

THE ONE HUNDRED NINETIETH ANNUAL  
COMMENCEMENT

LAFAYETTE  
COLLEGE

May 24, 2025

#LafGrad



The One Hundred Ninetieth  
Commencement Exercises  
of  
LAFAYETTE COLLEGE  
May 24, 2025  
Easton, Pennsylvania



# THE ORDER OF EXERCISES

*(The audience will be seated for the Processional and will rise for the Invocation.)*

## THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

### THE BEARER OF THE MACE

Dru Germanoski  
Dr. Ervin R. Van Artsdalen Professor of Geology

### THE CLASS OF 2025

Walter Snipes, Marshal  
Dean of Students

### THE FACULTY

Laura McGrane, Marshal  
Provost

### SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

### THE TRUSTEES

Edward W. Ahart '69, H'10, P'97'03, Marshal  
Trustee Emeritus

### THE PLATFORM PARTY

### THE PRESIDENT AND

### THE SPEAKER OF THE DAY

### ALEXANDRA M. HENDRICKSON

Chaplain of the College and  
Director of Religious and Spiritual Life

### SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE LAFAYETTE

### COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR

### MEMBERS OF THE LAFAYETTE COLLEGE CONCERT BAND

O beautiful for spacious skies,  
For amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesties  
Above the fruited plain.  
America! America!  
God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea!

### CHAPLAIN HENDRICKSON

#### TASHA CENGEL '26

Student, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
April 22, 2004-March 25, 2025

#### CAROLYNN VAN DYKE

Francis A. March Professor Emerita of English  
July 2, 1947-February 11, 2025

### NICOLE FARMER HURD

President

### PRESIDENT HURD

#### H. DAVID HUSIC

John D. and Frances H. Larkin  
Professor of Chemistry

#### ARTHUR KNEY

Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering

#### MARY J.S. ROTH '83

Simon Cameron Long Professor of Civil and  
Environmental Engineering

#### JAMES P. SCHAFFER

Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

#### ERIC ZIOLKOWSKI

Helen H.P. Manson Professor of the English Bible

## THE INVOCATION

### “AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL”

Words by Katharine Lee Bates

Music by Samuel A. Ward

Arranged by Kirk O’Riordan

Director of Bands

Associate Professor of Music

## IN MEMORIAM

## PRESIDENT’S WELCOME

## RECOGNITION OF FACULTY ELECTED TO EMERITUS STATUS

RECOGNITION OF TRUSTEE  
ELECTED TO EMERITUS STATUS

ROBERT E. SELL '84, H'18  
Chair, Board of Trustees

DAVID M. ROTH '70

CONFERRING OF  
HONORARY DEGREES

PRESIDENT HURD  
INTRODUCTIONS BY MR. SELL

JANICE D. KOMISOR  
Doctor of Public Service

LT. GEN. (RETIRED) STUART W. RISCH '84  
Doctor of Law

THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

MK ASANTE '04  
Doctor of Arts

CONFERRING OF  
DEGREES IN COURSE

PRESIDENT HURD

PRESENTATION BY JOSHUA SMITH  
Clerk of the Faculty

TIMOTHY COX  
Dean of Advising and Co-Curricular Programs

CHRISTOPHER SELENA  
Senior Class Dean

ABIGAIL CLOSE  
Junior Class Dean

BRANDON MORRIS  
Sophomore Class Dean

ALEXIS SMITH  
First-Year Class Dean

*(The audience is requested to defer applause until all degrees are conferred.)*

PRESENTATION OF  
SENIOR CLASS GIFT

BRENDAN BAUER '25 AND MOLLY NYLUND '25  
Members, Senior Class Gift Committee

INTRODUCTION OF  
PEPPER PRIZE FINALISTS

TIMOTHY COX

GRACE COMFORT '25  
LAUREN DANIELS '25  
AMAGHAN EJAZ '25  
MEGHAN INGLIS '25  
LILY KUBANY '25  
SHREYA SURESH '25  
DENISSE VILLEGAS '25  
EVA MEI VOGT '25  
RONNIE WARD '25

PEPPER PRIZE  
RECIPIENT'S REMARKS

TYLER ROBERTS '25

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

PRESIDENT HURD

CLASS FANFARE  
"Fanfare to Roads Not Yet Traveled"  
Composed by Daniel Ruggiero '25

MEMBERS OF THE LAFAYETTE COLLEGE  
CONCERT BAND

## THE ALMA MATER

Words and Music by Walter C. Stier,  
Class of 1884  
Arranged by Kirk O'Riordan

## SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE LAFAYETTE COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR MEMBERS OF THE LAFAYETTE COLLEGE CONCERT BAND

We'll gather by the twilight's glow  
In front of old Pardee.  
In all the world no other scene  
So fair, so dear to me.  
O Lafayette, O Lafayette,  
To thee our voices raise!  
While loyal lips and loyal hearts  
Unite to sing thy praise.

### CHORUS

We'll gather by the twilight's glow  
In front of old Pardee.  
In all the world no other scene  
So fair, so dear to me.

## THE BENEDICTION

## CHAPLAIN HENDRICKSON

## THE ACADEMIC RECESSION

*(The audience will be seated throughout the Academic Recession.)*

## MUSIC

KIRK O'RIORDAN, CONDUCTOR  
KATIE RICE '21, ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR  
SAMANTHA SEMSEL '25, ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR

### PRE-CEREMONY MUSIC

"AMERICANS WE" BY HENRY FILMORE (1929)  
"FOLK DANCES" BY DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH (1942)  
"SOMEWHERE" BY LEONARD BERNSTEIN AND  
STEPHEN SONDHEIM (1957)  
CONDUCTED BY KATIE RICE '21  
"ENGLISH FOLK SONG SUITE" BY  
RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS (1923)  
"AMAZING GRACE" BY FRANK TICHELI (1994)  
"THE WASHINGTON POST" BY JOHN PHILIP SOUSA (1889)

