



UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

COMMENCEMENT

College of Arts and Sciences | Graduate Programs
May 23, 2026 ♦ 3:00 P.M.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

MISSION

Since 1855, the University of San Francisco has dedicated itself to offering a daring and dynamic liberal arts education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. As a community, we empower and hold accountable our students, faculty, librarians, staff, administrators, alumni, and community partners to be persons for and with others, to care for our common home, including the native lands on which our campuses reside, and to promote the common good by critically, thoughtfully, and innovatively addressing inequities to create a more humane and just world.

We seek to live USF's Mission by nurturing a diverse, ever-expanding community where persons of all races and ethnicities, religions, sexual orientations, genders, generations, abilities, nationalities, occupations, and socioeconomic backgrounds are honored and accompanied. We are committed to educating hearts and minds to cultivate the full, integral development of each person and all persons; pursuing learning as a lifelong humanizing and liberating social activity; and advancing excellence as the standard for teaching, scholarship, creative expression, and service. Inspired by a faith that does justice, we strive to humbly and responsibly engage with, and contribute to, the cultural, intellectual, economic and spiritual gifts and talents of the San Francisco Bay Area and the global communities to which we belong.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, September 24, 2021.

167th Annual Commencement Exercises

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
GRADUATE PROGRAMS

MAY 23, 2026, 3:00 PM

Today, the University welcomes you — the graduates and candidates of the class of 2026 — into the ranks of the proud alumni of the University of San Francisco.

We also welcome your families and friends to the celebration, mindful and appreciative of their contribution to your achievement, through their support, sacrifice, and encouragement.

The University of San Francisco has made every attempt to include in this program all persons deserving of recognition. If there have been any errors or omissions, please accept our sincerest apologies.

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*Vice Provost, Global Education, Immersions and
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Dean, University Library

Otgontsetseg Erhemjamts, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Management

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Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions

Johanna Kalb, M.A., JD
Dean, School of Law

Shabnam Koirala Azad, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Education

Jeffrey Paris, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

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*Associate Vice President, Tax Compliance,
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Associate Vice President, Accounting and Business Services

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Associate Vice President, Student Life and Dean of Students

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Associate Vice President, Admissions

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Associate Vice President and Director, Digital Transformation

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Associate Vice President, Facilities Management

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*Associate Vice President and Director,
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Associate Vice President, Human Resources

David J. Philpott, M.P.A.
*Associate Vice President, Labor and Employee Relations
and Compensation*

Patrick J. Lee, S.J., Ed.D.
Rector, Loyola House Jesuit Community

Jenny Garcia, M.P.A.
Director, Financial Aid

Angélica Nohemi Quiñónez, Ed.D.
Director, University Ministry

Stephanie Shrieve-Hawkins, Ed.D.
Interim Director, Athletics

Program

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Procession

The University Mace
The Flags of the University
The University Commencement Marshals
The Class of 2026
The Faculty of the College
The Academic Directors of the College
The Alumni Board of Governors
The Student Speaker
The Deans of the College
The University Leadership Team
The Members of the University Board
of Trustees
The Honorary Degree Recipient and
Commencement Speaker
The President of the University

Prelude Processional

Baroque Ceremonial Music
"Pomp and Circumstance" by Sir Edward Elgar

Master of Ceremonies

Eileen Chia-Ching Fung
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

National Anthem

Alexander Calvin McDonald
Candidate, Master of Public Administration

Invocation

Richard Z. Alvia
*Assistant Director of Retreats
and Ignatian Formation*

Official Opening of the Ceremony

Member, Board of Trustees

Student Address

Benson Idahosah Adomako
*Candidate, Master of Science in International
and Development Economics*

Presentation of the Honorary Degree

Jeffrey Paris
Dean of the College

Recipient:
Jose Antonio Vargas
*Pulitzer Prize-winning Journalist and
Founder of Define American*

