

## COMMENCEMENT

**Graduate Ceremony** 

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2024 | 6 P.M.

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A LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY and A CONSTITUENT INSTITUTION of THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA

### December 13, 2024

### Dear Class of 2024:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff and students of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, it is my honor to congratulate you on reaching this significant milestone — your graduation. We are immensely proud of your dedication, hard work and perseverance, all of which have led you to this moment.

Earning an advanced degree represents far more than a momentary academic achievement; it is a testament to your commitment to lifelong learning, intellectual growth and the pursuit of excellence. Your degree not only reflects the knowledge and skills you have gained, it also embodies the resilience, discipline and determination required to thrive in the face of challenges. It signals your readiness to take on leadership roles in your chosen field and to make meaningful contributions to society.

This milestone marks the culmination of years of hard work, as well as the beginning of a new chapter in your journey. As you move forward, remember that the pursuit of greatness does not end here. You now have the opportunity — and the responsibility — to apply what you have learned to create positive change, innovate and lead with purpose. We have no doubt that you will continue to elevate the standard of excellence in all that you do.

At North Carolina A&T, we often speak of the "Aggie Pride" that fuels our spirit and commitment, embodied in the mantra Aggies Do! You now stand as an example of that legacy — bold, driven and always prepared to take on the world's challenges. Aggies are known for getting things done, making a difference and pushing beyond limits. You've demonstrated those traits throughout your academic journey, and we're confident you will continue that tradition wherever life takes you.

As you embark on this new journey, we extend our heartfelt best wishes for your continued success. Whatever path you choose, may it be filled with opportunities, growth and fulfillment.

Congratulations once again on this outstanding achievement.

Sincerely.

James R. Martin II

Chancellor

## **PROGRAM**

PRESIDING: James R. Martin II, Chancellor

PROCESSIONAL "Pomp and Circumstance" Sir Edward Elgar

**MACE BEARER** Scott Harrison

Chairman of the Faculty Senate

**RESPONSE** "Lift Every Voice and Sing" James Weldon Johnson

North Carolina A&T Fellowship Gospel Choir

**GREETINGS FROM THE UNIVERSITY** Chancellor Martin

**GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Kimberly B. Gatling

Chair

GREETINGS FROM THE GRADUATE Brooke Scott
STUDENT ASSOCIATION President

**INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER** Chancellor Martin

**COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS** Cynthia W. Turner

Associate Dean of Access, Engagement and Outreach Max M. Fisher College of Business, The Ohio State

University

**PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES** Tonya L. Smith-Jackson

Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

**GRADUATE DEGREES** Clay Gloster Jr.

Dean of The Graduate College

**CLOSING REMARKS** Chancellor Martin

**THE ALMA MATER** N.C. A&T Fellowship Gospel Choir

(Audience Standing)

**RECESSIONAL** "Crown Imperial Coronation March" William Walton

## RESPONSE

## **ALMA MATER**

### **LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING**

Lift ev'ry voice and sing,
Till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past
has taught us;

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has

We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered,

Out from the gloomy past,

Till now we stand at last

True to our native land.

been watered;

Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met Thee;
Lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world,
we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,

### **ALMA MATER**

Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., a monument indeed, Around thy base with grateful hearts behold thy students kneel. We bless the power that gave thee birth to help us in our need, We'll ever strive while here on earth all loyalty to yield.

### **REFRAIN**

With joy, with joy, dear A. and T., thy students turn from thee To spread thy trophies year by year from Dare to Cherokee.

Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., the signet thou shalt be, Set by our great old commonwealth, proud boaster of the free; She'd have the record of her worth on granite not inscribed — Nay, let the children of her birth proclaim it by their lives.

Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., henceforth our aim shall be, By precepts wise and deeds more sure to bless the State through thee;

The arts of industry to wield against an idle foe.

A harvest rich from ripened fields of what thy students sow.

## SPEAKER



Cvnthia W. Turner. Ph.D., CPA. is the associate dean of access, engagement and outreach of The Ohio State University Max M. Fisher College of Business and an Ernst & Young LLP Faculty Fellow. Turner is a summa cum laude graduate of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University where she earned her B.S. in accounting in 1990. In 1994, she received an M.A. in accounting from The Ohio State University, and in 1995, became the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in accounting at Ohio State. She was also a member of the inaugural cohort of The Ph.D. Project founded in 1994 by KPMG.

