FSU Celebrates Achievements of Spring 2022 Graduates

FSU will celebrate student achievements of its spring 2022 graduating class with the 160th Commencement on Thursday, May 19, during two ceremonies in the Cordts PE Center Main Arena. University System of Maryland Regent Geoff Gonella will confer degrees, and President Ronald Nowaczyk will present diplomas to graduates during the two exercises.

The Colleges of Business and Education ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m., and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences ceremony will start at 2 p.m. Featured student speakers for the ceremony include Sarah Robertson, College of Business; Quenten Demps, College of Education; and Meghan Murphy, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Robertson, of Frostburg, Md., graduates today with a bachelor’s degree in business administration with a concentration in global business and minors in management, finance and marketing. Robertson made the Dean’s List every semester throughout her FSU career. She successfully balanced her academic excellence with several part-time jobs and extracurricular activities, including serving as a hospitality manager for the Cultural Events Series, working as news section editor for The Bottom Line, FSU’s student newspaper, and serving as Beta Gamma Sigma honor society president. “Our faculty members are impressed with Sarah’s kind demeanor, her drive and desire for continuous improvement,” said Dr. Sudhir Singh, dean of the College of Business.

Demps, of Frederick, Md., graduates today with a bachelor’s degree in early childhood/elementary education. Demps has made the Dean’s List at FSU every semester since transferring from Hagerstown Community College in fall 2019. He completed field experiences in kindergarten at Mt. Savage Elementary School and first grade at Bel Air Elementary School, both in Allegany County, Md. He has a positive rapport with students and the ability to execute effective, learning-focused lessons and units for his students. Outside the classroom, he is actively involved in the Future Student Education Association. “Quenten represents an exemplary beginning teacher and will be an asset to any school,” said Dr. Jodi Welsch, professor and Teacher Education Program director.

Murphy, of Frostburg, Md., graduates today with a bachelor’s degree in computer science with a minor in mathematics. While at FSU, Murphy has made the Dean’s List every semester. In addition to her outstanding GPA, she has worked multiple jobs, including her current position as an IT project management and business analyst intern at FSU. She also spent time as a volunteer with “Girls Who Code” summer camp and worked as a learning assistant in the Department of Mathematics. Her instructors note her excellent attitude, strong work ethic and quiet confidence. “Meghan is in the top 1 percent of students I’ve ever taught,” said Dr. Michael Flinn, chair of the department of Computer Science. “Her research skills, work ethic and enthusiasm for learning and research are exceptional.”

Interim Provost Dr. Michael Mathias; Singh; Dr. Booyce Williams, dean of the College of Education; and Dr. Kim Hixson, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, will present candidates for degrees.
Tickets are required to attend Commencement. For info, visit [www.frostburg.edu/events/commencement](http://www.frostburg.edu/events/commencement). The ceremony will also be streamed live online. For the livestream link, visit [www.frostburg.edu](http://www.frostburg.edu) on the day of the commencement.

**FSU to Honor Maj. Gen. Robert L. Edmonson II With Honorary Doctorate**

FSU will present [Maj. Gen. Robert L. Edmonson II ’90](http://www.frostburg.edu) with an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at its 160th commencement ceremony on **Thursday, May 19**.

Edmonson was recently appointed as the 17th commander of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command and senior commander for Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, responsible for enabling the Army’s warfighting readiness by providing sustainable global command, control, communications, computers, cyber, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, or C5ISR, and medical materiel support.

A native of Willingboro, N.J., Edmonson graduated from FSU with a business marketing degree. On campus, he played football, participated in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and was commissioned as a second lieutenant from FSU's ROTC program. Edmonson went on to earn a Master of Science Administration in Information Resource Management and a Master of Science in National Security Strategy.

His list of command assignments includes A Company, 82nd Signal Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division; 63rd Expeditionary Signal Battalion, XVIII Airborne Corps; 35th Signal Brigade, XVIII Airborne Corps; and service as the 38th chief of Signal/commandant of the Army Signal School. He has received numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal and Defense Meritorious Service Medals.