Commencement Address

Jose Antonio Vargas

**Presentation of Candidates
for Graduate Degrees**

Jeffrey Paris

Dean of the College

and

Stephanie A. Siehr

*Professor of Environmental Science and
M.S. in Environmental Management*

**Formal Conferral of
Graduate Degrees**

Salvador D. Aceves

President of the University

Salutation to the Graduates

Salvador D. Aceves

President of the University

Benediction

Kathleen Coll

Professor of Politics

Recessional

“Crown Imperial” by Sir William Walton

GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF ARTS

Global Studies

Samuel Joon Fernandez
Yashimabet Selassie Kudumu-Clavell
Isaac Silvino
Eric Ernesto Tapia
Sofia Zazueta

International Studies

Saihajpratap Singh Bajwa
Pietro Campanella
Taylor Breeanne Nelson
Nathalie Erica Thibault
Vi Tuong Tran

Migration Studies

Wendy Aguilar
Valerie Gisselle Garcia
Jedidiah Jian Hutt
Valentina Ocampo Beltrán
Deepesh Das Shrestha
Sodanie Son
Debora Asfaw Tolessa
Kimberly Patricia Vela
Ariattne Ethalieth Zarate Leon

Professional Communication

Kenya Nikita Cabilan
Sol Victoria Castro
Angel Chen
Laura Mae Tuazon Dizon
Kiyana Chanel Dubard
Saba Gigiberia
Greta Karinauskaite
Anjallia Seanna Lonardi
Ethan James O'Shea
Sina Nanaimo Toroslu
Pooja Venkatesh
Brennen Zakaluk

Public Leadership

Tyler Hunter Alfriend
Iryna Andrukh
Mark Edmund Ball
Bamine Boye
Eva Marie DeVirgilis
Jason Scott Dozier
Nicole Ángel Evans
Sean Freitag
Duncan Hamilton
Katherine Scarlett Hoffman
Jeffrey Robert Huddle
Benjamin M. Kallas
Kenneth A. Leeper
Thau Long
Michael Patrick Lowhorn
Connor Michael O'Brien
Christian Ruf
Joseph Sweeney Sontgerath
Jerry Matthew Vanek
Ruben Zweiban

Urban and Public Affairs

Camille Lynnae Beaty Batiste
Caillou Lucien Dasalla
Antonette R. Edwards
Rayshon Robert Glasgow
Ashley Heng
Hannah Lillian Kildow
Emonee Richard
Vasileia Spyrou
Darris Thomas

GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Writing

Cyrene Adams
Megan Baker
Vera Bezerra
Matthew Patrick Boente, Jr.
William Scott Brown
Samantha Annesley Busa
Paulina Noemi Medina-Ramos
Caitlin Marie Coblentz
Cheyenne C. Fletcher
Lisa Elizabeth Fugere
Richard Gamson-Knight
Drew Alexander Korschun
Jacob Miles Lagoze

Marinda Lamb
Caroline Claire Lavayen
Shelby McCormick
Connor Lee McLean
Daniel Riddle Rodriguez
Nidiathamayra Rodriguez
Christian Francisco Sanchez
Soo Shin
Lauren Michele Smith
Alia Rose Spartz
Bayley Lewis Van
Zhirui Wang
Isabella Zordan

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Ana Graciela Caustill
David Anthony Fradelizio
Brianna Hope Frodin
LaMaya Jade Gross
Simin Ambarin Hoque
Gladys Marleny Jimenez
Angel Lai
Phillip Dennett Machuca-Grebe
Alexander Calvin McDonald
Sydney Renee Nobles

Ifeoma Chioma Nzerem
Mikaylah Naomi Paz
Carlos Ramos, Jr.
Danyelle Inez Rodriguez
Marissa Angelita Rodriguez
Edward Anthony Samayoa
Elijah Saunders
Sabrina Manalo Villaro
Jeremy Kai Ye

GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF SCIENCE

Applied Economics

Pawoumondom Alai
Khaliun Battogtokh
Evan Bruno
Austin Jay Coffelt
Tanisha Pratap Gauns
Amrit Gill
Jacob Robert Guzman
Gaziz Makhanov
Pranav Nagendra Prasad
Dia Talwar
Ashley Luke Thompson
Tuan Minh Truong
Chris Tsang
Cecilia Vigil

