



UNIVERSITY OF THE
POTOMAC

Knowledge for the global community

32nd COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
CLASS *of* 2021



**VIRTUAL CEREMONY
SATURDAY, JUNE 26TH, 2021
10:00 AM**

ORDER OF CEREMONIES

OPENING ADDRESS

Dr. Clinton Gardner

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Associate Dean Yvonne Hood

CEO, SPUTNIK ATX/UOTP BOARD MEMBER

Dr. Oksana Malysheva

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Patricia Potter

UOTP BOARD MEMBER

John Danielson

DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Sergei Andronikov

MILITARY ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Dr. Nate Perry

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Dr. David Kimble

VALEDICTORIAN ADDRESS

Gangesh Khadka

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER INTRODUCTION

Patricia Potter

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Dr. Juleen Christopher

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Lee Smith, Dean of Doctoral Studies

MESSAGE FROM FACULTY

MESSAGE FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS

DEGREE PROGRAMS

ACCT	Accounting
BUS	Business
CS	Computer Science
CSP	Cyber Security Policy
DF	Digital Forensics
GCM	Government Contract Management
HTM	Hospitality and Tourism Management
IB	International Business
IS	Information Systems
IT	Information Technology
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MHCA	Master of Healthcare Administration
MSIT	Master of Information Technology
NSM	Network Security Management

GRADUATION WITH HONORS

Honors are awarded according to GPA:

Master's Degree

**** Distinguished, 3.80 or higher

Bachelor's Degree

**** Summa Cum Laude, 3.90 or higher

*** Magna Cum Laude, 3.80 to 3.89

** Cum Laude, 3.65 to 3.79



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#UOTPgraduates2021

CLASS of 2021

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Goldfeiz, Sibel Banu
Stiner, Erica

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Agha, Theodore- NSM
Alkuwari, Ahmad- BUS
Armeno, Kristyn- IT
Belton, David C- ACCT
Jones, Bianca Chandrea- BUS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Al-Atiaya, Mohammed Hamad- BUS**
Alhajri, Mana Ali- BUS
Alkhatir, Mohammed- BUS Almuraikhi,
Ali Khalifa- IB
Alwehaibi, Meshal Abdullah S.-
BUS****
Asrar, Murtaza- IT
Bhatt, Vandit Dharmeshkumar- IT
Clements, Corey- HTM
Ghising, Amrita- IT
Gurung, Alisha- IT****
Hazari, Md Golam Maola- IT**
Kamuhabwa, Fridah Felix- ACCT
Khadka, Gangesh- IT****
Kharel, Grishma- IT**
Marte-Frica, Niverka- IB
Mcnerney, Joseph Francis- ACCT
Ngemkam, Catherine Shupoh - GCM
Nguyen, Quan- GCM****
Patel, Aashutosh Ganshyambhai- CSP
Patel, Deepkumar- IT
Patel, Manit Rameshbhai- IT
Patel, Jitendrakumar Bharatbhai- IT
Pope, Michael Anthony- BUS***
Rashid, Amaar- IT
Regmi, Bishal- IT
Sareddy, Swetha- CS
Saunders, Kristin- ACCT
Subedi, Kundan- IT****
Tandukar, Siddharth- CS****
Thomas, Shalena Frankie- BUS Tiwari,
Sushan Babu- IT
Wang, Ze- IT
Zmij, Klaudia Barbara- IT****

MASTER'S DEGREE

Ali, Mohammed Ahmed - MSIT****
Appidi, Bhargava Reddy- MBA
Arakulov, Akmal - MSIT
Bankar, Pradnya Ambadasrao-
MSIT****
Bardolia, Krishna- MBA
Barot, Harsh Kaushikbhai- MHCA
Barua, Mrinal -MSIT
Batbold, Erdene, MBA
Battula, Saikumar- MSIT****
Begum, Monoara- MBA
Bhardwaj, Shubham- MSIT
Bhatti, Adeel Aijaz- MSIT
Bhoomi, Avinash Anand Brahmanand
MSIT
Bhurugu, Sai Kiran- MSIT****
Bobbala, Praveen- MSIT
Chigurupati, Kautilya- MSIT****
Choudhary, Anil Galaram- MBA
Contractor, Gaurang Harishkumar-
MBA
Dabhi, Dhavalsinh Mahendrasinh- MBA
Dadipineni, Prasanth Kumar-
MSIT****
Dandik, Dogacan,-MSIT
Darshnala, Koushik- MSIT
Davaadorj, Minjinsor- MBA****
Desai, Harinbhai Nalinkumar-
MHCA****
Devakumar, Oleen Ophelia- MSIT
Elthuri, Rakesh- MSIT****
Enriquez Granja, Diana Paola-
MBA****
Epps, Todd Roosevelt- MSIT****
Erdenekhuu, Solongo- MBA
Figueroa Rodriguez, Andrea Paola-
MBA****
Gajjar, Tejaskumar- MSIT**** Gandhi,
Binita Rajiv- MBA
Gochoo, Suglegmaa- MBA****
Gor, Ronak Manojkumar- MBA
Gu, Yizhi- MSIT****
Guniganti, Vidyaranya Parthasarathi-
MBA
Guruujav, Tumenjargal-MBA****
Hammes, Max Parada- MSIT****
Houndjahoue, Eurenice- MBA
Irfan, Shaikh- MSIT****
Jadiga Ramesh, Sailendar, MSIT
Jahangiri Manesh, Parisa- MBA
Jakkampudi, Varalaxmi- MSIT

