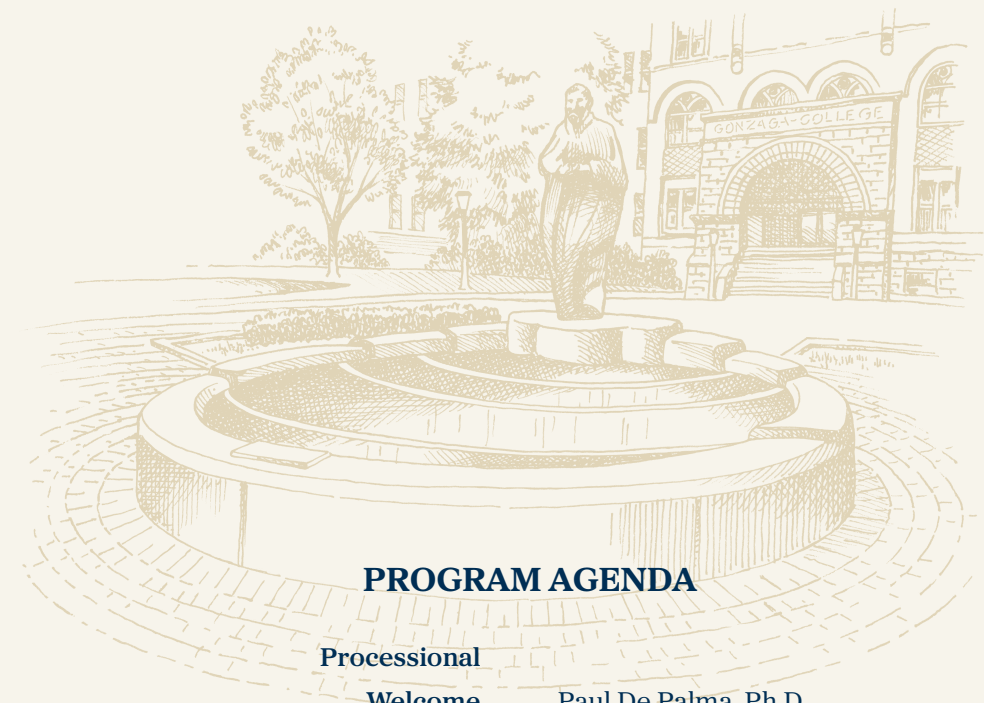


The
PHI BETA KAPPA
Society

Gonzaga University
Epsilon of Washington

Chapter Installation & Induction
April 27, 2025





PROGRAM AGENDA

Processional

Welcome

Paul De Palma, Ph.D
Professor of Computer Science and PBK Epsilon of
WA President

Invocation

Tim Clancy, S.J.
Associate Professor of Philosophy

Provost Welcome

Mia Bertagnolli, Ph.D
Professor of Biology and Interim Provost, Gonzaga
University

Chapter Installation

Dr. Fred Lawrence, CEO/Secretary and
Dr. Esther Jones, President of the PBK Society

Foundation Member Induction

Dr. Lawrence and Provost Bertagnolli

Chapter Constitution, By Laws and Officers

Dr. Lawrence

Historian Account of History

Sarah James, Ph.D.
Professor of Political Science and PBK Epsilon of
WA Historian

Student Inductees

Epsilon of WA Officers

Presidential Remarks

Thayne M. McCulloh, D.Phil
President of Gonzaga University

Closing and Adjourn

Dr. De Palma

Recessional

Please proceed to Hemmingson Center Ballroom for a Celebratory Dinner

CHAPTER MEMBERS

Kirk Anders, Ph.D.

Professor & Department Chair of Biology
Whitman College – Beta of Washington Chapter

Logan Axon, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Department Chair of Mathematics
Grinnell College – Beta of Iowa Chapter

Wilson Bailey, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry
University of Puget Sound – Delta of Washington Chapter

Monica Y. Bartlett, Ph.D

Professor of Psychology
Lewis and Clark College – Gamma of Oregon Chapter

Randall Bennett, Ph.D.

Professor of Economics, Emeritus
Washington State University - Gamma of Washington Chapter

Kirk Besmer, Ph.D.

Professor of Philosophy
University of Dallas – Eta of Texas Chapter

Tasha Block

Director, Outdoor Programs

David Calhoun, Ph.D.

Professor of Philosophy
Louisiana State University – Beta of Louisiana Chapter

Kelsey Carlston, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Economics
Virginia Tech – Mu of Virginia Chapter

Vesta Coufal, Ph.D.

Professor of Mathematics
Mount Holyoke College – Theta of Massachusetts Chapter

Shannen Cravens, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry & Biochemistry
University of San Diego – Phi of California Chapter

Paul De Palma, Ph.D.

Professor, Computer Science
St. Louis University – Gamma of Missouri Chapter

Joan Iva Fawcett, Ph.D.

Dean of Social Justice Leadership & Community Empowerment
UC San Diego – Sigma of California Chapter

Cheryl Flaim

Budget Officer & Special Projects Coordinator
University of Washington – Alpha of Washington Chapter

Adam Fritsch, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Physics
Wabash College – Beta of Indiana Chapter

Blaine Garvin, Ph.D.