Biology

Haley Madison McGee
Paul Denis O'Driscoll
Kiefer Keanu Tam

Chemistry

Kenneth Morrissey Celis

Computer Science

Fnu Alusi
Chase Aaron Chemero
Yen-Hsiang Chen
Ruosi Cui
Kexin Dai
Rohit Ganesh Dalvi
Xueting Deng
Junyu Ding
Colby Thomas Dobson
Wilson Fong
Stefan Goettsch
Tiansi Gu
Shing-Han Huang
Shun-Ting Huang
Vikas Huree
Hyun Oh Kwon
Aaron Jiaming Lao
Zinal Sanjaykumar Mehta
Koichi Nakata
Axel Pembele Ndombasi
Justin Alexander Pyne
Sufiyan Shaikh
Manmohan Pawankumar Sharma
Satyansh Sharma
David Shubov
Pei-Wen Tang
Ziyu Tao
Aniket Bharat Thakker
Jiahe Tian
Deven Vinod Varu
Nannan Venkatesan
Andrew Adi Wihardja
Shreyas Suhas Yadav
Junsheng Ye
Junge Zhang
Jinglin Zhou
Shuqing Zou

GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF SCIENCE

Data Science

Racheal Amanda Adebisi Adeneye
Alexander Iman Amiri
Manmeet Kaur Atwal
Jivan Singh Bal
Boston Anton Bautista
Yancy Ame Castro Baldelomar
Vu Huy Chu-Le
Zarko Cosovic
Patrick Henry Paul Crouch
Rodrigo Jose Cuadra
Jackson Christopher Dawson
Paul de Barros
Neel Deshmukh
Christopher J. Dhong
Ernesto Diaz
Blake J. Eames
Noam Samuel Fein
Ignacio Gomez Arboleda
Mark Goold
Nanda Kumar Gunalan
Joshua Si-Chong He
Benjamin Holderbein
John David Hutchens
Ankit Jain
Gyoungwon Jeong
Vivian Grace Johnson
Temesghen Kahsay
Borna Rusta Karimi
Brandt Philip Kaufmann
Amelia Haley Klaus
Tomas Kovalcik
Jianing Li
Andrew T. C. Lim
Aatish Lobo
Paul James Losiewicz
Tianyi Luo

Yu Luo
Rory Mackintosh
Sai Sri Maddirala
Ceferino Jason Malabed
Kateryna Malneva
Arpit Dev Mathur
Brandon Jack Miner
Alexander Mohun
Christopher Roberto Monzon
Sai Sarath Mulagan
Lokesh Muvva
Niki Naderzad
Aditi Namboodiripad
Aadhya Naveen
Paul Ng
Amy Nguyen
Pichvirakyuth Nhek
Al Ameen Pandikasala
Kyle Joaquin Parkman
Aidan Joseph Percy
Jenna Rashkovsky
Arushi Sharma
Anika Shridhar
William Patrick Spagnuolo
Ayush Srivastava
Sebastian Aleksander Steen
Sarah Grace Taylor
Lynn An-an Tong
Tom Tran, Jr.
Yu Tseng
Chantelle Elan Willette
Connor Yablonski
Wonjung Yun
Kayvan Andre Zahiri
Shiman Zhang

GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF SCIENCE

Energy Systems Management

Fabiano Galvão Carvalho
Huijuan Chen
Robert William Colcord
Douglas William Darrah
Tommaso Ferrarini
Shabnam Ghaderishadbad
Mohammad Rayan Karim
John Sande Mrlik
Julieth Vivivana Perdomo Lozano
Lonjezo Christopher Pota
Milan Sharma
Kylle St.Pierre
Tristan Arnold Studer
Syed Shahid Ali
Mauricia Karene Tiendrebeogo
Chiedza Sandra Tokonyai
Todd Ray Wallin, Jr.