Within a week after graduating from FSU, Edmonson married Ellen, his wife of more than 30 years. The couple has two grown sons, Robert III and Alexander. The Edmonsons are dedicated members of the FSU family and continue to serve as advocates for FSU Bobcats worldwide.

**Music**

**FSU Student Joshua Foreman Will Perform Junior Alto Saxophone Recital**

FSU’s Department of Music will present student [Joshua Foreman](http://www.frostburg.edu) in his junior alto saxophone recital on **Tuesday, May 10**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Pealer Recital Hall of FSU’s Woodward D. Pealer Performing Arts Center. He will be accompanied by pianist [Dr. Joseph Yungen](http://www.frostburg.edu/concerts). The concert is free and open to the public. This event will also be livestreamed; the link will be posted at [www.frostburg.edu/concerts](http://www.frostburg.edu/concerts).

Foreman will perform the four movements, “Ruhig bewegt,” “Lebhaft,” “Sehr Langsam” and “Lebhaft,” of “Sonate for Alto Horn and Piano” by Paul Hindemith; the first two movements, “Lento, Cadenza e Allegro” and “Sarabande” from “Concerto pour Saxophone Alto et Piano” by Pierre Max Dubois; “Improvisation 3” by Ryo Noda; and “Prélude, Cadence et Finale” by Alfred Desenclos.

**Todd Marcus Jazz Orchestra Performing at Loft 129 In Cumberland**

FSU’s Department of Music, in cooperation with the Allegany Arts Council and the Maryland State Arts Council, will host the Todd Marcus Jazz Orchestra – an all-star group of some of the finest jazz musicians – on **Friday, May 13**, from 8 to 9:30 p.m. at Loft 129, 129 Baltimore St. in Cumberland. The jazz orchestra will perform as the featured event for the Cumberland Jazz Society Jazz Crawl.

Tickets are $20 and are available at [loft129.org](http://loft129.org).

‘A Conversation With Todd Marcus’

In addition, that Friday afternoon the FSU Department of Music will host “A Conversation With Todd Marcus” at 3 p.m. in Pealer Recital Hall. This event is free and open to the public.

The Todd Marcus Jazz Orchestra is a group of musicians from Baltimore, New York, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and Tennessee on six horns (bass clarinet, alto saxophone/flute, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet and trombone), piano, bass and drums. The group’s instrumentation, compositions and arrangements create a rich sound with music that incorporates straight-ahead jazz with other influences from classical to Middle Eastern. The music explores a range of moods while swinging hard and showcasing the diverse soloists in the ensemble.
Exhibits

Roper Gallery Featuring Spring 2022 Senior Exhibition, ‘Expressive Solution’

FSU’s Department of Visual Arts will host the spring 2022 Senior Exhibition, "Expressive Solution," through Thursday, May 19 at the Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery in FSU’s Fine Arts Building. This event is free and open to the public.

The following art and design students will exhibit their artwork.

**Kahlil Broderick** is a transfer student from Anne Arundel Community College. He is graduating from FSU with a bachelor's in art and design, with a minor in fine arts. His focus areas are graphic design and illustration. Broderick hopes to pursue a career in graphics and user interface design.

**Lyell Curtis** is graduating with a bachelor’s, with focuses in graphic design and illustration and minors in computer information systems and art history. After attending the graduate program in human-centered design and engineering at the University of Washington, Curtis plans to become a front- and back-end developer, then transition to software engineering.

**Matt Knies** is graduating from FSU with a bachelor's in art and design, with a focus in photography and a dual minor in art history and graphic design. Knies plans to pursue a career in photography and become an event photographer.

**Delaney Krotz** is graduating with a bachelor’s in art and design and a minor in graphic design and art history, while focusing in graphic design and printmaking. After graduation, Krotz plans to concentrate on graphic design and web design.

