



One Hundred Eighty-Seventh Commencement

Saturday, May Sixth
Two Thousand and Twenty-Three
The Monument Ice Arena

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Master of Ceremonies	Dr. Lance Roberts
Processional (<i>Stand</i>)	Graduation Band
<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i> by Elgar, arranged by Larry Clarke	
Presentation of Colors	Army ROTC Color Guard
President's Message	Dr. Jim Rankin
Recognition of the 50 Year Graduates	Dr. Lance Roberts
Senior Class Representative's Message	Mr. Chamaka Senarath
Message from the Board of Regents	Mr. John Bastian
Presentation of Honorary Degrees	Dr. Jim Rankin
Commencement Address	Mr. Tom Jones
Conferral of Degrees	Dr. Jim Rankin
Presentation of Degree Candidates	Dr. Joseph Dlugos
Army ROTC Commissioning Ceremony	LTC Greg Shipper
Alumni Welcome	Mr. Gary Christman
Retirement of Colors	Army ROTC Color Guard
Recessional (<i>Stand</i>)	Graduation Band
<i>Flourishes!</i> by William Owens	

SOUTH DAKOTA MINES GRADUATION BAND

Dr. Haley Armstrong, Director	Luke Lichtenberg, Trombone
Kaden Adrian, Trumpet	Thomas Mayfield, Euphonium
Jada Bell, Flute	Isaac Nedved, Percussion
Angelina Benda, Clarinet	Christian Olson, Trombone
Chase Bradley, French Horn	Andrew Peterson, Percussion
Alex Chan, Trumpet	Dakota Remington, Tuba
Skyler Doty, Alto Sax	Zoey Thies, Flute
Dalton Eckmann, Percussion	Margaret Thompson, Flute
Matthew Holler, Tenor Saxophone	Danielle Vander Poel, Flute
Kyle Houchin, Clarinet	Cherokee Winkler, Cello
Zachary Koehn, Trombone	

This program is not an official document. Due to strict requirements, it must be printed before the final list of degree candidates can be determined.

50-YEAR GRADUATES

CLASS OF 1973

318 graduates (259 BS degrees, 57 MS degrees, 2 PhD)

Only those attending today's Commencement are listed below.

Judy Cannon,

Electrical Engineering, Fort Collins, CO

Richard Carlson,

Chemical Engineering, West Windsor, NJ

Paul Ching,

MS Geological Engineering, Dallas, TX

Gary Christman,

Chemical Engineering, Spearfish, SD

Steven Clark,

Chemical Engineering, Kalamazoo, MI

Pat Dady,

Civil Engineering, Sisseton, SD

Packer DeMarcus,

Mining Engineering, Deadwood, SD

Vickie (Pollock) DeNeui,

Math, Cypress, TX

Bob Gjere,

Geological Engineering, Omaha, NE

M.J. (Seeley) Green,

Civil Engineering, Tulsa, OK

David Holbrook,

Chemical Engineering, Rapid City, SD

Steven Jeschke,

Chemical Engineering, Stillwater, MN

Lynn Kading,

Civil Engineering, Rapid City, SD

Chuck Kliche, P.E.,

Mining Engineering, Rapid City, SD

Max Main,

Mechanical Engineering, Belle Fourche, SD

Larry Morgan,

Chemistry, Glendale, AZ

Henry Mott,

Civil Engineering, Roseville, MN

Bill Noordermeer,

Civil Engineering, Rapid City, SD

Jim Quinn,

Civil Engineering, Rapid City, SD

Randy Sauter,

Civil Engineering, Rapid City, SD

Jerry Schley,

Mechanical Engineering, Stratford, SD

Bill Weber,

Geological Engineering, Enid, OK

SENIOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Chamaka Senarath

Chamaka Senarath came to South Dakota Mines from Kandy, Sri Lanka. His parents are Upula Senarath and Geethanjalee Rajapaksa, and he has one brother, Sarith Senarath.

