



SCHOOL OF  
GRADUATE STUDIES  
AND RESEARCH  
COMMENCEMENT  
YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

SATURDAY, MAY TWENTY-FIRST  
TWO THOUSAND AND ELEVEN  
TWO THIRTY O'CLOCK, BEEGHLY CENTER

# THE UNIVERSITY CEREMONIAL MACE



← Silver Ceremonial Disk of Trust

← Silver Casting of University Seal (side 1)  
Polished golden highlights.  
Cast in Art Department foundry.

← Silver Casting of State Seal (side 2)  
Polished golden highlights.  
Cast in Art Department foundry.

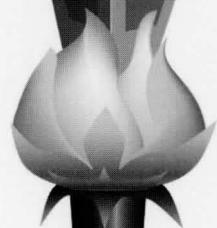
← Silver Inverted Pyramid  
Represents the chalice of achievement, service  
and self sacrifice.

← Illustrations of the four University Core Values  
Etched in silver-plated copper.  
Each side of the pyramid has different illustrated core-values  
illustrations created by graduate of Art Department.

## THE UNIVERSITY CEREMONIAL MACE

The ceremonial mace has its roots in ancient Rome. During the Middle Ages, the two types of maces—one a scepter and symbol of royal authority, the other a weapon—gradually evolved into a symbol of lawful power and regal authority. Beginning in fourteenth-century Europe, the academic mace became part of the pomp and ceremony of university commencements, denoting the authority of the University to confer academic degrees.

The new Youngstown State University mace being carried today was designed and crafted by a collaborative team that included YSU faculty, students, alumni, and area K-12 art educators under the leadership of YSU professor Greg Moring.



← Bronze Flames of Knowledge  
that heat the Forge of Learning  
Forging the learning environments of the future,  
forging learning communities.  
Designed and cast by area K-12 art educator.



← Polished Rosewood Upper Grip



← Cast Silver Globus  
Represents the President's role as protector of the Core Values  
and leadership of the University community.  
Designed and cast by area K-12 art educator.



← Polished Rosewood Lower Grip



← Cast Silver Floral Forms  
Represents petals of the scarlet carnation,  
the state flower of Ohio.  
The carnation has the meaning of 'admiration,' 'love,'  
and 'gratitude.'

← Cast Bronze Finial  
Symbolizes the collective philosophical  
values of the University.  
Designed and cast by area K-12 art educator.

# PROGRAM

<b>PRELUDE</b> .....	"Dance" Renwick "Sonata from Die Bankelsangerlieder" Anonymous "My Spirit Be Joyful" J.S. Bach/arr. Henry Herforth 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Brass Quintet Dr. Stephen L. Gage, <i>Director of Bands/Professor of Music</i> <i>Dana School of Music, College of Fine and Performing Arts</i>
<b>ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL</b> .....	"Three Pieces for Brass Ludwig Mauer: Movement I"
<b>WELCOME</b> .....	Cynthia E. Anderson <i>President</i>
<b>COLOR GUARD</b> .....	The Youngstown State University Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps
<b>NATIONAL ANTHEM</b> .....	Max Pivik <i>Baritone, Senior, Dana School of Music</i>
<b>STUDENT REFLECTION</b> .....	Janet L. Gbur <i>Graduate Candidate, College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics</i>
<b>PRESIDENT'S REMARKS</b> .....	President Anderson
<b>INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEES</b> .....	President Anderson
<b>GREETINGS AND REMARKS</b> .....	Scott R. Schulick <i>Chair of the Board of Trustees</i>
<b>INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER</b> .....	President Anderson
<b>COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS</b> .....	The Honorable Peter C. Eonomus <i>United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio</i>
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b> .....	"West Side Story Suite" Leonard Bernstein/arr. Jack Gale
<b>REMARKS AND PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES</b> .....	Provost and Vice President Khawaja
<b>CONFERRING OF DEGREES</b> .....	President Anderson
<b>PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES</b> .....	Peter Kasvinsky <i>Associate Provost for Research and Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research</i>
<b>WELCOME FROM YSU ALUMNI SOCIETY</b> .....	Dr. Richard Crepage <i>President, YSU Alumni Society</i>
<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b> .....	President Anderson
<b>ALMA MATER</b> .....	From Symphony No. 1, by Johannes Brahms/arr. Fleming Mr. Pivik
<b>RECESSIONAL</b> .....	"Three Pieces for Brass Ludwig Mauer: Movement III"