**Haven Lilly** is graduating with a bachelor's in art and design and minors in graphic design and finance. After graduation, he plans to continue with freelance work and help with his family business.

**Levi Linn** is graduating with a bachelor’s in art and design, with a dual focus in illustration and graphic design and a minor in art history. After graduation, he plans to continue illustrating, focusing on fantasy and comic artwork, both freelance and professional.

**Michael Lynch** is graduating from FSU with a bachelor's in art and design, with a focus on graphic design and sculpture and a minor in art history. After graduation, he plans to work as a professional graphic designer.

**Alexis Nelms** will graduate from FSU with a bachelor’s in art and design, with a focus in graphic design and a minor in small business. After graduating, she plans to continue her career in graphic design.

**Gabriela Oramas** is a transfer student from Prince George's Community College. She is graduating from FSU with a bachelor's in art and design, with a dual focus in graphic design and illustration. After graduation, she plans to work in book design and/or children’s illustrations. She also plans to freelance and sell prints of her artwork.

**Darius Sampson** is graduating from FSU with a bachelor’s in graphic design and advanced illustration. After graduation, he plans to become a freelance illustrator and pursue a career in illustration.

**Brandyne Saunders** is graduating from FSU with a bachelor’s in art and design, with a focus in illustration. After graduation, he plans to pursue a career as an illustrator.

**Aaron Smith** is a transfer student from West Virginia University – Potomac State College where he earned an associate degree in journalism. He will graduate from FSU with a bachelor's, with a major in art and design and a minor in art history. After graduation, he plans to travel to different countries, teaching English as a foreign language while pursuing freelance art and photography projects.

For this show, the Roper Gallery is open **Mondays through Fridays** from noon to 5 p.m.

For info, contact the Department of Visual Arts at 301-687-4797.

Presentations/Discussions

**Taylor and Thiel to Present at Mountain Maryland Native Plant Festival**

**Dr. Rebekah Taylor**, chair of FSU's Department of Biology and an associate professor in that department, and **Clara Thiel**, a lecturer in biology, will give presentations at the Mountain Maryland Native Plant Festival on **Saturday, May 14**, at New Germany State Park (near Grantsville in Garrett County).

Taylor will present “Lyme Disease and Tick Safety” and Thiel, “Rare Plants and Ecosystems of Mountain Maryland.”

Info about the free event can be found at [https://mdflora.org/event-4683825](https://mdflora.org/event-4683825).
Dr. Benjamin Norris Selected to Join NACADA Emerging Leaders Program

Dr. Benjamin Norris ’04, an associate professor in FSU’s Department of Chemistry and interim associate provost, was recently selected to join the 2022-2024 cohort of the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Emerging Leaders Program. The Emerging Leaders Program is a two-year leadership development opportunity that prepares individuals to take on greater leadership within NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising. The program also seeks to increase participation from groups underrepresented in the organization’s leadership.

Norris’ involvement in NACADA includes serving as one of two institutional liaisons from FSU for the Excellence in Academic Advising Project (2018-2020). He served on the NACADA Region 2 Communications Committee (2021) and is a member of the Faculty Advising Community Steering Committee (2021-2022).

As interim associate provost at FSU, Norris supervises the Academic Success Network and coordinates institutional student success and retention efforts, including academic advising. He also coordinates faculty personnel processes, manages academic policies and standards, and facilitates various academic initiatives. Before joining the Office of the Provost, he was active in faculty governance and served four years as chair of the faculty. He has been a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry since 2010.

Read more about NACADA’s Emerging Leaders Program at https://nacada.ksu.edu/Programs/Emerging-Leaders-Program.aspx.