An award-winning educator, Turner spent 17 years on the faculty of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign before returning to Ohio State in 2013. In 2019, she became the first African American **CYNTHIA W. TURNER,** Associate Dean of Access, Engagement and Outreach Max M. Fisher College of Business, The Ohio State University

woman to join the leadership team at Ohio State's Fisher College of Business as assistant dean and chief diversity officer. She created. led and executed the college's strategy for inclusive excellence, helping double private funding for Fisher scholarships and inclusive initiatives; facilitating a formal partnership with the city to support pre-collegiate programming for underserved and first-generation high school students; developing programming to engage Fisher's diverse alumni; and creating new inclusive leadership course offerings for the college.

As associate dean, Turner continues to advance Fisher's inclusive excellence initiatives while overseeing access, engagement and outreach programs for key Fisher stakeholders. Her many honors include the Diamond Awards' inaugural 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award for advancing equity and inclusion throughout her career; selection as a 2023 Power of Change Honoree by The Ohio Society of CPAs; recipient of the 2023 Kenneth Bouyer Difference Maker in Diversity Award from the Business School Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Collaborative; and Ohio State's Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award in 2018 for her work in doubling the diversity within the undergraduate program in two years.

As a researcher, Turner's scholarly work has been published in her field's most respected journals. Prior to her academic career, she was a practicing accountant at Ernst & Young. She serves on the boards of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio, Women for Economic and Leadership Development, Community Impact Council and PatientPoint Foundation. She is also a member of the American Accounting Association, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the National Association of Black Accountants and the Business School DEI Collaborative.

Turner is an ordained Christian minister and an 18-year breast cancer survivor. Married to professional jazz guitarist Kevin Turner, she is mother to stepdaughter Kia and sons Julien and Justen, who make up the award-winning filmmaking duo the Turner Brothers.

## **HISTORY**

### NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

Established in 1891, under the Second Morrill Act of 1890, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is a land-grant, doctoral, high research activity university. The Second Morrill Act expanded the nation's system of land-grant universities to include a historically Black institution in those states where segregation denied minorities access to the land-grant institutions established by the First Morrill Act (1862).

Throughout its 133-year history, North Carolina A&T has maintained a rich tradition in academics, research and outreach. Today, the university is committed to fulfilling its fundamental purposes through exemplary undergraduate and graduate instruction, scholarly and creative research and effective public service and engagement. A&T is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. An institution of choice for high-achieving students, A&T is a preeminent land-grant university now rapidly evolving as an exponential institution.

With an enrollment of 14.311 students, N.C. A&T is the nation's largest historically Black college or university (HBCU) for the 11th consecutive year. A&T awards baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees through the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences; the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; the Willie A. Deese College of Business and Economics; the College of Education; the College of Engineering; the John R. and Kathy R. Hairston College of Health and Human Sciences; the College of Science and Technology; The Graduate College; and the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering. The university is widely recognized for strengths in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, as well as the liberal arts and humanities and a growing array of professional programs. The university also has moved rapidly to blend its academic and research programs with the needs of society and industry, forming a symbiotic relationship. A&T has advanced to the forefront in the area of

research and is one of the top-ranking institutions in the University of North Carolina System for sponsored research funding, having secured \$250 million in contracts and grants over the past two fiscal years. The strength and potential of the research enterprise at A&T is demonstrated by the university's ability to sustain major programs in nanotechnology, biotechnology, computational science and engineering, energy and environment, information sciences and technology, leadership and community development, logistics and transportation systems, education and public health.

Upon graduating, students join the university's 70,000 alumni of record who hold (or have held) positions of leadership in industries and communities around the world. Some of A&T's nationally acclaimed alumni include Henry E. Frye '53, former N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice; U.S. Representatives Alma S. Adams and Jonathan Jackson; Clara Adams-Ender '61, author and retired Army brigadier general; the late Alvin A. "Al" Attles Jr. '60, former NBA player, coach and general manager; Elvin Bethea '68, NFL Hall of Famer; Ezell Blair Jr./Jibreel Khazan '63, Joseph A. McNeil '63, the late Franklin E. McCain Sr. '63 and the late David Richmond '10 (degree awarded posthumously), members of the A&T Four Four; Joe L. Dudley Sr. '62, Dudley Products founder; Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr. '63, civil rights activist and former presidential candidate; the late Dr. Ronald E. McNair '71, NASA astronaut; and Michael S. Regan '98, U.S. EPA Administrator.