### PROCESSION MUSIC

"MARCH OF THE LEARNED" (2025)  
COMPOSED BY KIRK O'RIORDAN  
"FANFARE AND PROCESSION" (2022)  
COMPOSED BY KIRK O'RIORDAN  
Performed by Members of the Lafayette College Concert Band  
*Flute:* Brian Morris '27, Iris Peluso '26, Emily Kozero '28,  
Emma Martin '28  
*Clarinet:* Aram Ramsay '26, David Broczkowski '28, Jennifer Blair,  
Don Grossman '74 (bass)  
*Bassoon:* Sean Catarroja '27  
*Saxophone:* Julia Sealing '27, Andrew Manni '27, Evan Brown '27,  
John Skalski '27, Peter Rice '84, Katie Rice '21  
*Horn:* Madeline Paguia '28, Lawrence Kursar\*  
*Trumpet:* Corey Stein '28, William Blair '26, Anastasia  
Krial-Victor '26, Ben Cluver '24, Tyler Grogg '28,  
Charlotte Konopada '29, Peter Neu\*, Ag Primatic\*  
*Trombone:* Jim Lutz\*, Pedro dos Santos '26, Jackson Eshbaugh '27,  
Benjamin Zwicker '27, Jasmine Smith '29  
*Euphonium:* Tzur Haspel Sores  
*Tuba:* Jack Kerekes '24, Gary Cattley\*  
*Percussion:* Akiva Zamchek, Joe Freeston '27, William Hoelzel '28,  
Axel Barnett

\*Members of Presentation Brass

### "AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"

WORDS BY KATHARINE LEE BATES  
MUSIC BY SAMUEL A. WARD  
ARRANGED BY KIRK O'RIORDAN, DIRECTOR OF BANDS AND  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

Performed by Senior Members of the  
Lafayette College Concert Choir  
Ethan Coffin '25, Alex Granville '25, Jess Heske '25,  
Margot James '25, Nathaniel Roman '25, Priscilla Wu '25

### CLASS FANFARE

"FANFARE TO ROADS NOT YET TRAVELED"  
COMPOSED BY DANIEL RUGGIERO '25  
Performed by Members of the Lafayette College Concert Band

### ALMA MATER

WORDS AND MUSIC BY WALTER C. STIER, CLASS OF 1884  
ARRANGED BY KIRK O'RIORDAN  
VOCAL ARRANGEMENT BY TOM DIGIOVANNI '01  
CONDUCTED BY SAMANTHA SEMSEL '25

Performed by Senior Members of the  
Lafayette College Concert Choir  
and Members of the Lafayette College Concert Band

### RECESSION MUSIC

"LA MORISQUE" AND "LA BATAILLE"  
COMPOSED BY TIELMAN SUSATO (1551)  
ARRANGED BY KIRK O'RIORDAN  
Performed by Members of the Lafayette College Concert Band

## IN MEMORIAM

TASHA CENGEL '26, an electrical and computer engineering major, passed away March 25, 2025.

Remembered by her family as a passionate advocate for people in distress, Cengel intently and actively sought ways to help others. In lieu of birthday gifts for her sixth birthday, which came on the heels of a devastating earthquake in Haiti, she asked friends and family members to make donations to a charitable organization that was providing relief to affected families.

Cengel, who was aptly born on Earth Day, loved nature and was active in scouting. She earned the rank of Eagle Scout just before she turned 18. At Lafayette College, Cengel pursued her passion for practical science by studying electrical and computer engineering.

Cengel's funeral was held Monday, March 31. A memorial gathering was held in her honor on the Lafayette College campus Saturday, April 26, where friends, faculty, and others shared stories and memories about Cengel. Contributions can be made in her memory to The Trevor Project ([give.thetrevorproject.org/Tasha](https://give.thetrevorproject.org/Tasha)) or Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (196 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, PA 19072).

CAROLYNN VAN DYKE, Francis A. March Professor Emerita of English, passed away Feb. 11, 2025.

Van Dyke taught at Lafayette from 1980 to 2016. She was hired as an assistant professor of English, moved to

the Computer Science Department in 1984, where she achieved tenure, and returned to the English Department in 1990. While at Lafayette she received the following honors: Thomas and Lura Forrest Jones Faculty Lecture Award; Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching and Service; Marquis Distinguished Teaching Award; National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Fellowship; Woman of the Year, and Lehigh Valley Association of Academic Women. She is survived by her spouse, Ann Carter.

"Lynn Van Dyke defined Lafayette excellence: A polymath who was trained as a humanist, she headed the fledgling computer science program at Lafayette even while she led the English Department for many years," says Paul Cefalu, Frank Lee and Edna M. Smith Professor and English Department head. "Later in her career she helped found the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program. She led with brilliance but also with gentle kindness. A scholar of the first rank—whose work on allegory continues to be influential—she was above all a model teacher and mentor whose presence in the classroom shaped the lives of a generation of students."

A celebration of Van Dyke's life will be held Saturday, June 28, 2025, at the Meetinghouse of the Lehigh Valley Quaker Meeting (4116 Bath Pike, Bethlehem, PA 18017).

## RETIRING FACULTY ELECTED TO EMERITUS STATUS

H. DAVID HUSIC, John D. and Frances H. Larkin Professor of Chemistry, has been a member of the faculty for 39 years.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry from Pennsylvania State University and his doctoral degree at Michigan State University. Husic joined the faculty in 1986, and was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 1992 and full professor in 2003. He was named the John D. & Francis H. Larkin Professor of Chemistry in 2004. Husic served as the head of the Chemistry Department for 18 years, between 1997 and 2018.

Husic notably created the biochemistry major at the College and contributed to the transformation of Olin Hall into the Hugel Science Center. He has been a committed mentor to numerous research students, many of whom have gone on to graduate and medical school.

Husic's research interests include the enzymology and physiology of carbon dioxide utilization and carbon metabolism in photosynthetic organisms. He has successfully obtained external research funding and has authored and co-authored dozens of journal articles, and has been invited to present seminars and at many conferences.