Andy Duncan Is Member of Newly Organized Core Workshop Group of Clarion West Writers Workshop

Andy Duncan, a professor in FSU’s Department of English and Foreign Languages, is a member of the newly organized Core Workshop Group of the Clarion West Writers Workshop in Seattle, outgrowth of a series of ad hoc volunteer committees he has served on since the pandemic spring of 2020. The international group – which includes writers from Barbados, England and Mexico – pledges to "continue working to evolve our workshop culture and updating protocols towards equity, empowerment and innovation."

The full announcement is at https://www.clarionwest.org/2022/04/01/evolving-workshop-culture-2.

Student Alyssa Maine Awarded Fellowship to Attend Workshop

Alyssa Maine, a graduate student in the Applied Ecology and Conservation Biology program, was awarded a fellowship to attend a three-day, hands-on training workshop hosted by the CDC Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases. The “Tick University” program will be held at the Tennessee Department of Health and will feature training in tick identification, tick ecology and sampling methods, tick pathogen testing and strategies to prevent tick exposure.

Maine will also present her thesis research on Thursday, May 12, at 2 p.m. in Compton 327. Her public thesis presentation is titled "Effects of a Controlled Burn on Tick Abundance and Borrelia burgdorferi Prevalence at Sideling Hill Creek Preserve."

Passionate About Educational Equity? Ready to Launch Your Career In Service to Others?

Join Reading Partners for a lively conversation with Black, Indigenous and people of color servant leaders working within the education and social justice fields. This event will take place on Tuesday, May 10, from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom.

From teaching to public policy to EdTech, hear from diverse panelists about their academic and professional journeys, how their identities play into their experiences and what they wished they had known as new graduates ready to make their mark on the world. Ask your own questions of panelists, learn more about an AmeriCorps service term with Reading Partners and walk away with career guidance, too.

Reading Partners is national nonprofit that mobilizes communities to provide students with the proven, individualized reading support they need to read at grade level by fourth grade.

Ort Library End-of-Semester Hours

The Ort Library has extended hours for the remainder of the semester during the last week of classes and final exams. Extended hours will run through Tuesday, May 17.

End-of-Semester Hours

Monday, May 9, to Thursday, May 12 – 7:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Friday, May 13 – 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, May 14 – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, May 15 – 1 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Monday, May 16, and Tuesday, May 17 – 7:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Wednesday, May 18 – 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Commencement Day and Beyond

Commencement Day, Thursday, May 19 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, May 20 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, May 21 – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sunday, May 22 – Closed

Summer Hours

Mondays through Fridays – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturdays – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sundays – Closed

Library hours are posted on the Library webpage at www.frostburg.edu/library and at libguides.frostburg.edu/libhours. For info, contact the Library Main Desk during open hours at 301-687-4395 or by email at libref@frostburg.edu. Online resources remain accessible via the Library's website at www.frostburg.edu/library.

PAWS Pantry Has a Freezer!

Stop by to grab finals snacks. Frozen fruits and veggies are also available.

Mondays and Wednesdays – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays – 1 to 7 p.m.

Planetarium Events

For info, contact Dr. Jason Speights at jcspeights@frostburg.edu.

Take a Break and Relax at the Planetarium on Reading Day

The Multimedia Learning Center will host a special full-dome viewing of the Hubble Ultra Deep Field on Wednesday, May 11, at the Planetarium, Gira Center 186. Anyone can stop by between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The Hubble Ultra Deep Field is the deepest image of the cosmos ever taken by the Hubble Space Telescope. It contains about 10 thousand galaxies and looks as far back in time as about 13 billion years ago.

Coming to the Planetarium

“The Sun, Our Living Star” is coming to the FSU Planetarium in June.

The final Science Saturday will be held on June 4 at 5 and 7 p.m. Science Saturday features space news, a sky tour and a movie.

The movie for June is “The Sun, Our Living Star.”

The show lasts about an hour. Telescope observing will take place afterwards if conditions are favorable.
Graduate Grade Changes

The last day for graduate grade changes, including the removal of incomplete grades for the fall 2021 and Intersession 2022 semesters, is **Tuesday, May 10**.