Senarath has been involved in various clubs and activities while at South Dakota Mines. He co-founded the Application Development Club in 2022 and currently serves as its president; he also co-founded Effective Engineers and Scientists in Leadership in 2018, which merged with the Professional Development Institute. He has been a member of the orchestra, choir, and Master Chorale. He served as Lambda Chi Alpha's internal value educator. He was also a resident advisor and an international student ambassador. He received the Caring, Helping, Aspiring, and Development (C.H.A.D) award in 2020 and was inducted into the Leadership Hall of Fame in 2023. He has received several music scholarships and the Joseph Nelson Fellowship for demonstrating a high level of initiative in research and leadership. He received third place in the Engineers Make Great Entrepreneurs competition in 2020. He is currently working on a business startup project that will elevate the career experience for music educators. He has worked in various software engineering, product management, and research capacities. He received a master's degree in physics from Mines in May 2021.

After graduating with his Bachelor of Science degree in computer science, Senarath will be working at Property Meld in Rapid City as a software engineer.

HONORARY DOCTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. Lorin Brass

Mr. Lorin Brass graduated from South Dakota Mines in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in metallurgical engineering. He received a master's degree in materials science and engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. He spent 30 years with Shell Oil Company progressing through a variety of technical and business assignments. In 1997, he relocated to The Hague, The Netherlands, where he became chief executive officer of Shell Services International, a global information technology and services company. Most recently, he served as senior advisor of business development for all Shell-related activities, with particular emphasis on corporate acquisitions and divestments globally. Before that, he served as director of global business development for Shell International Exploration & Production, where he was responsible for oil and gas property acquisitions and divestments around the world. He also previously held positions in corporate planning, and was vice president of operations for Shell Services Company.

Mr. Brass served on the board of the South Dakota Mines Foundation, Alumni Association, and the South Dakota Investment Council and is currently on the board of Bristow Group Inc. and several non-profit organizations. He and his wife, Mary (CE 77), make their home near Lennox, South Dakota.

HONORARY DOCTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. Tom Jones

Thomas (Tom) H. Jones is corporate vice president and president of Northrop Grumman's Aeronautics Systems sector, a premier provider of military aircraft, autonomous systems, aerospace structures, and next-generation solutions with major operations throughout the United States.

Previously, Jones was sector vice president and general manager of Airborne Sensors and Networks division for Northrop Grumman's Mission Systems sector; sector vice president and general manager for Advanced Concepts and Technologies, also at Mission Systems; sector vice president and general manager for Advanced Concepts and Technologies for the former Electronic Systems sector; and vice president of the company's Undersea Systems business unit in Annapolis, Maryland. Prior to joining Northrop Grumman in 2011, Jones served as director of the Boeing company's Marine Systems department in Anaheim, California, and in a variety of roles of increasing responsibility at Rockwell International and Boeing.

Jones earned bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from Kansas State University and took additional doctoral-level coursework at the University of Southern California. He has been active in a variety of community organizations, including church, parochial schools, YMCA, and youth soccer coaching. Jones served as the chairman of the Corporate Program Management Council from 2013 through 2015.

GRADUATE DESIGNATIONS

† Army ROTC Cadet being
commissioned as Second Lieutenant

‡ 2020 Graduate

‡‡ 2022 Graduate

‡‡‡ Summer 2023 Graduate

‡‡‡‡ Fall 2023 Graduate

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

*Cum Laude

**Magna Cum Laude

***Summa Cum Laude

White Tassels

Red Tassels

Gold Tassels

3.50 - 3.69 GPA

3.70 - 3.89 GPA

3.90 - 4.00 GPA

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE CANDIDATES

Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences

Heidi L. Sieverding

Effect of Manure Amendments on Soil Carbon and Greenhouse Gas Footprint of Agricultural Products

Chemical and Biological Engineering

Mikel Jared Zaitzeff

Flexoelectricity in Polymer-bound Reactive Systems

Geology, Geological Engineering, and Mining Engineering

Judith Akorfa Buaba

Application of Machine Learning Techniques to Estimate Mine Safety and Health Hazards for Integration into Underground Production Scheduling Optimization

Nanoscience and Nanoengineering

Shayne Erskine Quinn

Development and Application of Lattice Light Sheet Data Visualization Techniques for 3D Membrane Structure and PI3-Kinase Activity During Macropinosome Formation

