

Commencement MAY 2021



PROGRAM

OPENING REMARKS

David Kurpius, dean, Missouri School of Journalism

PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND ALMA MATER

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

8:00 a.m.

Lynn Kreul, senior, Strategic Communication

11:15 a.m.

Zoie Henry, senior, Radio-Television Journalism

THOUGHTS OF THE CLASS OF 2021

8:00 a.m.

Melina Psihountas, senior, Strategic Communication

11:15 a.m.

Samantha Verdisco, senior, Strategic Communication

HONORARY DEGREE

11:15 a.m.

John D. Graham, BJ '59, chairman, FleishmanHillard

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

REMARKS

David Kurpius, dean, Missouri School of Journalism

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Mun Choi, president, University of Missouri

RECESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



LYNN KREUL

8:00 A.M.

Master of ceremonies, Lynn Kreul, is graduating with a dual degree: Bachelor of Journalism with an emphasis in strategic communication and Bachelor of Science in business administration with an emphasis in marketing. During her time at Mizzou, Lynn found her home through service, copious amounts of coffee and amazing people she is lucky to call friends. Originally from Republic, Missouri, Lynn will be leaving the Midwest to pursue a career with EPIC in Madison, Wisconsin as a project manager with an emphasis in accessibility.

11:15 A.M.



ZOIE HENRY

Master of ceremonies, Zoie Henry, is graduating with a degree in Journalism with an emphasis in television anchoring and reporting, and minors in black and multicultural studies. She hales from the south side of city proper Chicago, Illinois. There she grew up performing through dance and choir. Although she wasn't able to formally continue that routine in college, she picked up a new form of performance through television news that she's grown to know and love just as fondly. After graduation Zoie has no concrete plans set just yet but says she will be coming to a television near you!

THOUGHTS OF THE CLASS OF 2021



MELINA PSIHOUNTAS

8:00 A.M.

Student speaker, Melina Psihountas, is a George C. Brooks Scholar graduating with a Journalism degree with an emphasis in strategic communication, a minor in Spanish and a Multicultural Certificate. Melina is from St. Louis, Missouri. In addition to serving as a Content Manager for MOJO Ad, Melina is a member of Relevant Youth, the American Advertising Federation, Trulaske School of Business Diverse Student Association, and works part-time for College Thoughts and Pavé The Way Jewelry. Melina does freelance social media work for an audience of more than 200,000 followers and has created Snapchat lenses that received more than 60 million views. In her free time, Melina enjoys traveling, writing, photography, fashion and being creative.



SAMANTHA VERDISCO

11:15 A.M.

Student speaker, Samantha Verdisco, is from Tampa, Florida. She is graduating with a Journalism degree with an emphasis in strategic communication. During her time at MU, she has been involved with Mizzou Alternative Breaks, Mizzou International Experience, MOJO Ad, Pi Beta Phi and Tour Team. This year, Samantha was named a semifinalist for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, and inducted into Kappa Tau Alpha and Omicron Delta Kappa. After graduation she going to work as a junior copywriter for Moosylvania, an integrated marketing company in St. Louis, Missouri.

MAY 2021 DEGREE CANDIDATES

- ¹Kappa Tau Alpha Initiate
- ²Summa Cum Laude
- ³ Magna Cum Laude
- ⁴ Cum Laude
- ⁵ Walter Williams Scholar

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Iuliia Alieva ¹ Sisi Hu Joseph Paul Jones ¹ James Ndone ¹ Erika Jen Schneider ¹ Weilu Zhang

MASTER OF ARTS

Victoria Elizabeth Alaniz Helle Andreassen Hope Rebecca Beitchman Maria Florence Benevento Mikayla Easley Gina Marie Gerstenecker Curtis Matthew Henderson Lindsey Marie Howard Grace Kathryn Huguelet Leslie Ann Klein¹ Zuofei Li Christopher William Martucci Gabriela Morera-Di Núbila Samuel Scot Mosher Katherine Hannah Okker-Edging¹ Xin Frida Qi Xuan Qi Daniel Shular Hillary Tan Emma Nicole Veidt Rebecca Bruce Zani Zixuan Zhao

BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM CONVERGENCE JOURNALISM

John Pearson Anstine ³ Reid John Thomas Bayliss Julia Jane Bower ³ Tran Minh Micheal Connors Victoria Alexandra Cox Avery Dalal 4 Erin Mackenzie Davis Sara Marie Dingmann³ Blythe Elizabeth Dorrian ⁴ Katharine Rose Finnerty³ Cassidy Nicole Fox 3 Hannah M France Mingyue Gao 1, 2 Brendan Patrick Hall Alaina Elizabeth Hand ³ Annie Thanh Hien Le 4 Jacqueline Marie Lemp ³ Huizhu Liang³ Olivia Jewell Love Regan Allyse Mertz ³ Tatyana M Monnay Casey Rae Murray 3 Isabella Cordova Paxton Matthew Kennedy Unthank 1,2 Anna Grace Vance 4 Renae Mariah Whissel 3,5 Jingying Xu³

MAGAZINE JOURNALISM

Elizabeth Dodge Benson Hannah Lee Britton Allison Nicole Brown 4 Adam Philipp Cole Grace Olivia Glander ⁴ Sophia Michelle Gonzalez Francesca Michelle Hecker Vivian Abigail Klein Herzog 1, 2, 5 Andrew James Hofbauer 1,2 Jacob Oliver Horton 2,5 Ashley Marie Jones Hannah M Kirchwehm David W Kitchin Christina Grace Long 1, 2, 5 Tyler Jerome Messner Lauren Ann Polanski ⁴ Matthew Jacob Rios Alyssa Marie Shikles 1, 2, 5 Sarah Rae Straughn³ Lauren R Tronstad Colleen Mary Wouters

PHOTOJOURNALISM

Elizabeth Virginia Goodwin ³ Jacob Aaron Moscovitch ³ Marco Postigo Storel Tristen Joseph Rouse ^{1, 2} Kathleen Louise Seaman Alexandria Wells Katherine Leona Wiberg Madelyn Virginia Winfield ^{4, 5}

PRINT AND DIGITAL NEWS

Kayley Jean Allen Galen Nathaniel Bacharier³ Keely Ann Doll Julia Lynn Garlich³ Reid Alexander Glenn Tyler Duane Hollins Annie Joyce Jennemann Anderson Wheeler-Arnold Kimball Lianna Kowalke Reinwald 3,5 Owen Clark Krucoff⁴ Mariana Labbate Jiaqi Lai³ Liad Joshua Lerner 3,5 Judith Ilise Lucas Ian Mason McManus Emma Hayes Moloney 3, 5 Briar D Napier⁴ Xander M Negozio Abby Nicole Orf Emily A Roiger³ Caitlyn Leigh Rosen⁴ Paul Raymond Schloesser⁴ Abigail Elizabeth Shaw William Kane Skipworth 3,5 Morgan Haley Smith 1,2 Jackson D Stone³ Feiyu Su^{1, 2} Lillie Margaret Vincent² Alexander Yang Wang Emily Eden Wolf³

RADIO-TELEVISION JOURNALISM

Alexandra Nicole Angle 1,2 Madi Baughman Marian E Bouchot 3 Kevin James Broshek Mackenzie Faith Christian Kelley Shirlene Collins Samantha Isabel Coloma Grace Rebecca Conley 4 Drew Vincent Cusumano Tyler Jay Driesenga 3,5 Reinier Joseph Encina Alberta Rose Engelman³ Janelle Christina Finch 4 Edward Lawrence Frumkin⁴ Liam Michael Garrity Justin Carl Goetz 4 Victoria Marie Heinsohn Zoie Ann Henry Alyssa Denise Jackson John Harrison Jenco 3, 5 Kyle McArthur Jones Nathalie C Jones Olivia Tomae Kloeckner Korbett Thomas Koselak Jack David Kosowski³ Armaja LaRue-Hill Jack Zong Lee Jane R Mather-Glass Grant Lewis Miller 1, 2 Joseph Samuel Miller⁴ Luke Michael Moehle Levi T Moltz-Hohmann Sydney Laura Moran⁴ William Mitchell Morris⁵ Olivia Marie Moses Sylvia Jane Mueller³ Jada Latrice Page Hunter Thomas Pendleton 4 Parker A Rehm Marisa Alicia Rios Savannah Dawn Ritzen⁴ Isaac D Robinson 4 Danielle Pamela Romero Caroline Katherine Rueve Lee Jeffery Russell Josiah H Schueneman Lindley Faye Schwartz Lauren Devyn Schwentker Zoe Caroline Shedd⁵ Marina Olivia Silva Benedict Chiong Singson 4,5 Caitlyn Michelle Specketer Grace Anne Taylor⁴ Annabel Louise Thorpe 1, 2, 5 Alexander Antonios Trimis³ **Evann Twitchell** Halle Marie Upshaw Grace Elaine Witham 1, 2