Professor of Political Science
Swarthmore College – Epsilon of Pennsylvania Chapter

Erica Goldberg, J.D.

Professor of Law
Tufts University – Delta of Massachusetts Chapter

Sarah Harmon

Director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights
University of Oregon – Alpha of Oregon Chapter

Brett Hendricks, M.A., M.Div.

Computer Labs Manager -- Arts & Sciences ; Adjunct Instructor of Philosophy

Drew University – Gamma of New Jersey Chapter

Eric Hogle, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Mathematics
Reed College – Beta of Oregon Chapter

Jason M. Houston, Ph.D.

Dean, Gonzaga in Florence
University of Oregon – Alpha of Oregon Chapter

Sarah E. James, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Political Science
University of Texas at Austin – Alpha of Texas Chapter

Jessica M. Kiser, J.D.

Associate Professor of Law; Co-Director for the Center for Law, Ethics & Commerce; Director of the Wine Institute
Boston University – Epsilon of Massachusetts Chapter

Maria J. Kulp, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Philosophy
Roanoke College – Nu of Virginia Chapter



Ron Large, Ph.D.

Professor of Religious Studies
University of Virginia – Beta of Virginia Chapter

Dean Larson, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Mathematics
Hamline University – Zeta of Minnesota Chapter

Rebecca E. Marquis, Ph.D.

Professor of Spanish
Dickinson College – Alpha of Pennsylvania Chapter

Robbie McMillian

Registrar and Director of Academic Services for the School of Law
University of Idaho – Sigma Xi of Idaho Chapter

Daniel J. Morrissey, J.D.

Professor of Law
Georgetown University – Delta of D.C. Chapter

Shalon Parker, Ph.D.

Professor of Art, Department Chair of Critical Race & Ethnic Studies
University of California – Upsilon of California Chapter

Karen Petruska, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Communication Studies
St. Louis University – Gamma of Missouri Chapter

Amy Pistone, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Department Chair Elect of Classical Civilizations
UC, Berkeley – Alpha of California Chapter

Wayne Pomerleau

Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus
Georgetown University - Delta of the District of Columbia Chapter

Sarah F. Porter, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
Southwestern University – Theta of Texas Chapter

Jacob H. Rooksby, J.D., Ph.D.

Smithmoore P. Myers Dean of Law and Professor of Law

William and Mary – Alpha of Virginia Chapter

Benjamin Semple, Ph.D.

Professor of French and Chair of Modern Languages and Literature
Hamilton College – Epsilon of New York Chapter

James Simon

Director of Sustainability
University of Buffalo – Omicron of New York Chapter

Deborah Anne Smith, DNP

Associate Professor of Nursing
Washington State University – Gamma of Washington Chapter

Nancy L. Staub, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology
Earlham College – Delta of Indiana Chapter

Rebecca M. Stephanis, Ph.D.

Professor of Spanish
Occidental College – Delta of California Chapter

Danielle Teague

Associate Director of Student Experience, Research, and Assessment
Washington State University – Gamma of Washington Chapter

Joseph Vignone

Assistant Professor of History
Fordham University - Tau of New York

Lee Wurm, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychology
University of Minnesota – Alpha of Minnesota Chapter

J. Donald
Curran, ‘60 J.D.

Attorney and Philanthropist

Highly regarded for providing ethical advice to colleagues in the legal profession, Don Curran is a practicing attorney specializing in elder law and estate planning who provides pro bono counsel to Hospice and low-income clients referred by the Spokane Bar Association.

Mr. Curran is recognized as one of The Best Lawyers in America, as well as in Spokane . He has served in many leadership roles for the Washington State Bar Association and as a Hearing Officer for the Washington State Association for Justice.

The support of and contributions to Gonzaga are many. In 2008, Don established the Curran Gonzaga Law School faculty chair on Legal Ethics and Professionalism. His leadership to the Board of Trustees spanned from 1996 to 2019, and he is now an active Trustee Emeritus. In 2020 he received the Gonzaga Law School Distinguished Service Award.

Va Lena
Curran, ‘58 J.D.

Attorney and Philanthropist

Va Lena Curran is an attorney in private practice with Delay, Curran, Thompson, Pontarolo & Walker, P.S. and served as a Support Enforcement Officer for the State of Washington from 1961 to 1979. She is a past member of the Catholic Charities Board and Catholic Charities Foundation.

In 1978, Va Lena was invited as a Lifetime Member of the Gonzaga Law School Board of Advisors, and her dedication to the success of the Law School has been beyond measure. Her leadership as co-chair of the Law School Capital Campaign resulted in the current building located adjacent to the Spokane River and downtown Spokane area.

Mrs. Curran Sas been an active member of the Law School Foundation for over 38 years. In 2008, she established with her husband the Law School Faculty Chair on Legal Ethics and Professionalism. In 2020, she received the Distinguished Service Award for Gonzaga Law School.

Anna
Ledgerwood, M.D.