Physics

Thomas Lane Kadlecek

Underground Measurement of Low Energy Cross Sections for the $^{22}\text{Ne}(\alpha, n)^{25}\text{Mg}$ Reaction

Joseph Andrew Street

Reduction of Radon-daughter Backgrounds for the Super Cryogenic Dark Matter Search Experiment

MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences

Lexy Ezra-Jade Elizalde
Samantha Yvonne Johnson###
Emily Anne Liknes
Selene Mori Williams

Biomedical Engineering

Colin Robert Bertsch
Samantha Leigh Smith###
Anna Christine Thomas

Civil and Environmental Engineering

David James Gonzalez
Md Mahmudul Hasan
Cameron James Kenner
Abed-Nego Kyungu Kime
Kyle Law
Alexander J. Lesselyoung
Ethan Alexander Rader-Hunt
Nicholas Joseph Sudbeck
Amanda Ann Tomes

Computer Science and Engineering

Sherwyn Carmo Edward Braganza
Samantha Marie Pfeiffer
Dustin Bryan Richards
Deepika Yalla

Construction Engineering and Management

William Cody Murner

Electrical Engineering

Terrance David Life
Christopher Jacob Mentele
Courtney Jack Miller
Md Salman Khan Mithil
Tasin Nusrat

Sasha Anne Paulovich
Md Niamul Quader
Jordan Robin Reed
Anders Stenstadvolden
Nure Tanjim
Kelsey Megan Webb
Cherokee Murie Winkler

Engineering Management

McCoy James Bila
Chandler M. Callejo
Aaron Douglas Krening
Jacob David Leone
Dakota Skye Merrival
Tony Curtis Monroe Jr.
Kaleb David Roth
Cole William Seiwald†††
Jason S. Shields
Alex John Spies
Eileen Alison Spilman
Eric John Spilman
Spencer Louis Zur

Geology and Geological Engineering

Taran Bradley†
Disha Gupta†

Green and Sustainable Chemistry

Misti Acevedo

Materials Engineering and Science

Nicholas Giulio D'Attilio†††
Divine Muissa Kavunga
Tanner O'Hara†††
Sommer Rose Scott
Nathan Owen Staley†††
Kole Curtis Vollmer†††
Bryce Michael Watson
Tyler David Wentworth

Mechanical Engineering

Andrew Robert Scherrer
Margaret Helen Thompson

Mining Engineering and Management

Charles Ofori Asare
Marian Boatemaa
Josh N. Dufek
Jakub Pawel Hladysz
Jack Kellner
Carson James McDaniel
Robert Andrew Robbins

Nanoscience and Nanoengineering

Zhengqiang Li

Paleontology

Peter Daly
Anthony Edward Gordon
Kelsey Lynn Mills
Andrew James Rich
William Thomas Whittenberg

