

# BAKER UNIVERSITY *Spring Commencement*

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GRADUATE DEGREES

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL OF NURSING

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL AND GRADUATE STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL AND GRADUATE STUDIES

SUNDAY, THE EIGHTEENTH DAY OF MAY  
THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE  
FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON  
THE GEORGE F. COLLINS, JR.  
SPORTS AND CONVENTION CENTER  
BALDWIN CITY, KANSAS

# Today's Commencement

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## THE ADDRESS

F.E. “Skip” Kalb, Jr. is a highly respected figure in the rail and logistics industries, with a career spanning over four decades. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Biology and Chemistry from Baker University in 1973. While attending Baker, he participated in various groups, serving as president of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity, engaging in journalism, and earning letters in football and baseball. After earning his Master of Business Administration from the University of Kansas in 1975, Kalb began his professional journey by joining the Real Estate and Industrial Development Department of the Santa Fe Railway Company in Topeka, Kansas. His dedication and expertise allowed him to grow within the company, which ultimately became part of BNSF Railway Company following a merger in 1995. After 41 years of dedicated service, Kalb retired from BNSF.

Throughout his illustrious career, Kalb was instrumental in spearheading numerous strategic, rail-centric multimodal transportation development projects. Noteworthy projects under his leadership include the Alliance Consolidated Transportation Center at Alliance, Texas, and BNSF’s Logistics Park-Chicago multimodal complex at the former Joliet Arsenal. He also played a pivotal role in developing Logistics Park-Kansas City and served as the project lead for several major customer initiatives, notably the largest bulk export facility and the crude-by-rail terminals in North America.

Kalb’s early work on intermodal strategies had a significant influence on the industry. His contributions laid the foundation for what is now recognized as the nation’s intermodal hub co-location real estate development strategy. He also took part in a landmark legal case concerning rail-to-truck transloading, which was ultimately resolved in favor of the industry by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Kalb has been a prominent leader in various industry organizations. He served as chairman of the NAIOP Research Foundation and president of the American Railway Development Association. He was associate chair of the former International Development Research Council (IDRC), now known as CoreNet Global, where he received the Master Professional designation, awarded to only 5 percent of its members. Kalb’s academic contributions were recognized during his time at the Economic Development Institute (EDI) in Oklahoma, where his thesis was honored with the Outstanding Thesis Award by the Midwest Economic Development Council.

Kalb serves as an advisor for two international expert networks focused on rail logistics and development issues. He is the principal of Skip Kalb Strategies, LLC, where he continues to consult on rail-oriented developments and logistics projects. Throughout his career, Kalb has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to innovation and leadership in the rail industry, leaving a legacy that has shaped the future of rail logistics and development.

Kalb has been a member of the Baker University Board of Trustees since July 2008, serving as chairman from July 2019 to June 2022. His expertise and skills have significantly contributed to the governance provided by the Board. Through his leadership, the Baker Wetlands Task Force was established to promote and ensure that the Wetlands continue to provide a high-quality research and learning environment for Baker faculty and students.

# THE UNIVERSITY

In the mid-1850s, a group of Methodist ministers sought refuge from the brutality of a territory torn by economic and social disagreement. It was decided that such a retreat could only be found in the presence of education. A sanctuary of culture and civility was planned, but it was not until the Palmyra Association made a considerable donation of land that Baldwin City was selected as the location for Kansas' first university. Named for Osmon C. Baker, the first American bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Baker University was granted a charter by the territorial legislature on February 12, 1858.

Throughout its history, the university has produced educated contributors to all fields. Baker boasts four Rhodes Scholars, a Pulitzer Prize winner, and countless others who have made a lasting impact as explorers, clergymen, politicians, writers, and academics.

In the 167 years since its inception, Baker has evolved from a small university and preparatory school to a comprehensive university with four schools and degrees ranging from associate to doctorate. From the first graduating class of three in 1866, Baker now serves students across campuses in Kansas and online around the world. The College of Arts and Sciences offers undergraduate degrees in more than 40 areas of study on the Baldwin City campus. The School of Professional and Graduate Studies serves working adults with numerous online programs. At the School of Nursing, Baker partners with Stormont Vail Health in Topeka to offer bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing. The School of Education offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in Baldwin City and online.

## DESIGNATION OF SCHOLASTIC HONORS

These designations are applicable to baccalaureate degrees:

Summa Cum Laude – With Highest Honors

Magna Cum Laude – With High Honors

Cum Laude – With Honors

## THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

The pageantry and dress of the academic procession have been inherited from the medieval universities of the eleventh and twelfth centuries where academic life began, first in the Church, then in the guilds. Principal features of academic dress are the gown, the cap, and the hood.

