

Provost's Committee on Commencement

Annual Report

2025-2026

Membership:

Co-Chairs - Audrey Burnett & Michele White

Members - Lina Akopov (CVPA), Amy Brooks (CVPA), Mindy Capaldi (CSM), Tammy Crawford (CHBS), Bree Emurian (CSM), Brooke Goolsby (COB), Doug Hochstetler (CHBS), Mike Lam (CISE), Carson Lonett (Student Affairs), Kristi McDonnell (TGS), Briana Robinett (COE), Daniel Robinson (SPCE), Laura Ryman (TGS), Amy Thek (COE), Andrew Urbanowicz (CISE), Sarah Wampler (TGS), Shannon Wilson (CAL), and Laura Wisman (CAL)

Charge: The Provost's Committee on Commencement is charged with advising the Provost on all matters directly and indirectly related to commencement activities on campus. These include the college ceremonies and the university ceremony, as well as the planning and preparation for those events. The committee meets on an as-needed basis and works closely with the university's committee on commencement organized by University Events (UE), which has recently transitioned to the Office of the President. The committee chairs serve as liaisons for Academic Affairs in interacting with other divisions on commencement-related activities.

Summary of Annual Activity:

- We met a total of **eight** times throughout the year, and **three** committee members assisted with name card labeling and diploma cover preparation for May's ceremonies.
- Marilou Johnson and Jeanne Martino-McAllister read graduates' names for both the December and May ceremonies.
- This was the first year that we combined TGS with each of the respective college's ceremonies; we held a total of **seven** ceremonies in May.

Future Work Planned: During the first week in June (date TBD), University Events will meet with the commencement committee co-chairs to discuss survey feedback and how to improve both December and next May's commencement ceremonies.

Appendices: None