Professor of Surgery

Wayne State University School of
Medicine

Anna Ledgerwood, M.D. grew up on a farm near Pomeroy, Washington and was educated in small Catholic schools in the region. She chose Gonzaga as a college with a strong desire to become a physician, fueled by supporters to finish her studies in 3 years. An internship at Sacred Heart Hospital and tutoring in reading helped her succeed with the MCAT and be accepted as one of 3 women in a medical school class of 100 at Marquette University.

As a surgical resident at Detroit General Hospital, she partnered with Dr. Charles Lucas and they have continued to work together for over 53 years, with over 300 journal publications on multiple aspects of surgical care. Dr. Ledgerwood has served in many local and state surgical organizations and was the first woman president of two American Associations for surgery professionals.

Dr. Ledgerwood is currently the Director of Trauma services at Detroit Receiving Hospital as well as a tenured professor of Surgery at Wayne State University.



Thayne
McCulloh, D.Phil.

President

Gonzaga University

Thayne McCulloh is in his 16th year as president and 32nd consecutive year at Gonzaga University. The primary focus throughout his tenure has been to build upon the legacy of his predecessors by increasing the quality of students’ educational experience, thereby increasing Gonzaga’s reputation of excellence in the region and across the nation.

Over the course of his 16-year presidency, Gonzaga was ranked for the first time among the nation’s top 100 universities, numerous buildings and spaces across campus were constructed or improved, \$650 million was raised through philanthropic efforts, the Inland Northwest region was positively impacted with the creation of close to 6,000 jobs and efforts like Opportunity Northeast, Gonzaga Family Haven, and the Tech Hub, students served approximately 100,000 volunteer hours each year (equating to over \$2.4 million in direct value), a worldwide pandemic was successfully navigated – and a Phi Beta Kappa Chapter was approved for Gonzaga.

Dr. McCulloh’s presidency has been informed by three priorities: (1) for Gonzaga to be an exemplar of American Jesuit higher education; (2) to support excellence across the curriculum; and (3) a focused commitment on institutional viability and sustainability.



Rev. Robert
J. Spitzer, S.J.