Environmental Management

Sarah Burton
Charles Andrew Carmichael
Debbie Lisseth Diaz Miranda
Evan Maurice Eldermire
Michael Scott Fogarty
Nicholas William Jones
Tu Thanh Luong
Briana Miller
Lady Daiana Palomino Peinado
Emily Grace Parker
Laiba Rehman
Maria Natalia Rodriguez Bustos
Amanda Christine Drew Rosales
Rebecca M. To
Edward Michael Turk
Michelle Zuñiga Recilla

International and Development Economics

Benson Idahosah Adomako
Titilope Airat Balogun
Tate Alexander Barend
Wyatt William del Valle
Jacinta Briana Duncan
Kira Jessica Sara Enriquez
Francisco Javier Flores-Mejia
Addi Joof
Matthieu John Marius Kaman
Peter Anthony McNiff
Nolan Joseph Sherwood
Anita Ifeyinwa Umunnah
Timothy Crane Wilkins

GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF SCIENCE

Sport Management

Sophia Teresa Aldecoa
Miranda Gloria Aragon
Kawika Kono Austin
Charissa Natividad Barrientos
Audree Jade Benavides-Saluta
Clayton David Boam
Nolan Allan Burton
Rory Frances Callahan
Omar Arturo Cariño Guzman
Adrienne Camille Cruz Carmona
Brandon James Carmona
Savannah Christine Cervantes
Nicholas Mateo Chavez
Julie Ann Contreras
Charlie Alan Cuttell
Ines Diaz Contreras
Nathan James Dougherty
Noah Quin Drinkward-Herrmann
Gabriel Estevez
Trevor Ryan Ferguson
Andrew Joseph Galvin
Kevin Garcia
Cesar Jesus Gonzalez Quiroz
Yun-Kai Guo
Ryan Patrick Hanley
Noah Richard Hattevik
Christian Marcos Hernandez
Robert Luis Camacho Hilario, Jr.
Xing Huang
Robert Zachary Isetta
Hirotada Ishiro

Christopher Michael Jervan
Rodrigo Keller
Alexander C. Loomis
Kelly Anne Luz
Eric Ma
Eva Maria Melas
Sierra Michelle Minor
Ethan Mitchell
Brandon Yoshio Mizobe
Carlos E. Munoz
Jayden Anthony Anglin Nieves
Kiara Chow Nishimura
Kekoa O'Neil
Dillan Ortiz
Javier Prado
Brandon Pulmano
Annabelle Graciella Reyes
Gabriella Lynn Rizzo
Eugene H. Robinson III
Kai Daniel Rogers
Alexandra Rosen
Ashley Meg Sahnazoglu
Daniel Sandoval
Alana Fabiola Santos Martinez
Jeremy Russell Schubert
Dylan Joseph Souza
Jillian Morgan Stewart
Yuna Usui
Morgan Ayako Catherine Yamane
Terence Yee

GRADUATE DEGREES PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTERS

Biotechnology

Felicia Agnes
Ahmed Ajan Alhadid
Tamara Babic
Devin Joseph Billingsley
Sofia Birchenall
Kennedy Ashar Brooks
Jacqueline Aida Bursalyan
Shayla Senona De Luna Caoile
Sierra Nicole Donn
Alexander Davis
Audrey Reese Guan
Reese Charmae Sumugat Guitche
Lauren Helwig
Liam Scott Keane
Julius Boo Jiet Khoo
Abdullah Qhathim Latiff
Avery Laine Maslan
Diana Medina Bastidas
Jacob Richard Mercer

Mariam Mohamed
Solomon Thomas Morales
Aaron Chen Moranville
Cynthia Diem My Nguyen
Tiffany Thu Thanh Nguyen
Luke Ogawa
Grecia Valeria Palafox Matias
Natalie Nhi Thien Pham
Bilal Mohammad Qureshi
Maryan Arthiha Rajakoone
Yumary Rubio
Astha Priyadarshini Sahoo
Ananya Sathyanarayana
Gizelle Marie Taleno
Joshua Anthony Tjan
Ana Lucia Vasquez Ibarra
Hailee Michelle Wu
Sabrina Zhu

