191st Commencement

Saturday, May 10th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
The Monument Summit Arena

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DR. BRIAN TANDE

To the Class of 2025:

Congratulations on reaching this extraordinary milestone! Today marks the culmination of years of hard work and determination. As you walk across the stage, you join a legacy of South Dakota Mines alumni who have gone on to lead, innovate, and make a meaningful difference in the world.

This is my first commencement as president of South Dakota Mines, and I could not be prouder to celebrate it with all of you. Your journeys reflect the very best of what it means to be a Hardrocker. You've faced challenges head-on, formed lifelong friendships, and achieved something truly remarkable.

As your names are cemented in their rightful spot on M Hill, remember that you will always have a place here. Mines is more than a university—it's a community that will continue to support you, celebrate you, and cheer you on as you take on the next chapter.

Thank you for the passion, curiosity, and energy you've brought to our campus. I can't wait to see what you accomplish next.

With pride and warmest congratulations,

Brian Tande, PhD
President

OUR HISTORY

Founded in 1885—four years before South Dakota achieved statehood—South Dakota Mines has been at the forefront of science, engineering, and innovation for nearly 140 years. What began as the Dakota School of Mines quickly became a cornerstone for technical education in the Black Hills region. The first class was held in 1887, and the institution was soon renamed the South Dakota School of Mines following statehood in 1889. The first graduating class, consisting of Benjamin Poznansky, Caroline Feigel, and Eva Robinson, received bachelor of science degrees on May 29, 1890.

Mines is home to some of South Dakota's most cherished traditions, including M Day, first celebrated in 1912 with the construction of the iconic "M" on M Hill. Over the decades, the university grew in both size and reputation, adding new programs and facilities to meet the evolving needs of science and engineering education; in 1943, the state legislature officially added "and Technology" to the university's name to signify this growth. During both World Wars, Mines supported the nation by training soldiers on campus, and the post-war period saw major expansions in academic offerings, research, and infrastructure.

Throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, Mines has continued to lead in STEM fields and continued to expand research funding, industry partnerships, and student achievements. Today, South Dakota Mines is recognized as a leader in engineering and science education, known for producing hardworking, innovative graduates who are ready to tackle the world's most pressing challenges. It's also consistently ranked as one of the best returns on investment for college graduates nationwide. With each graduating class, the legacy of Mines continues to grow, etched into M Hill and carried forward by generations of proud Hardrockers.

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Master of Ceremonies
Dr. Lance Roberts

Processional (Stand)
Pomp and Circumstance by Edward Elgar, arranged by Larry Clarke
Graduation Band

Presentation of Colors
Army ROTC Color Guard

President's Message
Dr. Brian Tande

Recognition of the 50 Year Graduates
Dr. Lance Roberts

Senior Class Representative's Message
Mr. David (DJ) Robbins

Message from the Board of Regents
Dr. Judy Dittman

Presentation of Honorary Degrees
Dr. Brian Tande

Commencement Address
Mr. John Henderson

Conferral of Degrees
Dr. Brian Tande

Presentation of Degree Candidates
Dr. Joseph Dlugos

Musical Interlude between M.S. and B.S. degree candidates
Great Movie Adventures by John Williams, arr. Michael Sweeney
Two Movements from Lincolnshire Posy by Percy Grainger, arr. Michael Sweeney

Alumni Welcome
Mr. Ken Miller

Retirement of Colors
Army ROTC Color Guard

Recessional (Stand)
Flourishes! by William Owens
Graduation Band

50-YEAR GRADUATES
CLASS OF 1975

386 total graduates from summer and fall 1974 and spring 1975

235 BS degrees, 49 MS degrees, 3 PhDs

Only those attending today's Commencement are listed below

Carmen Adams, Chemical Engineering, Whitefish, MT
Bill Belden, Mechanical Engineering, Billings, MT
Lorin Brass, Metallurgical Engineering, Lennox, SD
RW Buchheim, Mechanical Engineering, Traverse City, MI
Bob Case, Electrical Engineering, Rapid City, SD
Laurie Chamberlin, Chemical Engineering, Hill City, SD
Richard "Deek" Chancellor, Mining Engineering, Hermosa, SD
John Chikos, Civil Engineering, Baton Rouge, LA
Jerry Dickey, Chemical Engineering, Spearfish, SD
Doug Emme, Geological Engineering, Sheridan, WY
Chuck Enze, Civil Engineering, Austin, TX
Maurice Gilbert, Geological Engineering, Houston, TX
Richard Horton, Mechanical Engineering, Wall, SD
Jeffrey Ingerson, Mechanical Engineering, Waubay, SD
Ken Juran, Mechanical Engineering, Rapid City, SD
David Knox, Mechanical Engineering, League City, TX
Timothy Kuhl, Geological Engineering, Brookings, SD
Susan "Booty" Kuhns, Geological Engineering, Pittsburgh, PA
Ritch Larsen, Mechanical Engineering, Chillicothe, IL
Daniel Michael, Metallurgical Engineering, Rapid City, SD
Doug Miller, Geological Engineering, Nemo, SD
Ken Miller, Civil Engineering, Rapid City, SD
Clark Moseley, Mining Engineering, Chancellor, SD
Mark Olson, Electrical Engineering, San Jose, CA
Robert Oschner, Mining Engineering, Billings, MT
Owen Palm, Geological Engineering, Scottsbluff, NE
Jim Patterson, Mining Engineering, Spearfish, SD
Judy Patterson, Electrical Engineering, Spearfish, SD
Eileen Peterson, Geological Engineering, Rapid City, SD
Randy Powell, Metallurgical Engineering, Elko, NV
Linda Rausch, Chemical Engineering, Rapid City, SD
Steve Rennell, Mining Engineering, Rapid City, SD
Ric Sorbo, Civil Engineering, Durham, NC
Kenneth "Chip" Story, Geological Engineering, Cypress, TX
Ralph Wagner, Civil Engineering, Las Vegas, NV
Glenda Williams, Chemistry, Rapid City, SD

SENIOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. David (DJ) Robbins

David (DJ) Robbins, a Rapid City native, began his journey at Mines as a Stevens High School senior taking dual enrolled courses. In these classes, he forged lasting friendships and embraced the grit required to be a successful Hardrocker. His parents are Doug and Amber Robbins.

Robbins has been involved in numerous clubs on campus. He is vice president of the Moonrockers lunar robotic mining team and has played a critical role in designing and building the team's rover. He is a team member of the CubeSat Club and has helped with ground station and instrumentation responsibilities for several high-altitude balloon launches, including during the April 2024 total solar eclipse. He is a member of Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS), where he has had the chance to attend several national conferences. He is a volunteer researcher for the ROCKIN Robotics Lab under Dr. Pierre Larochelle. Robbins is also a talented musician and has been a part of Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, and Pep Band where he plays numerous percussion instruments.

Outside of the school, Robbins worked for Fermilab in Lead, SD, at the Sanford Underground Research Facility as a construction management intern for the Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment in the Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility. He also completed an internship at NASA Goddard Spaceflight Center in Washington, DC, where he worked on a modular reconfigurable rover for space applications.

After graduating with his Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering, Robbins will be continuing his accelerated master's degree program in mechanical engineering at Mines with a focus in robotics, controls, aerospace, and rocket propulsion. This summer he will intern at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA, working on robotic servicing of the upcoming Habitable Worlds Observatory space telescope.

HONORARY DOCTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. John Henderson

John Henderson serves as the chief executive officer and vice chairman of the board for HDR, Inc., where he is responsible for the leadership and strategic growth of the company. He became CEO in December 2023 after previously serving as the president and chief operating officer.

As the former Assistant Secretary of the Air Force and a retired Army Colonel, Henderson has over 30 years of leadership experience in engineering, operations, military construction, infrastructure investment, water resources management and environmental programs. During his active duty and federal executive service, he led thousands of U.S. service members in dozens of countries, including three combat tours, to accomplish missions in support of the defense of our nation.

Henderson also serves on several boards including the National Construction Industry Roundtable, Omaha Airport Authority, the U.S. Strategic Command Consultation, the Aksarben Foundation, and the South Dakota Mines Center of Alumni Relations & Advancement.

Henderson earned a bachelor's degree in 1994 and a master's degree in 2002, both in civil and environmental engineering from South Dakota Mines, served as a National Security Studies Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and is a licensed professional engineer in Nebraska and South Dakota.

GRADUATE DESIGNATIONS

†Army ROTC Cadet being commissioned as Second Lieutenant
¥ August 2025 Graduate
‡ December 2024 Graduate
‡‡ August 2024 Graduate

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

*	Cum Laude	White Tassels	3.50 - 3.69 GPA
**	Magna Cum Laude	Red Tassels	3.70 - 3.89 GPA
***	Summa Cum Laude	Gold Tassels	3.90 - 4.00 GPA

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE

•	Honors	3.50 – 3.69 GPA
••	High Honors	3.70 – 3.89 GPA
•••	Highest Honors	3.90 – 4.00 GPA

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE CANDIDATES

CHEMICAL & BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Tristan William Kenny
Dissertation Title: *Energetic Complexes for the In-situ Decomposition of Diisopropyl Methylphosphonate*

Bharathkiran Maddipudi
Dissertation Title: *Integrated Hydrothermal Liquefaction and Wet Oxidation Processing of Corn Stover and Derived Unhydrolyzed Solids for Fuel and Value-Added Products*

Priya Saxena
Dissertation Title: *Integrated OMICS and Systems Biology to Unravel Environmental Adaptation and Biofilm Formation in Sulfate-Reducing Bacteria*

Payal Thakur
Dissertation Title: *Understanding Molecular Mechanisms of Sulfate-Reducing Bacterial Biofilms Through Integrated Data Mining and Multi-Omics Techniques*

CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Pawan Sigdel ‡
Dissertation Title: *Corrosion Resistance by Beneficial Biofilm and Its Extracellular Polymeric Substance (EPS) as an Environmentally Friendly Coating on Copper*

Calvin David Tohm
Dissertation Title: *The Effects of Seasonal Weathering Cycles on Near Surface Mechanically Placed Soils*

DATA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Jackson Stephen Cates
Dissertation Title: *Multilinear Methods for Graph Forecasting and Analysis*

PHYSICS

Eric Steven Morrison
Dissertation Title: *Mitigation of Radon Daughter Backgrounds for the LUX-ZEPLIN Dark Matter Search Experiment*

Jairo Hernan Rodriguez Rondon
Dissertation Title: *First Measurement of Charged Current Muon Neutrino-Induced Kaon Production on Argon at MicroBooNE*

MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE CANDIDATES

ATMOSPHERIC & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Cory Alex Schultz ¥
Jacob Van Cleave

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Katherine Marie Ballard
Tierney Rae Robinson
Vanessa Christine Smith
Samuel Clark Van Osdel

CHEMICAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Chirag Abrol
Ishika Garg
John Quinton Papiernik
Rimjhim Sharma

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Joseph Thomas Hilsendeger
Jay Cyril Horning ¥
Jake Ryan Martinelli
Priya Saxena
Payal Thakur
Isaiah Cole Thurman

CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Seattle Marley Briscoe
Sydney Nicole Carlbom
Reid Scott Dutrow
Carly Kate Hirsch
David Douglas Julius
Benjamin Douglas Lewis
Kyle James Maguire
Isaac Ray Nedved
Dustin James Paschke
Sujan Pokhrel
Abigaile G. Saline
Annika Jude Schooler
Mahzuzah Zahan

COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Minati Preetika Alphonso
Jacob Cody James
Trevor David Keierleber
Bennet Jonathan Outland
Carson Daniel Price
Ashley Lynn Schnetzer

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING & MANAGEMENT

Korry Daniel Burkhead
Amanda Brooke Cooley
Alexander Arthur Edmunds
Mason R. Goeken
Taylor Dean Hojer
Emma Marie Hunt

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Dakota Richard Hugh Edens
Theron Michael Kalasinsky
Isabela Meza
Gleb Morshuk
Ayden Michael Orr Roush
Owen Stenstadvolden

ENGNEERING MANAGEMENT

Cooper Elizabeth Courtney
Deirdre Reagan Farrell
Kolton Jeremy Frugoli
Bailey Rose Johnson
Joshua John Leone
Kiley ReNae Metzger
Keagen Sidney Smith
Brannagh Jack Walsh

GEOLOGY & GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Thacher Ashton Dramstad
Andrew Guilford
Breauna M. Murray
Michael Osei-Boateng
Clayton Douglas Pfeifer
Amelia Rose Van Winkle

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

Olayinka Sakiru Ayorinde
Bright Osagie Eze

MATERIALS ENGINEERING & SCIENCE

Quinn Barnes ¥
Brianna Nicole Hoff ¥
Trystan Lynn Moon

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Mitchell James Carolan
Md Farhan Hossain
Regan Duncan Ogilvie
Christopher Warren Poches
Seth M. Taylor

MINING ENGINEERING & MANAGEMENT

Seth Baafi
Samuel Erskine Burndam
Gabriel Kone, Sr.
Justine Marie Langas
Elena L. Lieb
Rohit Pandurang Madavi

PALEONTOLOGY

Jared Fisher
Alexi Jade Richmond

PHYSICS

Michael Paul Fodroci, III
Tyler Delaine Rath ¥
Amar Thakuri

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE CANDIDATES

ATMOSPHERIC & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Ryleigh Nicole Czajkowski *
Ashley Kay Walker

BIOLOGY

Sydnee Jill Durtsche
Gabriel Jay Horn *
Kevin James Legg *
Laine Margaret Mannes ***
Gunner Robert Ristau *
Presley Jean Schneider *
Gabrielle Reanna Smith
Connor William Ullrich

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Aaron James Bauer **
Kory J. Engelstad *
Emma Josephine Grimm
Abby Raelynn Krumpus
Riley Payton Laible
Alessandra Meoni ***
Keelie Nichole Mills
Abbigail F. Moon
Lora Lee Ortega *
Whitney Ann Ponwith *
Nicholas W. Radliff
Noah William Terkildsen
Gavin S. Tucker **
Terryn Nicole Twombly
Kole D. Villescas
Koda Wilkerson

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT IN TECHNOLOGY

Piper Ann Bauer
Elrey Brooks
Kevin Bruxvoort **
Emily Kristine Emond *
Jackson Kenneth Soulek
William Ian Vertrees
Dylan James Weltmer

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Emily H. Abbott
Adeline Marguerite Abernathy **
Emma Louise Bailey *
Everette James Carroll
Grace K. Clark **
Cooper Vaughan Emery
Jacob Percy Fyffe
Jacob David James Jorgenson **
Samuel J. Kasley
Alyssa J. Robinson **
Jon E. Schmidt
Brandilyn Megan Ukena
Jayden Vollmuth

CHEMISTRY

Kamden R. Bryant *
Jacob Percy Fyffe
Kevin James Legg *
Hannah C. Meehan **
ViolaMay Welanji Simwanza **
Brandilyn Megan Ukena
Connor William Ullrich

CIVIL ENGINEERING

George Joseph Amor
Eli Wyatt Bowman **
Austin Cole Burdette
Caden Michael Caylor **
Nuntawat Dockter
Brett B. Elkin ***
Rachel G. Gering ***
Jackson Lewis Grimes
Benjamin J. Haug *
Emma Marie Hunt
Kirby M. Hurlbert
Samuel Travis Koehn
Katie Lynne Magni *
Walter Jon Markle **
Thomas Donald Massa
Jadyn Elise Moriarty
Hunter Ryland Newsom **
Makai Justice Obregon
Gabriel James Papiernik **
Christopher Luke Parziale
Madison Leigh Phelps
Jade Elizabeth Sage *
Jaden Michael Dean Sandquist
Jacob M. Schwab
Evan Thomas Slack
Emma Marie Sobnosky *
Owen J. Wagner
Jesiah Joseph Wight ***

COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Timothy James Bilik ***
Donald William Bonneau ***
Jakob Allen Callenius
Dillon Mark Dahlke
Andrew G. Garcia
Erin Klara Green ***
Ethan Gabriel Harris **
Josiah Benjamin Huntington *
Blake Alexander Mommaerts
Tyson Arthur Westendorf

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Nicolas Diego Alvarez **
Keiran Michael Berry *
Gavin David Bialas **
Robert David Book
Zackary Alan Butz
Nathan Thomas Divis
Mitchell Alexander Duban ***
Ethan Adam Erickson
Niven Francis Da Guia Fernandes **
Erin Klara Green ***
Brandon Gage Henderson
David Hill
Trace Maxwell Houser ***
Carson Christopher Howell
Cade J. Jacobson ***
Gage Michael Jager
Gabriel Ryan Jerome **
Aidan M. Justice **
Marcus R. Kane
Tate R. Lafayette *
Tyler Lee Liebig
Tobias Lynch
James Peter Maertens
Jonathan Alex Mascarenhas *
Sarahlee Grace Maxwell
Jonah Allen Morgan **
Mason Daniel Myers ***
Christopher W. O'Loughlin
Tristan James Opbroek
Brianna Kaylynn Powell
Thomas Winston Rau
Alex Robert Schmidt
Kaden Andrew Sitts
Keegan Alan Tandy
Erik Harlan Trujillo
Deven Jay Williams
Keane Rhain Zimmerman *

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Roger Barrett **
Thomas Edward Barth
Jonah Scott Bebensee **
Heath Todd Buer **
Tyler Alexander Captain *
Wei-Yi Chang ***
Maverick Stetson Dehmlow
William Charles Robert Dirks
Allyson T. Heiden ***
Matthew E. Hein
Jonathan M. Hopkins
Thane Alexander Jessen **
Braydon Lee Jones ***
Carson James Mashlan
Keenan James McDaniel
Benjamin Meidinger ***
Vincent Robert Mitchell ***
Gleb Morshuk
Cody Noe *

Hunter Jason Robert Prather
Clay Benjamin Sabrowski **
Ian S. Srstka
Grace Marie Stauffacher
Connor H. Taylor *
Jeff Wacker *
Maximilian Robert Wattier
Luke Allen Wickersham
Patrick Ryan Winter

GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Carl Andrew Bachman
Hayden Dierker
Nathan Andrew Fischer
Michael D. Hollister
Sydnee Kay Pitman
Molly Sue Smith
Lexus Dianne Vermundson *
Jacob Nathaniel Wolfley

GEOLOGY

Jack Nelson Cherry
Caleb M. Hobbick
Stephanie Diane Jones
Zachary Stanton Lamsey
Alexander P. Murry
Lily Beia Pederson
Andrewlan Price ***
Peter Anthony Schumacher
Noah Lee Shay
Hannah M. Walker *

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING & ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

Lauren Mae Ames
Bain Kenneth Ballagh ¥
Thomas Arlin Barnett
Vincent T. Benzmiller **
Makayla Ann Beulke **
Joseph Paul Cremer
Gray R. Davis
Zachariah Matthew Hidalgo
Jonah William Kueny
Joel S. Nelson **
Jasper Emile Reinalda
Isaac F. Reiner ***
Jordan Tyler Schmieg
Terek Jason Stucky
Blake Vollbrecht

MATHEMATICS

Heidi Beth Anderson
Alyssa C. Blake
Zackary Alan Butz
Noah Stephen Dwyer
Bennet Douglas Eld **
Macy Elizabeth Fliehe *
Samuel Jon Schmidt
Gabrielle Reanna Smith
Keegan Alan Tandy

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Ryan Lee Bain
Alexander Troy Bilbruck
Matthew Leonard Birch **
Leighton I. Blythe
Collin A. Bock
Supawich Boonta
Isaac Clayton Braaten ***
David Braun **
Brady John Buchholz *
Heath Todd Buer **
Jessie Marie Collins
Jaden Patrick Deuter
Nicholas Frank Dill
Dakota Lee Dillin *
Jaden E. Dougal *
Gabriel D'Silva **
Steven T. Duong **
Adam Thomas Durland
Matthias Fredrick England *
Trew Kalin Evenson
Jack Harry Kilber Flesner
William Frank Gibbs *
Elizabeth Grace Golden
Trevor J. Griffin
Emma K. Hagel
Austin Derrick Hakeman
William John Hall
Owen Thomas Hansmann **
Dylan Carl Hays
Gabriel Edward Heersink
Aidan Cooper Helwig
Sydney Jordan Huber
Lane McCade Hughes **
Benjamin James Ingracia
Wren Allan Jacobs
Adam Daniel Johnson
Tryce Russel Jolovich
Hunter Samuel Kadlecik *
Davin Richard Kahler
Jonathan David Kelley
William Colton Kremer
Blake Christian Leffler
Lukas D. Lehmpuhl
Luke Joseph Lichtenberg **
Jakob Lindstrom
Levi Darrel Lowrey *
Matthew Leo Marling
Timothy William Matthes
Lane Lamont McCleary *
John Fredrick Victor McIntosh
John R. McKennan *
Madalyn Ann McQuistan **
John Alexander Miller
Scott Andrew Miller
Alexander Kirin Morrison
Joseph Ross Moslander
Trevor W. Mueller **
Michael D. Munsen
John Terence Pellman *

Maxx Palmer Percy
Lucas Ian Pierce ***
Ethan Alexander Pitlick **
Samuel A. Preis *
Anthony James Preusser *
David Severin Prohofsky
Jacob Lucas Purchase
Justin Steven Quammen
William L. Rentschler
Isis Marisol Rivera
David John Robbins **
Toby Joseph Roberts ¥
Clara E. Robinson
Nicholas Ruhrer
Vera Laurel Rust
Tucker Ryan
Maxym Jay Schuh
Luke J. Smith *
Dawson Curtis Sorensen
Samuel Paul Spies
Connor Philip Stephenson
Haiden A. Studer *
Paul Swartz
Cambell Thompson
Tegun Christopher Thomson **
Cameron A. Tirpack ***
Danielle K. Vander Poel
Matthew John Vickers *
Caden Andrew Vinduska **
Conner J. Vogt
Veronica Rae Voller *
Lane R. Wilfong

METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING

Henry Jefferson Dryden**
Pierce T. Hasert
Brody J. Hoff
Levi D. Johnson *
Aiden David Keegan
Benjamin L. Macy ***
Edward Chapman Mallard *
Sean Alexander McQueen
Trystan Lynn Moon ***
Kristen Jolee Namminga
Mandi Anne Snapko
Aidan William Thompson *

MINING ENGINEERING

Alexander Joseph Bolduc
Maxwell E. Derry
Skyler Buck Doty **
Brady Robert Dumont *
Ariana Jane Floyd-Reading
Benjamin James Gadberry
Bradly Gurule
Luke Angel Guzman
Logan Carl Sanford **
Morgan D. Selchow ***

PHYSICS

John Arlen Goodwin
Aiden M. Johnson
Miles Evan Johnson
Rydell John Robert Krueger
Brian Robert Lutz
Nicholas Griffin Thompson
Kellen Taylor Weber **
Charles Thomas Winkers

PRE-PROFESSIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES

Logan Michael Colwill ***
Jenna Curtis
Cadence Marie Hyatt
Kennedy Mayclin *
Presley Jean Schneider *
Gabrielle Reanna Smith

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, & SOCIETY

Hailee E. Kruse
Gabrielle Reanna Smith

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE CANDIDATES

GENERAL STUDIES

Ava Jenkins

Ethan Michael Jones


SCHOOL OF MINES AND TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING
TECHNOLOGY
1885
SCIENCE
SOUTH DAKOTA

COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

Dr. Haley Armstrong, Co-chair
Dr. Jade Herman, *Co-chair*
Dr. Saurabh Dhiman
Dr. Joseph Dlugos
Ms. Diana Eastman
Mr. Dane Finnesand
Ms. Gina Fiorello
Ms. Rachel Howard
Mr. Marlin Kinzer
Ms. Jordan Lannerd
Ms. Jadyn Moriarty
Ms. Rachel Skea

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Mr. Tim Rave, *President*
Mr. Jeff Partridge, *Vice President*
Mr. Randy Frederick, *Secretary*
Mr. Nathan Lukkes, *Executive Director*
Mr. Miles Beacom
Dr. Judy Dittman
Mr. James Lochner
Mr. Griffin Petersen
Mr. Randy Rasmussen
Ms. Pam Roberts

SOUTH DAKOTA MINES GRADUATION BAND

Dr. Haley Armstrong, *Director*

Skyler Doty, *Alto Sax*
Mason Myers, *Alto Sax*
Ari Floyd-Reading, *Cello*
Duram Kelly, *Clarinet*
Alex Haffner, *Clarinet*
Angelina Benda, *Clarinet*
Brandilyn Ukena, *Flute*
Danielle Vander Poel, *Flute*
Macy Fliehe, *Flute*
Zoey Thies, *Flute*
Katherine Ballard, *Flute*
Chase Bradley, *Horn*
Jayden Vollmuth, *Horn*
Elizabeth Lessem, *Horn*
Henry London, *Horn*
Baker Mitchell, *Percussion*
Parker Smith, *Percussion*
Dr. Gerrit Scheepers, *Percussion*
David Robbins, *Percussion*
Rose Sarchet, *Trombone*
Christian Olson, *Trombone*
Emily Maile, *Trumpet*
Harrison Regensburger, *Trumpet*
Alex Chan, *Trumpet*
Quinn Barnes, *Trumpet*
John Brickey, *Trumpet*
Dakota Remington, *Tuba*
Aidan Stietz, *Tuba*
Tyler Haeder, *Tuba*

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 towards mastership. During the ceremony, black robes were worn in imitation of the clergy, for at the time church and university were one. 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. 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 word that evokes a graduate's first steps taken in fellowship and a poignant reminder that in each destination lies a new dawn.

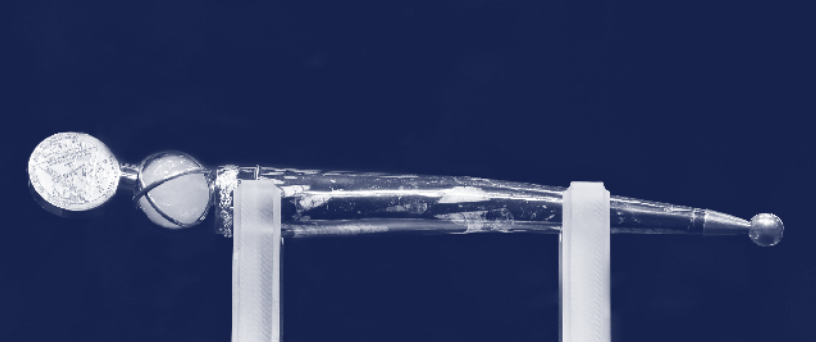
ACADEMIC ATTIRE

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 mortar boards 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 indicates 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 sergeant-at-arms.

The university 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, an integrated manufacturing specialist for CAMP.

ALUMNI PINS

On behalf of South Dakota Mines Center for Alumni Relations and Advancement, each graduate is gifted with an alumni pin, presented by Honorary Alumni President Ken Miller. The pin serves as a reminder that once a Hardrocker, always a Hardrocker and the hope is graduates will wear it proudly as they go forth in their careers.

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.

CUSTOM GRADUATION VIDEO

Celebrate with your free graduation gift. Download your StageClip personalized graduation video, featuring just your special moment on stage. Find your clip after graduation at sdsmt.stageclip.com.

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.

SOUTH DAKOTA MINES®

An engineering, science and technology university