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*The audience is asked to be seated after the singing of the Alma Mater and to remain seated during the Recessional. During this special ceremony, please be respectful of others and maintain a quiet atmosphere.*

**COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER  
AND RECIPIENT OF THE DEGREE  
HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS**



*The Honorable Peter C. Eonomus*

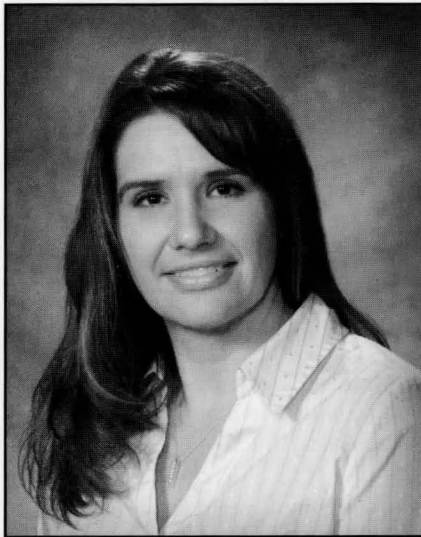
Today's commencement speaker, The Honorable Peter C. Eonomus, was appointed United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio on July 3, 1995. Prior to being named to the federal bench, Judge Eonomus served on the Court of Common Pleas of Mahoning County from 1982 to 1995. He assumed senior status on July 3, 2009 and is currently a visiting District Judge in the Southern District of Ohio.

A native of Youngstown, Ohio, Judge Eonomus received his bachelor's degree from Youngstown State University in 1967 and his *juris doctor* from the University of Akron School of Law in 1970. After law school, he became a staff attorney with the Mahoning County Legal Assistance Association, assisting indigent clients. In 1972, he joined the family law firm of Eonomus, Eonomus, and Eonomus, which specialized in civil and criminal litigation.

While serving on the Common Pleas Court, Judge Eonomus was selected by the Supreme Court of Ohio to serve as a mentor for new judges and was appointed by the Ohio Attorney General to serve on the Ohio State Victims' Advisory Board. He is also a recipient of the University of Akron Law Alumni Association Outstanding Alumni Award, the Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association's Golden Gavel Award, the Youngstown Hearing and Speech Center's Great Communicator Award for community service, and the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Judge Eonomus and his wife, Marie, whom he met while they were students at Youngstown State University, have three daughters and three granddaughters.

## COMMENCEMENT STUDENT SPEAKER



*Janet Lynn Gbur*

Today's student commencement speaker, Janet Lynn Gbur, has, since her graduation from Western Reserve High School in 1988, built a solid multi-disciplinary academic and professional career. She takes a next step today, receiving a Master of Science in Engineering in mechanical engineering. Gbur will go on to the Ph.D. program in materials science and engineering at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

After graduating from high school, Gbur attended Kent State University with a dual major in biology and pre-medicine, receiving her Bachelor of Science degree while simultaneously interning at several local orthotic/prosthetic practices as well as at the Cleveland Clinic's Orthotic/Prosthetic Department.

It was while working in Cleveland that she became fascinated with biomedical engineering and materials applications in medicine and, following that interest,

earned a Bachelor of Engineering in materials science from Youngstown State University. While at YSU, Gbur was an active campus leader, serving as a student trustee and collegiate and former national officer for Zeta Tau Alpha fraternity. She held memberships in the Order of Omega, the Golden Key International Honor Society, and Omicron Delta Kappa.

An engineering internship with CleveMed, a medical device company in Cleveland, led to work on multiple National Institutes of Health grants and the design of a patent-pending EEG electrode, of which she is the co-inventor. Gbur plans to continue research in biomechanics and materials in medical applications after graduation and eventually teach materials science engineering.

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Because the list of candidates had to be prepared in advance, it is tentative. The diploma, together with a certified transcript, is the proof of graduation.

### SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

#### Doctor of Physical Therapy

Jennifer Elizabeth Dawson, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Christina Dickson, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Kyle William Folsom, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Richard Shane Haybarger II, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Rebecca Jean Hibner, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Edmund Christopher Ickert, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Aimee Lynn Johnson, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Danielle Marie Kaufman, B.S.  
The Ohio State University  
Physical Therapy

Tiffany Lynn Kellett, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Michael Paul Kornick, B.A.  
Baldwin-Wallace College  
Physical Therapy

Jeff D. Lanam, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Matthew Vincent Lorenzi, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Loni Marie McNany, B.S.  
Lake Erie College  
Physical Therapy

Brian James Meyers, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Andrew Jay Miller, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Michael Robert O'Bruba, B.S.  
The Ohio State University  
Physical Therapy

Erik Robert Peterson, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Mark S. Raseta, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Nicholas Alan Sanders, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Brittany Nicole Senn, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

Andrew Joseph Zizzo, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Physical Therapy

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#### Master of Arts

Dagmar Rita Amrhein, B.F.A.  
Youngstown State University  
English

Samantha Josephine Basile, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
History

April Marie Caruso, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
History  
Thesis: *From Glorious Gateways  
to "White Elephants" to a  
Mall and Museum: Cleveland  
and Cincinnati Union  
Terminals, 1900 to circa. 1990*

Lindsay Renee Clifton, B.M.  
Youngstown State University  
English

Jennifer Marie Frank, B.S.  
Kent State University  
American Studies

Sarah Renée Hahn, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
English  
Thesis: *The Problem of Grammar:  
A Teacher's Journey*

## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

- Kathleen Ann Hyatt Richter, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
History  
Thesis: *The Mill Creek Riding Club, 1927-1935*
- Patrick Edward Knight, B.A.  
University of Pittsburgh  
History
- Alexa Marie McDonough, B.A.  
Ursuline College  
History
- Jessica Nash, B.A.  
Middlesex University, England  
English  
Thesis: *Area 25 (A Novel)*
- Teresa Lynn Pinskey, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
English
- Sean Todd Posey, B.F.A.  
Academy of Art University  
History  
Thesis: *Roots of Urban Decay: Race Suburbanization and Urban Renewal in Youngstown, 1950-1977*
- Auburn Joseph Restino, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
History
- Joseph William Robertshaw, B.A., M.S.Ed.  
University of Maryland  
Youngstown State University  
English
- Julie Lynn Robinson, B.A., B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
American Studies
- Reuben Sampson, B.A.  
University of Cape Coast,  
Ghana  
Financial Economics
- Shally Sharma, B.S.B.A., M.B.A.  
University of Delhi  
Institute of Management  
Technology, India  
Economics
- Rebecca Louise Michael-Sumner, B.A.  
Mount Union College  
English
- Pamela Anne Tarajcak, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
History
- Fred Stephen Whitacre, Jr., B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
English
- Benjamin M. Winings, B.A.  
John Carroll University  
History
- Amy Rebecca Woodyard, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
History  
Thesis: *From Frege to Godel: Foundationalism and Proof 1880-1931*
- Fei Wu, B.A.  
Huazhong Normal University,  
China  
Economics
- Vincent Zame, B.B.A.  
Islamic University College, Ghana  
Financial Economics
- Master of Business Administration**  
Susan E. Beiling, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
General
- Kawsar Choufani, License  
Saint Joseph University, Lebanon  
Management
- Matthew Mark Gustovich, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Management
- Nupur Jajodia, B.B.A.  
Kathmandu University, Nepal  
Management
- Thomas A. Kuhns, Jr., B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Management
- Teresa Ann Maderitz, B.A.  
The Ohio State University  
Management
- Audrey M. Martin, B.L.S.  
Mary Washington College  
General
- Jeffrey David Martin, B.A.  
Baldwin-Wallace College  
General
- Gia Nicole Montecalvo, B.A.  
Kent State University  
Management
- Marty Avery Nickison, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Management
- Justin Paul Pearce, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Management
- Michael Deon Robinson, B.S., M.H.A.  
Xavier University of Louisiana  
Saint Louis University  
General
- Brian J. Schaal, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Management
- Marc Allen Sikora, B.B.A.  
Cleveland State University  
Management
- Christopher D. Smith, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Management

## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Joshua W. Stelle, B.S.  
Grove City College  
Management

### **Master of Computing and Information Systems**

Adeel Abbas, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Computing and Information  
Systems

Thesis: *A Novel Foreign  
Language Learning Method:  
Online Task Based Foreign  
Language Learning to Improve  
Language Production and  
Input Comprehension*

Fahad Riyaz Bijle, B.E.  
University of Mumbai, India  
Computing and Information  
Systems