Thirteen presidents/chancellors have served the institution since its founding: Dr. John O. Crosby 1892-1896), Dr. James B. Dudley (1896-1925), Dr. Ferdinand D.Bluford (1925-1955), Dr. Warmoth T. Gibbs (1956-1960), Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor (1960-1964), Dr. Lewis C.Dowdy (1964-1980), Dr. Cleon Thompson Jr. (interim, 1980-1981), Dr. Edward B. Fort (1981-1999), Dr. James C. Renick (1999-2006), Dr. Lloyd V. Hackley (interim, 2006-2007), Dr. Stanley Battle (2007-2009), Dr. Harold L. Martin Sr. (2009-2024) and Dr. James R. Martin II (current).

## **COSTUME**

#### THE ACADEMIC COSTUME

The academic costume worn today is derived from practices originating in the Middle Ages. When European universities were taking form in the 12th and 13th centuries, the scholars were usually clerics, as well, and consequently adopted costumes similar to those of their monastic orders. Cold halls and drafty buildings made caps and floor length gowns with attached hoods a necessity for warmth. Probably because of the costumes' religious heritage, they remained largely drab until the universities gradually began to pass from the control of the church, whereupon some aspects of the costumes took on brighter hues. Old prints reveal a strong similarity between the regalia worn in early universities and the academic costume worn today.

In light of the nation's strong English heritage, academic costume has been in use in the United States since colonial times. To establish a standard of uniformity with regard to the practice, an intercollegiate commission was formed which prepared a code for caps, gowns, and hoods which has been adopted by all universities. Originally round, the shape of the cap is now the more familiar mortarboard square - a shape that resembles a scholar's book. Legend has it that the privilege of wearing a cap was the initial right of a freed Roman slave. The flowing gown has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship for it covers any dress, which might indicate rank or social strata. The hood not only indicates the type of degree, but also is lined with the official colors of the university from which the degree was obtained.

#### **THE GOWN**

BACHELOR - Blue, full cut with long pointed sleeves.

MASTER - Black, long or short sleeves with arc-shaped panel extended for each sleeve.

DOCTOR - Black, with velvet panels on front of gown and three velvet bars on each sleeve. Color of the velvet may be black or distinctive of the field of study.

### **THE HOOD**

BACHELOR - Three feet in length with a two-inch wide velvet.

MASTER - Three and one-half feet in length with a three-inch wide velvet.

DOCTOR - Four feet in length with a five-inch wide velvet and panel at the sides. The lining of the hoods, which is folded out, bears the official colors of the institution from which the degree was received. The color of the velvet is Ph.D. blue.

Candidates for doctoral degrees at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University wear gowns fastened at the neck and hoods draped down the back and the black mortarboard with a gold tassel.

### **UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES VETERANS**

These graduates are wearing white stoles.

## **MACF**

The mace, a ceremonial insignia, dates back to ancient Rome to honor heroes and nobility. Maces were later used in the courts of England, during the reign of James I of England as symbols of authority. Today, maces are associated with academic and governmental processions. In academic use, it is the symbol of the college/university as a body of scholars within its own legally constituted authority. The chief faculty marshal carries the mace during all formal academic processions.

A gift from the graduating class of 1961, the mace of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University was presented October 24, 1991, during the centennial year celebration. The university's 42-inch long mace reveals a two-faced sterling silver crowning head or boss with the seals of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and the University of North Carolina on either side. Both university seals rest on a sterling silver etched State of North Carolina seal.

Alternating ebony and ivory solid wood rings that symbolize the university's African American heritage are located on the mahogany wood shaft. The history and mission of the college/university throughout its 100 plus years of existence are etched on the wooden shaft of the mace between the rings. They represent service to African Americans, the missions of the university's schools and colleges; scholars; the Greensboro Four sit-in; the Aggie mascot, and sports. The base or terminus (end piece) is a silver-plated cup engraved with a figure of a runner which symbolizes the athletic legacy and forward moving strides of the university.

