel Yong^F

Han Su Yoon^{F, M}
Kara Zehr^F
Luke Zerwic
Yifan Zhao^C
Yu Zheng^{F, C}
Alem Zukancic^S

A SPECIAL NOTE TO OUR GRADUATES

It has been our absolute joy to work with you over the past several years. We have had the pleasure of getting to know you and watching you grow into the remarkable individuals that you are today. This is certainly not how any of us planned to celebrate your years of hard work and dedication. However, we know that you will do amazing things with or without the formal Pomp and Circumstance. We congratulate you all on your achievements and wait in anticipation of the accomplishments your brilliant minds and kind hearts will achieve in the years to come. Please keep in touch. Be well. Do good.

Forever in orange and blue,
Your MCB and Biochemistry Advisors



Degree Information

This program contains an unofficial list of degree candidates for May 2021, as well as a list of graduates who received degrees in August and December 2020. Due to printing deadlines, names of some degree recipients may not appear while names of some degree candidates who have not yet completed degree requirements may be included.

The University's official registry for conferral of degrees is the Office of the Registrar, 901 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL 61801.



UNIVERSITY OF
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