Husic has a distinguished service record at the College, having served on the Appeal and Grievance Committee, Faculty Compensation Committee, Climate Action Plan Committee, Health Professions Advisory Committee, and

dozens more. He has served as an external reviewer for university programs, a peer reviewer for top journals in his field, and grant proposal reviewer for the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Energy.

ARTHUR KNEY, professor of civil and environmental engineering, has been a member of the faculty for 26 years.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in biology from St. Francis College; a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from University of Massachusetts; and his master's and doctoral degrees from Lehigh University. Kney joined the faculty as assistant professor in 1999, and was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 2007 and full professor in 2018. He served as head of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department from 2010 to 2016.

Kney has provided transformative opportunities for students by connecting them to real-world issues and practical solutions. He has taught courses in environmental engineering, site assessment, water supply, and design. Kney's inspiring mentorship and care have contributed to the success of many students after graduation; dozens of his students have gone on to receive prestigious awards.

Kney's areas of research include separation processes, surface water and treated wastewater effluent quality

assessment, optimization of solid waste composting, and pedagogical development and assessment in STEM/engineering education. He studied the water quality of the local Bushkill watershed, established a long-term composting program at the College, and worked with the local wastewater treatment plant to reclaim a valuable nutrient through bio-solubilization. All of these research efforts include students, with whom he has co-authored. Kney has an impressive scholarly record of remarkable quality, quantity, and breadth. His work has been featured in esteemed journals and venues, and he has secured numerous grants throughout his career.

Kney is a demonstrated leader with an exemplary service record. He supported the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department and the Engineering Division through ABET reviews. He was an elected member of the Appeal and Grievance Committee and Promotion, Tenure, and Review Committee. He served as director of the Landis Center for Community Engagement (2017-21), and chaired the Student Life Committee and Academic Research Committee. Outside Lafayette, he has served on the board of directors for the Bushkill Stream Conservatory and on the scholarship committee of the Water Works Operators' Association of Pennsylvania.

A licensed professional engineer (PE) and board-certified environmental engineer (BCEE), Kney received the Vincent Viscomi Award for Excellence in Mentoring and Teaching, the Faculty Award for Excellence in Community-Based Pedagogy, the Aaron O. Hoff Award (three times), and the Delta Upsilon Distinguished Mentoring and Teaching Award.

MARY J.S. ROTH '83, Simon Cameron Long Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has been a member of the faculty for 34 years.

She earned a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from Lafayette College, a Master of Science degree from Cornell University, and her doctoral degree from University of Maine. Roth joined the faculty as an instructor in 1991, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1992, associate professor with tenure in 1999, and full professor in 2005. She was named Simon Cameron Long Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering in 2006 and has served multiple terms as head of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department.

Over the course of her career at Lafayette, Roth has set many College records. She was the first faculty member to be awarded the Crawford Award, and the first female Lafayette graduate to receive a tenured position at the College. She also was the first female tenured professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the College, as well as the first female in the College's Engineering Division to hold the roles of department head, full and chaired professor, and director. To add to the list of accolades, Roth was also a Fulbright Scholar, an American Council on Education Fellow, the Interim Associate Provost and Director of Engineering, and the Associate Provost for Academic Operations.

Roth is an imaginative teacher who consistently follows through with the most excellent practices to prepare students for a complex and changing world. The alignment

of her teaching methods with research of effective practices is particularly noteworthy. She has been the recipient of the Marquis Distinguished Teaching Award twice and has mentored numerous students in her career at Lafayette.

Roth's scholarly record represents an enormous level of achievement. She has been the recipient of nine National Science Foundation grants. She holds a patent with another faculty member and has written two books (including one on leadership), 15 peer-reviewed journal publications, and more than 50 peer-reviewed conference presentations. She also has delivered more than 50 presentations and invited talks. It is noteworthy that Roth achieved some of this during her time of administrative service. Her scholarly record also shows that she values interdisciplinary collaboration, frequently co-authoring with faculty members from outside of engineering.

Roth's service record is admirable. She led two ABET self-studies (one at the department level and one at the Engineering Division level) and was a faculty adviser for multiple student organizations. She led a number of campus-wide initiatives, including a decennial Middle States review, and served on dozens of College committees, some for multiple terms, including the Promotion, Tenure, and Review Committee; Appeal and Grievance Committee; Faculty Compensation Committee; Academic Research Committee; and Curriculum and Educational Policy Committee. She is a respected leader who demonstrates profound commitment to her profession, having held dozens of positions, such as ABET program evaluator, national judge for American Council of Engineering Companies, associate editor for *Journal of Engineering and Environmental Geophysics*, and board member of the Engineering and Environmental Geophysics Society. Roth has served as a reviewer of top journals in her field and as an external evaluator for the National Science Foundation.

JAMES P. SCHAFFER, professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering, has been a member of the faculty for 35 years.

He earned his Bachelor of Arts in mechanical engineering and materials science, and his doctoral degree from Duke University. Schaffer joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1990, and was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 1994 and full professor in 2000.

Schaffer taught a variety of courses at Lafayette, including Experimental Design, Composites, and Nature of Engineering Materials. His students frequently praised his teaching, one writing: "It is easy to tell he loves what he does and does it well." Schaffer cared deeply for his students, even making his co-authored textbook available free to students struggling with financial burdens.

Schaffer's research areas focused on physical and electronic structure of materials and spectroscopy. He was the recipient of four grants, wrote two textbooks, obtained two patents, published dozens of refereed papers, and presented at many conferences. In 2000, Schaffer became the director of the Engineering Department and actively supported his colleagues' research programs.

A leader within his department and at the College, Schaffer served on the Academic Progress Committee, Faculty Academic Policy Committee, Governance



Committee, Promotion, Tenure, and Review Committee, as well as dozens of other committees, often elected as chair.

Schaffer was the recipient of the Lindback Award, the Marquis Distinguished Teaching Award, the Superior Teaching Award (three times), the Jones Faculty Lecturer Award, and several teaching awards in his professional field.

ERIC ZIOLKOWSKI, Helen H.P. Manson Professor of the English Bible, has been a member of the faculty for 36 years.

