TO OUR GRADUATES

Today you are graduates of the University of Illinois. It is a remarkable achievement, and we hope that you celebrate the occasion with loved ones. Commencement is a joyous and deeply symbolic event for all, including the faculty members and staff who have supported you on your journey. It is profoundly disappointing that we are unable to celebrate it together this spring. The Class of 2021 will long be remembered, however, for not only what was lost, but for your resilience and determination as you finished your degree in the face of one of the greatest challenges in our nation’s history. Congratulations, and we look forward to learning of your future success.
ORDER OF EXERCISES
Saturday, May 15, 2021, 11 a.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

CONVOCAUTION COORDINATOR
WELCOME AND REMARKS
Tina M. Knox, Assistant Director for Advising and Recruitment

VIRTUAL PROCESSION OF GRADUATES
Please join in at home by staging your own procession for your family and friends.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES
WELCOME AND REMARKS
Matthew Ando, Associate Dean for Life and Physical Sciences, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

RECOGNITION OF CANDIDATES RECEIVING SPECIAL AWARDS AND HONORS

PRESENTATION OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CANDIDATES

PRESENTATION OF MASTER OF SCIENCE CANDIDATES

PRESENTATION OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE CANDIDATES
Distinction Recipients (Biochemistry, MCB and MCB Honors Conc.)
Biochemistry, Specialized Curriculum Candidates
MCB Honors Concentration Candidates
Biology Candidates
MCB Candidates

TASSEL TURN
Please join your fellow graduates by moving your tassel from right to left.

CLOSING REMARKS
Tina M. Knox, Assistant Director for Advising and Recruitment

SINGING OF “HAIL TO THE ORANGE”
Hail to the Orange, Hail to the Blue, Hail Alma Mater, Ever so true.
We love no other, So let our motto be, Victory, Illinois, Varsity!
LAS ADMINISTRATION
Gene E. Robinson, Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Swanlund Chair in Entomology
Angela Graham, Assistant to the Dean
Barbara Hancin-Bhatt, Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs
Robert Kessler, Assistant Dean for Finance and Resource Planning
Kelly A. Ritter, Associate Dean for Curricula and Academic Policy
David H. Tewksbury, Executive Associate Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Area Centers
Matthew A. Ando, Associate Dean for Life and Physical Sciences
Clare Haru Crowston, Associate Dean for Humanities and Interdisciplinary Programs
Joan M. Volkman, Associate Dean for Advancement
Isabel Molina-Guzmán, Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion
W. Brad Petersen, Executive Director of Communications and Marketing
Derek Fultz, Director of Facilities
Randy McCarthy, Faculty Director of ATLAS

SCHOOL OF MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY
ADMINISTRATION
Milan K. Bagchi, Director, School of Molecular & Cellular Biology
Satish Nair, Head, Biochemistry
Supriya Prasanth, Head, Cell & Developmental Biology

CONVOCATION PLANNING STAFF
James M. Slauch, Head, Microbiology
Claudio Grosman, Head, Molecular & Integrative Physiology

MEDIA PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
Aurora M. Cruz-Torres, MS, Academic Advisor, Molecular & Cellular Biology

CEREMONY COORDINATOR
Tina M. Knox, EdM, Assistant Director for Advising and Recruitment, Molecular & Cellular Biology
ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic dress, consisting of cap, gown, and hood, originated about the twelfth century and was worn primarily for warmth. Subsequently, the material of the gown and lining, and the shape of the hood, represented the economic and social, as well as academic status of the wearer.

In the United States, the great majority of the academic costumes now worn are in accordance with the general provisions of the Intercollegiate Code of 1895, which was revised in 1932 and again in 1960. Under this code, the bachelor’s gown has pointed sleeves, the master’s gown has oblong sleeves with an arc at the bottom, and the doctor’s gown has bell-shaped sleeves. All gowns are black, although the adoption of colored gowns by individual institutions in the United States is becoming more prevalent.

The bachelor’s and master’s gowns are untrimmed. The doctor’s gown is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves. The facing and bars may be black or may be the color of the subject to which the degree pertains. The bachelor’s gown is worn closed; the master’s and doctor’s gowns may be worn open or closed. Women may wear white collars with the bachelor’s gown when no hood is worn.