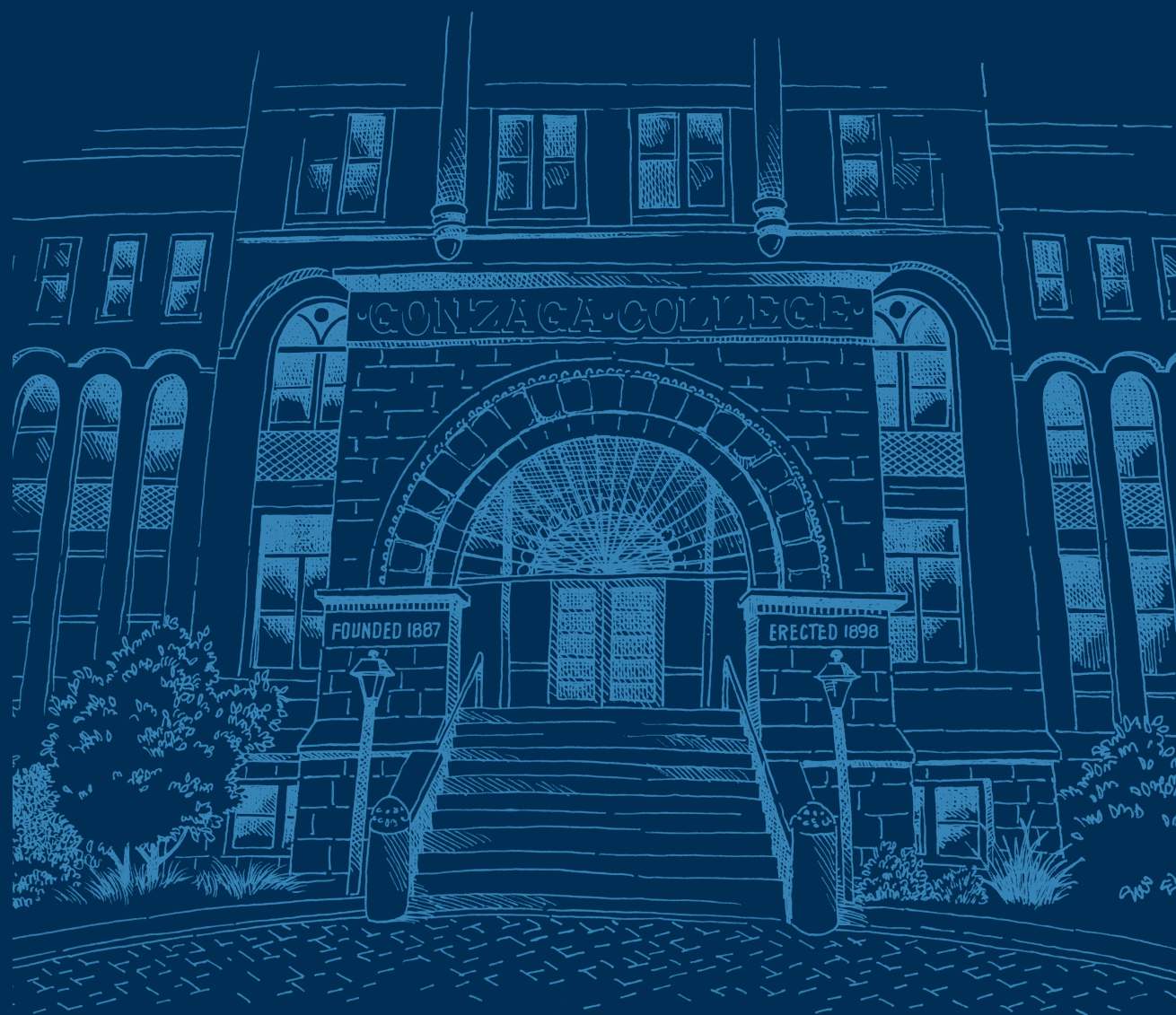
President

Magis Center of Reason and
Faith

Fr. Robert Spitzer is the author of nineteen books and has authored many scholarly articles on faith and science, metaphysics, happiness and ethics. His academic career began as a professor at Georgetown University where he was recognized with a teaching medal. He moved on to Seattle University where he held the Frank Shrontz Endowed Chair in Professional Ethics and received a medal for teaching. His many academic and professional awards include the Aquinas Medal (for Catholic philosophical scholarship). He has started seven institutes dedicated to faith and reason.

While President of Gonzaga University from 1998 to 2009, he increased the student body by 75%, oversaw the construction of 20 new facilities, and raised \$200+ million for scholarships and buildings. He also held the John L. Aram Chair of Business Ethics position, and received the university’s highest award, the De Smet Medal.

“A commitment
to the study
of liberal
arts through
scholarship and
service.”



Represented by a signature gold key and three Greek letters, Phi Beta Kappa offers a credential of national recognition. Membership affirms the motto “Love of learning is the guide of life,” derived from the Greek Φιλοσοφία Βίου Κυβερνήτης (ΦΒΚ).



Kealey Alexander
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Biology

During an organic chemistry class, Kealey gained insight when her professor explained that while people often think in binaries, most things exist along a continuum—a perspective that extended beyond molecules to many aspects of life. She is preparing to attend Physician Assistant School to begin her career in medicine. Kealey enjoys horseback riding and music.



Emily Allen
Bachelor of Science
Magna Cum Laude
Biology, Minors in Spanish and Health Equity

Emily’s perspective on research was transformed in Copenhagen, where a study abroad field trip to a clinic researching pregnancy hormones showed her the direct impact of molecular biology research on patient treatments. She will start at the doctoral program in Cellular and Molecular Biology at the University of Michigan this fall, hoping to remain in biomedical research. Emily’s favorite animal and research subject is the salamander.



Tara Baugh Summerfelt
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Biology and Criminology, Minor in Leadership Studies

Tara will pursue a career in forensic science after attending California State University, Long Beach. She appreciates professors who accommodate her forensic interests despite the challenges of finding classes where biology and criminology overlap, such as when her One Health biology professor allowed her to take a forensic approach to a class project. Tara can juggle and has attended live tapings of the show “Jeopardy!”



Camryn Bechtel
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Business Administration, Minor in Sustainable Business, Finance Concentration

Camryn’s approach to the finance industry was reframed when a female finance professional advised her to think “maybe you’re wrong” during her thesis work, which taught her to allow for the benefit of the doubt despite the industry’s imperfections. After graduation, she will work as a Management Trainee for a nationwide company to grow her skills and fund her passions. Camryn has a phobia of knees and kneecaps and has visited 18 countries.

Ella Beck
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Magna Cum Laude
Environmental Studies, Minor in Sustainable Business



Kallie Bieter
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Criminology and Sociology, Minor in General Business

Kallie’s Drugs and Crime course, which used the show Euphoria to highlight the complex nature of addiction, provided an engaging introduction to criminology electives. She plans to attend graduate school in crime analysis to strengthen her analytical skills and make a meaningful impact on public safety.



Karli Bortner
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Biology, Minor in Spanish

Karli discovered her passion for scientific research through various projects and experiments in Gonzaga’s biology department under Dr. Nancy Staub’s mentorship. She plans to study biomedical research after graduation. Karli, who hails from Pennsylvania, has had the unique experience of feeding a stingray.

Jack Brandt
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Mathematics, Minor in Data Science

Jack approaches his education with a thoughtful perspective, viewing learning as a gradual process shaped through intellectual struggle. His calc class helped him realize he enjoyed working hard for the satisfaction that comes with solving a complex problem. After graduation, he aspires to lead the next generation of actuaries in his professional career. Jack runs about 5 miles every day.

Rebekah Blazer
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Computer Science & Computation Thinking, Minor in Art



Lucien Bourcier
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Political Science and Environmental Studies, Minor in History

Lucien’s interest in law has been reinforced by his Constitutional Law course, which he finds the most challenging, but ultimately the most rewarding, class he’s taken in the political science department. He plans to start his career advocating for the environment through law. As a child, Lucien once got lost in an IKEA store.



Lucas Brandt
Bachelor of Science, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Applied Mathematics, Minor in Philosophy

Lucas’s understanding of mathematics expanded dramatically in his Partial Differential Equations class, where he realized math extended far beyond calculus into a much larger, more complicated fields. He plans to work for the next year before potentially pursuing graduate school. Lucas bakes his own bread and took a year off school during which he learned to drive a forklift.