He earned his Bachelor of Arts in religion at Dartmouth College, and his master's and doctoral degrees from University of Chicago Divinity School. Ziolkowski came to Lafayette as a one-year visiting assistant professor in 1988, joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1989, and was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 1994 and full professor in 2000. He also previously served as the Charles A. Dana Professor of Religious Studies, and before that as a Dana Assistant Professor. He served as head of the Department of Religious Studies for more than 15 years: in 1994, 2002-08, and 2014-23.

Ziolkowski has taught a broad repertoire of classes and topics, mentored numerous honors theses, and guided students on long-form independent scholarly projects. Dozens of his students presented their work at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research. Students have appreciated his enthusiasm, organization, and openness to divergent views, as well as his manner in generating discussion and engagement.

Ziolkowski is a leading scholar in his field with research interests that include religion and literature, reception history of the Bible, philosophy of religion, comparative religion, and the history of Christianity. He has published nine books, more than 60 articles, close to 200 encyclopedia entries, and scores of reviews. He also co-edited an

international journal, 24 volumes of an international encyclopedia, and 25 volumes of an international book series, and has presented his scholarship in more than a dozen countries on four continents. He also taught in China.

Ziolkowski has been a noteworthy leader at the College, having served as chair and member of the Appeal and Grievance Committee; chair and member of the Governance Committee; member of the Promotion, Tenure, and Review Committee and (former) Academic Council Committee; and elected member on a Presidential Search Committee, the Trustee committees on Financial Policy and Educational Policy, and a trustee sub-committee to review the Tenure Appeals Process. He co-chaired the Medieval, Renaissance, and Early Modern Studies Program for 15 years, and served on numerous advisory, search, steering, and planning committees, often acting as chair. A significant contribution to the department and College was Ziolkowski's vision and development of the Earl A. Pope Guest Lectureship in World Christianity.

In recognition of his scholarly and teaching contributions, which are considerable, he was awarded the 2005 Mary Louise Van Artsdalen Prize for Outstanding Scholarly Achievement, the Thomas Roy and Lura Forrest Jones Award for Superior Teaching and Excellence of Scholarship, the Thomas Roy and Lura Forrest Jones Lecture Award, and the Ilan Peleg Award for Excellence in Faculty Mentoring.

For his profession, he served as an external evaluator dozens of times and reviewed books and manuscripts for top publishing companies. Ziolkowski is an active member on advisory boards of three journals. He also is an elected member of the American Society for the Study of Religion, and an elected life fellow of the Society for the Arts, Religion, and Contemporary Culture.

## RETIRED TRUSTEE ELECTED TO EMERITUS STATUS

DAVID M. ROTH '70, retired senior managing director of SouthOcean Capital Partners, served as a trustee from 1994 to 2024.

Over the course of 30 years, Roth served on numerous committees—having served as vice chair on the Committee on Audit and the Committee on Educational Policy, and as a member of the Trustee Educational Policy, Trustee Audit, Trustee Financial Policy, Campaign Executive, and Trustee committees.

In 2007, Roth and his wife, Linda, established the David M. '70 and Linda Roth Professorship Fund, which created three professorships for Lafayette faculty who are exceptional teachers, successfully mentor students (by directing activities such as independent study and EXCEL Scholar projects), and are recognized as leading scholars in their fields.

The Roths also established the David M. Roth 1970 Scholarship Fund, which provides funding to students on both a "need" and "non-need" basis.

## CANDIDATES FOR HONORARY DEGREES

JANICE D. KOMISOR served three decades providing a variety of services to those in need across the city and beyond through her various roles at ProJeCt of Easton. Komisor most recently served as the organization's CEO, a position she held for 16 years, before retiring in August 2023.

Komisor joined the organization in 1994 as director of the Even Start Family Literacy Program. From there, she was named director of language and literacy services in 1998, and in 2007 she took on the role of executive director.

A major focus for Komisor was identifying and employing literacy interventions that really worked for marginalized communities, and particularly for economically disadvantaged people. For Komisor, the fundamental purpose of ProJeCt has been to provide economically disadvantaged adults and families with access to education, enabling them to advance themselves. Having witnessed countless success stories and the impact of ProJeCt's work, Komisor notes that she is profoundly thankful to have found work with such purpose.

Komisor and ProJeCt have been recognized with multiple awards, including the Freedom Through Literacy Award, presented by Judith's Reading Room; Liberty Bell Award, presented by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division; inaugural George Wolf Public Education Award, presented by the Easton Area School District; Gateway to Equity Award, presented by the American Association of University Women; the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy grant; and Executive Education Scholarship to Harvard Business School, presented by the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. Under Komisor's leadership, ProJeCt of Easton also received a coveted four-star rating from Charity Navigator and a platinum rating from Candid, formerly known as GuideStar.

Komisor earned a Bachelor of Arts in history from Franklin and Marshall College, as well as a Master of Education from Lehigh University.

STUART W. RISCH '84 is a retired United States Army Lieutenant General who last served as the 41st Judge Advocate General (or senior uniformed lawyer) of the U.S. Army in the Pentagon. As a general officer, he previously served in the rank of Major General as the Deputy Judge Advocate General, U.S. Army, and in the rank of Brigadier General as both the Commanding General of the Army's Legal Services Agency and as the Commandant of the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School, Charlottesville, Va.

Raised in Orange and West Orange, N.J., Risch graduated from Newark Academy in Livingston, N.J., in

1980. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in government and law and history from Lafayette College in 1984. He participated in Lafayette's Reserve Officers' Training Corps program and was commissioned as a field artillery officer that same year. Risch then received his Juris Doctor degree from Seton Hall University School of Law in 1987. While attending law school, he served as a platoon leader, executive officer, and company commander in the 78th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Reserve. After time spent in the private practice of law in Montclair, N.J., he entered active-duty service as a member of the Judge Advocate General's Corps in 1988.

Risch received his LL.M. degree from The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in 1996. He also completed a master's degree in strategic studies at the U.S. Army War College in 2007.