Physics

Elias Burgfeld

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Applied Biological Sciences

Keegan Alexander Brunssen

Applied and Computational Mathematics

Trevor Chase Krason

Colton Edward Snyder**

Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences

Jacob Austin Lindblom

Jacob Christopher Marsh

Jackson Ross Zito

Biology

Hayley Rae Carter

Megan Lea Miller*

Calvin David Sturgeon

Biomedical Engineering

Zachary Thomas Bender**

Brantson Noah Blaylock***

Caleb Allen Brouwer*

Matthew James Holler**

Micah William Hoylman

Kara Lynn Huse***

Logan Christopher Jundt*

Nadia Jo Kaczmarz*

Jillian Irene Linder

Evan James McConnell

Mercedes Ann Mesman*

Mitchell Robert Meylor

Hunter Romsa

Jonathan Ngom'onoyo Shama

Jessalyn Elizabeth Shipp**

Natnael Woldeyesus Sinebo**

Morgan Elizabeth Thompson*

Syerra Jean Trujillo

Victoria Elizabeth Zagorski

Business Management in Technology

Kasandra Shawn Luce‡‡

Kristin Ann Luce‡‡

Sarah Paige Millar
Wyatt John Slama
Holden Wallace Wagner
Aren Charles Wells

Chemical Engineering

Jarvie Garrett Arnold*
John Luke Barbour
Anna Rose Battest*
Grant Walker Bauer*
Dejah Rayne Behrend
David Francis Bennett
Miles Joseph Byington***
Lily Claar
Gregory Alexander Clark
Alyssa Alexandria Cox
Jeremy Isaiah Cullen**
Keegan Reese Dykstra*
Sara Ann Efta*
Zoe Nicole Fickbohm
Martin Edward Gaffney
Emily Rachel Gullickson
Michael Cullen Hickey*
Alireza Kowsari
Ethan Charles Long
Tannor L. Merkel*
Claudianne Alice Moisset
Nicolas Allen Naeve
Prince Ikenna Okoye
Daniel Dale Sechler***
Isaiah Cole Thurman*
Tatiana Angeline Vasquez
Sophia Mae Williams***
Nicholas Owen Wipf*
Teagan Joy Yake***

Chemistry

Pascal Jean Britton
Audrey Elsa Dunn
Anna Grace Hale**
Phillip Daniel Hauck
Armand Jubal Lannerd***
John Quinton Papiernik
Izabelle Brooke Smith

Civil Engineering

Darin Robert Archibald
Antonio M. Candelaria
Brady Ronald Cork***
Nicholas Scott Eli †††
Bryce Buchli Elkin
Logan E. Garzaniti**
Alexander J. Hall†††*
Samantha Marie Heiberg**
Tracy Lynn Herrboldt
Scott Allen Holter
Juneau D. Jones
Mason Matthew Karpen*
Jacob Bradley Kerzman*
David Anthony McDougall*
Blake Robert Messegee
Quinton J. Mohr*
William Cody Murner
Stefon Angel Nelson
Riley Scott Olsen**
Samantha E. Overend **
Cooper M. Powers
Austin Robert Roth
Jill Yi Rotherham*
Kamryn Jade Scully***
William Clyde Shull
Christian A. Sudmeier
Josie Kay Tornberg*
Jacob Edward Utecht
Anders Morris Watt

Computer Engineering

Nolan Alexander Bernard
Christopher Brian Green II***
Justin Gill Kemp*
Brandon Jennings Lund*
Duncan Thomas McGonagle
Aaron Isaiah Quizon
Noah Benjamin Zikmund

Computer Science

Kaden Matthew Adrian
Trevor Scott Bormann***
Hannah Rochelle Carroll
Kevin Joseph Chamberlain

Raymond Daley
Nicholas J. Duban
Ryan James Finn
Christopher Brian Green II***
Cody R. Hall
Hunter Louis Hufstutler*
Gunnar Harry Kjellsen
Justin David Lewis
Thomas Aaron Braman Lippincott
Christian Duane Olson*
Sharvil Raghunath Pai Raiker*
Khushi M. Patil*
Prarthavi Paresh Patnekar**
Karissa Schipke**
Chamaka Sandeepa Senarath
Colton Edward Snyder**
Rachel K. Terwilliger*
Ethan Hunter Warren
Mark Thomas Weiss

Electrical Engineering

Cade Jacob Bailey
Michael Lee Beusch
Severin James Boe II
Luke David Carlson
Joseph Randall Chamberland
Richard Holden Dennis
Maddie George Woodson Easley
Erick A. Eickhoff
Kaedyn Wesley Hanson
Austin Christian Keck
Justin Thomas Ketel
Zachary Charles James Lapsley
Aidan Hunter Markon***
Jarrett D. Meyer***
Talyn JD Meyer
Devin Matthew Odle
Matthew James Pomarleau
Payton G. Shattuck
Keagen Six***
Connor Loren Wiesner
Mason Ryan Antoni Wortman

Geological Engineering

Wyatt Michael Duane Hess*
Brittan Riley Hullinger
Kyle Law**
Jayda Noelle McFarlane
Victor Parziale II
Devin Mackenzie Sailer
Amelia Rose Van Winkle†††**