Hoods are also black. The bachelor’s hood is 3 feet in length, the master’s is 3 ½ feet, and the doctor’s is 4 feet. Hoods are lined with the official color or colors of the college or university conferring the degree. At the University of Illinois, the lining is orange and blue. The colored velvet border of the hood, which is 2 inches, 3 inches, and 5 inches wide for the bachelor’s, master’s, and doctor’s degree respectively, identifies the faculty or field of study to which the degree pertains.

The black mortarboard cap is standard in the United States. Usually, all tassels are black, but where the graduating seniors do not wear hoods, as at the University of Illinois, the color of the cap tassel indicates the department of study. At the University of Illinois, candidates for degrees wear tassels on the right front quadrant of their caps before degrees are conferred, and move them to the left front quadrant after degrees are conferred. Caps are considered a part of the costume and are customarily removed only during an invocation or benediction, and then by men only.

For all academic purposes, including trimmings of doctor’s gowns, edging of hoods, tassels of caps, and linings of banners, there are different colors associated with the different disciplines. The color for Liberal Arts & Sciences is white.

Caps and gowns were worn for the first time at the University of Illinois Commencement ceremony of 1897. In the early 1900s the Commencement procession marched up Burrill Avenue to the old Armory. After diplomas were received, the procession marched back to the lawn south of Green Street. The seniors sang the State song and “Auld Lang Syne” before they said good-bye to each other and the campus.
Due to print deadlines, lists may be incomplete. Students who have completed the necessary requirements to earn one of our certificates are noted with C for Cell & Developmental Biology, M for Microbiology and N for Neuroscience. Students who graduated in December 2020 are noted with F for Fall. Students planning to graduate in August 2021 are noted with S for Summer.

**UNIVERSITY DISTINCTION**

**CHANCELLOR’S SCHOLARS**

Destiny Henning, MCB Honors Concentration
Eric Jung, MCB
Grace Maloney, MCB
Stella Zhao, MCB

**BRONZE TABLET**

Kirsten Birk, MCB
Haley Clark, MCB

**COLLEGE DISTINCTION**

**JAMES SCHOLARS**

Divya Avula, MCB
Connie Bao, MCB Honors Concentration
Cary Brandolino, MCB
Madelyn Brotnow, MCB
John Carroll Jr., MCB
Nicole Cast, MCB Honors Concentration
Annie Cheung, MCB
Liana Chidichimo, MCB
Nicole Cho, MCB
Haley Clark, MCB
Noah Costabilo, MCB Honors Concentration
Sierra Coyne, MCB
Nathanlown Dang, MCB
Samantha Flesch, MCB
Robert Forsyth, Biochemistry

Isabelle Friend, MCB
Rachel Fuller, MCB
Diana Garcia, MCB
Aaron Gephart, MCB
Jack Gerling, MCB Honors Concentration
Abigail Glavin, MCB
Eugene Ham, MCB
Destiny Henning, MCB Honors Concentration
Matthew Hopkins, Biology Teacher Education Option
Eric Jung, MCB
Michael Kim, MCB
Kailey Komnick, MCB Honors Concentration
Elizabeth Lewis, Biochemistry
Manasi Lingamaneni, MCB Honors Concentration
Tianyu Lu, MCB
Akram Mahdi, MCB
Grace Maloney, MCB
Shari Markowitz, MCB
Claire Marzolf, MCB
Bailey Metcalf, MCB
Richard Moraga, MCB Honors Concentration
Allison Narlock, MCB Honors Concentration
AWARDS AND HONORS

Vijay Nellutla, MCB Honors Concentration
Eilish Newcomb, MCB Honors Concentration
Nathaniel Oommen, MCB
Ishani Patel, MCB Honors Concentration
Mansi Patel, MCB
Nitiksh Paul, MCB
Michael Prabhu, MCB
Aila Rahman, MCB Honors Concentration
Benjamin Ray, MCB Honors Concentration
Manisha Reddy, MCB
Carmensa Remolina, MCB
Erin Sahm, MCB Honors Concentration
Allison Schierer, MCB
Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, MCB Honors Concentration
Eric Shin, MCB
Divya Thomas, MCB
Brian Tibble, MCB Honors Concentration
Abigail Tierney, MCB
Katelyn Toohill, MCB
Nisheka Vanjani, MCB Honors Concentration
Ravina Vasanwala, MCB Honors Concentration
Sophia Watts, MCB Honors Concentration