The bachelor's gown has pointed sleeves. Sleeves of the master's gown are long and closed, with a slit at the wrist. Doctoral gowns have full bell sleeves with three velvet chevrons across them and are faced with velvet. University presidents usually wear academic regalia that represent the school.

The colors of the hood generally represent the school and discipline. Traditional colors associated with disciplines are Maize, Agriculture; White, Arts, Letters, and Humanities; Drab, Accounting and Business; Copper, Economics;

Light Blue, Education; Orange, Engineering; Brown, Fine Arts; Russet, Forestry; Crimson, Journalism; Purple, Law; Lemon, Library Science; Green, Medicine; Pink, Music; Apricot, Nursing; Silver Gray, Speech; Dark Blue, Philosophy; Sage Green, Physical Education; Golden Yellow, Science; Citron, Social Work; Scarlet, Theology.

## THE UNIVERSITY SYMBOLS

In 167 years, Baker has developed many rich traditions. Along with these traditions came a series of symbols holding special meaning to the university and its rituals.

The Presidential Medallion was first worn on April 22, 1967, by Baker President James E. Doty for his inauguration. A gift from Doty's alma mater, Mount Union College in Ohio, the sterling silver and gold medallion is worn by university presidents during ceremonial events, such as commencement and convocation, to signify the official authority and responsibility of the president.

The Baker University seal was added as a university symbol when the university celebrated its golden anniversary. Its Latin motto translates "Let him first be a man," adding to the display of three Greek words: mind, body, and soul. At the center is the lamp of learning on the open book of knowledge.

The Baker University mace symbolizes the power and authority of learning. Commissioned for the 1974 inauguration of Baker's 24th president, Jerald C. Walker, Walt Bailey, emeritus faculty member whose career at Baker spanned 42 years as a professor of art, created the mace from remnants of Baker's Centenary Hall and historic Parmenter Hall. Bearing the name of Baker's 30 presidents, the mace is carried in the procession of official university ceremonies by the Grand Marshal. The traditional symbol was derived from a battle instrument of the knights in the Middle Ages.

## FLAGS

The flags represent countries of origin of our graduating students and faculty. This year we have flags representing Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Canada, China, Colombia, England, Germany, Hungary, Jamaica, Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Romania, Scotland, and Spain.

## NEUENSWANDER OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARD

The Dr. Bill Neuenswander Outstanding Dissertation Award was established in 2011 to recognize exceptional work by doctoral candidates and to encourage the highest levels of scholarship, research, and writing. Dr. Neuenswander, served Baker for 17 years in varied roles, including professor of undergraduate and graduate courses, director of teacher education, and dean of the School of Education. He held a key role in developing Baker's first doctoral program, Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, in 2006, and was inducted into the Kansas Teacher Hall of Fame in 2004.



# THE ALMA MATER

TO THE ORANGE

by Warren Shepard

arr. by Roger Kugler

**Andante**

To dear old Ba-ker un - to thee our grate - ful song we sing. In

6 tri - umph sound through out the land loud let thy prais - es ring. Our Al - ma Ma - ter

11 will \_\_\_\_\_ reign a - cross the vast fair Kan - sas plain. Hearts

14 to the Orange for e - ver true. We're child - ren of old Ba - ker U

## THE PROGRAM

This program lists degree recipients together with candidates who plan to complete requirements in the near future. It is not an official list of graduates.

*Exit Procedures: In the event of an emergency, please remain calm and move to the exits in an orderly fashion. There are three exits from the building, including the main entrance behind you, the exit behind the stage, and the exit in the hallway on the right side of the auditorium. Please move quietly and quickly to the nearest exit.*

*Thank you.*

# Order of the Ceremonies

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PRESIDENT HOOT GIBSON  
PRESIDING

\*Processional . . . . . Kansas City St. Andrew Pipes and Drums

\*Invocation . . . . . The Reverend Kevin Hopkins  
University Minister

Welcome and Introductions . . . . . Mr. Hoot Gibson  
30th President  
Baker University

Commencement Address . . . . . F.E. “Skip” Kalb, Jr.  
Class of 1973  
Board of Trustees

Authorization to Confer Degrees and  
Bestow University Honors and Recognition . . . . . Mr. Dustin Baker  
Board of Trustees

Presentation of the Dr. Bill Neuenswander  
Outstanding Dissertation Award  
to Dr. Autumn Ivy Nelson . . . . . Dr. Matthew R. Bice  
Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost

Presentation of Candidates . . . . . Dr. Bice

Conferral of Degrees . . . . . President Gibson

Presentation of Degrees .....Dr. Bice

School of Education Graduate Candidates .....Dr. Bice

School of Nursing Graduate Candidates ..... Dr. Libby Rosen  
Dean of the School of Nursing

School of Professional  
and Graduate Studies Candidates .....Dr. Bice

Assisted by..... Ms. Ramie Nation  
University Registrar

President’s Charge .....President Gibson

\*The Alma Mater ..... Led by Kaitlyn Lingle  
Junior, Music Education

To *The Orange* by Warren Shepard  
arr. by Roger Kugler  
Lyrics are available on page 4.

\*Benediction ..... The Reverend Hopkins

\*\*Recessional .....Kansas City St. Andrew Pipes and Drums

\*All who are able will stand.

\*\*Audience members please remain standing until the recessional is completed.

The University Marshals are Dr. Sara Crump – Head Marshal, Dr. Elizabeth  
Wilkerson, Dr. Vicky McGrath, and Dr. Joe Barnhill.

The Ed.D. advisors assisting with the hooding of the doctoral candidates  
today are Dr. Regena Aye, Dr. Phyllis Chase, Dr. Anna Dunn, Dr. Verneda  
Edwards, Dr. Harold Frye, Dr. Tes Mehring, Dr. James Robins, Dr. Susan Rogers,  
and Dr. Sally Winship.

We would like to extend our gratitude to local Boy Scout Troop 65 for their  
outstanding service as the color guard.

# *School of Education*

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

### DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

LAQUINNA LEE ALLEN

ELYSE MARIA CASPERMEYER

ANDREW JOSEPH CASPERMEYER

NAOMI DILLE

MEGAN RENEE HANKINS

TENLEY LANE HANNAH

KALEB K. JOHNSON

EMILY ROSE LeRETTE

MARCHELLE RENEE MOORE

BRITTNEY MIKAYLA POWERS

JACQUELINE RENEE RODRIGUEZ

MELISSA MARIE SNELL

JOSHUA NEIL SNYDER

ALEXANDRIA LAUREN TESSON

GWENDOLYN LOVELACE WATSON

### DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE TECHNOLOGY

MATTHEW P. CONNELL

JENNIFFER GUERRERO

MAURICA GUILLILAND

RODNEY JAMES GUTSCH

SHAWN A. HARREL

JULIE AMANDA MCCORMIC

CATHERINE A. MCKENZIE-BAETEN

JENNIFER ANNE REED

JEFFREY T. SEBA

OLIVIA SMITH

PAULINE J. SUNG

ZIANG WANG

SARAH WINANS



# DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN LEADERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION

TANEKA L. BROWN

BRYAN FULTON

JING HE

LONI MARIE MARIETTA LEUTNER

DIANA YVONNE PARRA

MARY ELIZABETH RAINS

NICK RUIZ

ERICA SIMMONS

MINDY STUTLER

KAELYN NICOLE THIEROLF

SARA E. WALKUP

ALYSSA BLAIR WALLER

ASHLYN WHALEY

# MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

JESUS C. AMARO-VAAMONDE

DARRELL J. ANDREW

JACQUELINE BISHOP

MARK D. BOSWELL

KIRSTIN LEIGH BROKAR

CLAIRE ELAINE CALVERT

AMY JO CRUCE

CHELSEA MARIE DARLING

JACQUELINE DEARTH

BRENDA KAY DOMME

ALLAN JOSEPH EWALT

AMY LEIGH GOEPFERT

CANDACE RENEE HARRIS

BENJAMIN KATZENMEIER

MARGARET LOUISE MATTESON

ELIZABETH ANN MEREDITH

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN STUDENT AFFAIRS FOR LEADERSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION

MADISON MARIE JONES

ELI VANG

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

DESTENY NOEL ALEXIA ALCALA

STEPHANIE J. ATTWOOD

ELIZABETH LYN BOYLE

THOMAS J. BRUMBELOW

CONNOR BURDEN  
RACHEL RENEE CHAMBERLAIN  
CHRISTINE L. COLE  
REBECCA L. DAVISON  
ZAK DILLON DUNCAN  
DIANNE M. DUNN  
JEREMY RYAN FARR  
TANYA FRANCO-MEZA  
HEIDI JO LEIGH HAYEN  
SARAH JOHNSON  
JESSICA KEYS  
LAUREN KING  
KATHERINE LACY  
KIMBERLY L. LOGSDON  
ADAM LUNDINE  
STEPHANIE LYNN MATZ  
MELISSA D. PETERSON  
CAROLINE ELIZABETH SHINKLE  
PATRICIA L. STANFIELD  
ROBIN TISDALE  
ESTRELLA BIANCA WATKINS