Jeffery Louis Butts, Jr., B.A., M.A.  
Kent State University  
Youngstown State University  
Computing and Information  
Systems

Patricia A. DiGiacobbe, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Computing and Information  
Systems

Antoine Ikechukwu Ogbonna,  
B.E., M.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Computing and Information  
Systems  
Thesis: *The Psychology of a Web  
Search Engine*

Craig Alan Richards, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Computing and Information  
Systems  
Thesis: *Development of a Cyber-  
Technology Information System  
for Remotely Accessing Science  
Instrumentation*

Susheel Reddy Vadde, B.S.  
Bharati Vidyapeeth University,  
India  
Computing and Information  
Systems  
Thesis: *Improving Tissue Elasticity  
Imaging Using a Kalman Filter-  
Based Non-Rigid Motion  
Tracking Algorithm*

### **Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing**

Evaline E. Abram-Diroll, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Creative Writing  
Thesis: *Monkey's Nest*

Anne Sara Murray, B.A.  
Hiram College  
Creative Writing  
Thesis: *This is Life: A Love Story  
of Friendship*

### **Master of Health and Human Services**

Jason Robert Markey, B.S.P.T.  
Youngstown State University  
Health and Human Services

Amanda Lynn Roby, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Health and Human Services  
Thesis: *Disruptive Behavior in the  
Respiratory Workplace*

Linda Kay Turnage, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Health and Human Services

### **Master of Music**

David Matthew Blon, B.M.  
Slippery Rock University  
Performance

Maria L. Fesz, B.M.  
Mount Union College  
Performance

Greta Dawn Johnson, B.M.  
Concordia College  
Performance

### **Master of Public Health**

Caitlin Eileen Merrin, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Public Health

Amanda S. Thompson, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Public Health

### **Master of Science**

Mohammad Tanveer Alam,  
B.Tech.  
Uttar Pradesh Technical  
University, India  
Mathematics  
Thesis: *Image Classification with  
Remote Sensing Using Data  
Mining Techniques*

Andrew Steven Brown, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Biology  
Thesis: *Two-Dimensional  
Polyacrylamide Gel  
Electrophoresis (2D-PAGE)  
Characterization of Decorin*

Melinda Jeanne Daisher, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Biology  
Thesis: *Chitin Synthase Gene  
Expression in Penicillium  
Marneffe*

Sirisha Gadapa, B.Pharm.  
Osmania University, India  
Chemistry  
Thesis: *Purification &  
Characterization of Putative  
Glutathionyl Spermidine  
Synthetase/amidase; YgiC ui  
E. coli*

Kyren E. Gardner, B.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Biology



## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Christa H. Homlitas, B.A.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Applied Behavior Analysis  
 Thesis: *The Effects of Behavioral Skills Training on the Implementation and Generalization of the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS): A Systematic Replication*

Jonathan Patrick Kinney, B.A.  
 Thomas More College  
 Environmental Studies  
 Thesis: *Increasing Species Diversity in a Wet Meadow Dominated by Phalaris Arundinacea*

Alycia M. Kolat, B.S.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Mathematics  
 Thesis: *Topological Function Space*

Zakiyah Mohammed, B.S.  
 University of Ghana, Ghana  
 Mathematics

Swarnalatha Moparthi, B.S., M.S.  
 Nagarjuna University, Andhra University, India  
 Biology  
 Thesis: *Possible Role of E. coli Chromosomal Arsenic Resistance Operon in Selenite Tolerance*

Venu Gopal Patha, B.Pharm.  
 Osmania University, India  
 Chemistry  
 Thesis: *Characterization of TiO<sub>2</sub> Photoelectrodes Fabricated Via a Low Temperature Sintering Process*

Patrick Brian Pirilla, B.S.  
 Saint Vincent College  
 Mathematics  
 Thesis: *On the Motion of Particles in Water Waves*

Courtney A. Polenick, B.A.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Applied Behavior Analysis  
 Thesis: *Effects of Social Reinforcement Contingent on Conventional or Unconventional Responses on Generalized Creativity by Older Adults*

Andrew J. Rice, B.S.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Biology  
 Thesis: *Regulation of Smooth Muscle Activity in the Rat: Effects of Castration and Iberitoxin*

Lee Ann Rizzo, B.S.  
 Kent State University  
 Chemistry  
 Thesis: *Synthesis of bis(2,2,2-Trifluoroethyl) (Z)-Vinylphosphonates*