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University's mace is a result of planning, research and fund raising by the class of 1961. The special designs of the mace represent the joint efforts of the Mace Committee who contacted Emblem & Badge Inc., in Providence, Rhode Island, to craft the mace. Dr. Vallie Guthrie, chair; Dr. Dorothy Alston; Dr. Sullivan Welborne; Dr. William C. Parker; Dr. Basil Coley; Dorothy J. Richmond; Lewis Brandon III; Earnest Sherrod, and members of the class of 1961; and the Class Coordinating Committee were instrumental in the procurement and final version of the mace, which was presented during the October 24, 1991, Founder's Day Convocation. The mace was carried by the Chief Faculty Marshal (chair or president of the Faculty Senate) at the May 5, 1991, commencement and is utilized at all formal ceremonial occasions for the university.

# MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL CANDIDATES

PLEASE NOTE: The listing of names of degree candidates in the commencement program is not to be considered official evidence that all degree requirements have been satisfied.

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Isaiah Jahiem Brown Charles Cheema Sarah Elaine Farlee Caleb Edward Fox Brandi Harvey Grayson Brent Preslar Hannah Singleton Smith

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS

Godwin Korku Agbenyezi
Atta Selorm Shorla Kofi Aloka
Lovelyn Bihnchang Epouse Ngwa
Sola Joseph Ikuejamoye-Omotore
Kristyn Cierra Mobley
Deborah Olabisi Okedoyin
Nyema Emoni Price
Daniel Tetteh
Nkese Saturday Udombang
Roman Whitaker
Kennedy Elizabeth Wimbish
Terence Jude Wood

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES

Chinweuba Christopher Okoye Sukanya Poddar Ashlie Bianca Thomas Ebony Thornton

### COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH AND AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

Uthman Ajibola Adejumo Emmanuel Chukwudi Stephen

## WILLIE A. DEESE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

### **MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY**

Jennifer Baanye
Kendall Elise Bullock
Andrea Taiwana Copeland
Joy Uchechi Goodluck
Cydney Jamiyah Johnson
Hosea Kipchumba
Dancan Kiprotich
Gladys Njoki Muratha
Hallie Brooke Rimmey

## MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Danielle Marie Allen Alexis Dione Baker Nina-Simone E. Beaver Jayda Nicole Bolden Andrea Lynnette Brooks Andraya Nikkole Clewis William Howard Daye II Jaida Vernell Ford Steven Henderson Danyel Joseph Rashmi Kumari Marquis Jarrod Lynch Sharonda Sherielle McKnight Brett C. Swilling Anjail Shabazz Taylor Sharee Elizabeth Woodell

### **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

Tarrish Lamar Alexander

### **MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING**

Dione Nicole Beverley Rasheeda DuLaney Brewer Leah Unique Brown Teressa Ashley Brown Joshua Brian Burton Justice Kihera Byers Heather Ryan Caudle Armintrus Denise Downey Tyreka Evans Akeala Gwen Goins Angel Means Grayson Derrick Amando Heard Adrienne Simone Higgins **Brittany Antoinette James** Leatrecia R. Kinsey Avery Payton Landrum Tiffany Jenniene Lennon Marcia McBride Carmel Moses Charles O'Neil Rogers

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ADULT EDUCATION

Juanita S. Davis Carrie Christine Gross Vanessa Brown Walker

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

Deja Juana Barber Tatyana Deja Bell Brianna Nahtee Boyd Shakiera Branch Kioka N. Brown Jacquetta Denise Campbell
Khadeesha Jacke' Riddick
Nimra Haider
Monica N. Joyce
Faith Elizabeth Latta
Camille Naomi Lynch
Aeriel Wynnell Matthews
Sydney Madison Moore
Allison Christina Payne
Syrissa Ponce de Leon
Bria Janese Roddy
Brianna Nicole Williams
Lorenza Lamont Wyatt

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

Deja Juana Barber Nikole Britt Demarcus Antonio Crawford Jr. Kija Emonie Gordon Shakari Mosley Logan Hunter Rodriguez Tamara K. Slater

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN COUNSELOR EDUCATION AND SUPERVISION

Tazeur Yorshe Matthews
A Phenomenological Approach to
Understanding Operation Enduring
Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom:
African American Reserves Veterans'
Reintegration Challenges Due
to Post-Combat Mental Health Concerns
Major Advisor: Dr. Michael Brooks

Niah B. Singletary
Healing Through Joy: The Stories of Black
Nerds (Blerds) Who Have Experienced
Mental Health Benefits from Creativity
and Play
Major Advisor: Dr. Justin Adams

Sylvester Royster Smith
Utilizing the Transcendental Ontological
Pedagogical Paradigm (TOP-P) to Teach
Counseling Theories to Novice Clinicians
Major Advisor: Dr. Yudan Chen

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN LEADERSHIP STUDIES

Ulisa Ernell Bowles
Phenomenological Insights: An Exploration
of the Lived Experiences of Mid-Level
Higher Education Professionals Working
Under a Dark Leader During a Crisis
Major Advisor: Dr. Sydney Richardson

### **GRADUATE DEGREES**

ShuDon LoDora Brown

Early College High School Principals'

Leadership

Major Advisor: Dr. Geleana Alston

Thomas Everette Elmore
Treating Addiction During COVID-19:
Leadership Challenges to Implementing
Evidence-Based Practices During the
Pandemic

Major Advisor: Dr. Geleana Alston

Krystal Chantel George

Exploring Factors that Influence Black Women Student Affairs Leaders' Career Advancement in Higher Education: A Focus on Private 4-Year Predominately White Universities (PWIs) in the Southeast Major Advisor: Dr. Sydney Richardson

Diana Lynn James

The Perceived Influence of Mid-Size Company Gender Equity Efforts and Interventions for the Advancement of Women in Leadership

Major Advisor: Dr. Sydney Richardson

Phillip Cornelius Mintz
How University Leaders Can Use
Sponsored Undergraduate Internships to
Affect Complex Graduate Decisions on
Engineering Careers in Rural Communities

Katie Madison Shoaf

The Role of Research Leadership in Job Satisfaction of Black Tenure-Track Faculty at a Rural Master's Comprehensive Institution

Major Advisor: Dr. Geleana Alston

Major Advisor: Dr. Karen T. Jackson

Darien Wellman

Sacrifice Over Service: The History of The Chinese Government's Lack of Servant Leadership and Its Impact on Its Public Sector Workers

Major Advisor: Dr. Sydney Richardson

### **COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOENGINEERING

Simone Christie Josey Jack William Roach Myles Xavier Ross

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Jonathan Appiah Md Shakibur Rahaman Chowdhury Tess Yaa Lawson

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

Esteban Lopez Jimenez

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Kushal Badal
Malia Arienne Cherry
Anindya Roy Chowdhury
Subhram Dasgupta
Sushmitha Gundlapally
Oluwadoyinsola Racheal Ige
Venkata Aditya Kantipudi
Sai Manigopal Reddy Kanumathireddy
Gurleen Kaur

Jaya Harish Lalwani Qianli Ma

Prabhath Mummaneni Johnna Ariel Nance

Maxwell Sam

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CYBERSECURITY

Brionna DeAnndra Bowens Kiara Michelle Cuthbertson Elaine Lynette Johnson Octavious Lorenzo Kennedy Amber Raquel Raiford Charlie J. Staton II

### MASTER OF DATA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Ire Oluwatunde David Adetu Luma Alrubaie Taron Scott Fenner Twanesha E. Hampton Doreen Nolda Jehu-Appiah De'Quante R. McKoy Collins Emeka Okafor Ranga Krishna Reddy Palugulla Harsha Vardhan Penumatcha Daryl DeJuan Taylor Sasank Rajeev Varma Vegesana Emarryah Corin Wilson

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Olamide Ayotomiwa Abimbola Ibukun Olaoluwa Adeniji Olumuyiwa Michael Aiyeola Phillip Scott Gibson Jr. Edikan Nse Gideon Joshua Anthony Govan Tyler Terrell Houston Luis Fernando Landivar Olmos Ifeanyi Simon Opara Ebenezer Owusu-Kusi Dawood Rauf Anik Sikder Abiodun Oludare Taiwo Cebron Williams

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Christopher Adu-Gyamfi Gabriel Adjei Agyekum Khalid Demetrius Harley Corey Scott Harris Alyssa Imani Parker Jeremy J. Parker-Mincey Jasmine Myá Wiggins

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Sobhi Abdo Alowdi
David Amoateng-Mensah
Bhoj Bahadur Chaudhary
Ikenna Chukwuemeka Chris-Okoro
Brandon Nathaniel Davis
Pusan Dhar
Sharia Mozella James Flack
Sergei Kosov
Travis Christopher Obie-Rolle
Sarita Sepulveda
Abanoub Arnest Aziz Tadros
Nhi Nguyen Tuyet Vo
Orlanzel Lee Washington
Jared Bernard-Ricardo Woodruff

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Maya Ahmad Arida
Enhancing Thermal Comfort in
Commercial Buildings: Contributions
of Machine Learning Algorithms for
Optimizing Predictive Thermal Comfort
Indices

Major Advisor: Dr. Ahmed Megri

Freda Elikem Dorbu

Data-Driven Approach for Processing

Remote Sensing Time-series Imagery for

Precision Agriculture

Major Advisor: Dr. Leila Hashemi-Beni

Robert Benjamin Eshun Supervised Predictive and Federated Learning for Integrative Analysis of Medical Data

Major Advisor: Dr. A. K. M. Kamrul Islam

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN COMPUTATIONAL DATA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Koundinya Challa Harnessing Deep Learning and Sensor Technologies for Sustainable Building

Management

Major Advisor: Dr. Balakrishna Gokaraju &

Dr. AKM Kamrul Islam

Chandra Prakash Jaiswal
Emergency Vehicle Data Synthesis and
Identification Using Sensor Fusion of
Autonomous Vehicles in a CARLA
Simulation Environment
Major Advisors: Dr. Balakrishna Gokaraju &
Dr. AKM Kamrul Islam

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Tony Gwyn

An Investigation Into Detecting Demographic Bias in Deep Learning-Based Face Recognition Major Advisor: Dr. Kaushik Roy

Nathan Charles Harris Jr.
Reinforcement Learning Assisted Dynamic
OpenFlow Timeout Assignment in
Software-Defined Networks
Major Advisor: Dr. Sajad Khorsandroo

John Markies Jenkins Investigating Facial & Periocular Presentation Attack Detection Using DCGANs and Patch-Based CNNs Major Advisor: Dr. Kaushik Roy

Sophina Luitel
Audio Sentiment and Emotion
Classification Using Machine Learning
Algorithms
Major Advisor: Dr. Mohd Anwar

Aaditya Hitarth Raval Android Malware Detection: Evaluating the Effectiveness of Centralized and Federated Machine Learning Approaches Major Advisor: Dr. Mohd Anwar

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Trupti Bellundagi Innovative Design of Wideband and MIMO Dielectric Resonator Antennas with 3D Printing

Major Advisor: Dr. Binbin Yang

Nana Kankam Brym Gyimah A Data-Driven Approach for Surface Defect Detection and Localization Major Advisor: Dr. Abdollah Homaifar

Hadi A Hakami
Design of a Dual-Band 900 MHz and 2.4
GHz RF-DC Rectifier and DC-DC Booster
for Energy Harvesting Applications
Major Advisor: Dr. Zhijian Xie &
Dr. Abdullah Eroglu

Jyosri Manaswitha Karra Reconfigurable Antenna Design for RADAR Sensor Applications Major Advisors: Dr. Abdullah Eroglu & Dr. Zhijian Xie

Benjamin Lartey
Vehicle Dispatch Frameworks for
MobilityonDemand Applications
Major Advisors: Dr. Abdollah Homaifar &
Dr. Ali Karimoddini

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Rabiatu Bonku Models and Algorithms for Vehicle Routing Problem with Multiple Synchronization Constraints and Equity Major Advisor: Dr. Lauren Davis

Joan Chukwufumnanya Isichei Cyber-Integrated Predictive Models for Optimizing Extrusion-Based 3D Bioprinting

Major Advisor: Dr. Salil Desai

Henry Ebere Ivuawuogu
Optimizing Resource Allocation in NonProfit Organizations: A Multi-Source
Machine Learning Approach for Efficient
Food Procurement and Distribution
Major Advisor: Dr. Steven Jiang

Kelvin Kwasi Kwakye A Multi-Modal Approach to Detecting Distracted Driving Through Deep Learning Analysis

Major Advisor: Dr. Lauren B. Davis

Elsie Otibu Bossman Mpere Impact of COVID-19 on Food Supply Chains: A Simulation and Optimization Analysis to Ascertain the Impact and Recovery Routes Major Advisor: Dr. Lauren B. Davis

Mutha Raju Nandipati Cyber-Physical Systems for Robust 3D Inkjet Material Printing Major Advisor: Dr. Salil Desai

Oluwatamilore Omowumi Soneye Identification of Bottlenecks, and Optimization of Supply Chain Networks in For-Profit Organizations Major Advisor: Dr. Lauren Davis

Felix Agbesi Tettey Innovative Hybrid Scaffold Design Using 3D Bioprinting and Electrospinning for Accelerated Wound Healing Applications Major Advisors: Dr. Narayan Bhattarai & Dr. Salil Desai

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Oluwatobiloba Adetokunbo Kalejaiye Influence of Moisture Content on the Shear Properties of Powders Utilized in Additive Manufacturing (AM) Using Boron Carbide (B4C) as a Case Study Major Advisors: Dr. Taher Abu-Lebdeh & Dr. Dhanajah Kumar

Xingguang Li
Autonomous 3D Mapping and Inspection
in GPS-Denied Environments Using
Networked Multiple Unmanned Ground
Vehicles
Major Advisor: Dr. Sun Yi

Abiodun Ademola Odusanya Structural, Electrical, and Optical Properties of Pulsed Laser Deposited Titanium Oxynitride Thin Films - An Experimental and Computational Approach Major Advisors: Dr. J. David Schall &

Dr. Dhananjay Kumar

### **GRADUATE DEGREES**

Manoj Rijal

Quantification of Damage in Metals and Polymer Composites Using Acoustic Emission Technique

Major Advisor: Dr. Mannur J. Sundaresan

### JOHN R. AND KATHY R. HAIRSTON COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

Roslynn D. ChouChan

#### MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Haven Lanae Farris

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SOCIAL WORK

Lyneisha Ruth Dukes

Examining the Impacts of Student Debt
on Black Mothers' Financial Wellbeing
Major Advisor: Dr. Carmen Monico

Sally A. Ryman

Health Care Experiences of Trans Students Attending Historically Black Colleges Major Advisor: Dr. Stephanie Teixeira-Poit

## JOINT SCHOOL OF NANOSCIENCE AND NANOENGINEERING

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NANOENGINEERING

Oluwaseun Temilola Ayanleye Mahmud Hussain Ali Ismail Vaishnavi Kandula Nicholas Anthony Ricks

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NANOENGINEERING

Shashwata Chakraborty
Catalytic Deconstruction of Plasma
Treated Polypropylene to Value-Added
Chemicals
Major Advisor: Dr. Debasish Kuila

Moha Feroz Hossen

Prospect of Molybdenum Disulfide (MoS2)
in Future Electronics

Major Advisor: Dr. Shyam Aravamudhan

Nikhil S. Ingle

Process Modeling Investigations in Metal Additive Manufacturing with Metal Powder Feedstock

Major Advisor: Dr. Ram Mohan

Israt Jahan

Engineered Nanomaterial Adsorbents for Efficient Removal of Emerging Water Contaminants

Major Advisor: Dr. Lifeng Zhang

Nachiket Sanjay Makh
Epoxy/Bio-Binder System: A Green
Alternative
Major Advisor: Dr. Ajit Kelkar

Abhijeet Ravindra Mali Epoxy Resin Reinforcing and Sustainable Development Major Advisor: Dr. Lifeng Zhang

Wesley Allen Williams Computational Reconciliation of Environmentally-Derived Microplastic Characterization Data Major Advisor: Dr. Shyam Aravamudhan

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS

Oluwatobi Lucas Akinbode Brayonna Chartise Middleton

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY

Issah Haruna Larisa Chila Kiki Kenise D. Smith

### **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHEMISTRY**

Sougata Dey Sarkar Gita Pandey

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Faris Ahmad Abukhalaf Opeoluwa Moses Adigun Ariyan Mone' Bowman Chevez Leonardo Chapman Chukwuemeka William Chuka Maduji Whitney Cooper Oluwakanyinsola Oluwapelumi Dairo Nancy Thanh Dang