In 2021, Risch was nominated by the president and confirmed by the U.S. Senate for promotion to the rank of lieutenant general. He was promoted in July 2021 and assigned to serve as the Army's 41st Judge Advocate General, leading a legal corps of more than 5,000 lawyers and more than 10,000 personnel total, who are assigned worldwide.

In September 2024, he retired after 40 years of total service as a commissioned officer. Risch's military awards include, among many others, the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf Clusters, and Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. He is married to the former Cindy A. McKenzie, and together they have three children and nine grandchildren. They currently reside in Alexandria, Va., and Risch is a partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm Shook, Hardy & Bacon.

## COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

MK ASANTE '04 is a bestselling author, award-winning filmmaker, recording artist, and distinguished professor who the *Los Angeles Times* calls "one of America's best storytellers." Asante is the author of five books, including the 2013 bestselling memoir *Buck: A Memoir* and the 2024 award-winning memoir *Nephew: A Memoir in Four-Part Harmony*. *Buck* was praised by Maya Angelou as "a story of surviving and thriving with passion, compassion, wit, and style." It is a multiyear *Washington Post* bestseller and the recipient of numerous literary awards, and is currently being adapted into a major motion picture.

Asante is the co-writer (with Phil Collins) of the official Monday Night Football anthem, "In the Air Tonight," performed by Grammy-winning artists Chris Stapleton, Julie Blackman Santana, and Snoop Dogg. He also co-wrote the intro films to the 2021 NBA Finals broadcast on ABC, which was directed by Academy Award-winning director Spike Lee.

Yale University, Vanderbilt University, and Harvard University are among the many higher education

institutions where Asante has delivered distinguished lectures. He has toured in more than 50 countries and was awarded the key to the city of Dallas. Asante is featured in *A Changing America*, a permanent video exhibit at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Hailed by CNN as "a master storyteller and major creative force," Asante has published essays in *The New York Times* and *USA Today*. He also has been featured on the *Today* show and *The Breakfast Club*. Asante's inspirational story "The Blank Page" is featured in the No. 1 *New York Times* bestseller *Chicken Soup for the Soul*.

Asante studied at SOAS University of London, earning a Bachelor of Arts from Lafayette College and an MFA from UCLA School of Theater, Film, and Television. He was appointed Distinguished Professor-in-Residence at MICA Business School in Gujarat, India, and he is currently a tenured professor of cinematic arts and sciences at Morgan State University, where he is the recipient of the Distinguished Achievement Award.

## GEORGE WHARTON PEPPER PRIZE RECIPIENT

The 2025 George Wharton Pepper Prize, given annually to the senior “who most closely resembles the Lafayette ideal,” has been voted upon by students and members of the faculty and administration, and awarded to TYLER ROBERTS ’25.

While volunteering for a disaster preparedness course run by his mother (who works as a firefighter paramedic and a medical specialist on a FEMA urban search-and-rescue team), Roberts watched as paramedics responded to the “injured.” It was then he knew healing people would be his life’s path.

Roberts, who played tight end for the Lafayette football team, is graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree with majors in biochemistry and neuroscience as well as a minor in biotechnology and bioengineering. In addition to being an athlete with a demanding academic schedule, Roberts has participated in EXCEL research, won the 2023 LVACS Organic Chemistry Scholarship Grand Prize, and served as a Supplemental Instruction Leader in chemistry. He also spent much of his sophomore year working for the Easton Emergency Squad.

Originally from California, Roberts says working within Easton helped him connect with his home away from home.

He spent three years acting as a student-athlete peer mentor as well, and says the community he was able to build with fellow athletes and his professors also made Easton into a home.

Roberts says his adviser, Chip Nataro, Marshall R. Metzgar Professor and head of chemistry, worked hard to help Roberts plan out his double major, helped him find summer research opportunities, and acted as a mentor as Roberts juggled his responsibilities throughout college.

Whether on the field or in the lab, Roberts has been committed to using his skills to make a difference in the world. Following graduation, Roberts will be attending University of California Irvine School of Medicine, with a hope to specialize in either neurosurgery or emergency medicine.

“We all struggle, we all have triumphs, and that’s going to look different for each and every person,” he says. “It’s all about remembering this, and knowing at the end of the day, we’re all people, and we’re here to help each other.”

# DEGREES IN COURSE

Lafayette College will confer the following degrees in course: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, Bachelor of Science in Biology, Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, Bachelor of Science in Geology, Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, Bachelor of Science in Physics, Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering, Bachelor of Science in Integrative Engineering, and Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. The major programs of the Bachelor of Arts candidates are noted following the degree.

Degree recipients with outstanding scholastic records are graduated with academic honors. Students with a

cumulative grade point average of 3.85 or higher (where A equals 4.0) are graduated summa cum laude ("With highest praise"). Students with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.75 but less than 3.85 are graduated magna cum laude ("With great praise"). Students with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.65 but less than 3.75 are graduated cum laude ("With praise"). The following list of graduates and their honors is as complete and accurate as possible at the time of printing.

**To view a list of the 2024-25 academic awards, please scan the QR code to access the Honors Convocation program. Printed copies are available at the hospitality tent.**