Isabelle Burns
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Criminology and Sociology, Minor in Psychology



Lili Cathersal
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Magna Cum Laude
Public Relations, Minors in Digital Marketing and Journalism

Lili's journey in journalism began with a frightening first class with Kip Hill that initially felt overwhelming, but through practice and Dr. Hill's mentorship, Lili was able to develop significantly in her writing skills. She will move to Washington D.C. in August 2025 to begin her career in public relations. Lili lived in Vienna, Austria until she was nine years old and dislikes mushrooms.



Claire Charvet
Bachelor of Science, Honors
Magna Cum Laud
Biochemistry, Minor in Leadership Studies

Claire gained a deeper understanding of organic chemistry through her experience as a teaching assistant, which led her to TA for eight chemistry classes and become more involved in the Chemistry Department. She will attend Montana State University in the fall to pursue a doctorate in biochemistry. A lifelong Washington State resident, Claire also knows how to drive a stick shift.



Lucas Christian
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Biochemistry

Lucas had a realization during his chemistry degree that nearly all aspects of chemistry come back to three key variables: Gibbs free energy, enthalpy, and entropy. He plans to apply to medical school this summer, hoping to attend in fall 2026. Lucas is the second person in his family to attend Gonzaga University.



Elizabeth Crist
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
History

Elizabeth discovered her passion for Indigenous history while taking a class called Indigenous Early America with Dr. Ann Ostendorf, which offered her a new perspective on the country's history. She will attend Seattle University for graduate school to earn her Educational Specialist degree in School Psychology. Elizabeth has a fondness for Peanut M&Ms.



Brady Decker
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Economics and Philosophy

Brady considers the diverse perspectives brought to the classroom by his peers to be one of the most important parts of his education in philosophy, broadening his outlook and deepening his understanding. He will attend the University of Colorado Law School to become an attorney. Brady was once almost struck by lightning.



Elise DeGroot
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Magna Cum Laude
Psychology, Criminology, and Sociology

Elise's interest in family systems was sparked during her child psychology class when she began volunteering at Head Start, which has inspired her to pursue a master's in marriage and family therapy. This summer, she will work as a behavioral technician before attending Azusa Pacific University in the fall. Elise showcased her creative side by making her senior prom dress out of a bedsheet.



Tereza Dudzik
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Environmental Studies and Political Science, Minor in Hogan Entrepreneurial Leadership

Tereza attributes her academic curiosity and drive to her mother, a history teacher who explains historical events from multiple perspectives. (Her mother once even described the entire history of WWI during a hike up a 4,000ft mountain!) She aspires to be a lawyer with the U.S. Army, concentrating in either environmental law or ethical decision making. Tereza is a first-generation American with roots in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.



Emily Edmonds
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Philosophy and Mathematics

Emily gained a deeper understanding of how abstract theoretical concepts translate to practical applications when her philosophy class on Zeno's paradox coincided with her lessons in Calculus III on using infinities to calculate volume and shape. She will attend the University of Idaho College of Law for a career as a public defender or prosecuting attorney. In high school, Emily raced mules in 25-mile endurance competitions.

Shane Dodd
Bachelor of Science
Magna Cum Laude
Biology, Minor in Chemistry



Madison Ediger
Bachelor of Science, Honors
Magna Cum Laude
Applied Mathematics, Minors in Leadership Studies and Sociology

Madison's conception of mathematics evolved beyond seeing it as just numbers through the influence of professors who showed her how to use her mathematical aptitude to make the world better. She will pursue a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology at the University of Washington with hopes of earning a PhD. Madison has been horseback riding through Jasper National Park in Canada.



Zoe Erpelding
Bachelor of Science, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Applied Mathematics, Minor in Spanish

Zoe's math research in game theory helped her realize that contributing to mathematics research doesn't always require specialization in a specific area but can be based in pattern recognition and characterization. She plans to use her background in math and computer science to improve access to healthcare. Zoe serves as president of both the Pi Mu Epsilon Math honors society and Gonzaga's Society for Women in Math.



Claire Farwell
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Mathematics



Holly Fijolek
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Environmental Science

Holly's perspective on academia changed after joining her research lab and discovering enjoyment in wading through muck and studying freshwater ecosystems. She plans to pursue work in the environmental field focused on protecting the environment from climate change. Holly is a skilled plant caretaker who has maintained over 15 houseplants during college, despite losing some along the way.



Alexi Fogo
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Biology, Bachelor of Arts in
Psychology, Minor in Spanish,
Concentration in in Evolution and
Integrative Biology

Alexi was inspired by Dr. Annmarie Caño's clinical psychology seminar, where she learned how personal experiences can shape therapeutic programs. She plans to coach collegiate running before pursuing a doctoral degree in psychology with the goal of working in counseling. Alexi recently ended a decade-long hiatus from eating grilled cheese at Maple Street Bistro.



Alexa Ford
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Psychology and Criminology

In her Mass Incarceration course, Alexa was struck by how deeply systemic racism is woven into US society beyond just the prison system, inspiring her to pursue work promoting equity. She will attend Whitworth University this fall to earn her Doctorate in Occupational Therapy. Last summer, Alexa spontaneously biked 40 miles from Spokane to Coeur D'Alene.