Tom Paul Satterthwaite, B.S.A.S.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Criminal Justice

Carrie L. Snyder, B.A.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Applied Behavior Analysis  
 Thesis: *The System of Least Prompts to Promote Independence in Activities of Daily Living for Older Adults*

Megan Elizabeth Stiles, B.S.  
 Grove City College  
 Mathematics  
 Thesis: *The Mathieu Groups*

John Carmen Warren, B.A.  
 College of Wooster  
 Chemistry  
 Thesis: *Evaluation of the Role of gsp, ygiC and yjfc Genes in Glutathione Metabolism in Escherichia Coli by Gene Disruption*

Joelle Marie Wells, B.S.  
 Westminster College  
 Chemistry  
 Thesis: *Analysis of Isolated and Purified "Staphylococcus Aureus" Type 5 Capsular Polysaccharide via Monoclonal Antibodies and NMR*

Richlynn C. Young, B.S.A.S.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Criminal Justice  
 Thesis: *Domestic Violence and Women in Prison*

### Master of Science in Education

Ashley Rose Altiero, B.A.  
 Kent State University  
 Counseling

Tammara Lynn Baker, B.S.Ed.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Educational Administration

Lindsay Jewyl Berger, B.A., B.S.B.A.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Teacher Education, Spanish

Robert Grant Campbell, B.S.Ed.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Educational Administration

Rachel Elizabeth Camuso, B.S.Ed.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Educational Administration

Shannon Marie Carchedi, B.S.Ed.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Special Education, Intervention Specialist Licensure

William Stephen D'Amico, B.S.B.A.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Counseling

Sherri L. Dawson, B.S.A.S.  
 Youngstown State University  
 Counseling

## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Justin Joseph Edwards, B.G.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Melinda Catherine Furr, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Curriculum  
and Instruction

Alicia Marie Therese Hill, B.A.  
Mount Union College  
Special Education, Intervention  
Specialist Licensure

Shawna Lynn Horvath, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Shantel DuPree Jackson, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Monica Michelle Jones, B.S.Ed.  
Ohio University  
Educational Administration

Kristen Rosemary Klucher,  
B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education

Sharon Lynn Koncilja, B.S.Ed.,  
M.S.Ed.  
Slippery Rock University  
Ashland University  
Educational Administration

James Thomas Kosek, B.A.  
Muskingum College  
Educational Administration

Robert Adam Lumpkin, B.A.  
University of Toledo  
Counseling

Nicole Marie Magnone, B.A.  
Thiel College  
Counseling

Sarah Rosemary Majirsky, B.S.Ed.  
Clarion University  
Special Education

Michael Sean McGiffin, B.S.B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Georgia Holly McKee, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Curriculum  
and Instruction

Hilda Rosa McKee, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Administration

Megan E. Monaco, B.S.Ed.  
University of Toledo  
Educational Administration

Joan O'Connell-Spalla, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Teacher Education, Curriculum  
and Instruction

Nicole Elaine Peterson, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Robert W. Phillips, B.A.  
Thiel College  
Counseling

Kenneth C. Porter, B.S.Ed.  
Kent State University  
Educational Administration

David J. Purins, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Administration

Marlana J. Robertshaw, B.S.  
Liberty University  
Counseling

April L. Roscoe-Garfoli, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Gina M. Roth, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Gifted and  
Talented

Brandi M. Veigh, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Stephanie Volpini-Hann,  
B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Kaylor M. White, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Educational Technology

Toni L. White, B.S.  
The Pennsylvania State  
University  
Counseling

Lana K. Whitehead, B.S.Ed.  
Northwestern University  
Counseling

Ashley Cetera Williams, B.A.  
Thiel College  
Counseling

Amber Dawn Wilson, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Special Education, Intervention  
Specialist Licensure

Emily Elizabeth Wollet, B.S.Ed.  
Youngstown State University  
Counseling

Kelly S. Yeager, B.S.  
Ohio University  
Teacher Education, Science

**Master of Science in Engineering**  
Abdullah Saeed Alsaffar, B.S.  
King Fahd University of  
Petroleum & Minerals,  
Saudi Arabia  
Electrical

## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH *(continued)*

Joshua Aaron Blackann, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Electrical

Thesis: *Electronic Engine  
Controller Simulation and  
Emulation With  
Ethernet Connectivity*

Michael Kenneth Centorame,  
B.E.