ANTHONY MATTHEW ABENANTE New York, N.Y.  
*A.B. Mathematics & Economics*  
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RYAN DANIEL PIGNOTTI <i>B.S. Chemical Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude	Frelinghuysen, N.J.	KYRA GIRGIS REESE <i>B.S. Psychology</i> Magna Cum Laude	Wayzata, Minn.
ABIGAIL ELIZABETH PINGPANK <i>A.B. English/History</i> Honors in English	Wexford, Pa.	ISABEL PEARL REH <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Reiterstown, Md.
ELONNE IRENE PISACANE <i>B.S. Integrative Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude	Gansevoort, N.Y.	BENJAMIN REOHR <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i>	Severna Park, Md.
QWIN ROSA PISACANE <i>B.S. Integrative Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude	Gansevoort, N.Y.	ASHER CHRISTIAN RICCI <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude	Moorestown, N.J.
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ADAM STANLEY PORT <i>A.B. Mathematics</i>	Altoona, Pa.	ETHAN L. RIDDLE <i>A.B. Art</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Art	Bangor, Pa.
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LAXMAN POUDEL <i>B.S. Electrical &amp; Computer Engineering</i>	Butwal, Nepal	TYLER JAMES ROBERTS <i>B.S. Biochemistry</i> <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i> Summa Cum Laude	San Jose, Calif.
AMANDA PRATT <i>B.S. Biology</i> Cum Laude	Merrick, N.Y.	MARIAN ELIZABETH ROBERTSON <i>A.B. English</i> Magna Cum Laude	Summit, N.J.
AVA MARIE PRESTIGIACOMO <i>A.B. Government &amp; Law/Philosophy</i>	Holmdel, N.J.	SEAN CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON <i>B.S. Chemical Engineering</i>	Bernardsville, N.J.
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JOSEPH CHARLES PROSTICK <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i> Cum Laude	Saratoga Springs, N.Y.	SARA M. ROGERS <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Madison, N.J.
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OLIVIA PUZIO <i>A.B. Government &amp; Law/History</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Government & Law/History	Wayne, N.J.	MICHAEL S. ROMANO <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Spring City, Pa.
ELIZABETH KELLEY QUILTY <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i> Summa Cum Laude	Rockville Centre, N.Y.	ANGELA MARIE ROOT <i>A.B. Mathematics</i> Summa Cum Laude	Easton, Pa.
KIRA DEANNA RAISON <i>A.B. English/Government &amp; Law</i> Summa Cum Laude	Holland, Pa.	EDITH CAROLYN ROSBOTTOM <i>A.B. English</i> Summa Cum Laude	Dover, Mass.
SHREYA RAIZADA <i>A.B. Government &amp; Law</i>	New York, N.Y.	BENJAMIN ROSEN <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Boulder, Colo.
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NICHOLAS PETER ROSSI <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Somers, N.Y.	COREY SAVEDOFF <i>A.B. Economics</i>	New York, N.Y.
ERIN OLIVIA ROTH <i>B.S. Geology</i>	Springfield, N.J.	LUKA SAVIKJEVIKJ <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Skopje, North Macedonia
JOSHUA M. ROTHMAN <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Needham, Mass.	SEAN PEI SHUO SAW <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Cerritos, Calif.
TRISTEN J. ROUNDTREE <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Raleigh, N.C.	SOPHIE ELIZABETH SCHAEFFER <i>A.B. International Affairs/Spanish</i> Summa Cum Laude	Harleysville, Pa.
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ROBERT HAMPTON RUSK <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Greenwich, Conn.	STEPHEN JAMES SCHMIEDER <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i> Magna Cum Laude	Manasquan, N.J.
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MICHAELA NOELLE SALVATI <i>B.S. Biology</i>	Monroeville, N.J.	MATTHEW DOYLE SHERER JR. <i>A.B. Anthropology &amp; Sociology/Economics</i>	Tampa, Fla.
GRACE BABCOCK SANBORN <i>A.B. English/Environmental Studies</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Environmental Science & Studies	Easton, Pa.	NAOMI HANNAH SHERTZER <i>B.S. Civil Engineering</i> Magna Cum Laude	Worcester, Mass.
GABRIELA CELESTE SANCHEZ <i>A.B. Economics</i> Magna Cum Laude	San Juan Capistrano, Calif.	WILLIAM KILDAY SHERWOOD <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i> <i>A.B. History</i>	McLean, Va.
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LIAM JOSEPH SARGENT <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Manhasset, N.Y.		
JOANNE SARMIENTO SANTILLAN <i>B.S. Civil Engineering</i>	Coram, N.Y.		

LAWRENCE STEPHEN SHORE <i>A.B. Economics</i> Magna Cum Laude	Weston, Conn.	TANUSHREE SOW MONDAL <i>A.B. Economics/International Affairs</i> Summa Cum Laude	Suri, India
GRANT CHARLES SICKLES <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Hillsborough, N.J.	LINEKE JACQUELINE JANNEKE BERNARDA SPAANS <i>A.B. International Affairs</i>	Bussum, Netherlands
AARON DENNIS SIGMOND-WARNER <i>A.B. Philosophy/Psychology</i>	Oceanport, N.J.	SOPHIA BRIDGET SPALLONE <i>A.B. Mathematics &amp; Economics</i> Magna Cum Laude	Yorktown Heights, N.Y.
JAKE RYAN SILPE <i>A.B. Economics</i>	New York, N.Y.	AVIV SPRINGER-GALST <i>A.B. Art</i> Honors in Art	New York, N.Y.
ANNA SILVER <i>B.S. Biochemistry</i>	East Norwich, N.Y.	JULIA STAHL <i>A.B. Psychology</i> Cum Laude	Larchmont, N.Y.
GEORGE ROVERE SIMA <i>B.S. Civil Engineering</i>	Atlantic Highlands, N.J.	TESS CONCETTA STANLEY <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i> <i>A.B. Philosophy</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Neuroscience	Huntington, N.Y.
WILLIAM ADAM SINKWAY <i>B.S. Geology</i>	Jenkintown, Pa.	DAYTON RYAN STAUFFER <i>A.B. Economics</i> Magna Cum Laude	Akron, Pa.
JOSEPH R. SKAPINETZ <i>A.B. Computer Science</i>	Far Hills, N.J.	CHARLES RICHARD CHANDOS STEELE <i>B.S. Chemical Engineering</i>	Westport, Conn.
HENRY SKATOFF <i>Bachelor of Arts/Economics</i> Cum Laude	Westport, Connecticut	NOAH H. STERNICK <i>B.S. Civil Engineering</i>	Natick, Mass.
MATTHEW P. SKIBNIEWSKI <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Montclair, N.J.	LAUREN SHEA STEWART <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i> Magna Cum Laude	West Chester, Pa.
JAMES MAXWELL MICHAEL SKINNER <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i>	Verona, N.J.	FRANCESCA ANNA STIX <i>A.B. Government &amp; Law/Psychology</i>	Red Bank, N.J.
QUIN ADAM SLIFER <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i>	Shillington, Pa.	NINA LATIFI STONE <i>A.B. Economics/Policy Studies</i>	Princeton, N.J.
AIDAN WILLIAM SMITH <i>B.S. Chemical Engineering</i>	Swedesboro, N.J.	KATHARINE KEAN STRONG <i>A.B. English/Government &amp; Law</i> Magna Cum Laude	Duxbury, Mass.
CARL STEVENSON SMITH <i>A.B. Art</i>	Darby, Pa.	RILEY PATRICK SULLIVAN <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Roswell, Ga.
FINLAY JAMES MICHAEL SMITH <i>B.S. Chemical Engineering</i> <i>A.B. Mathematics</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering	Raunds, United Kingdom	SHREYA SURESH <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i> Summa Cum Laude	San Jose, Calif.
HALEE ELIZABETH SMITH <i>B.S. Biology</i>	Alexandria, Pa.	DAVID SWAIN <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Feasterville, Pa.
JULIETTE REED SMITH <i>B.S. Biology</i> Summa Cum Laude	Wayland, Mass.	EMMA ELIZABETH SYLVESTER <i>A.B. English</i> Summa Cum Laude	Mountainside, N.J.
NATALIE ILANA SMITH <i>A.B. English</i> Cum Laude	Port Washington, N.Y.	SWETHA REDDY TADISINA <i>A.B. Engineering</i>	Hyderbad, India
LILY ANNA SNYDER <i>B.S. Chemical Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude	Sinking Spring, Pa.	PATRICK MITCHELL TATE <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Boonton Township, N.J.
JARED IAN SOFAIR <i>B.S. Physics</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Physics	Fort Wayne, Ind.	CHRISTOPHER DONALD TAVERNER <i>B.S. Civil Engineering</i> Magna Cum Laude	Easton, Pa.
NICHOLAS A. SORAK <i>B.S. Electrical &amp; Computer Engineering</i> Magna Cum Laude	Houston, Texas		