CLASS of 2021

Janapareddy, Renuka- MSIT****
Janvee, Janvee- MHCA
Jhala, Parthkumar- MBA
Jones, Derrick- MBA
Kalthod, Shivashankar Rohit- MSIT
Karbous, Basil Mohamed A M-
MBA
Kasiraju, Lakshmi Haripriya Sree-
MSIT****
Kawsar, Syeda- MHCA****
Khan, Mohammed Omran- MBA
Khandaa, Munkhtur- MSIT
Kilewale, Roopesh Singh- MSIT
Kodali, Srinivas- MSIT****
Koneru, Lalana- MSIT****
Kottam, Ravi Shanker - MSIT
Kurach, Agata- MBA****
Li, Xiang- MBA****
Liakhat, Salma- MBA
LNU, Hajira Rafi- MSIT
LNU, Naba Danish—MSIT
LNU, Tahseen Nishath- MBA
Madana, Raja Prem Kumar- MSIT
Manduva, Rohith Kumar- MSIT
Mango, Jalal- MSIT
Marte, Nancy- MHCA****
Mervyn Selvan, Hebrew Mervyn-MSIT
Mirza, Mohammed Furqan- MSIT
Mohammad Abdul Shakeeb, FNU-
MSIT
Mohammed, Hakeem Shareef-
MSIT****
Mohammed, Hussain- MSIT****
Mohammed, Mudasir Ahmed Khan-
MSIT
Mongolbayar, Bolortungalag- MBA
Naidoo, Anna-Lee- MSIT
Nakum, Jayesh N.- MBA
Nalla, Bhuvija - MSIT
Nandiraju, Koushik Pavana Venkata
Sai- MSIT
Naredla, Sumanth- MSIT
Ngonga, Wilfred Ebontane- MSIT****
Ngundia Nchama, Juan Sabino-
MBA****
Nguyen, Son Xuan Thanh Xuan Hoai
Vu Hai- MSIT****
Noothpally, Sumanth Reddy- MSIT
Omar, Zaid- MBA
Omidiji, Doris Uchenna- MSIT****
Omidiji, Solomon Olusegun Akanbi-
MSIT****
Padhiyar, Chetankumar- MSIT
Parmar, Rini Hemilton- MBA
Parmar, Rahul- MSIT
Patel, Dishaben- MBA
Patel, Hardikkumar Balvantbhai-
MSIT
Patel, Hirnee Sureshkumar- MSIT
Patel, Kashyap Vijaykumar- MSIT
Patel, Keval Subhashkumar- MSIT
Patel, Maulik Natwarlal- MSIT
Patel, Maulikkumar Bhogilal- MSIT
Patel, Nilam Babulal- MHCA****
Patel, Niraliben Zaverbhai- MHCA
Patel, Prakruti J- MBA
Patel, Saumilkumar Vishnubhai
MBA****
Patel, Vivekkumar Alpeshkumar-MBA
Paul, Tina- MSIT
Peddu, Sai- MSIT
Penta, Nikitha- MBA
Phanse, Sachin Jaywant- MSIT****
Pijnenburg, Ruben Maria Johannes-
MBA****
Poosa, Sri Harsha- MSIT****
Pujara, Darshan Ghanshyambhai-
MSIT
Pujari, Aalok Omkar- MSIT
Ramaswamy, Revathy-MSIT
Rana, Monil Jagdishchandra- MBA
Rana, Rutvik Devendrakumar- MSIT
Rashed Hossen, Md- MSIT
Recote Laternas, Maria Cecilia-
MSIT****
Sadykov, Yerzhan- MSIT****
Saha, Amit- MBA
Sannareddy, Kishore Kumar Reddy-
MSIT
Shah, Kush Chirag- MSIT
Sharma, Seema- MSIT****
Shivapuram, Santhosh Kumar-MSIT
Shrestha, Raju - MSIT****
Shrestha, Karuna- MSIT
Shrestha, Shristy- MSIT
Singh, Jagjeet- MSIT
Smith, Antoinette- MBA
Sodha, Bhavik Ishwarlal- MSIT
Soni, Hardikkumar Bhaskarbhai-
MSIT
Srivastava, Neha- MSIT
Syed, Aleem Uddin- MSIT
Syed, Salman Taqui- MSIT****