JOSE ANTONIO VARGAS
PULITZER-PRIZE WINNING JOURNALIST
AND FOUNDER OF DEFINE AMERICAN

For decades, Jose Antonio Vargas has chronicled the harrowing stories of immigration—in print, on camera, online, and in person—captivating audiences across the nation. As a celebrated journalist at *The Washington Post*, he earned a Pulitzer Prize for his team’s coverage of the tragic 2007 Virginia Tech shooting. His work as a filmmaker and producer has garnered Emmy and Tony nominations. In 2011, he founded Define American, a nonprofit media advocacy organization that empowers nuanced storytelling about immigrant experiences through research, partnerships, and in-person engagement. With unwavering dedication, he broadens the attention of news media, policymakers, and the public, urging all to witness the full humanity of our nation’s immigrants, one story at a time.

Vargas’s journey began at *The Washington Post*, where he reported on everything from video game culture to HIV/AIDS, always seeking the heart of the story. Yet, behind his relentless pursuit of truth, he harbored a secret: he, too, was undocumented.

In 1993, at the age of twelve, Vargas left his home in the Philippines to join his grandparents in Mountain View, California. Welcomed with warmth, he was presented with a green card and social security number by his Lolo. He attended local schools, worked diligently on his language skills, excelled academically, and embraced theater. His passion for journalism blossomed in high school, where he joined the school newspaper. At sixteen, a visit to the DMV revealed a life-altering truth: his green card was fake. Suddenly, his college plans, internships, and dreams of becoming a journalist seemed out of reach. Yet, mentors, his high school principal, and the district superintendent rallied around him, devising creative solutions—including a special scholarship at San Francisco State University, where he graduated in 2004.

After graduation, Vargas launched his journalism career at *The Washington Post*, later contributing to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Rolling Stone*, and *The New Yorker*. He became a senior contributing editor at *The Huffington Post*. The tension of living the American dream in hiding grew unbearable. As he had once come out as gay in high school, he now chose to reveal his undocumented status.

In 2011, Vargas published his groundbreaking essay, “My Life as an Undocumented Immigrant,” in *The New York Times Magazine*. By sharing his truth, he ignited a national conversation about America’s broken immigration system and advocated for the DREAM Act. He became a beacon for others awaiting legal status, sharing his story in solidarity. His first book, *Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen* (2018), became an instant bestseller, followed by *White Is Not a Country* (2021). In a bittersweet turn, Vargas was legally admitted in 2024 with a temporary O visa, renewable every three years, yet still without a pathway to citizenship.

Vargas’s work has been honored with a litany of awards: the Pulitzer Prize, La Raza Public Service Award, PEN Center’s Freedom to Write honors, and the Sidney Award for his *New York Times Magazine* essay, lauded as an “outstanding piece of socially-conscious journalism.” He was named Alumna of the Year by his alma mater in 2012, and the Mountain View school district named an elementary school in his honor.

That all may know of our great esteem for him, and our strong support for his vital work as a powerful voice for the voiceless and passionate advocate for immigrants’ full humanity, the University of San Francisco does confer upon Jose Antonio Vargas the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereunto. Given this twenty-third day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-six, and of the University, the hundred and seventy-first, in San Francisco, California.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS

Archbishop Oscar Romero Award

Recognized for his ability to become a voice for the voiceless while the Archbishop of San Salvador, the Archbishop Oscar Romero Award is given to an undergraduate or graduate student who strives to alleviate poverty and oppression, and is awarded to:

Valentina Ocampo Beltrán

Graduate Student Leadership Award

This award will be given to students who have consistently worked and succeeded in enriching and having an impact on student life and the values of University Life (leadership, social justice, and cultural competency) throughout their careers at USF. This year's student is:

Sofia Birchenall

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AWARDS

Academic Excellence Award for Computer Science

Certificates, in recognition of exceptional academic achievement, are awarded by the faculty of the Department of Computer Science to:

Chase Aaron Chemero

Kexin Dai

Tiansi Gu

Shing-Han Huang

Shun-Ting Huang

Vikas Huree

Koichi Nakata

Satyansh Sharma

Jiahe Tian

Andrew Adi Wihardja

Jacques R. Artus Award

A certificate and an inscription on the award plaque, given by the faculty of the Department of Economics, in recognition of the most outstanding graduate student in the Master of Science in International & Development Economics program, is awarded to:

Nolan Joseph Sherwood

GSMA/MAIS Award for Best Overall Capstone

This award, in recognition of the capstone project which is well researched and well written on an important and timely topic in Global Studies/ International Studies, and which best embodies the overall focus and mission of the International Studies department and the GSMA/MAIS program, is awarded to:

Nathalie Erica Thibault

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AWARDS

GSMA/MAIS Most Reflective of the USF Mission

This award is given to the project which reflects the mission of the University of San Francisco to educate well-rounded individuals who not only master a requisite body of knowledge, think clearly, analyze critically, and communicate effectively, but also evidence a disciplined sensitivity to human suffering, construct lives of purpose and meaning and work effectively with persons of varying backgrounds and cultures for the common good.

Saihajpratap Singh Bajwa

GSMA/MAIS Most Original Research

This award is given to the project which embraces an interdisciplinary and multi-method approach to Global Studies/International Studies and which uses this approach to conduct innovative and timely research on an issue of global importance.

Sofia Zazueta

The Joseph Petulla Award for the Outstanding Environmental Management Graduate Student

A plaque presented to the outstanding graduate in Environmental Management, based on academic achievement and outstanding performance in the MSEM program. This plaque, named in memory of former MSEM director, Joe Petulla, who started the program at USF in the 1970's and coordinated the program for over 15 years, is awarded to:

Emily Grace Parker
Edward Michael Turk

Honorable Mention:
Sarah Burton

Master of Science in Applied Economics Outstanding Graduate Student Award

A certificate and an inscription on the award plaque, given by the faculty of the Department of Applied Economics, in recognition of the most outstanding graduate student in the Master of Science in Applied Economics program, are awarded to:

Austin Jay Coffelt

MSEM Award for Academic Excellence

A plaque presented to an exceptional graduate in Environmental Management, based on academic achievements, contribution to courses, and contribution to the MSEM program as a whole, is awarded to:

Emily Grace Parker
Laiba Rehman
Rebecca M. To

Graduate Speaker Finalists

Pawoumondom Alai
Wyatt William del Valle

Student Achievements

HONOR SOCIETY

Alpha Sigma Nu Honor Society (ΑΣΝ)

Alpha Sigma Nu is the national Jesuit Honor Society organized to honor students who have distinguished themselves in scholarship, service and loyalty to the University. The graduating member is:

Darris Thomas

ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

McGrath Fellows

The McGrath Fellows of the Change the World From Here Institute was created to develop critically aware, mission-driven and goal-oriented system thinkers who are motivated to change their communities for the common good. The program engages and further develops established campus leaders across all disciplines who practice ethical, cooperative, collaborative and inclusive leadership; engage in both courageous and compassionate action; cultivate changes in values by re-framing and reinterpreting situations, and practice contemplative self-reflection. The Scholars honored here represent members of the graduating class that have completed both the curricular and co-curricular components of the program successfully. Graduating students are:

Wendy Aguilar

Tate Alexander Barend

UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS

Community Engaged Learning Faculty Award

The University Community Engaged Learning Faculty Award recognizes the work of full-time faculty in developing service-learning opportunities for USF students. The awardee shall be a full-time faculty member who has demonstrated a commitment to service learning through the integration of service-learning into the curriculum; innovation in employing a reflective teaching methodology to connect community and public service experience with academic study; and demonstration of leadership that promotes service-learning on campus.

