

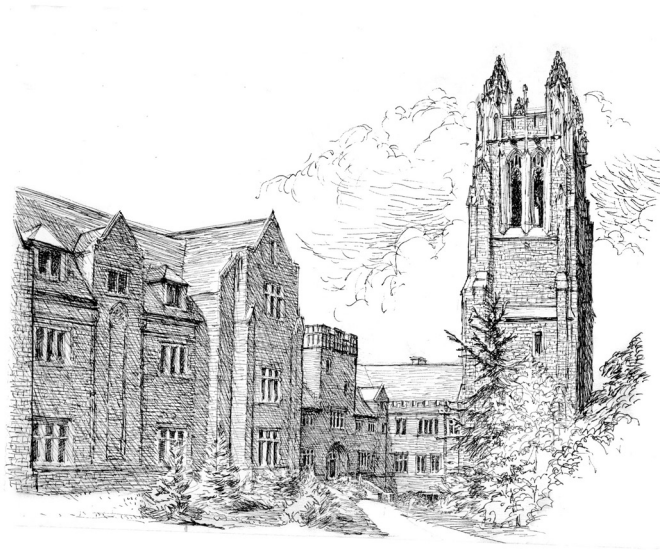
SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY

DOCTORAL

Commencement



THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024



MISSION STATEMENT

As Philadelphia's Jesuit, Catholic university, Saint Joseph's provides a rigorous, student-centered education rooted in the liberal arts. We prepare students for personal excellence, professional success and engaged citizenship. Striving to be an inclusive and diverse community that educates and cares for the whole person, we encourage and model lifelong commitment to thinking critically, making ethical decisions, pursuing social justice and finding God in all things.

The Commencement Ceremony

Thursday, May 16, 2024 – 1 p.m.

PRELUDE

Selected Works Crosstown Musical Services

PROCESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance (theme) Sir Edward Elgar
Crosstown Musical Services

Narrator

Lora Packel, PT, MSPT, PhD
Associate Dean, School of Health Professions
Professor, Physical Therapy

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Grand Marshal

Ruben A. Mendoza, PhD
Associate Professor, Decision and System Sciences

Marshal for the Faculty

Peter C. Norberg, PhD
Senior Associate Provost, Faculty and Academic Support
Professor, English

Marshals For the Graduates

Salar Alsardary, PhD	Benjamin Pullinger, PharmD, BCPS
Sylvester Carter, MHS, PhD, CEEAA	Janet Souza, PhD
Eric S. Pelletier, PT, DPT	Michael Thompson, RPh
Andrew Peterson, PharmD, PhD	

Stage Party

Honored Guests
Members of the Board of Trustees
Members of the Faculty and Administration

INVOCATION

Sarah F. Quinn, BA '89, MBA '09
Associate Vice President and Chief of Staff

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Thomas Betterly, BS '24
Mathematics - Secondary Education

WELCOME

James Carter, PhD
Interim Provost

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

Mary Mena, BS '22, PharmD '24
Pharmacy Practice

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE

Nishaminy Kasbekar, BS '93, PharmD '95, FASHP
Chief Pharmacy Officer and Vice President of Pharmacy Services
University of Pennsylvania Health System, Penn Medicine
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS

Nathan J. Baird, PhD
Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Joseph A. DiAngelo Jr., BS '70, EdD
Dean, Erivan K. Haub School of Business

Joshua R. Power, BS '05, EdD '16
Dean, School of Education and Human Development

Edward F. Foote, BS '87, PharmD '91, FCCP
Dean, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy
Associate Dean, School of Health Professions

Cathy Y. Poon, BS, PharmD, FPPA, FCPP
Interim Dean, School of Health Professions

CONFERRING OF DEGREES IN COURSE

Cheryl A. McConnell, PhD
President

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Cheryl A. McConnell, PhD

ALMA MATER

Thomas Betterly, BS '24
Mathematics - Secondary Education

BENEDICTION

George W. Bur, S.J.
University Chaplain and Special Assistant to the President

RECESSIONAL

Triumphal March Hector Berlioz
Crosstown Musical Services

THE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND FACULTY OF
SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY

TO ALL WHO VIEW THESE PRESENT LETTERS

GIVE GREETINGS IN THE LORD

Saint Joseph's University recognizes Nishaminy Kasbekar, BS '93, PharmD '95, FASHP, chief pharmacy officer and vice president of pharmacy services at Penn Medicine. Kasbekar credits her high school job at a retail pharmacy, where she sold lottery tickets, for her fascination with the discipline. She was quickly moved behind the counter after demonstrating an interest in medications and disease treatment.