CLASS of 2021

Tandel, Nirenkumar Jayantibhai- MSIT

Tank , Saural Sanjay- MSIT

Thakkar, Akash Chiragbhai- MBA

Thakkar, Dhishat Ashwinkumar- MSIT

*Thomas, Kiran- MSIT*****

*Trinh, Quang Tri- MSIT*****

*Tuluva, Vijaya Rayalu- MBA*****

Umair, Syed Adnaan- MSIT

*Undavalli, Jhansi Mounica- MBA*****

Velchala, Anurag- MBA

*Williams, Ronda- MBA*****

Yao, Yao- MSIT

Yeddi, Sravanthi- MSIT

VALEDICTORIAN ADDRESS

Gangesh Khadka

First, I would like to take this moment and on behalf of myself and my fellow graduates give a big thank to the people that have brought us to here. I would like to thank my mother, father, brother, and my grandparents. Without them, it would be impossible for me to be in the position where I am today. They always made sure that I have the best, even when they were in the worst situation, sacrificed their sleep, so that I could dream big. They gave up everything just to take care of me and my brother.

I would also like to thank my professors, mentors, friends, international advisors, administration, and all the supporting staff of University of the Potomac who have always inspired and motivated me throughout this academic journey. A few words about myself. I was born in Nepal. In 2016 I came to the United States as an international student. I was 18 when I came to America. At the beginning, moving away from home to a foreign country, was not an easy task. Such move brought a lifetime of experience and memories, but it also came with some challenges. I had to face the language barrier, homesickness, financial difficulty, and cultural difference. I think most of us who are international students here, felt the same way.

Now, being a graduate in the middle of a pandemic is also very challenging, especially given how slowly the world adjusts after months of lockdown. None knows when we would fully adjust to the changes brought by COVID. However, I know for sure, that instead of worrying about things that are beyond our control, we need to embrace the present, and all that the current days and the future will bring to us!

Once again, I want to congratulate all of you, Graduates of 2021. Follow Your Dreams and I hope this year will bring joy, happiness, and success to everyone's life.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Juleen Christopher, PhD, BCC

Dr. Juleen Christopher has dedicated her professional life to matters of social justice and health equity. This has included working with individuals to support them with cultural knowledge and societal context in their efforts to realize personal growth and self-efficacy. She is a cognitive behavioral research scientist with over 20 years in academic medicine and the healthcare industry. During her professional tenure in the healthcare industry, she provided training, leadership and oversight for two multimillion-dollar programs including a state-wide Congressionally funded program that ensured basic public health services to economically disadvantaged families.



Her passion and professional activities have been focused on developing training and educational programs, workshops, conferences, and behavioral interventions to benefit minorities, minority women with breast cancer, veterans and young adults. She has conducted research both nationally and internationally examining best practices for positive and sustained health behavior change. She has published scholarly articles and technical reports on topics such as improving patient/provider communication, shared healthcare decision-making, health literacy and chronic disease management in minority communities. She currently provides life coaching and research consulting services, an area in which her expertise is sought out. Her charitable involvement includes participating on several boards, and volunteering as a mentor and coach with a non-profit organization for undergraduate students, who require training and education in professional development skills to be mastered at paid internships within fortune 100-500 companies and non-profit organizations. [READ MORE](#)

THE WALTER PERSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

ABOUT THE FUND:

The scholarship honors the years of dedication and leadership provided by Mr. Walter Person and was re-established as the Walter Person Memorial Scholarship after Mr. Person's passing. This program is available to prospective and current UOTP undergraduate students who are seeking to complete their upper division BS degree requirements in a UOTP BS-Theoretical Application Programs (TAP). This is an Honors Program that was created and monitored by Mr. Person. The objective is to provide financial support for students who seek an upper division education that integrates theory and practice.



UNIVERSITY OF THE POTOMAC DOCTORAL PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Arthur Lee Smith
Dean of Doctoral Studies and Institution Effectiveness



Dr. Arthur Lee Smith, who goes affectionately by Lee, is Dean of Doctoral Studies and Institution Effectiveness at University of the Potomac. Lee brings a wealth of professional and academic experience to his present role. He has 27 years of experience working in the private sector, most notably as Executive Consultant in the insurance industry. Lee also has served on multiple university boards and on the Higher Learning Commission Appeals Committee.

His academic experience includes teaching, twelve-plus years in leadership and holds the distinction of chairing and/or serving on 14 doctoral dissertation committees. Lee has a PhD and MBA in Strategic Management and Bachelor of Science in Marketing. Nothing excites Dr. Smith more than seeing students walk across that finish line by earning their degree; it is sincerely why he has remained in the education sector for more than 30 years!

University of the Potomac currently offers Doctoral degree programs in Business, Education and Information Technology. [LEARN MORE.](#)