Ashley Nicole Wright

Victoria Grace Zeyen³

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

Kathryn Ahern ⁴
Mikaela Nicole Ashley
Emma L Baker
Claire E Barger
Lauren Christine Barish
Sofia Valeria Barreto
Olivia Anne Bearden
Paige Marie Behnken ³
Angela R Bell

Katherine Frances Bernacchi-Sass ⁴ Allison Houghton Bertrand ⁴ Tristan Gabriel Bevan Fatima Bhaiwala Supreet Kaur Bhangu ⁴

Maria Angelique Blanchard Theodore Carson Bloom Elise Caitlin Bobowski Carlie Raeanne Bollinger⁴ Joshua Taylor Borgschulte⁴

Claire E Bradley

Rose Bell⁴

Mary Catherine Brennan⁴ Caitlin M Brenner⁴

Emma Jane Brouster India Amari Brown Kyle L Brown

Nathan W Busch^{3,5} Jalyn Carol Byrd

Sydney Catherine Calhoun

Anna M Callis Emina Catic

Spencer Reed Chaiken 1,2

Zhuo Chen²

Lauren Elizabeth Clerc⁴ Anne Katherine Clinkenbeard

Lillian Grace Coit³ Nolan David Connelly Claudia Mary Conness Isabella Rhae Corona⁴ Payton Barbara Cousins^{1,2}

Cole Coutre Samantha Jo Cox⁴ Niamh Grace Cremin

Katie Lynn Cross 1, 2

Alexandra Katherine Crowder³

Sophia Elizabeth Davies Brynne Elizabeth Davis² Sadie Elizabeth Davis^{3,5} William Thomas Davis Siena E DeBolt⁴

Molly Kathleen DeLano ⁴ Ava Lenz Delsemme ³ Madison Jean Dick Lauren Nicole Dismond ³

Emily E Ditto 4

Morgan Rae Donnohue Riley M Doyle³ Britten Ellen Duet³ Ethan Cole Dwyer⁴ Jack Trost Eagan Brandon Jay Eigenman Grace Caitlin Elliott Cathryn Belle Enrooth Kristina Marie Esdale⁴ Athena Elaine Estonactoc Delaney Jolynna Fenton Gabrielle Marie Ferguson³ Isabella Kay Filippone William Charles Finke⁴

Clare Ann Foley

Gabrielle Elizabeth Frerking Molly Claire Freudenberg Ally Jensen Friend ⁴ Bradley Tyler Gale Diego Vicente Galicia Emma France Gassman Hannah Marie Gedwill ³ Alexander Joseph Gelabert ⁴ Christina Rose Gerecke ³ Gabrielle Iman Gilmore Alexis Nicole Godsey Audrey Lorraine Gray ⁴ Natalie M Gregus ⁴

Emma Elizabeth Grossman ⁴ Corey Austin Hadfield Sydney Marie Hahn ^{1, 2} Nicholas Kheejang Han Kaylee Michelle Hanebuth ⁴

Katie Harff⁴

Alexandria Nicole Harlow³

Kyle Anthony Hay William Blake Heckel Elizabeth L Heger^{1,2}

Charles Raymond Henderson Shelby Leigh Henderson^{3,5} Cecelia Claiborne Hensley⁴ Sydney Alyson Hirsch³ Melanie Margaret Holzer⁴

Molly May Horton Emily Housey

Mary Kathryn Ingram³
Adam Mandela Jackson
Maya Muldoon Jackson
Kristin Teresa Jacobsen
Ashley L Jaspers³
Rebecca Ann Johnson
Paige Danielle Kasten^{1,2}
Kayla M Keesling
Mary Christine Keller

Mary Christine Kelle Lynn Marie Kreul⁴ Beomjun Kwon Dawson Tate Lemmons Abbey M Levinson³ Rachael Therese Lindquist Mekenzie R Looney Bennett William Lopez Kayla K Lovelace Benjamin Miller Luty⁵ Camille G Lyons

Marguerite Callaghan MacDonald ³

Marqui Rayne MacLachlan

Taylor R Marberry Joseph Matthew Marley Sara E Marquardt

Tessa Louise McGartland ⁴ Lindsay O McKenna ⁴

Emily Ann Mclanahan-Hluzek

Emma Louise McNail³
Alexis Daniella Metcalfe⁴
Morgan Leigh Meyer⁴
Katelyn Adele Meyerpeter⁴
Tucker David Murphy³
Reagan Thomas Myers^{3,5}
Mia Joy Napolitano

Jill Ni

Alexandra Nicole Noback ⁴
Teagan Breanne Noblit
Samantha Lynne Norman ³
Emma Nicole Novak ³
Meghan N Oates ⁴

Linden Ellinor O'Brien-Williams 1, 2

Chisom K Okafor⁴ Mary Michael O'Leary⁴ Noah David Otterstein Parker Dale Owens

Benjamin Anthony Owings Danielle Elizabeth Padak⁴ Elisabeth Kathleen Padgett

Joy Chaewon Park 3, 5

Min Su Park^{3,5}
Reilly N Parkhill³
Kelly M Pawlak³
Eli Jackson Pearce⁴
Taylor Nicole Peterson
Lucy Rae Phillips⁴
Alaina M Pogue³
Hannah LeAnne Pope
Paige Catherine Powell⁴
Melina Asimina Psihountas

Yiwen Qian³

Jocelyn Jean Racelis ³ Lauren Elizabeth Ramsey ³ Allison Elizabeth Randazzo ³

Natalie A Rath^{1, 2} Allison C Reinhardt ⁴ Olivia Ellen Rhoads Nicole Alexis Rivera Peyton S Rives^{2, 5} Lauren Amelia Roberts Isabelle N Robles³ Zoe Elizabeth Romyn³

Celia J Rose^{1, 2} Aaron Gerald Ross Joseph Tyler Rothwell

Gannon Harris Rushall Sydney Eileen Ryan ⁴ Isabel Naomi Safrin ^{1,2}

Katherine Danielle Sanchez

Macee Raeanne Scott Tessa Renee Seibel ^{4, 5}

Hayley Shipley

Pharis Nicole Sippel ⁴ Samuel Pike Skaggs Sydney Nicole Smalling ²

Elizabeth Louise Smith Sarah Kathryn Stein⁴ Riley Lyn Steinbrecher^{1, 2, 5}

Katherine Lacey Sticklen⁴ Carly Jane Stilwell³

Abigail Elaine Struttmann 1, 2 William Musick Styron 3

Yi Sun²

Zachariah Cole Taylor³ Anna Elizabeth Telling Frederick K Trask Virginia Diane Trickey Ethan William Triebsch⁴

Claire Tuck 4

Elizabeth A Ustinov³
Alaina Renee Vacante³
Grace Michelle Valadka³
Samantha Helena Verdisco^{1,2}
Abigail Rose Walden^{3,5}
Benjamin A Walker
Kaili Varie Ward³

John O'Neill Waters Emma Nicole Weatherford 1,2

Tylar Weddington⁴ Kate L Westberg

Meredith Rusk Westrich ⁴
Gavin Martin White
Lindsey Marie Whitmore
Eleanor Grace Widowski ⁴
Blake Mitchell Wigen
Lauren Rae Wilcox ³
Khadijah Johnae Williams
Paige Olivia Williams ³
Sydney Anne Winburn ⁴
August Edward Windau ⁴
Katherine Bailey Workman

Madison Michelle Wright 1, 2, 5

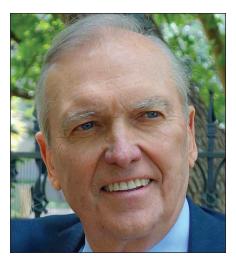
Siyi Yang³ Alice Ann Yu^{1, 2, 5} Siqi Yue² Xuan Zhong³

Please note:

The list of graduates and their accomplishments in the Journalism Commencement Program was compiled on April 29, 2021.

This list may differ from the official University of Missouri's Commencement Program. The list of graduates published in Mizzou's campus-wide program includes only those who submitted graduation applications before February 27, 2021 at 5 p.m.

HONORARY GRADUATE



JOHN D. GRAHAM BJ '59

John D. Graham is being recognized this year with an honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, from the University of Missouri. The honorary doctorate degree is the highest form of recognition offered by MU to persons of exceptional distinction.

John D. Graham, chairman of FleishmanHillard, has truly exemplified the Missouri Method and made his mark on strategic communications.

The St. Louis native graduated from the Missouri School of Journalism in 1959 on both athletic and curators scholarships. Graham first joined FleishmanHillard in 1966, when it was just a small public relations firm with a single office. He quickly rose in the ranks, becoming CEO in 1974 and serving in that position for more than 30 years. Under his leadership, the agency grew to become a major global media and communications firm widely regarded as one of the top crisis communications organizations in the industry, with more than 80 offices spanning six continents.

During his years at the agency's helm, Graham helped build FleishmanHillard's strong reputation by using strategic communications to deliver what clients value most: meaningful, positive and measurable impact on the performance of their organizations. Over the years, Graham has worked in nearly all aspects of public relations, including public affairs, financial strategy, corporate strategy, investor relations and crisis situations. Graham's leadership is grounded in having a vision and then backing it up with a deep personal commitment and great people. After more than three decades as CEO, Graham handed off the top post in 2006 and now serves as chairman.

Graham co-founded the Council of Public Relations Firms and serves as a member of various other public relations organizations, including the International Public Relations Association and the Public Relations Society of America.

Graham is a global leader in the public relations field and is highly regarded for his contributions. As chairman of FleishmanHillard, Graham remains active in planning and implementing communications programs for a number of the agency's largest clients and takes pride in the many accomplishments of current management.

Graham's success doesn't stop at FleishmanHillard. He has received numerous awards, including being named PR Professional of the Year by PRWeek and becoming only the third public relations agency executive to be inducted into the Arthur W. Page Society Hall of Fame. In 2002, the Missouri School of Journalism awarded him the Missouri Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism.

THE JOURNALIST'S CREED

- **believe** in the profession of journalism.
- **I believe** that the public journal is a public trust; that all connected with it are, to the full measure of their responsibility, trustees for the public; that acceptance of a lesser service than the public service is betrayal of this trust.
- **believe** that clear thinking and clear statement, accuracy and fairness are fundamental to good journalism.
- **believe** that a journalist should write only what he holds in his heart to be true.
- **believe** that suppression of the news, for any consideration other than the welfare of society, is indefensible.
- **believe** that no one should write as a journalist what he would not say as a gentleman; that bribery by one's own pocketbook is as much to be avoided as bribery by the pocketbook of another; that individual responsibility may not be escaped by pleading another's instructions or another's dividends.
- **believe** that advertising, news and editorial columns should alike serve the best interests of readers; that a single standard of helpful truth and cleanness should prevail for all; that the supreme test of good journalism is the measure of its public service.
- **believe** that the journalism which succeeds best—and best deserves success—fears God and honors Man; is stoutly independent, unmoved by pride of opinion or greed of power, constructive, tolerant but never careless, self-controlled, patient, always respectful of its readers but always unafraid, is quickly indignant at injustice; is unswayed by the appeal of privilege or the clamor of the mob; seeks to give every man a chance and, as far as law and honest wage and recognition of human brotherhood can make it so, an equal chance; is profoundly patriotic while sincerely promoting international good will and cementing world-comradeship; is a journalism of humanity, of and for today's world.

The Journalist's Creed was written by the first dean of the Missouri School of Journalism, Walter Williams. More than a century later, his declaration remains one of the clearest statements of the principles, values and standards of journalists throughout the world. Plaques bearing the creed are on display at the School, the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. (since 1958), and many other locations around the world.