Youngstown State University  
Civil and Environmental

Irmak Ekici, B.E.  
Yeditepe University, Turkey  
Industrial and Systems

Janet Lynn Gbur, B.S., B.E.  
Kent State University  
Youngstown State University  
Mechanical

Thesis: *Biomechanical Evaluation  
of Composite Bone Following  
Removal of Proximal Femoral  
Fixation Hardware*

Khabib A. Imashat, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Electrical

Kevin Everett Merritt, B.A.  
Thomas Edison State College  
Civil and Environmental

Premkumar Packiriswamy, B.E.  
Anna University, India  
Electrical

Thesis: *Improving Power Grid  
Economy Using Wind Power  
Generation*

Joseph Allen Pietromonaco, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Industrial and Systems

Thesis: *A Heat Transfer Analysis  
in Industrial Food Process*

Amar Shukla, B.Tech.  
Aligarh Muslim University,  
India

Civil and Environmental  
Thesis: *On Reducing Bumps at  
Pavement-Bridge Interface*

Anthony John Solic, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Electrical

Michael Paul Yatsco, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Mechanical

Thesis: *Numerical Analysis and  
Wind Tunnel Validation  
of Wind Deflectors for Rooftop  
Solar Panel Racks*

Anthony Michael Yurcho, B.E.  
Youngstown State University  
Chemical

Thesis: *Microstructural  
Characterization of  
Interpenetrating Phase  
Composites*

### **Master of Science in Nursing**

Crystal Laine Beight, B.S.N.  
Youngstown State University  
Nursing

Gloria McFall Candella, B.S.N.  
Youngstown State University  
Nursing

Frank A. Kaydo, B.S.N.  
Youngstown State University  
Nursing

Melinda Michele Spencer Smith,  
B.S.N.

Youngstown State University  
Nursing

### **Master of Social Work**

Renee Christine Bastounis, B.S.  
Kent State University  
Social Work

Rodney William Carson, B.S.  
The Pennsylvania State  
University  
Social Work

Melissa D. Davis, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Sara Jo Eicher, B.S.A.S.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Erin L. Haywood, B.A.  
Taylor University  
Social Work

Marty Ellen Kish, B.A.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Deborah Jean Marcucci, B.A.  
The Pennsylvania State  
University  
Social Work

Debbie Marzula, B.A., B.S.A.S.,  
M.S.D.  
Youngstown State University  
Xavier University  
Social Work

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Kent State University  
Social Work

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The Pennsylvania State  
University  
Social Work

Heather Wood Pokrandt, B.A.  
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Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Rebecca Lynn Reinard, B.A.  
Malone College  
Social Work

Amy L. Richmond, B.G.S.  
Kent State University  
Social Work

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Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Julie Ann Shea, B.S.W.  
Youngstown State University  
Social Work

Gretchen Edna Grace Witmer, B.S.  
Kent State University  
Social Work

Carolyn Andrea Serenko, B.S.A.S.  
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Social Work

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Social Work

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# YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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# YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

## MACEBEARER

**Jane Kestner, Ph.D.**

*Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences*

Dr. Jane Kestner joined the Youngstown State University family in January, 1978 as a faculty member in the Department of Psychology. Having received her Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame in human development and cognition she taught undergraduate and graduate courses in child development, learning and psycholinguistics as well as thousands of students in general psychology classes. A sabbatical in the late 1980's resulted in a shift of academic interest from cognitive to behavioral approaches to behavior and led to both a research and teaching focus on applied behavior analysis. She is currently the program director of the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis program.

In 2002 Dr. Kestner joined the then College of Arts & Sciences as Associate Dean and has served with three academic deans. Here she developed and implemented a Bachelor of General Studies degree that was approved in 2005. There have since been over 300 graduates from the program and it remains one of the largest at the University in terms of student enrollment. She assisted in the transition to the newly organized College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences and is responsible for budgetary oversight of the College.

She also served a five year term as Faculty Athletic Representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association and was President of the Board of Directors of Help Hotline Inc., a local nonprofit suicide hotline and assistance referral agency. She is the proud parent of three Youngstown State University graduates.