# *School of Nursing*

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

ABIGAIL BAIR

TRISHA MARIE CARRENO

SANDRA DENISE HOHNER

THAINA DOS SANTOS JENSEN

ALLISON MARIE REID

KATHLEEN K. TINGLEY

# *School of Professional and Graduate Studies*

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## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

### MASTER OF ARTS IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

AMY ELIZABETH BOLLARD

BRENTON JOSEPH CROLL

AMANDA FENN

KATELYN NICHOLE GALBREATH

LEAH Y. HARVEY

COREY EDWARD MOYER

ANNA BLAIRE CRAIN

CALEB LYNN CROUCH

CAILEY ANN DELONG

WILLIAM DALE EVERHART

COLE FISHER

JAMIE VON FRANKENSTEIN

WILLIAM N. GUNTER

BRIAN CLAYTON HAWKINS

BAILEY G. HAYNES

COOPER DEAN HEIDEBRECHT

EMMERY JOSEPH

PRISCILLA RENEE LOCKARD

REBECCA JANE LOPEZ

LESLIE LOWE

BRAEDEN COLBY MANLEY

EMILY MCDANIEL

FRANCES L. MORALES

JOSHUA S. PADILLA

JEFFREY PAYNE

SAMANTHA POURMIRZA

GAIL V. POWELL

BLAINE TODD RAY

### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

ANDREA KAY ADAMS

DOUG TAYLOR AKERS

J. DAWN ANDERSON

BRANDON BENNETT

JAMES THEODORE CASEY

LAUREN ELIZABETH CHRIST

CHRISTOPHER COLEMAN

KEVIN P. REARDON

JENNIFER NOEL RILEY

JESSICA LINSEY RISCH

CESAR ANDRES AYALA RIVERA

KANYON SANDERS

BRYCE M. STEFFENS

JOSEPH GORDON STRICKLIN

SAMUEL W. SUTTON

ADRIAN VINCENT TAMAYO

TANNER EARL TWILLMAN

LEIGH ANN WATSON

DANIELLE LASHAY WOODRUFF

STEPHANIE CHRISTINE YATES

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORT MANAGEMENT

HOLLY CUSTIS

SYDNEY DRAY

KALEB FOX

JARED CLAYTON PARENTI

TABRESE HENRY VENSON

## BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

CANDACE N. S. ADKINS

CUM LAUDE

KIRK ARTLEY

KELSEY JO BAES

CUM LAUDE

ANDREW JOHN BARBER

DANIEL BRAZZELL

WILLIAM L. CARROLL

CUM LAUDE

BRETT D. COOPER

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

JULIANN COURTNEY

CUM LAUDE

LOYANA DALE

JESSICA NICOLE DAVIS

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

NANCY L. DAVIS

CUM LAUDE

TAMMY LYNN FISHER

MATTHEW RYAN FORESEE

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

MYNDI D. GORDON

MICAH HAEN

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

SHAUNE LEE HANNEN

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

COLBY HILL

DELYNN M. HODSON

SUMMA CUM LAUDE



LARON YVETTE JOHNSON

TABITHA E. KRULL

LUKE LANSFORD  
CUM LAUDE

CORY DANIEL LEON

JENNIFER LITTLEJOHN  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE

CHERYL JEANETTE MASON

TIM MCFARLAND

GABRIELLA T. MCINTOSH

ESMERALDA MORALES-LOYA

MORGAN ROSE-MARIE MUNGIA

BRETT TYLER PARKE

ALICIA A. PAUL  
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

CLINTON R. RUSSELL  
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

MICHAEL K. SPEARS  
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

KEVIN LEE WILLIAMS

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ABEER ALI AL NASSER  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE

CAROLINE ELIZABETH BEARD  
MAGNA CUM LAUDE

JENNIFER A. BREWER

MICHELLE DAWN COLLINS

NICOLE ROSE KENT  
CUM LAUDE

DESTINY RENEE LARIOS  
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

BRIAN A. LONG  
SUMMA CUM LAUDE

JESSICA MILLER

TAYLOR DYAN SHARP

BRITTANY THOMAS

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT

JON DAVID ELDER JR.

ANGEL RENO

## ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN BUSINESS

TY HARRIS

DALLAS K. LIPP



1858

BAKER  
UNIVERSITY