FSU-TV3

Did You Miss ‘Good Morning Frostburg’?

If you missed seeing the latest episode of “Good Morning Frostburg,” log on to YouTube at [https://youtu.be/7NkMpUyR4q0](https://youtu.be/7NkMpUyR4q0), visit FSU-TV3’s Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/FSUTV3](http://www.facebook.com/FSUTV3) or see the show again on **Wednesday, May 11**, at 9 a.m. on Comcast channel 3.

Plan on Celebrating This Month?

Promote and Practice the Four Be’s When Dealing With Fireworks

Be prepared. Always read and follow label directions. Keep pets indoors; they’re easily frightened by fireworks. Always have water handy (a hose or a bucket of water).

Be responsible. Soak used fireworks in a bucket of water. Dispose of used fireworks and debris properly. Never relight “dud” fireworks. Wait 15-20 minutes, then soak in a bucket of water.

Be safe. Light only one at a time and move away quickly. Do not throw fireworks or hold them in your hand.

Be aware. Only use fireworks where it’s legal to do so. Fireworks are prohibited on beaches, in state parks and on state or federal forest land.

Remember that sparklers burn at temperatures up to 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, hot enough to melt metal and glass, and can very easily ignite clothing and hair!

Happy, Healthy, Hip Tips From the BURG Peer Education Network

**Mental Health Monday:** Mental Health Doesn’t Take a Summer Break
[https://youmatter.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/mental-health-dont-take-a-summer-break](https://youmatter.suicidepreventionlifeline.org/mental-health-dont-take-a-summer-break)

**Tell Yourself Tuesday:** Affirmations to Tell Yourself During the Summer
[https://healingbrave.com/blogs/all/summer-affirmations-enjoy-your-company](https://healingbrave.com/blogs/all/summer-affirmations-enjoy-your-company)

**Wacky Wednesday:** How Sunlight Improves Our Mental and Physical Health
[https://www.healthline.com/health/depression/benefits-sunlight#sun-safety](https://www.healthline.com/health/depression/benefits-sunlight#sun-safety)

**Thankful Thursday:** Thirty-Day Summer “Thank You” Challenge

**Fun Friday:** Activities to Try, Right Here in Western Maryland!
[https://www.visitmaryland.org/list/things-see-and-do-western-maryland](https://www.visitmaryland.org/list/things-see-and-do-western-maryland)

**Social Saturday:** Keep in Touch Over the Summer!

**Self-Love Sunday:** Self-Love Summer
VALUES AND VISION: FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2023

CORE VALUES

Frostburg State University is a place where every student can experience a myriad of opportunities both in and out of the classroom, fostered by a sense of inclusion and close mentoring relationships with faculty and staff.

Frostburg State University is committed to developing cultural competence and cultivating understanding of and respect for a diversity of experiences and world views that encourage each person’s ability to “take the perspective of the other.”

Frostburg State University is committed to a system of shared governance that allows faculty, staff and students to learn about the issues the University confronts and that provides a structure for meaningful input into University decisions.

OUR VISION FOR FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2023

Frostburg State University is a regionally acclaimed and nationally recognized academic institution that provides distinctive programs to support state and regional workforce needs. Faculty, staff and students foster collaboration in a welcoming and inclusive campus culture.

Students value the opportunities open for them at FSU and form close mentoring relationships with faculty and staff, who are committed to their success and well-being. Students apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to internship, civic engagement, study abroad and research experiences to meet the challenges of a complex and changing global society.

The University is integrated into the fabric of the community as a valued and respected regional asset. We are committed to making changes that secure our future while celebrating the values that reflect our history.

STRATEGIC GOALS

Focus learning on the acquisition and application of knowledge.

Provide engaging experiences that challenge our students to excel.

Expand regional outreach and engagement.

Align University resources – human, fiscal and physical – with strategic priorities.

To view FSU’s Strategic Plan 2018-2023 online, visit www.frostburg.edu/strategicplan.