Kasbekar received her Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. Her post-graduate residencies at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania eventually turned into a job as a clinical pharmacy specialist in infectious diseases. There, Kasbekar provided direct patient care and implemented an antimicrobial stewardship program. She would go on to be named director of pharmacy services before coming into her current role as chief pharmacy officer and vice president of pharmacy services at the University of Pennsylvania Health System, or Penn Medicine, in 2023. In her 27 years at Penn Medicine, Kasbekar has led many strategic and programmatic initiatives expanding the scope, services, and influence of the pharmacy department in inpatient and ambulatory areas.

Kasbekar is also the president of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), a professional organization of more than 60,000 members, including pharmacists, student pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

"When I started, a pharmacist's role was primarily dispensing medications, and it was transactional, and that's what we were known for," she said in 2023. "The profession has really transformed to being a frontline healthcare provider centered on patient care. Pharmacists interact as what I call the three-legged stool — every patient needs a pharmacist, a nurse and a doctor, working collaboratively and synergistically to positively affect patient outcomes."

Her work focuses on bringing those three providers with their own expertise together to care for patients, which is a more effective mode of healthcare. Kasbekar says the pharmacist's role of medication management is one that has historically been overlooked and strives to get the profession to recognize that.

As a woman and daughter of immigrants, Kasbekar dedicates her time and energy toward mentoring the next generation of pharmacy professionals. Outside of the professional development work she does with ASHP, Kasbekar visits her elementary and high schools in northeast Philadelphia to talk about why pharmacy is an important profession, and to show students that pharmacists can be leaders in the healthcare industry.

"When I went to pharmacy school and went into leadership, there weren't that many women in leadership roles. There also weren't that many minorities," said Kasbekar in 2023. "For me, it's really about making sure we're empowering younger members, we're empowering women, we're empowering diverse communities to help us in this advocacy. Finding ways to engage them and finding ways to push them ahead is really important to me."

It is with great pleasure that Saint Joseph's University awards Dr. Nishaminy Kasbekar with the Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, for her 30-year career in pharmacy sciences and dedication to the field.

NISHAMINY KASBEKAR, BS '93, PHARM D '95, FASHP
DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS, *honoris causa*

Citation read by:
Jason Zupec, PharmD
Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy

Degrees Conferred In Course

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Anush Abelian
Norah Alhebshe
Pratik Bhojnagarwala

Bethany Cypert
Faisal Malik
Andrew Milcarek

Christopher Orme
Adelle Schade

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Natalya Adelizzi
Tamir Ali
Pearline Barbour
Brittany Bronson
Kristina Clark
LaChante Collier-Bacon
Kathleen Daniels
Dariell Dinkins
Matthew Dorsch

Neha Suresh Ghadge
Ijeoma Iheoma
Richard Levy, Jr.
Molly Margeson
Jillian McGilvery
Lauren Mifsud
Kim Morris
Michelle Norton
Jennifer Reed

Melvin Roach
Amy Romani
Keana Schoennagle
Shalyssa Smith
Josephine Tingba
Constantine Vlahos
Jonathan Walker

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Samuel Abiola
Kevin Abraham
Adetoun Adeniji-Adele
Haadiyah Ansari
Marissa Appel
Peter Attia
Jessica Baals
Blessing Babayemi
Athira Babu
Jessica Bedford
Josie Berry
Devyani Bhosale
Michael Blocklinger
Austin Blumetti
Kate Bradshaw
Michael Brinton
Joshua Buffington
Keerthana Bulusu
Jenny Bundy
Natalie Catalan
Sharayu Sanjay Chandratre

Julia Chang
Sonali Chaudhari
Shaivya Choudhary
Aisha Choudhry
Jason Christidhis
Lauren Cianci
Tristan Colestock
Amanda De La Roca
Fatih Demir
Yagnik Desraj
Saousen Diaf
Xavier Diaz
Matthew DiBabbo
Caitley DiFilippo
Caitlyn Dill
Jessica Dinh
Derek Distasio
Abdallah Elbready
Sophia Ellis
Fatima Farrukh
Danielle Feldman

Angela Fili
Michael Fleck
Jacob Furmanik
Nada Galad
Mahakdip Gill
Yuliya Gonchar
Madison Gutowiecz
Maryjane Hammel
Brianna Handal
Julia Handzus
Sarah Hegeman
Julianna Heider
Hannah Higgins
Paisley Hudson
Taahir Hutchings
Evelyn Ibarra
Yasmine Ikram
Jasra Islam
Jojo Jacob
Apoorva Jagadeesh
Carol John