Grace Foster
Bachelor of Science
Magna Cum Laude
Chemistry, Minor in
Environmental Studies

Grace experienced a perspective shift in her polymer chemistry class when she realized the importance of a foundational understanding of chemistry in seemingly unrelated disciplines. She plans to attend graduate school for environmental engineering to work on projects that benefit communities. In a display of coordination and skill, Grace once bowled five strikes in a row.



Addyson Fry
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Criminology and Political Science

Addyson's perspective was shaped by Dr. Joe Johnston's Introduction to Sociology course, where she learned to apply a critical lens to social, structural, and institutional issues. She will start at Arizona State University College of Law in the fall to pursue a legal career. Addyson attended the Alec Baldwin trial in New Mexico last summer.



Brady Galiotto
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Economics



Olivia Harrington
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Psychology and Sociology, Minor
in Spanish

Olivia has experienced numerous moments where concepts from her Psychology and Sociology coursework manifested in real-world situations through her volunteering and work experiences. She hopes to work in the non-profit field for a year before pursuing a master's in counseling. Her first job was at a Christmas tree farm.



Diana Hoppe
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Biology and Mathematics

Diana's biochemistry class was pivotal for her in that the concepts in biology courses started clicking together, empowering her to understand biological and chemical pathways in the human body. She will pursue her M.D. at UW Medical School. Diana and her roommates have a hamster named Blueberry, and she plans to learn how to snow ski next year.



Reina Geforos
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Biology, Concentration in
Microbiology, Molecular, and
Cellular Biology and Biology
Research

Reina's understanding of global health disparities deepened while studying abroad in Zambia, inspiring her passion for advancing education and access to vaccination and care in under-resourced areas. After gaining industry experience, she hopes to pursue a career in infectious disease research focused on improving health outcomes in developing countries. Reina is a dual citizen of Japan and the US and took piano lessons for 13 years.



Amy Herring
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Biology, Concentration in
Microbiology, Molecular &
Cellular Biology

Amy built a meaningful relationship with a professor that began unconventionally when the professor admitted her worst fear would be being trapped in an elevator with Amy. This conversation ended up yielding a fantastic research experience. She plans to attend medical school after taking a gap year to enjoy the outdoors. Amy has two fake teeth and has been whitewater rafting her whole life.



Stella Hunsperger
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Environmental Studies and
Dance, Minor in Sustainable
Business

Though her fields of study differ greatly, Stella has learned the value of an interdisciplinary approach to education and the importance in developing creativity alongside technical skills. After graduation, she will move to Seattle to pursue a career in environmental education or sustainability. Stella taught herself to embroider and crochet during the 2020 lockdown and performed as a tap dance extra in a Hollywood film.



Anna Huycke
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Criminology and Psychology,
Minor in Spanish

Anna credits professors Sou Lee and Lee Wurm for providing meaningful experiences that helped her discover and acknowledge her strengths in criminology and psychology. After graduation, she plans to return to Seattle to pursue a career in the criminal justice system. Anna impressively knows 50 digits of pi.



Christian Kitts
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Criminology and Psychology

Christian's coursework taught him about the social and psychological underpinnings of deviant behavior, showing how economic and social constraints create pressures for negative activities people would otherwise avoid. He plans to attend law school and become a social justice advocate for underrepresented communities. Christian enjoys woodworking and hiking in his spare time.

Claire Mallet
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Communication Studies and French



Sarah Johnson
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Environmental Studies and
Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Studies

Sarah's dual majors in Environmental Studies and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies opened her eyes to how deeply intertwined social and environmental issues are. She aspires to pursue a career blending conservation, sustainable development, and social justice to create a harmonious future where humanity and natural environments thrive. Sarah had the unique opportunity to study abroad in Bhutan.



Finley Knellhorne
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Art and History, Minor in Music

Finley gained a new outlook when their painting professor advised against drawing sharp boundaries between personal art projects and classwork, helping them to connect all their work to their interests and strengths. They hope to publish a graphic novel and work in the art history field. Finley's last name is a combination of their parents' last names, Knell and Horne, and they play the alto saxophone.



Raleigh Mann
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Biology, Minors in Chemistry and
Spanish

In her Advanced Genetics class, Raleigh gained a deeper understanding of how genetic information has shaped certain policies, learning the importance of combining social and historical lenses with biology concepts. She plans to attend medical school and become a physician. Raleigh figured skated competitively for 16 years.



Paige Manne
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Public Relations and Dance,
Concentration in Dance Pedagogy

In her Public Relations Capstone course, Paige came to understand how her values shape career choices, learning through reflection and Ignatian principles to pursue purpose and see the greater good. She is eager to bring her artistic expression to a career in PR or marketing. Paige has performed with a professional dance company and wants to teach ballet to kids.



Sebastian Matthews
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Computer Science &
Computational Thinking

Sebastian's academic "a-ha" moment came from Dr. Jennifer Binczewski's Tudor and Stuart Britain class, where students brought history to life by embodying historic figures in Henry VIII's Reformation Parliament. He intends to become an archivist for a museum/library or a researcher in Near-Eastern studies. Sebastian is a fan of "Have a Nice Life" and studied Mandarin in middle school.