## READER

**Gary Sexton, M.M.**

*Director of WYSU-FM*



# YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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**Rocio Rosales, Ph.D.**  
*Assistant Professor of Psychology*

**Teresa A. Volsko, M.H.H.S.**  
*Assistant Professor of Health Professions*

## Academic Regalia and Ceremony

The gowns, hoods, and caps worn in academic ceremonies today are relics of those worn in medieval times by students and professors. Probably the gowns and hoods were worn for warmth in the unheated halls where lectures were delivered. From the sixteenth century on, somber black garb became the norm, and it is primarily in the hoods worn in academic processions today that the medieval academic pageantry is retained.

The hoods representing graduate degrees granted by various colleges and universities have linings (turned to exhibit their hues to the fullest advantage) in the colors of the granting institutions. In addition, the facing of the hood represents by its color the discipline in which the degree has been granted: white for arts, letters or humanities; golden yellow for science; purple for law; green for medicine; lemon yellow for library science; orange for engineering; olive for commerce or business; light blue for education; pink for music; brown for fine arts; apricot for nursing; dark blue for philosophy; scarlet for theology; citron for social work; sage green for physical education.

There are different opinions about the origin of the caps worn in academic ceremonies. One view is that the "mortar board" is in actuality adapted from the wooden square used by masons. Another is that it stems from the ecclesiastical or clerical head covering of the medieval period.

There is something of the same adherence to tradition in commencement processions that



exists in academic garb, although each institution has the right to adapt the ceremony to its own requirement. The faculty leads the line of march followed by the candidates for degrees. Then follow the chief marshals, the president, speaker, trustees, deans, and other members of the party to be seated on the platform.

Recipients of University Honors

receive golden honor cords placed around the shoulders. University Scholars wear a specially minted medallion on a red ribbon to denote their academic achievement.

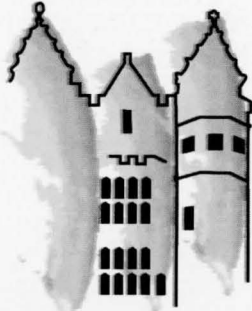
### The Presidential Medallion

President Anderson wears a one-of-a-kind medallion that bears an embossment of the Youngstown State University seal on each of the small elements and on the large central piece. On the back of the central medallion are engraved the names of the University's six past presidents.

The presidential medallion was designed and created out of sterling and bronze by Wendell August Forge of Grove City, Pennsylvania.

### The Youngstown State University Seal

The University's official seal was adopted in 1936. Designed by a student, the seal includes a torch, quills, wings, a globe, and the Latin words *animus liberatus*. In simple terms, those words summarize the transformation—or liberation—that occurs on this campus countless times each day. In English, they are translated *The Mind Freed*, or *The Spirit Freed*.



## Youngstown State University— An Innovative Educational Leader

*F*ounded in 1908, Youngstown State University originally served 160 students with about a dozen faculty members and provided expanded educational opportunity for all people—store clerks and factory managers, steel industry workers, newly arrived immigrants, women and men, and both part-time and full-time learners.


This progressive spirit guided the development of the institution as it evolved from a YMCA technical institute, later as Youngstown College (1928), then as Youngstown University (1955) and, in 1967, as Youngstown State University, a member of the Ohio public higher education system.

Today, Youngstown State University is a leading comprehensive university, serving more than 15,100 full- and part-time students with 120 undergraduate programs, 40 master's degree programs and two doctoral degree programs.

There are more than 450 full-time faculty and 800 professional and support staff members in seven colleges, schools and administrative departments.

In partnership with schools and the corporate and non-profit communities, Youngstown State University promotes diversity and excellence in teaching, research, and service to increase the educational attainment and economic and environmental vitality of the region.

Throughout its history, Youngstown State University has been cited as an innovative educational leader. It has also been recognized through numerous awards—both in academics and athletics—as one of the best urban, public, comprehensive universities in the United States.

Each graduate we celebrate today is a YSU Success Story. They join more than 92,000 outstanding alumni members across the nation and around the world. 

## *Alma Mater*

All hail to thee, O Youngstown,  
Our Alma Mater fair;  
In sunlight and starshine  
We see thee in all thy glory.  
The Red and the White, thy glorious colors,  
Ever we praise and hold them  
High to the breeze as the symbol of our  
Most loyal allegiance.  
This anthem, O Youngstown,  
Our pledge of trust shall be  
That thy sons and daughters  
Shall keep faith with thee forever.