Reginold Daniels, College of Arts and Sciences

Distinguished Adjunct Teaching Award

A purse and a plaque, awarded jointly by the USF Faculty Association and the University, to a part-time faculty member for extraordinary dedication to teaching and students, and for innovative and gifted approaches to teaching and the classroom at USF, are awarded to:

*Lynda Boyer-Chu,
School of Nursing and Health Professions*

Rajeev Naidu, College of Arts and Sciences

Manpreet Newsom, School of Education

Distinguished Research Award

A purse and a plaque, awarded jointly by the USF Faculty Association and the University, to a full-time faculty member whose recent research and scholarship have made an outstanding contribution to his or her academic discipline, are awarded to:

Xiaosheng Huang, College of Arts and Sciences

Distinguished Teaching Award

A purse and a plaque, awarded jointly by the USF Faculty Association and the University, to a full-time faculty member for extraordinary dedication to teaching and students, and for innovative and gifted approaches to teaching and the classroom, are awarded to:

*June Madsen Clausen,
School of Nursing and Health Professions*

Educational Effectiveness Award

The Educational Effectiveness Award (EEA) is given out annually to one team in recognition of excellence in assessment practices at the University of San Francisco. The recognized assessment work should show evidence of student learning, use of student learning evidence, and help the University, or any part of the University or community, achieve its learning outcomes, goals or mission. Exemplary assessment work should also support a culture of assessment at USF, and include a plan for closing the loop.

*Laura Camara, Longyuan Du, Frank Fletcher,
Monika Hudson, John Koeplin, Courtney Masterson,
Anthony Patino, Yasi Sangari, Richard Stackman,
Bilgehan Yildiz (School of Management)*

UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS

Excellence in Academic Leadership Award

The Excellence in Academic Leadership award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and vision, particularly during times of uncertainty and transition. The awardee has gone beyond the traditional scope of their role, showing resilience, creativity, and a profound commitment to supporting the USF community. Through navigating challenges, advocating for innovation, and leading transformational change, this leader has made a lasting impact and inspired others through collaboration and leadership.

Osasere Egbuomwan, College of Arts and Sciences

Ignatian Service Award

Ignatian Service Award recognizes an exceptional commitment to the service of students, the University, and the community at large, in light of the religious and moral legacy of St. Ignatius. The awardee shall be a full-time faculty member who has demonstrated an ongoing and creative commitment to the realization of this legacy through his/her actions and accomplishments.

Sonja Martin Poole, School of Management

Inclusive Excellence Award

Presented by the Office of ADEI to recognize a faculty member, librarian, or staff member who has made exceptional contributions to advancing access, fostering belonging, and promoting inclusion within the USF community.

Magaly Salas, Gleeson Library

Innovation in Global Initiative Award

Recognizes a faculty, librarian, or staff member who demonstrates innovation in facilitating global educational opportunities, (study abroad, immersion programs, internships, research opportunities) or bringing global perspective to campus (incorporating global into courses, developing new global courses, or broadening access to global perspectives).

Wei Yang Menkus, Asia Pacific Studies

Innovation in Instruction Award

The Innovation in Instruction Award is granted to a part-time faculty member that utilizes creative or innovative teaching methods, approaches, and techniques in their courses.

*Sharlisa Byrd,
School of Nursing and Health Professions*

UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS

Innovation in Teaching with Technology Award

The CIT Awards honor faculty or staff who have demonstrated excellent use of technology in education. Recipients have supported the development of teaching and learning contributing to the overall quality of the USF learning environment.

Full-Time Faculty Team Award

Joyce Yang, Aline Hitti, Zachary Reese
College of Arts and Sciences

Part-Time Faculty Award

Fernanda Lopez Ornelas
College of Arts and Sciences

Mentor of the Year Award

The Mentor of the Year Award was created by the Provost Council in order to recognize a faculty member or a staff person who furthers the Vision, Mission and Values of the University through their demonstrated commitment to and excellence in advising and mentoring our graduate and undergraduate students. The award recognizes individuals who help our students (1) identify their academic goals; (2) establish relationships between their curricular and co-curricular activities; (3) develop the expertise, skills and values that support academic and personal achievement; and, (4) discern how their USF experience will assist them in forming a more humane and just world, and is awarded to:

Zachary Reese, College of Arts and Sciences

Outstanding Teamwork in Advancing the University's Strategic Plan Award

The Outstanding Teamwork in Advancing the University's Strategic Plan Award was created by the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs in order to recognize and honor a team of faculty, librarians and/or staff who have made exceptional contributions to advancing USF's Strategic Plan, with an emphasis on creative co-design, collaboration, and cross-departmental/divisional teamwork.