Geology

Jared Denholm Blahovec
Jesse Lee Corneliusen
Benjamin Keith Dismang†††
Thacher Ashton Dramstad
Colette Mary McAndrew***
Clayton Douglas Pfeifer
Samantha Alice Schmidt
Nicholas Ryan Stephen
Sarah Welvang

Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management

Joseph Alber*
Mitchell David Black**
Benjamin Adam Brenholt**
Jade Lamar Cass
Kyante Quintel Sequoia Christian
Ethan R. Derickson
Riley Michael Dunne
Jennifer Rose Estenson
Victor Gerardo Hernandez Chinos†††
Jacob Alex Hilsendeger
Kyle Rex Ivie
Hunter Brack Jaskey
Bailey Rose Johnson
Kendahl Dean Johnson
Alex Francis Lacroix
Spencer Adam Lund***
Hunter Paul McKinney
Kolten R. Mortensen
Connor James Smith
Brevin Mark Walter

Mathematics

Alysha Briana Aitchison
Brittney Marie Griffith*
Anna Grace Hale**
Jacob Cody James
Luke Daniel Kline
Amanda Marie Lauen
Isaac John Lindskov**

Mechanical Engineering

Kaleb Andrew Barbour
Christopher Thomas Bradford†††
Gavin Nicholas Chaddock
Fernando Antonio Chavez II*
Luke Francis Christen***
Conner Richard Christenson*
Erick Fabian Colman
Alexander Hall Crowsont
Joshua Paul Curry
Katherine Elise Dasher*
Drake Lee Dittman*
Evan Tyler Eliason
Asher Caleb Eskam**
Ryan James Finn
Jake Boyd Francis
Sever Thomas Gilbertson
Cameron Wade Good
Geoffrey Maiers Griepentrog
Macauley Thomas Haag
Ransom Gregory Hall
Tristan Lloyd Hanley
Micah Frank Healy
Evan Bengé Heilman
Ian Henry Helgeson***
Blake Stephen Hyla*
Cody James Jennings
Cheyanne Kaye Joachim
Olivia Danielle Jurrens
Zachary W. Karg
John Jerome Kiehn*
Taylor Rayven Kirkvold
Travis Isaac Kleinsasser*
Tanner Lee Kluver
Armand Jubal Lannerd***
Rachel M. Lauer††††

Logan Joseph Leader*
Timo Juhana Leppanen
William Grenville Ludbrook†
Katherine Ann Mathieu
Elijah Lee Meakins***
Logan Karl Melstad
Derek Timothy Miller
Zachary Michael Mohr*
Eric Trevor Moore
Roger Kanichi Nakagawa
Maximillian A. Nelson
Andrew Gabriel Perez
Benjamin Michael Ramseyer
Bettina Claire Rebman
Elijah Frederick Reitzel
Tobin Allen Reynolds*
Curran James Robertson
Cody Alan Sansbury
Michael Andrew Satter
Jacob James Selan
Cole Lane Shepardson Jr.
Dillon James Smith
Grant Makay Smith
Tobiah Kyle Smith
Morgan Joseph Stadlman
Luke Patrick Steffens*
Kelvin Su
Derek Friesen Thompson
Brandon Mitchel Trainer
Bryce Lee Ulrich†**
Alec Blain VanHorn
Enzo Vaz Tessaro*
Mason James Warmuth*
Morgan Marguerite Wiechmann
Payton James Winsor
Joseph Robert Zoeller

Metallurgical Engineering

Nicholas Lorenzo Adams*
Avery Thomas Bend***
Caleb Allen Brouwer*
Carter John Crawford
Eli Stanley Gibbs*
Jennifer Ellen Johnson**
Tristen Douglas Kern

Benjamin M. Schaefer*
Michael Adam Simon
Emma Montgomery Soehl
Liam Andrew Stack***
Nicholas Robert Stogdill
Yifei Wang
Alexander Paul Wright

Mining Engineering

Ian Michael Cone
Daniel John DeVos
Alexandra Leigh Gregor
William J. Guzman
William James Housman
Chayden Davis Shell

Physics

Serenity May Engel
Samuel James Schleich*

Pre-Professional Health Sciences

Lily Grace Bartling*
Glory Ann Christianson‡
Jacey Ann Koethe
Anika J. Peters***
Calvin David Sturgeon
Lauren Lynn Wipf