Josalyn McClew
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Criminology and Sociology, Minor
in Critical Race & Ethnic Studies

Josalyn discovered her calling in Criminology during her junior year in a "Street Gangs in America" course, which combined her passions for analysis and social justice. She plans to pursue a career in academia with the ultimate goal of becoming a Criminology professor. Despite her academic achievements, Josalyn never learned how to ride a bike and has dislocated all ten of her fingers at least once.



Giana Martinez
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Philosophy and Women, Gender,
& Sexuality Studies, Minor in
Leadership Studies

Giana was inspired by her Philosophy of Habit course's discussion of David Hume's theory that we are nothing but a bundle of habits dictating the self. This led her to research gender performance as a kind of habit from a Butlerian perspective. She hopes to become a human rights lawyer working with people with disabilities. Giana's favorite play is Uncle Vanya, and she is afraid of cats.

Colin McClelland
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Computer Science & Computational Thinking,
Concentration in Economics



Sydney McDonald
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Criminology and Psychology

Sydney's academic journey has been greatly influenced by professors Vik Gumbhir and Krista Crotty, whose mentorship challenged her to think critically and pursue her goals with passion. After graduating, she plans to continue her academic journey by pursuing a master's degree in psychology. Sydney has attended every Gonzaga basketball game during her time at the university.



Matthew McHorse
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Electrical Engineering

Matthew appreciates how his classes incorporated global topics, helping him see education within a real-world context. His diverse studies have shown him how technical knowledge and cultural understanding together create more thoughtful, effective solutions. He has accepted a position with Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories to being his career. Matthew has visited all 50 US states



Andrea Moreno
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Magna Cum Laude
Communication Studies and English, Concentration in English Writing

Reading “Teaching to Transgress” by bell hooks transformed Andrea’s conception of education as a radical, counter-hegemonic act, reframing her understanding of her academic work as a broader pursuit of social justice. She aspires to become a professor in Communication Studies or English Literature. Andrea types at an impressive average speed of 96 words per minute with 94% accuracy.



Andrea Nava
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Psychology and Sociology, Minor in Spanish

Andrea found all of her Psychology and Sociology classes meaningful, but participating in the Walking School Bus with Prof. Joe Johnston provided a transformative learning experience that helped her truly understand the field’s purpose. She aspires to be a lawyer dedicated to helping people, particularly those from marginalized communities. Andrea was an Irish Dancer as a child.



Marlee Mikesell
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Political Science and Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, Concentration in International Relations

Marlee discovered how marketing and politics align in her Public Policy and Administration course where she learned how campaign strategy, public relations, and communications intersect. She will intern for the Governor of Colorado before pursuing a master’s at the University of Denver. Marlee has traveled to 15 countries and 21 states.



Rachel Muhr
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Magna Cum Laude
English, Minor in Spanish, Concentration in English Literature

Rachel discovered the difference between analyzing literature and effectively teaching it when she learned to pose analytical questions to her high school students. She looks forward to finding a job that promotes service, youth education, and outdoor activity. Rachel has visited all 50 states and counts a three-week backcountry camping trip among her favorite study abroad experiences.



Kaden O’Keefe
Bachelor of Science
Summa Cum Laude
Biology, Concentration in Microbiology, Molecular, & Cellular Biology and Biology Research

Kaden’s perspective was reshaped when a physics professor emphasized the importance of art, literature, and relationships alongside STEM education. He will pursue a career in microbiology, studying host-microbe interactions at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in a master’s program. Kaden recently adopted an Australian Shepherd named Willow.



Lilian Parker
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Italian Studies and International Studies, Concentration in European Studies

Through the guidance of her Italian professor, Enrico Zammarchi, Lillian spent an entire academic year abroad in Italy, enhancing her intercultural competence and language skills while living in a small Italian community. She hopes to continue serving underrepresented and silenced voices in her future work. Lillian finds peace in the quiet repetition of weeding acre after acre while working on an Indigenous farm each summer.



Lauren Piela
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Political Science, Minor in Spanish

Lauren has particularly enjoyed her political science senior seminar, where capstone projects allowed her to integrate what she’s learned at Gonzaga into cohesive products. These capstone projects have solidified that the complexities of today’s political climate require diverse political science concepts to understand. After graduation, she will work as a legal assistant/paralegal in Minneapolis, MN. Lauren studied abroad in Madrid, Spain.



Megan Rovira
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Political Science and Environmental Studies, Minor in Sustainable Business



Kellyn Pattee
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Political Science and Communication Studies, Minor in Leadership Studies

Kellyn found Dr. Sarah James’s Campaigns and Voting in U.S. Elections course particularly meaningful, as it deepened her understanding of how electoral design impacts voter representation and policy decisions. After graduation, she will move to Washington, D.C. to pursue a career in national security policy. Kellyn once briefly lived in Australia and owns a tandem bike.



Ryan Pullen
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Economics

Ryan values the critical thinking skills he developed under professors who challenged him to consider conceptual nuances he wouldn’t have previously. He particularly appreciates how an initially tense meeting with Dr. Eric Cunningham evolved into a discussion of shared interests. He intends to attend law school and enter a career in law or legal advising. Ryan loves baseball and golf and has two brothers, Christopher and Thomas.