Elaina Wilkens, MCB
Molly Wong, MCB
Emma Wu, MCB Honors Concentration
Stella Zhao, MCB
Yu Zheng, MCB

PHI BETA KAPPA
Britten Gordon, MCB
Abhishek Pandravada, MCB
Katelyn Toohill, MCB
The lists are organized by degree. Because of production deadlines, lists may be incomplete. Students who graduated in December 2020 are noted with † for Fall. Students planning to graduate in August 2021 are noted with ‡ for Summer.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

BIOCHEMISTRY
Waqar Arif†
Lauren Carnevale†
Logan Hurst†
Vinh Vu

BIOPHYSICS & QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY
Roshni Bano†

CELL & DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY
Mohd Tayyab Adil
Qinyu Hao
Xiaohe Li†

Yo-Chuen Lin†
Nilmani Singh†
Yuan Tian†

Microbiology
Danielle Campbell†
Samantha DeWerff
Kristen Farley
Andi Liu
Preethi Thattai Ragunathan
T.V. Pritha Rao
Ananya Sen
Jiayi Sun†

Molecular & Integrative Physiology
Valeria Sanabria Guillen†
Jessica Saw†
Sayyed Hamed Shahoei†
Jiaran Zhang

Neuroscience
Connor Courtney
Ekaterina Gribkova†
Ian Traniello†

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Cell & Developmental Biology
Lindsey Behrens‡

School of Molecular & Cellular Biology
Toni Banks†
Michael Compagnone†
Wei-Chun Kao†
Danielle Schuh
Matthew Sebring
Cody Tucker†
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

Due to print deadlines, lists may be incomplete. Students who have completed the necessary requirements to earn one of our certificates are noted with C for Cell & Developmental Biology, M for Microbiology and N for Neuroscience. Students who graduated in December 2020 are noted with F for Fall. Students planning to graduate in August 2021 are noted with S for Summer.

**STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH ACADEMIC DISTINCTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Distinction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connie Bao</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsten Birk</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madelyn Brotnow</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liana Chidichimo</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haley Clark</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhixing Dai</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathanlown Dang</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td>Highest Research Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabelle Friend</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Gephart</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chirag Gopinath</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destiny Henning</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td>High Research Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Kim</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kailey Komnick</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chenyao Ni</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Oommen</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abhishek Pandravada</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansi Patel</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitiksh Paul</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Ray</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisabeth Schwarzkopf</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Shin</td>
<td>MCB, Research Distinction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satheeshram Tamilselvan</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Tibble</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Tomlin</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td>High Research Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katelyn Toohill</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nisheka Vanjani</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravina Vasanwala</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia Watts</td>
<td>MCB Honors Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elaina Wilkens</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stella Zhao</td>
<td>MCB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH HIGHEST DISTINCTION FOR RESEARCH**

Students listed previously for Academic Distinction will not be listed below.

- David Kostyra, Biochemistry
- Clifford Yerby, Biochemistry

**STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH HIGH DISTINCTION FOR RESEARCH**

Students listed previously for Academic Distinction will not be listed below.

- Autumn Brandenburg, Biochemistry
- Annie Cheung, MCB
- Matthew Gao, MCB
- Chen Huang, MCB
- Rachel Jones, MCB
- Caroline Kaminsky, MCB
- Aayush Kauf, MCB
- Aleksandras Lotuzas, Biochemistry
- Sean MacAllister, MCB
- Haider Sarwar, Biochemistry
- Toma Tchernodrinski, MCB
Abigail Tierney, MCB
Yiren Tu, Biochemistry
Anna Vermilya, MCB

STUDENTS GRADUATING WITH DISTINCTION FOR RESEARCH
Students listed previously for Academic Distinction will not be listed below.
Aaron DeSalvio, MCB
Aleyah Hattab, MCB
Tiffany Jong, MCB
Nevers Mushimata, MCB
Allison Narlock, MCB Honors Concentration
Khadeeja Shahid, MCB
Felicia Tan, MCB

