Commencement

Penn State Schuylkill

May 4, 2024
Brigadier General Laura McHugh was appointed Deputy Adjutant General–Army for the Pennsylvania National Guard in April 2021, after serving as Chief of Staff.

She has held numerous diverse positions throughout her 37 years of service with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard (PAARNG), including: 213th Regional Support Group Commander, Joint Force Headquarters State G1, Service Member and Family Support Division Chief, and Recruiting and Retention Battalion Commander. Her most memorable assignment was her time serving as the 131st Transportation Company Commander, with whom she deployed to Iraq from February 2003 – May 2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Her awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (fifth award), Army Commendation Medal (fifth award), Air Force Commendation Medal (second award), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (sixth award), National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary and Service Medals, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon and numerous state awards. She also holds the Parachutist and Recruiter Basic badges.

Brigadier General McHugh graduated from the U.S. Army War College in July 2015, earning a master’s degree in strategic studies. She earned her master’s degree in leadership and business ethics from Duquesne University in May 2009. She was commissioned through Scranton University’s ROTC program in 1991, upon earning her bachelor’s degree in finance from King’s College.

Brigadier General McHugh currently resides in Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, with her husband Dan, a PAARNG retiree. They have two adult children, Brennan and Kaitlyn, and welcomed their first granddaughter last summer.
COMMENCEMENT
PROGRAM

PROCESSION
Trio from Pomp and Circumstance March No.1 by Edward Elgar
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Harold Aurand, Ph.D.
Faculty Marshal

OPENING
Patrick M. Jones, Ph.D.
Chancellor

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
The Star Spangled Banner by John Stafford Smith
United States Marine Band

WELCOME

ADVISORY BOARD MESSAGE
Richard J. Wiest, J.D.
President, Penn State Schuylkill Advisory Board

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Brigadier General Laura A. McHugh
Deputy Adjutant General–Army, Pennsylvania National Guard

STUDENT ADDRESS
Abby Nichole Morneau

RECOGNITION OF SCHOLASTIC DISTINCTION AND VETERANS
Cory Scherer, Ph.D.
Interim Director of Academic Affairs

TRUSTEE
David Davis
Penn State University Board of Trustees

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES AND CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

ALUMNI MESSAGE
Michael Maccarone, A.S. ’12, B.S. ’14, MHA ’18
Penn State Schuylkill Alumni Society

CHANCELLOR’S REMARKS

ALMA MATER
For the Glory of Old State by Fred Lewis Patee
Penn State Glee Club

RECESSION
Trumpet Tune and Air by Henry Purcell
Philip Jones Brass Ensemble
DISTINCTION

Distinction is conferred on graduates who have completed the required number of credits at various Penn State colleges, and who are in the top twelve percent of their college graduating class.

The twelve percent is divided into two percent “Summa Cum Laude,” four percent “Magna Cum Laude,” and six percent “Cum Laude.”

CANDIDATES FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREES

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Associate in Science

Mercedes Carmen Fisher
Kody Ryan Schell
Ruby Elizabeth Shipe

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES

Associate in Science

Haley Leilani Nikole Brown
Allison Raye Crockett
Christopher Fox
Ryan Benjamin Leibson
Tori Elizabeth Schnovel
Gracelyn Marie Weismiller
Sierra Lynne Wishnefsky

MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Associate in Arts

Angelina Mae DiGregorio
Tatianna Hardy
Kacey Marie Harper
Caitlee Rose Yohn Kessock
Aleyah Skye Rivera
Shelby Eliza Walkusky

RADIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Associate in Science

Faith Nicole Brintzehofe
Payton Buck
Megan Dallatore
Makenzie Elizabeth Daubert
Caroline Elizabeth Delaney
Faith Nicol Gottshall
Olivia Haldeman
Tiffany Amber Hitzler
Mackenzie A. Kerkeslager
Tara Lynn Kimmel
Brad Kramer
Zachary Krueger
Jocelyn Maxine Miller
Daisy Miraflores
Abigail Irene Orach
Abigail Nicole Ramos
Madeline May Robinson
Olivia Springer
Kaitlin Turk
Ashlyn Marie Wilson
Paige Nichole Zerbe
Ashley Marie Zolynski

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Ruby Elizabeth Shipe

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Justice Leah Marie Cappella
Angelina Mae DiGregorio
Caitlee Rose Yohn Kessock
Emily Elizabeth Papa
Mia Giovanna Raguso
Tori Elizabeth Schnovel
Melanie Anne Shimko
Gracelyn Marie Weismiller
Sierra Lynne Wishnefsky

CUM LAUDE

Meghan Willow Brake
Christopher Fox
Carina Garcia
Hannah Marie Meyer
Gaethelyne J. Najac
Valerie Nicole Sleva
Melanie Elizabeth Torrales
Owen Westley Zimmerman

MILITARY HONORS

Mercedes Carmen Fisher
Brad Kramer
CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

BIOLOGY
_Bachelor of Science_
Susan Brennan
Saidah A. Burke
Briana Butler¹
Austin Michael Homan
Valerie Nicole Sleva
Jared Benjamin Sterner

BUSINESS
_Bachelor of Science_
Justice Leah Marie Cappella
Katie Charowsky²
Lisa Marie Conshue¹
Ryan Patrick Jarboe²
Joseph Ladick¹
Kaden Michael Lengle
Joshua Seiler
Lucas Centola E Silva¹
Brendan J. Welsh-Lowe
Owen Westley Zimmerman

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION
_Bachelor of Arts_
Austin Tyler Blackman²
Kyle Stephen Ferguson
Daisha Jewell Lively
Alivia G. Payne
Collin W. Pryce
Haley Carolyn Sekellick
Dayne Yourkavitch

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
_Bachelor of Arts_
Jasmine Davari Wright

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
_Bachelor of Science_
Alyssa Marie Beltz
Rebecca Cooper
Carina Garcia¹
Stephanie Marie Hillbish
Abby Nichole Morneau
Kayla Christine Peterkin
Patrick Joseph Ryan
Krista Ellen Sausser¹
Melanie Elizabeth Torrales
Alyssa Lynn Youst

CYBERSECURITY ANALYTICS AND OPERATIONS
_Bachelor of Science_
Maleeha Bano²
Jonathan Killian
Melanie Ann Shimko¹

FINANCE
_Bachelor of Science_
Brendan Smith

HEALTH POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
_Bachelor of Science_
Daiquon Banks²
Tianna N. Denniston
Juliana Akissi Ndjore²

NURSING
_Bachelor of Science in Nursing_
Caitlyn Elizabeth Albitz
Savannah Alexis Bowmer
Meghan Willow Brake
Amanda J. Cerniglia
Niyah Nache Conway
Brandi Shaye DeAngelo
Erin Nicole Dougherty
Cassandra Lynn Dreher
Kyla Valerie Carlos Guillermo
Kya Leigh Henry
Kelsey A. Leitzel
Vân Thào Luong
Taylor Ashley Jade Marks
Marissa Martinez
Hannah Marie Meyer
Cassandra L. Miller
Cristal Guadalys Morales
Gaetshelyne J. Najac
Emily Elizabeth Papa
Cecilia Lizeth Prado³
Thomas Robert Price III
Mia Giovanna Raguano
Anna Lynne Stoever
Kaitlyn Diane Vassallo
Marli Mae Wise

¹ Graduated fall 2023
² Projected to graduate summer 2024
³ Graduated summer 2023
CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

PROJECT AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT
Bachelor of Science
Joshua Horvath¹
Lucas Centola E Silva¹

PSYCHOLOGY
Bachelor of Arts
Hayley Nicole Salen

PSYCHOLOGY
Bachelor of Science
Ethan Lars Androshick¹
Susan Brennan
Sierra Marie Brossman¹
Haley Burd¹
Magali Martinez Carranza
Amber Elise Denobrega
Brendan Dotter
Tyler Fritz-Marrero
Stephanie Marie Hillbish
Hailey Elizabeth Koch
Poetic Serenity Session

HONOR CORDS

Graduating students who have earned distinction and honors are presented with cords to wear with their robes. The colors of the cords represent the distinction or honors they have attained as follows:

Academic Distinction
Students graduating Cum Laude earn white cords, students graduating Magna Cum Laude earn blue cords, and students graduating Summa Cum Laude earn blue and white cords.

Penn State Schuylkill Honors Program
Students who have completed the Penn State Schuylkill Honors Program earn gold cords.

Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society
Students who have met the standards of this adult honor society earn burgundy and gold cords.

Beta Beta Beta Honor Society
Students who have met the standards of this biological honor society earn green cords.

Chi Alpha Sigma College Athlete Honor Society
Students who have met the standards of this society earn yellow and black cords.

Gamma Beta Phi Honor and Service Society
Students who have met the standards of this society earn black and gold cords.

Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society
Students who have met the standards of this national communication honor society earn red and white cords.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
Students who have met the standards of this honor society earn blue and gold cords.

Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society
Students who have met the standards of this international nursing honor society earn purple and white cords.

Military and Veterans
Veterans, currently serving members of the Armed Forces, and R.O.T.C cadets earn red, white, and blue cords.

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER DEGREES

HIGHER EDUCATION
Master of Education
Amy Lynn Joyce

¹ Graduated fall 2023
² Projected to graduate summer 2024
³ Graduated summer 2023

This list was produced on April 12, 2024, as an unofficial list of graduating students and those earning honors.
Celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2024, Penn State Schuylkill was one of Penn State’s first Commonwealth campuses. Since 1934, Penn State Schuylkill has remained committed to fulfilling its land-grant mission. In doing so, it provides access to affordable high-quality education, conducts and promotes research to improve people’s lives, and engages with our communities in order to make them better places to live.

Penn State Schuylkill serves 700 students and offers 10 baccalaureate degrees in such in-demand fields as healthcare, business, and technology. Penn State Schuylkill also offers four associate degrees and the first two years of undergraduate study in more than 275 majors that can be completed at University Park or other campuses.

In addition to academic programs, Penn State Schuylkill Co-Op connects students with the workforce from the first year of their undergraduate experience. Across the full four years of the undergraduate experience, students learn through integrating rigorous coursework with three full-time work experiences and relevant career development training. Regional employers benefit because co-op students are not just prepared for the workplace, they’ve been there. They graduate with a diploma and a résumé.

Penn State Schuylkill undergraduates also have the opportunity to collaborate with faculty members on original research. Students investigate important issues related to their academic interests across various disciplines, from humanities to business to STEM and more. These research experiences often lead students to present their work at regional and national conferences and publish papers in peer-reviewed academic journals.

Student-athletes participate in 13 sports across the PSUAC and USCAA conferences. New in 2023-2024, Penn State Schuylkill added men’s soccer and volleyball to the lineup.
OFFICERS

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Robert S. Carl, Jr., First Vice President
William J. Parulis, Second Vice President
Patrick M. Jones, Ph.D., Secretary
Jeffrey E. O’Neill, Treasurer

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Representative Joanne Stehr
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Commissioner Barron Hetherington
Commissioner Larry Padora
Lucas Redmond, Ph.D., Faculty Senate
Kyla Guillermo, Student Government President

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Robert J. Ackell, Ed.D.
Matthew B. Bates
Thomas Cara
Christine P. Fannick
Shawn T. Fitzpatrick, Ed.D.
Kimberly A. Hashin, M.D.
David Hatfield, Ed.D.
Roy Heim
David H. Helsel, Ed.D.
Timothy Holden
Matthew Horoschak
Gabe Kamarousky
Karen A. Kenderdine
Allen E. Kiefer
Raymond J. Kinder
Pete Krammes
David Masser
Richard J. Mextorf, Ed.D.
Honorable Charles M. Miller
W. Fred Miller
James T. O’Brien
Terrence J. Purcell
Heath W. Renninger
William J. Reppy
Darlene J. Robbins
Honorable Jacqueline L. Russell
Richard B. Russell, Jr., D.O.
Galen Troxell
Brian K. Waite
Sarah Yoder, Ed.D.
Nicholas R. Zigmant
Frank J. Zukas

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

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Helene Zuber Slocum
Thomas W. Wylonis, Ph.D.

EMERITUS MEMBERS

Wayne D. Lammie, Ph.D.
Helen F. Williams

PLEASE NOTE: This document was produced April 12, 2024, and is an unofficial list of students who indicated an intent to graduate. Students who indicated their intent after that production date are not listed.

This publication is available in alternative media on request. Persons with disabilities who anticipate needing accommodations or who have questions about physical access may contact Therese Hohman at tmh235@psu.edu or 570-385-6101 in advance of the program. Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or protected veteran status. UBR SLO 24-31.