Camille Ruhlin-Hicks
Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Sociology, Minors in Environmental Studies and German

Camille had always imagined the medical world and sociology as distinct realms until her Sociology of Health and Medicine class with Dr. Andrea Bertotti Metoyer revealed how relevant a sociological perspective is for healthcare. She hopes to travel to Austria as a Fulbright Teaching Assistant before eventually attending graduate school to study Linguistics or Public Health. Camille’s favorite food is moose stew.



Sierra Salter
*Bachelor of Science, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Biology, Minor in Chemistry,
Concentration in Biology
Research*

Sierra’s perception of research as a rewarding, community-based experience was solidified when multiple biology professors assisted her with her honors senior project. She plans to earn her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Sierra has a pet tarantula named Tilly and has cut up hundreds of ticks for research purposes.



Samantha Savage
*Bachelor of Science
Magna Cum Laude
Environmental Science*

Samantha realizes the true joy of environmental work is in the doing of the thing, the questions asked, and the relationships we built. She will enter into a third season of river guiding this summer and my first season of ski bumming this winter with two adorable dogs named Johnny and Griz. This past January, Samantha completed a 21-day and 280 river trip through the Grand Canyon.



Hannah Schleibinger
*Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Psychology and Criminology,
Minor in Spanish*

Hannah’s college experience was transformed during her Reentry & Transformation course in which she researched prison education for a criminology symposium, sparking a deep passion she hopes to continue in her future career. She plans to attend graduate school in the fall for a master’s in social work or a related field. Hannah comes from a town known for having one of the World’s Largest Corn Mazes.



Olivia Sandvik
*Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
English and Public Relations,
Minor in Religious Studies*

Olivia had a revelation while studying abroad in Ireland when she realized that despite her prior familiarity with Irish literature and history, experiencing another culture firsthand is the true way to learn its essence. She plans to pursue a career in publishing and/or nonprofits. Olivia’s work has been published in five different publications, and her favorite movie is Aliens (1980).



Devyn Schaefer
*Bachelor of Science
Magna Cum Laude
Physics, Minor in Hogan
Entrepreneurial Leadership*

Devyn decided to add Physics as a second major after taking Modern Physics with Dr. Adam Fritsch, realizing she could pursue her passion for medical research through a physics track. She will attend UBC-Okanagan in the fall for a master’s in medical physics before pursuing a doctorate. Devyn holds dual citizenship with Canada and has long dreamed of living in British Columbia.



Anjanie Larasati Setiono
*Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Psychology and Sociology*

Anjanie’s desire to understand people initially led her to psychology, but exploring sociology provided the missing piece that offered a richer, more nuanced perspective of human behavior. She plans to pursue a doctorate in Sociology. Anjanie enjoys mint chocolate chip ice cream.



Kayla Sharp
*Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Criminology and Sociology*



Kaitlin Smith
*Bachelor of Arts
With Distinction
Criminology and Psychology*

Kaitlin’s pivotal moment in her academic career came during a Psychopathology class, as her first exposure to clinical psychology and this cemented her aspirations to work in the field. She plans to attend graduate school with a focus on youth intervention. Kaitlin has traveled to 20 of America’s 64 National Parks.

Lleyton Steinmann
*Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Mathematics*

Lleyton particularly appreciates Dr. Gemma D’Ambruoso, whose articulate, motivating, and passionate teaching made organic chemistry—a notoriously difficult subject—his favorite class. He will apply to medical school in June. Lleyton will coach for his high school football team this fall.

Reagan Silbernagel
*Bachelor of Arts, Honors
Summa Cum Laude
Psychology and Dance, Minor in Criminology*

Sophia Smith
*Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Sociology and Criminology*

Elena Tow
*Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
English and Spanish, Concentration in English Writing*

SENIOR INDUCTEES



Stella Van Houten
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Communication Studies and
Public Relations

Stella experienced the genuine care Gonzaga professors have for their students when her religion professor, Adam Bartholomew, sent her a heartfelt email and asked her class to pray for her after her dog passed away during her freshman year. After graduation, she will move to Seattle to work at Conversion Logix in their Account Management department. Stella was born in the hospital that fans wave to during Iowa Hawkeye football games.



Katherine Wood
Bachelor of Arts
Summa Cum Laude
Criminology and Psychology

Katherine came to Gonzaga as a Criminology student with a narrow view of the prison system, but Dr. Esther Matthews' Criminology 101 course helped her realize how broken the system is. She will attend law school at McGeorge School of Law next fall, hoping to become a civil litigation attorney. Katherine enjoys creative pursuits including painting, drawing, and crocheting.



Lauren Wells
Bachelor of Arts
Magna Cum Laude
Political Science and Religious
Studies

Lauren's perspective on learning was transformed by the diversity of her classes, particularly Political Theology, which revealed the ways in which history can impact individual decisions in the present day. She will attend law school at the University of Houston before serving as an Army JAG Corps Officer. Lauren studied abroad in Florence, visiting 12 countries, and has over 50 first cousins.

Thank you!

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