Residence Life

Adeline Barron, Amanda Chavez, Alyssa Dwyer,
Kahanu Salavea, Jonathan Sirait, Ashrah'Lani Turner,
Austin Quarles

Horizon Collective Working Group

Chris Brooks, Katherine Edwards, Osasere Egbuomwan,
Erin Grinshteyn, Jocelyn Lambert, Courtney Masterson,
Saralyn Ruff, Calla Schmidt

American Flag

USF's ROTC Color Guard proudly presents the American flag flown over the United States Capitol on the day of Pope Francis' historic address to a Joint Session of Congress, September 24, 2015. On that inspiring day, Pope Francis renewed the faith of Catholics worldwide and inspired a new generation, regardless of their religious affiliation, to be instruments of peace. He reminded us of our sacred and inescapable responsibility to those struggling to escape poverty, persecution and war. He challenged us to rescue our planet from the climate crisis that threatens the future of our children and the health of God's creation - and to do so in a way that is sensitive to the needs of the poor. He urged us to live our values and reach beyond our divisions.

The colorful attire worn by the graduates, the faculty, and officers of the University on the occasion of these Commencement Exercises has historic roots in medieval times. Dressed as they are in cap and gown, the graduates and their professors form part of a long tradition which dates back to Paris and Bologna, to Oxford and Cambridge in the days of their Catholic glory.

The precise origins of the several parts of the academic garb are not easy to discover. However, since medieval students enjoyed the status of clerics during their university years, one is hardly far wrong in asserting that their attire found its inspiration in the clerical dress of medieval times. The gown seems to be an adaptation of the robe of friar or priest; the hood, of the monk's or friar's cowl; and the mortarboard cap of today, the end product of curious evolution, recalls the skull cap of days when tonsured heads needed protection against the drafts of medieval classrooms.

Academic attire began to appear quite generally on United States campuses in the late 1890s. Since that time, its use has become universal for solemn university functions, and its pattern highly uniform.

THE GOWN

The gowns are three in number and styling. That of the bachelor is a yoked, closed-front garment, with long, pointed sleeves; that of the master is cut to be worn open front, its sleeves are long and closed, slit cut just above the elbow to allow the forearm to protrude; the gown of the doctor is also worn open and has full bell-shaped sleeves. Only the doctor's gown is trimmed—with velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on each sleeve.

Though black velvet is proper trimming for all doctor gowns, the color and material of the panels and sleeve bars is often varied in order to indicate the faculty which granted the wearer's degree; dark blue for Philosophy (PHD); light blue for Education (EDD); white for Arts and Letters (LITTD); gold-yellow for Science (SCD); orange for Engineering (ENGD, DCE); purple for Law (LLD, DCL, JD, JUD, JCD); green for Medicine (MD); scarlet for Theology (STD, DD).

THE HOOD

The hood at first seems to have been worn over the head and was attached to the gown. When the skull cap was introduced, the hood was retained, but detached and worn much as it is today. Each degree (bachelor, master, doctor) has a right to a hood, which varies in length and, in the case of the doctor's, also in pattern. The bachelor's hood is three feet long; the master's hood, three and one-half; the doctor's hood, four, with wide panels on either side.

The color or colors with which the hood is lined are those of the college or university that granted the wearer's degree—for example, the University of San Francisco is known by the gold chevron on the field of Kelly green. The colored velvet binding or edging of the hood, in different widths for bachelor, master, doctor, is a key to the faculty granting the degree. The velvet colors include white for Arts, gold-yellow for Science, drab for Business, apricot for Nursing, light blue for Education, royal blue for Nonprofit Administration, peacock blue for Public Administration, scarlet for Theology, purple for Law, and so forth.

THE CAP

The mortar board has become the universally accepted style in United States colleges and universities. Many European institutions still retain distinctive forms of academic headdress—for example, the University of London's tam-o-shanter cap.

The doctor, following graduation, has the right to wear a gold tassel on the mortar board; black, however, is perfectly proper and perhaps more common.



UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE