

# **State System universities to hold fall commencements**

## ***Ceremonies scheduled for weekend of Dec.14-16***

**Harrisburg** – Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education universities will hold their fall commencement ceremonies beginning Dec. 14 and continuing throughout the weekend on the various campuses.

Outstanding students, alumni and faculty are among the scheduled speakers who will address the new graduates, their families and other guests who will attend the programs. Details of each of the programs follow:

**Bloomsburg** – A pair of faculty members will address more than 400 undergraduates who will receive their degrees at commencement ceremonies to be held at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Dec. 15, in Mitrani Hall in the Haas Center of the Arts.

Dr. Molly Marnella, associate professor and chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning, will speak during the morning program, where students from the Colleges of Education and Liberal Arts will be awarded their degrees. Dr. Loren F. Selznick, chair of the Department of Accounting and an associate professor of business law, will speak at the afternoon ceremony to students in the Colleges of Business and Science and Technology.

Almost 70 graduate students will receive their degrees during a separate ceremony to be held at 6 p.m., Dec. 14, also in Mitrani Hall.

**California** – Timothy P. Camus, a 1984 Cal U. graduate, will speak during separate ceremonies for undergraduate and graduate students scheduled for Dec. 14 and 15 in the university's Convocation Center.

Camus worked in the U.S. Treasury Department for 31 years, including 25 years as a special agent in the inspector general's office, where he investigated domestic terrorism groups, death threats made against public officials, bribery, extortion and other aspects of internal corruption and white-collar crime involving the IRS.

The program for undergraduates receiving associate and bachelor's degrees will be held at 10 a.m., Dec. 15. Graduate students, including the first students from the university's Doctor of Health Science program, will receive their degrees in a ceremony scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., Dec. 14.

**Clarion** – A pair of Clarion University professors will address graduates at separate ceremonies to be held Dec. 15 in Marwick Boyd Auditorium.

Dr. James Lyle, an assistant professor in the Department of Communications, will speak to graduates in the College of Arts, Education and Sciences at 10 a.m.; and Dr. Frank Shepard, a faculty member in the Finance Department, will speak to graduates in the Colleges of Business Administration and Information

Sciences and Health and Human Services at 2 p.m. Dr. Lyle has been a faculty member at Clarion since 2001 and is chair of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Shepard joined the faculty in 1990. He is the founder and editor of the Clarion University Law Journal and has served as director of Clarion's paralegal program since 1991.

**East Stroudsburg** – Dr. Daniel Greenstein, chancellor of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, will be the keynote speaker during commencement ceremonies scheduled to begin at 9:45 a.m., Dec. 15, in Koehler Fieldhouse. Terrence Bomar, who will be receiving his second Master of Education degree from ESU, and Karl Bohnenberger, who will be awarded a bachelor's degree in physics, also will speak during the program.

Dr. Greenstein became the State System's fifth chancellor in September. He serves as chief executive officer of the State System, which operates Pennsylvania's 14 public universities, serving nearly 100,000 students. He previously led the Postsecondary Success strategy at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, where he worked with other higher education leaders across the country on initiatives designed to raise educational-attainment levels and to promote economic mobility, especially among low-income and minority students.

**Edinboro** – A pair of student speakers will highlight separate commencement ceremonies for undergraduates and graduate students being held Dec. 15 at Edinboro.

Rachel Shirey, who will receive a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in studio arts, will address undergraduate students at a 10 a.m. ceremony to be held in McComb Field House. Rosmari Graham, who will be awarded a Master of Arts in communication studies, will speak during the graduate program scheduled for 2 p.m. in Louis C. Cole Auditorium.

**Indiana** – Dr. Jeffery L. Larkin, a professor in the Biology Department, will be the speaker at a pair of ceremonies to be held Dec. 15. Dr. Larkin is the 2018-19 Distinguished University Professor and Distinguished Faculty Award recipient for research.

Also speaking during the separate programs will be students Colin J. Brown, who will be receiving a doctoral degree in safety sciences, and Maria J. Newton, who will be graduating from the Cook Honors College with a bachelor's degree in management.

Graduate students will receive their degrees during a 9:30 a.m. program to be held in Fisher Auditorium. Undergraduates will be awarded their degrees during a 1 p.m. program in the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex.

**Kutztown** – A pair of graduating students and a faculty member will address nearly 500 graduates who will receive their degrees in a ceremony scheduled to begin at 9 a.m., Dec. 15, in O'Pake Field House. The student speakers will be Colin Quinn of Flourtown, who will receive a Master of Education in secondary education curriculum and instruction degree, and Kylin Camburn of Coopersburg, who will be awarded a Bachelor of Arts in

communication studies degree, with a minor in bioethics. Dr. Dina Hayduk, associate professor of sport management and leadership studies, will be the faculty speaker. She has served as an educator for more than 27 years.

**Mansfield** – Dr. Nancy Sidell, professor emeritus in social work, will be the keynote speaker during Mansfield University’s 154 commencement to be held at 11 a.m., Dec. 15, in Decker Gymnasium.

**Millersville** – State System Chancellor Dr. Daniel Greenstein will address graduates during commencement ceremonies scheduled for 2 p.m., Dec. 16, in Pucillo Gymnasium.

**Shippensburg** – Richard Calhoun, organizational development specialist for the West Virginia Education Association, and Barb Bowker, vice president of marketing and membership development for the Pennsylvania State Employees Credit Union (PSECU), will speak to graduates receiving their degrees at Shippensburg University.

Calhoun, who received both his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Shippensburg, will address graduate students at 7 p.m., Dec. 14, in the Luhr’s Center. Bowker, also a Shippensburg alumna, will speak at the undergraduate ceremony scheduled to begin at 11 a.m., Dec. 15, in Heiges Field House.

**Slippery Rock** – Recently inaugurated President Dr. William Behre will address new degree recipients during Slippery Rock’s fall commencement program. The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m., Dec. 15, in Morrow Field House.

**West Chester** – Three commencement ceremonies will be held Dec. 15 and 16, all in Hollinger Fieldhouse.

Gerard Sweeney, a 1979 alumnus and president, chief executive officer and trustee of Brandywine Realty Trust, will address graduate students receiving their degrees at 10 a.m., Dec. 15. Susan Schick, a 1988 West Chester graduate and vice president of U.S. talent at QVC, will address undergraduates in the Colleges of Business and Public Management, Sciences and Mathematics, and the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, at 10 a.m., Dec. 16. Frank Branca, a 1970 alumnus and president of Branca-Rampart Agency, a full-service life, disability, long-term care, and annuity provider for independent agents and financial planners, will address undergraduates in the Colleges of Arts and Humanities, Education and Social Work and Health Sciences, and the School of Music at 2 p.m., Dec. 16.

Cheyney and Lock Haven universities do not hold commencement programs in the fall.

*Pennsylvania’s State System of Higher Education comprises 14 public universities, which combined enroll the largest number of Pennsylvania residents among all four-year colleges and universities in the Commonwealth. With nearly 100,000 degree-seeking students and thousands more enrolled in certificate and other career-development programs, the State System is a vital contributor to the Pennsylvania economy, generating an estimated \$6.7 billion of economic activity annually. Collectively, the State System universities offer more than 2,300*

*degree and certificate programs in more than 530 academic areas. The universities have nearly 800,000 living alumni, the vast majority of whom reside in Pennsylvania.*

*The State System is undertaking a System Redesign, which began last year with a top-to-bottom review of the universities and the Office of the Chancellor. As a result of that review, the Board established three priorities: ensuring student success; leveraging the universities' strengths; and transforming the System's governance structure. The Board also affirmed its commitment to ensuring the long-term sustainability of all 14 institutions within the System so that each may continue to serve students, its region and the Commonwealth. To view regular updates of the redesign, go to <http://systemredesign.passhe.edu>.*

*The State System universities are Bloomsburg, California, Cheyney, Clarion, East Stroudsburg, Edinboro, Indiana, Kutztown, Lock Haven, Mansfield, Millersville, Shippensburg, Slippery Rock and West Chester Universities of Pennsylvania. The universities also operate branch campuses in Oil City (Clarion), Freeport and Punxsutawney (IUP), and Clearfield (Lock Haven), and offer classes and programs at several regional centers, including the Dixon University Center in Harrisburg and in Center City in Philadelphia.*