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY *(continued)*

Ruth John	David Nguyen	Matthew Shumaker
Justin Kang	Faridah Nguyen	Samuel Siminitus
Zahra Katouni	Jennifer Nguyen	Manpreet Singh
Marziya Khan	Oluwaseun Omole	Kayla Skinner
Jack Kisielius	Emily Oseid	Veronica Smith
Crystal Lam	Danielle Paran	Gabrielle Soriano
Charles Lau	Avin Patel	Caroline Stanciauskas
Hoa Le	Parth Patel	Madeline Stauffer
Jennifer Lee	Pritesh Patel	Sridhar Swarna
Justine Magalona	Priyam Patel	Michael Swierczynski, Jr.
Donald Marler, IV	Vaidehi Patel	Danny Truong
Brianna Mathis	Yuti Patel	Bilyana Tsoleva
Stephanie Mazurek	Kevin Pham	Buu Tu
John McCrane	Emily Robb	Wade Tung
Aminah McDougald	Anthony Robson	Dan Vayner
Kelli McKeown	Sheba Roy	Namra Vohra
Mary Mena	Jubin Saji	Marta Walewska
Ebraam Mousa	Layla Sakr	Ellen Wirawan
Reem Moustafa	Austin Schultz	Serena Zhang
Rohan Nainan	Aisha Shafiq	Jessica Zheng
Siham Naseer	Aesha Shah	Anna Zou
Amber Nguyen	Joseph Shaji	Dylan Zuch

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Melissa Abraham	Brielle Errico	Kiera Lucash
Kauly Almonte	Chinne Ezeigwe	Patrick Magdalinski
Jose Antunez	Alison Fleischman	Brian Magee
Kenna Atienza	Kara Fruscione	Livia Mario
Savannah Barefoot	Ethan Gallagher	Mateo Martinez
Kalee Biglin	Samuel Gitman	Marlen Martinez Aguilar
Elizabeth Brown-Cordero	Kyree Glover	Ashley McAllister
Nina Calzaretto	Courtney Gorsuch	Amir McCain
Caitlyn Cantello	Taylor Hamm	Rachael McClaskey
Alexandra Caro	Lena Idrissi	Delaney McDonnell
Nina Cencetti	Caelin Jaskot	Mary Minkovski
Brianna Chachoute	Daniel Jiang	David Mitchell
Olivia Ciraulo	Paige Jones	Daniel Morrello
Carissa Court	Hayley Keenan	Justin Moscoe
Vidhi Dalal	Kendall Keyes	Kelly Moyer
Rukiya Davis	Tania Khullar	Max Nowell
Erik Deocera	Michael LaBrie	Brielle Odd
Sarah Dicioccio	Jacob Lindstrom	Meghan O'Neil
Izabela Dubiel	Gabriella Liu	Emily Orr
Abigail Eaves	Taylor Lorio	Alexis Osmolowski
Omotola Emmanuel	Trevor Lubrant	Nicole Pantalone

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS *(continued)*

Shaina Parambil
Dhruvi Patel
Shikha Patel
Suhani Patel
Alexander Pena
Abigail Perez
Zeeshan Pothiwala
Kennedi Riley
Miranda Rodriguez
Anthony Rollins
Daniela Saggio
Sadhana Sankar

Nura Sbeah
Zachary Scott
Mariam Shabber
Allyson Short
Sean Simon
Evan Sinclair
Anya Stankiewicz
Eleni Stavris
Kalah Surratt
Francesco Tesei
Jared Thampan
Minti Thomas

Megan Thomson
Gianna Torres
De'Shjuan Triplett
Kaitlyn Truitt
Donna Tsui
Jhe-ann Villacarlos
Christopher Wilkins
Erica Worek
Freedom Yao
Justin Yates
Cheyanne Zelonis



Pharmacists' Oath

I promise to devote myself to a lifetime of service to others through the profession of pharmacy. In fulfilling this vow:

I will consider the welfare of humanity and relief of suffering my primary concerns.

I will promote inclusion, embrace diversity, and advocate for justice to advance health equity.

I will apply my knowledge, experience, and skills to the best of my ability to assure optimal outcomes for all patients.

I will respect and protect all personal and health information entrusted to me.

I will accept the responsibility to improve my professional knowledge, expertise, and self-awareness.

I will hold myself and my colleagues to the highest principles of our profession's moral, ethical and legal conduct.