Elikem Raphael Senau K Des-Amekudi

Ajeka Momoh Friday

Daniela Lugo Lonette McMorris

Cesar Minarro

Peace Chikaodili Okpala

Joseph Aaron Payne

Rafael Fabian Portilla

Ariel Kayleigh Wright

### **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICS**

Bernardo James Bridges Damioin Lamar Tingle Ebitu Anya Ukiwe

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

Angy Nicoll Aguilar Hernandez
Victoria Rosalyn Cobbold
Clyde Wayne Fuller II
David Anthony Juan
Akua Kwakyewaa Marfo
Chidiebere Michael Nwokeohuru
Esther Oluwafisayo Ogundipe
Christopher Oscar Tilford
Nikiya Imani Wilson

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Obinna Stanley Chiekezi
Development of Safe and Low-Cost
Electrolytes for Next-Generation Battery
Applications
Major Advisor: Dr. Xiaochuan Lu

Ashraf S. Duzan

Analysis of Cannabis Extracts by LC-MS/ MS, NMR, and Measuring Their Anticancer Activity Against Glioblastoma Cancer Cells Major Advisor: Dr. Salam A. Ibrahim

Mercy Folashade Fash

Development of a Femalized Kinesthetic Learning Model to Increase Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) Career Interests in African American Middle School Girls

Major Advisor: Dr. Andrea Ofori-Boadu

Taylor B. Hogue

Effect of Acute Butyrate Delivery on Blood

Pressure in Blacks with Hypertension:

Proof of Concept Study

Major Advisor: Dr. Marc D. Cook

Kelechi Anariochi Ike
Elucidating the Effects of Nutraceuticals
on Rumen Fermentation and Bacteria
Growth Dynamics Using Omics
Technologies: Implications on Their Use
for Sustainable Ruminant Production and
as Natural Antimicrobials
Major Advisor: Dr. Uchenna Anele

Markiesha Hortensia James Laboratory Measurements of the Chemical Composition of Emissions Derived from Smoldering Combustion of African Biomass Fuels Major Advisor: Dr. Solomon Bililign

Mehdi Lamssali Sustainable Agricultural Wastewater Treatment: A Holistic solution through integrating Anaerobic Degradation, Micro-Algae, and Zero-Valent Iron for Environmental-Friendly Remediation

Major Advisor: Dr. Dongyang Deng

Melvin Mensah-Bonsu
Viral and Cellular Interaction Pathways
and Networks Mediating Ebola Virus
Pathogenesis and Disease Outcomes
Major Advisor: Dr. Perpetua Muganda

Paul Chigozie Omaliko
Dietary Fat-Induced Perturbations in Brain
Metabolite Profiles Influence Fear
Response and Gut Neurotransmitter
Concentrations in Chickens
Major Advisor: Dr. Yewande Fasina

Shobitha Unnikrishnan Sperm Motility Mechanisms and Collective Behavior in Viscoelastic Environments Major Advisor: Dr. Chih Kuan Tung

## **CERTIFICATES**

### ADVANCED WASTE MANAGEMENT

Kelechi Anariochi Ike

### **CYBERSECURITY**

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Olivia Simone McDonald
Bennie Lawarren McRae
Joseph Aaron Payne
Amber Raquel Raiford
Ashley Elaine Sealey

### **DATA ANALYTICS**

Shelley Kenyetta Searcy Christopher Oscar Tilford

Aderonke Busayo Ayodele Reshema Combs Esther Oluwafisayo Ogundipe Constance Adams Williams Adeoluwa Omoyemi Yekeen

### **DATA-DRIVEN MODEL/ANALYSIS**

Kelechi Anariochi Ike

### **EDUCATIONAL STUDIES**

Rena Abigail Coker

### **GENERAL MANAGEMENT**

Vernnessa Greenlee

## INTERDISCIPLINARY ENVIRONMENTAL

Abby Rose Kluttz

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## REHABILITATION COUNSELING AND BEHAVIORAL ADDICTIONS

Bria Janese Roddy

### SYSTEMS AND SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY

Sarah Grace Lewers

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I hereby solemnly pledge allegiance to my alma mater in appreciation for the opportunities for development afforded me as a student at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

I pledge active membership in the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Alumni Association wherever I may be. Through association with fellow alumni, I shall forever do my best to uphold the ideals and traditions of my alma mater.

I pledge to exemplify high ideals by rendering positive and dignified service to the community, state, nation and world, thus living to bring honor and respect to my alma mater.

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