BIOCHEMISTRY, SPECIALIZED CURRICULUM
Students listed previously for Distinction will not be listed below.
Julia Ekiert
Robert Forsyth
Vidhi Gabani
Mingyi Gao
Samantha Gonski

Conor Harrington
Tyler Hodgett
Elizabeth Lewis
Alyssa Massman
Era Meco
Ben Tran
Alexandra Wierzbik

MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY HONORS CONCENTRATION
Students listed previously for Distinction will not be listed below.
Nicole Cast
Noah Costabilo
Jack Gerling
Rajita Kanapareddy
Manasi Lingamaneni
Jordan Machakel
Ilber Manavbasi
Richard Moraga
Vijay Nellutla
Eilish Newcomb
Ishani Patel
Tessa Phillips
Aila Rahman

Erin Sahm
Emma Wu

BIOLOGY
Robert Colon
John Dugan III, Biology
Teacher Education Option
Matthew Hopkins, Biology
Teacher Education Option

MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY
Students listed previously for Distinction will not be listed below.
Ivana Aboagye
Adam Abushamaa
Dakshina Acharya
Akhil Aerra
Ariana Afonso
Benjamin Ahn
Wahab Ahsan
Rami Alzein
Amritha Anand
Jatan Anand
Shawn Anderson
Ryan Ang
GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Caitlyn Anonuevo
Eghosa Atoe
Divya Avula
Jenna Bacerra
Anna Barannikova
Ashley Barz
Meghna Basavaraju
Aarya Bavare
Brittni Belcher
Megan Benson
Austin Beyer
Malikah Black
Brianna Bowman
Cary Brandolino
Emily Brown
Natalia Brzezinski
Samantha Burgin
Grace Burleson
Nika Byrne
Joseph Calabrese
Yvette Calvillo
Austin Carmody
Cheyenne Carr
Kristopher Carredano Toledo
John Carroll Jr.

Yoselin Castillo
Meghana Chaganti
Andy Chen
Simon Chen
Ashley Childress
Nicole Cho
In Hyuk Choi
Thomas Tsz Him Chow
Tiffany Chu
Sierra Coyne
Kristine Cranford
Claire Cunningham
Quynh Anh Dao
Caitlin Daza
Anthony Delgado Jr.
Rohan Dhiman
Thomas Dohr
Timothy Donaho III
Justin Donato
Timothy Dworkin
Jacob Emerson
Ronell Esquivel
Steven Faouaz
Elyse Fell
Samantha Flesch

Daryl Forney
Carolyn Francart
Rachel Fuller
Allison Galvin
Darwin Garay
Abigail Garcia
Diana Garcia
Joshua George
Remy Gerew
Robert Gikas Jr.
Abigail Glavin
Adrianna Glisan
Declan Glueck
Yuliya Gofman
Britten Gordon
Deepa Prakashini Govindasamy Rajagopal
Evelyn Gu
Peter Guadagno
Ashna Gupta
Suryaa Gupta
Eugene Ham
Christina Hamil
Sukji Han
Yu Jin Han
Mira Hassan
GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Beau Hendren-Santiago  
Caroline Hernandez

Brianna Hitchingham  
Christine Hong

Melissa Horton  
Zackary Houghton

Sydney House  
Michael Hrabak

Andrew Hwang  
Kristi Isola

Justin Jacobs

Nadia Jahromi  
Sachin Jajoo

Daniel Jesuthasan

Yunyi Jiang  
David Johnson

Lea Jones  
Akhil Joseph

Bhavya Joshi  
Tanvi Joshi

Eric Jung  
Nolan Kaleel

Florence Kang  
Norikazu Kasai

Meghana Kaza  
Neil Kelekar

Thomas Kennedy  
Zuhair Khan

Roumaissa Kibeche  
Alexander Kozuch

Trevor Krause  
Sean Krueger

Niresh Kuganeswaran  
Ethan Kuruc

Joshua Lain  
Matthew Laubscher

Esther Lawal  
Eunice Lee

Joanne Lee  
Mark Lee

Micah Lee  
Sung Ho Lee

Caroline Leffler  
Alexander Leja

Amber Lewis  
Danielle Leyva

Yikun Li  
Zixiao Li

Andy Lieu  
William Lim

Yisong Lin  
Madeline Link

Angela Liu  
Anna Liu

Michelle Liu  
Gabrielle Loock

Sofija Lopotaite  
Tianyu Lu

Akram Mahdi  
Grace Maloney

Matthew Malter  
Aichem Malubay

Keely Mannoochahr  
Dante Marcozzi

Shari Markowitz  
Jennifer Martinez

Leslie Martinez-Delgado  
Claire Marzolf

Srija Matukumalli

Austin Mayfield  
Moustapha Mbaye

Ashley McKee  
Zachary Meeker

Karan Menon  
Sanjna Menon
GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Bailey Metcalf
Ryan Michet
Blashko Milenkovi
Sanya Mishra
Tomas Misniunas
Arnav Mitra
Oliwia Mlodawska
Aiman Mohammad
Shaan Moheet
Anna Mugg
Muzammil Muztar
Ariel Myint
Lauren Novy
Angela Nuccio
Shelby Nunamaker
Saif Onbargi
Vanessa Ortiz
Lauren Pabyanskus
Joshua Palces
Ryan Pandya
Kajal Patel
Niyati Patel
Parth Patel
Aldo Perez
Liliana Perez
Dylan Peters
Gabija Petrus
Yegor Piatrou
Tonu Pius
Matthew Popovic
Saakshi Pothina
Michael Prabhu
Gabriella Prado
Ellis Qualls
Ammara Qureshi
Daniel Raab
Jessica Rajkumar
Eddie Ramirez
Surabhi Rao
Anisha Reddy
Manisha Reddy
Carmensa Remolina
Zoriamin Rivera Jr.
Kendall Robbins
Zachary Robins
Orlando Rojas
Madeline Ruestman
Kathy Ryan
Nishith Sagubadi
Adam Said III
Julija Sakutyte
Sreehitha Sanku
Allison Schierer
Nicholas Severin
Dhananjay Shahdadpuri
Abhinu Sharma
Nicole Silber
Fatimata Soumare
Nathaniel Srinivas Rao
Nicholas Stone
Douglas Stuehler Jr.
Ricardo Suarez
Eva Sue
Osman Syed
Jayana Tabbilos
Jarrett Tan
Stephanie Tan
Dylan Tapia
Neha Tewary
Divya Thomas
Arch Topouzian
Eduardo Torres
Rameen Usman
Sameep Vakharia
Garrett Vandermyde
GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES

Rose Varney
Melissa Vasquez
Kristina Velcani
Sandra Villalobos
Thomas Villanueva
Aldo Vivero
Quinta Wang
William Wang
Neeti Warhekar
Jackie Way
John Webster
Eunice Whang
Ryan Wickenhauser
Adrian Wierzbikaf
Molly Wongf
Kristin Woo
Olivia Wuethrich
Kerraline Wurl
Xihe Xu
Jingyi Yang
Sunjung Yang
Yiwei Yang
Daniel Yong
Han Su Yoon
Kara Zehrf

Luke Zerwic
Yifan Zhao
Yu Zheng
Alem Zukancic
A SPECIAL NOTE TO OUR GRADUATES

It has been our absolute joy to work with you over the past several years. We have had the pleasure of getting to know you and watching you grow into the remarkable individuals that you are today. This is certainly not how any of us planned to celebrate your years of hard work and dedication. However, we know that you will do amazing things with or without the formal Pomp and Circumstance. We congratulate you all on your achievements and wait in anticipation of the accomplishments your brilliant minds and kind hearts will achieve in the years to come. Please keep in touch. Be well. Do good.

Forever in orange and blue,
Your MCB and Biochemistry Advisors

Degree Information

This program contains an unofficial list of degree candidates for May 2021, as well as a list of graduates who received degrees in August and December 2020. Due to printing deadlines, names of some degree recipients may not appear while names of some degree candidates who have not yet completed degree requirements may be included.

The University’s official registry for conferral of degrees is the Office of the Registrar, 901 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL 61801.