ALEXIA TAYLOR <i>A.B. Psychology</i>	San Clemente, Calif.	DERRIK TREZZA <i>A.B. Government &amp; Law</i>	Randolph, N.J.
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MOLLY ALEXANDRA TERRACIANO <i>A.B. Psychology</i>	Pelham, N.Y.	ARLYNE VAGHARI <i>A.B. Government &amp; Law</i>	New Hyde Park, N.Y.
SAHIL THAKALI <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Elmhurst, N.Y.	BRADY RONALD VALLE <i>A.B. Economics/Government &amp; Law</i> Cum Laude	Stewartsville, N.J.
BRIANA RAE THOMAS <i>A.B. International Affairs</i> Cum Laude	Hanover Township, N.J.	MATTHEW VALLE <i>B.S. Biology</i> Cum Laude	Mineola, N.Y.
DREW G. THOMAS <i>A.B. Government &amp; Law</i>	Sebastopol, Calif.	ANNA ELIZABETH VAN ORMER <i>A.B. Psychology</i>	Macungie, Pa.
REGINALD A. THOMAS JR. <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Campbellsville, Ky.	HAYDEN MICA VAN STEYN <i>A.B. Mechanical Engineering</i> Cum Laude	Lafayette, Calif.
MATTHEW M. THOMPSON <i>B.S. Chemical Engineering</i>	Berwyn, Pa.	JUSTIN H. VANDER BAAN <i>A.B. Psychology</i>	Whitinsville, Mass.
AIDAN THORP <i>B.S. Computer Science</i>	Fair Haven, N.J.	COOPER VANNECK <i>A.B. Psychology</i>	Rye, N.Y.
CONRAD P. TILROE <i>A.B. Music</i> Magna Cum Laude Honors in Music	London, United Kingdom	ADRIANA MARIA VERGONA <i>A.B. Philosophy/Psychology</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Psychology	Staten Island, N.Y.
MAURA ELIZABETH TIMONEY <i>B.S. Biology</i>	Havertown, Pa.	ALEXANDER WOODS VEST <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i>	Cumberland, Maine
TANAJA B. TINSLEY <i>A.B. Art</i>	New York, N.Y.	DIEGO VILLALPANDO <i>A.B. Anthropology &amp; Sociology</i>	Phoenix, Ariz.
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CARSON GRACE TOOMER <i>A.B. Anthropology &amp; Sociology/Government &amp; Law</i> Cum Laude	Wilmington, N.C.	EVA MEI R. VOGT <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i> Summa Cum Laude	Monongahela, Pa.
SOPHIA LYNN TOOMEY <i>B.S. Neuroscience</i>	New Providence, N.J.	PHƯƠNG NAM VU <i>B.S. Electrical &amp; Computer Engineering</i> <i>B.S. Mathematics</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Electrical & Computer Engineering	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
KRISTINA HOPE TORKELSEN <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Wilton, Conn.	GRETCHEN ALEXANDRA WAECHTER <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Sea Cliff, N.Y.
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MIA KIMBERLY BULLIS TRANI <i>A.B. English/German</i> Magna Cum Laude Honors in English	Orinda, Calif.		
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ELISE KATHERINE WALSH <i>A.B. English/Geology</i> Cum Laude	Little Silver, N.J.	SAIKU DON WHITE <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Atlanta, Ga.
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KATHARINE JOY WALTON <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Berwyn, Pa.	HARPER THERESA BLAIR WILL <i>B.S. Geology</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Geology & Environmental Geosciences	Springfield, Pa.
ZHE WANG <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i>	China	CHLOE ROSE WILLIAMS <i>A.B. Computer Science</i>	New Market, Md.
RONNIE ALEXANDRIA WARD <i>A.B. Government &amp; Law/Theater</i> Summa Cum Laude	North Bethesda, Md.	NINA WILLIAMS <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i>	Hong Kong, China
MAXWELL DAVID WARNOCK <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude	Manchester, Mass.	NOAH CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i>	Vestavia Hills, Ala.
CONNOR WILLIAM WARREN <i>B.S. Chemical Engineering</i>	Oxford, Pa.	KALEB ANDREW WILLIS <i>A.B. Mathematics &amp; Economics</i>	Westampton, N.J.
ERICA NICOLE WEAVER <i>B.S. Biology</i> Summa Cum Laude	Wind Gap, Pa.	ALEXANDER QUINN WILSON <i>A.B. Psychology</i>	Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y.
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THOMAS LEVERING WEIR <i>A.B. English</i>	Newtown, Pa.	WILLIAM H. WOOLLEY <i>A.B. Economics</i>	Bethlehem, Pa.
DANIEL WEISPFENNING <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude Honors in Mechanical Engineering	Ridgewood, N.J.	KATHRYN LOUISE WRIGHT <i>B.S. Civil Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude Co-Valedictorian	Glen Mills, Pa.
CLAIRE ESME WEITZMANN <i>A.B. Mathematics &amp; Economics</i> Summa Cum Laude	Stroudsburg, Pa.	PRISCILLA YUXIN WU <i>B.S. Electrical &amp; Computer Engineering</i> Summa Cum Laude	Potomac, Md.
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HANZHE ZHOU <i>B.S. Computer Science</i> <i>B.S. Mathematics</i> Honors in Computer Science/Mathematical Sciences	Chengdu, China
ELIZABETH ZIWOT <i>A.B. Psychology</i> Cum Laude	Bernardsville, N.J.
NATASHA ZORBAS <i>B.S. Civil Engineering</i> Cum Laude	Perth, Australia
OLIVIA ANNE ZORETIC <i>B.S. Integrative Engineering</i>	West Chester, Pa.
ISABEL Z. ZUBER <i>B.S. Mechanical Engineering</i> <i>A.B. International Studies</i> Summa Cum Laude	Manilus, N.Y.
SARAH ROSE ZURMUHL <i>B.S. Psychology</i>	Warminster, Pa.