Science, Technology, and Society

Otutoa Afu‡‡‡
Elizabeth K. Benzmiller

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE CANDIDATES

General Studies

Sever Thomas Gilbertson

THE TRADITION OF COMMENCEMENT

Dating back to the universities of thirteenth-century Europe, the conferring of degrees signified that faculty members had attained the guild status of a master. Originally, this “master’s” degree was the only one offered; the baccalaureate was simply a stage toward mastership. During the ceremony, black robes were worn in imitation of the clergy, for church and university were one at the time. When the hood was placed over the candidate’s head, the ceremony was consummated, and mastership was achieved.

Over the centuries, graduation evolved to commemorate more than the end of an educational endeavor or the mastership of a craft. Instead, it became the start of a new adventure, a passage to professional status recognized by the community of scholars and the community at large.

Today, we call this ceremony commencement, a term defined as both an act of commencing and the ceremony for conferring degrees. In essence, it means a beginning within an end. A middle English term, commencement traces its roots to Anglo-French, Old French, and finally, the Latin word, *cominitiare*, a combination of the prefix *com* and *initiare*, meaning “together, begin,” a fitting origin for a term that evokes a graduate’s first steps taken in fellowship and a poignant reminder that in each destination lies a new dawn.

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

The use of academic dress stems from costumes used in universities of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, particularly at Oxford and Cambridge in England. The dress has been used in the United States since colonial times and was standardized by an Intercollegiate Code in 1895.

The style of gown and hood designate the degree earned. The bachelor’s gown is royal blue without a hood and the sleeves are pointed; the master’s gown is black and has oblong sleeves; and the doctoral gown is trimmed with velvet, has three distinctive chevrons on each arm, and bell-shaped sleeves.

The two colors on the inside of the hood are traditionally the colors of the college granting the degree. The School of Mines’ colors are blue and gold; however, the hood for the School of Mines is gold and silver, symbolic of the university’s connection to these precious metals. Caps are black mortarboards with the tassel worn over the left front quadrant.

As one may observe from the procession, the faculty wear hoods and gowns of varying styles and colors. The color of the tassel on the hat and the outside velvet trim of the hood indicate the field of study.

THE CEREMONIAL MACE

During today's ceremony, the chair of the faculty will carry the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology's ceremonial mace. The university mace is an academic tradition that dates back to medieval times. The mace has acquired the ceremonial function of "guarding" the president in the tradition of a medieval sergent-at-arms.

The School of Mines mace was designed to represent the university's many disciplines. The handle was crafted from a fossil and represents paleontology, while the pink quartz sphere, encased in the symbol of an atom, symbolizes both geology and physics. The silver and gold signify the institution's rich mining tradition. The laurel leaf garland crown, fashioned from Black Hills Gold, represents a mark of honor, distinction, and success.

The mace was designed by Ms. Deborah Mitchell, former director of the Apex Gallery and associate professor in the Department of Humanities. The seal was engraved by Dr. Ryan Koontz, former integrated manufacturing specialist for the Center of Excellence for Advanced Multidisciplinary Projects.

COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

Dr. Haley Armstrong, Co-Chair
Ms. Ann Brentlinger
Dr. Saurabh Dhiman
Dr. Joseph Dlugos
Ms. Diana Eastman
Ms. Morgan Else
Mr. Dane Finessand
Ms. Gina Fiorello

Dr. Jade Herman, Co-Chair
Ms. Rachel Howard
Mr. Marlin Kinzer
Mr. Patrick Rust
LTC Gregory Shipper
Ms. Rachel Skea
Ms. Cicily Strong-Hughes

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Mr. Tim Rave, President
Mr. Jim Thares, Vice President
Mr. Jeff Partridge, Secretary
Dr. Brian Maher, Executive Director

Mr. John W. Bastian
Mr. Brock Brown
Ms. Pam Roberts

PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES

The Grad Team will be providing photography services to the graduates. Photos will be available online at TheGradTeam.com/events approximately one week after the ceremony.