I will embrace and advocate changes that improve patient care.

I will utilize my knowledge, skills, experiences, and values to prepare the next generation of pharmacists.

I take these vows voluntarily with the full realization of the responsibility with which I am entrusted by the public.



Health Professionals' Oath

At this time, I vow to devote my professional life to the service of all humankind through my chosen health profession.

I will consider the welfare of humanity and relief of human suffering my primary concerns.

I will apply my knowledge, experience, and skills to the best of my ability to assure optimal therapeutic outcomes for the individuals I serve.

I will keep abreast of developments and maintain professional competency.

I will embrace and advocate for positive changes in health service delivery systems.

I take these vows voluntarily with the full realization of the responsibility with which I am entrusted by the public.

Awards

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Rose Mary Battista P'82 and Michael Hoy P'81 PhD '88 Award.....Buu Tu

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Occupational Therapy Faculty Award Olivia Ciraulo
Rebekha Melendez

William B. Inverso Jr. Award for Excellence in Physical Therapy ResearchSuhani Patel
Samuel Gittman

Packman Family Award in Physical Therapy..... Nina Cencetti

Physical Therapy Faculty AwardAlexander Pena
Eleni Stavris

Johnson & Johnson Innovation in Research Award Kalee Biglin
Chinne Ezeigwe
Eliza Hastie
Marlen Martinez Aguilar
Zachary Scott

Honors Societies

ALPHA ETA NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Alexandra Caro
Olivia Ciraulo

Alison Fleischman
Nicole Pantalone

Shaina Parambil

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Nina Cencetti
Ethan Gallagher

Patrick Magdalinski
Alexander Pena

Daniela Saggio
Eleni Stavris

Justiin Yates

RHO CHI

PharmD Honor Society

Peter Attia
Athira Babu
Jessica Bedford
Kate Bradshaw
Caitlyn Dill
Sophia Ellis

Fatima Farrukh
Danielle Feldman
Madison Gutowiecz
Maryjane Hammel
Hannah Higgins
Yasmine Ikram

Charles Lau
Brianna Mathis
Stephanie Mazurek
Mary Mena
Rohan Nainan
Siham Naseer

Priyam Patel
Vaidehi Patel
Emily Robb
Jubin Saji
Kayla Skinner
Dan Vayner

EXPLANATION OF ACADEMIC REGALIA

The first year in the academic life of Saint Joseph's College opened with a ceremony, the Mass of the Holy Spirit, and closed with a ceremony, a commencement exercise. In the years since, the academic year at Saint Joseph's has continued to open with a solemn Mass of the Holy Spirit and to close with a formal commencement. Thus firmly rooted in the history of Saint Joseph's, the ceremony in which you share today is part of a still older historical tradition, that of the medieval university, where as early as the 13th century, the awarding of academic degrees was attended with great ceremony and solemnity.

Today's academic procession replicates the march through the streets of Paris (or one of the other great university centers of the time) of the doctors and masters of the university, their somber gowns, brightened by the colored ornamentation of their hoods, testifying to their status as members of a corporate body, free of feudal controls, which alone possessed the right to fix the standards for academic degrees and licenses. Their gowns and hoods, practical garments designed to ward off the chill of unheated lecture halls and libraries and to provide adequate space to shelter books and manuscripts, provide the models for the gowns worn on ceremonial occasions by the professors and students of today.

The cut of the gown indicates the level of the degree. The bachelor's gown, always black in color, is cut simply, with long, pointed sleeves, and is worn closed. The traditional master's gown resembles the bachelor's except for the cut of the sleeves; these are quite long and cut above the elbow so that the lower part of the sleeve, closed at the bottom, hangs behind the wearer's arm or coat sleeve. Much more elaborate is the doctor's gown, embellished with velvet panels down the front and around the neck and with three velvet chevrons on each of its bell-shaped sleeves. The master's and doctor's gowns may be worn open or closed.

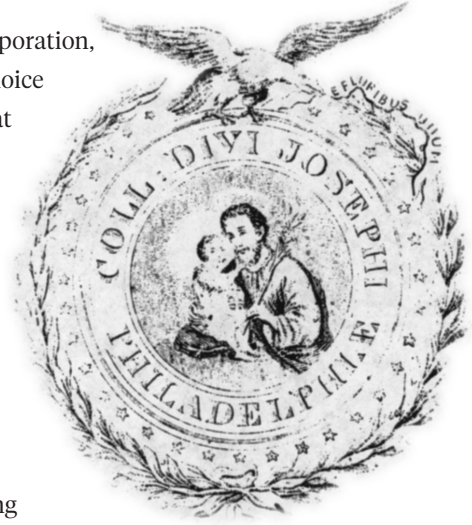
Hoods also vary in cut according to the degree represented: the bachelor's again being the most simple and doctor's the most elaborate. The hood is lined with silk in the colors of the university that granted the wearer's highest degree, and the color of the bordering velvet indicates the field of study to which the degree pertains.