# NOTES ON THE CEREMONY

## THE PROCESSIONAL MACE

The tradition of the mace in the academic ceremony is the result of a long evolution. From the 11th to the early part of the 16th century, the mace (derived from the French *masse*) was a short wooden club used in hand-to-hand combat. Commonly, medieval monarchs were protected by trusted sergeants-at-arms who carried maces, and in courtly surroundings the weapon soon came to be regarded as a royal symbol. Often, it was richly decorated with engraved silver and gold ornamentation, such as the royal seal and coat of arms.

Today, the mace is a symbol of the sovereignty of the College and, at Lafayette, is carried by the faculty member senior in rank of full professor in the academic procession opening the annual Commencement Exercises.

The processional mace used in today's ceremony was presented to the College in 1954 as a gift of the Class of 1904. Designed by Frederick K. Detwiller, a member of the 1904 class and artist-in-residence at Lafayette from 1948 until his death in 1953, the intricate ornamentation was executed in silver by Tiffany and Company. The head of the mace forms a loving cup engraved on one side with the coat of arms of the Marquis de Lafayette, and on the other with the College Seal. On the seal is a portrait of the young Lafayette and the College motto, *Veritas liberabit* ("The truth shall make you free"). The mace is topped by 12 scrollwork flanges, symbolic reminders of the sharp iron blades that barbed the head of the original battle weapon.

The Dean of the Faculty carries an elaborately carved wooden mace that, like the processional mace, was first used at Commencement in 1954. A gift of Gottfried Eypeltauer, an Austrian exchange student who attended Lafayette in 1950–51, it was carved in Austria and bears the College Seal and the coat of arms of the Marquis de Lafayette.

The other marshals' batons are for the most part made from the stair rail of the house long occupied by Professor Francis A. March. The batons were first carried at the inauguration of President John Henry MacCracken in 1915.

## THE ACADEMIC COSTUME

The origin of academic dress can be traced to the medieval university, when robes were often necessary for warmth in the unheated halls where scholarly enclaves gathered. Today, however, the scholar's gown has become a ceremonial symbol of academic distinction.

In the United States, formal guidelines for academic dress were initiated in 1895 at a national conference of educational leaders hosted by Columbia University. Perceiving the need to determine a common set of practices among the rapidly increasing number of American colleges and universities, representatives formed an Intercollegiate Code on academic dress. Revised in 1932 and 1959, the Intercollegiate Code still provides the descriptive guidelines for interpreting ceremonial dress at an academic convocation today.

By stipulating design and color variations in the ceremonial robe, the Code provides a system to distinguish the academic degree, institution, and field of study of the wearer. The traditional robe is black, but at some institutions earning a doctorate carries with it the privilege of wearing a robe in the institutional color.

*Degree:* The shape and size of the hood and the design of the sleeves indicate the academic degree of the wearer.

Bachelor's Degree:	Pointed sleeves; usually without hood
Master's Degree:	Long, closed sleeves with arm slits; narrow hood
Doctor's Degree:	Bell-shaped sleeves; broad, draped hood

*Institution:* The color of the lining of the hood denotes the college or university by which the degree was conferred. A partial list of degree-granting institutions is included here:

Lafayette:	Maroon and white
Carnegie Mellon:	Tartan
Chicago:	Maroon
Columbia:	Blue and white
Duke:	Blue and white
Harvard:	Crimson
Johns Hopkins:	Old gold and sable
Pennsylvania:	Red and blue
Penn State:	Blue and white
Princeton:	Orange and black
Washington:	Purple and gold
Yale:	Blue

*Field of Study:* The color of the hood facing identifies the field of study in which the academic degree has been conferred.

White:	Arts, Letters, Humanities
Gold:	Science
Dark Blue:	Philosophy
Scarlet:	Theology
Purple:	Law
Orange:	Engineering
Brown:	Fine Arts
Green:	Medicine
Copper:	Economics
Light Blue:	Education
Pink:	Music

LAFAYETTE  
COLLEGE

Chartered by  
The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
March 9, 1826