— Attributed to Francis X. Gerrity, PhD, Professor *Emeritus*, History



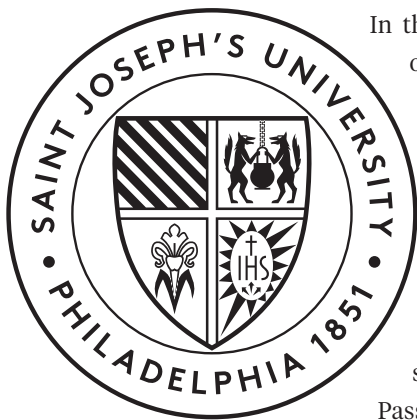
THE SEAL OF SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY

The first seal of Saint Joseph's College designed in 1852, the year of incorporation, featured a half-length figure of St. Joseph holding the Christ Child. The choice of this image for the first corporate seal reflects the founding of the college at St. Joseph's, the first Catholic church in Philadelphia, as well as the piety of Felix Joseph Barbelin, S.J., pastor of the church and founder of the college. This first seal was surrounded by one star for each state in the Union, a wreath of olive leaves and a bald eagle holding a banner inscribed *E Pluribus Unum* (Out of Many, One) at crest. The arms of the republic would have been important symbols for the new college to put forward, founded, as it was, at a time when the loyalty and patriotism of Catholics was questioned by Nativists.



By the turn of the century, the college had left the safety of the founding parish church, built a splendid new campus in North Philadelphia and developed a collegiate structure and identity. In 1903, John F. X. O'Connor, S.J., designed a new seal, more in keeping with the new collegiate identity. His design included most of the heraldic emblems, or charges, found in the modern shield of Saint Joseph's University.

The modern shield is quartered, that is, divided into four equal parts by a cross. In the upper left quarter, the dexter chief in heraldic terms, are 15 bands (bends): seven gold and eight red. The seven gold bands represent the seven sons of the House of Loyola: St. Ignatius and his six brothers. Red and gold are traditional as they are the heraldic colors of the royal House of Castille, to which the Loyola's were loyal.



In the upper right quarter, the sinister chief, is the coat of arms of the House of Loyola: two wolves at a kettle, said to symbolize the hospitality of the House. In the lower left quarter, the dexter base, is a lily, an iconographic attribute of St. Joseph, the patron of the University.

In the lower right quarter, the sinister base, is the emblem of the Society of Jesus. The letters "IHS" inscribed in a radiating sun at center are the Greek *iota*, *eta*, and *sigma*, the first three letters of the word "Jesus" in Greek. Rising out of the "H" is a cross, the symbol of redemption and salvation through Christianity. Below are three nails symbolizing the Passion of Christ.

The seal of the University is composed of the full heraldic shield with a periphery bearing the words "Saint Joseph's University Philadelphia 1851." The shield is used for institutional identification and ornamentation while the seal is used on diplomas, transcripts, and for the attestation of documents.

ALMA MATER

*Saint Joseph's hail! In song we praise our mother dear and fair.
In life's grim battle, we'll march on with Faith and strength to dare.
For valiant deeds make stout our hearts to prove your heirs are true.
So come rejoice and with one voice pledge loyal love to you.*

*Saint Joseph's hail! Our blood runs proud to hold tradition's fame.
For words of gold on history's scroll shed glory on your name.
To honor God, to love God's world, your champions for each fray.
Against the sky our colors fly, deep crimson folds and gray.*

Music: F. Edward Bigham '43 | Words: Robert F. McKeon, S.J.

LIVING INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Saint Joseph's University – Hawk Hill resides in the present and ancestral homeland of the Lenape. The Lenape, “Original People,” inhabited the region for over 10,000 years prior to European imperial colonization and are considered to be the “ancient ones” or “grandfathers” by other Algonquin. With our acknowledgement, the Saint Joseph's University community dedicates itself to building meaningful relationships with Lenape and other Indigenous communities to inform the advancement of curriculum and sustainability practices that honor and uplift Indigenous knowledge and traditions.

