

CLASS OF 2023
Commencement



9 JUNE 2023
PORTLAND

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This program is for ceremonial purposes only and is not to be considered an official confirmation of degree information. It contains only those details available at the publication deadline.

We ask those in attendance to kindly silence their electronic devices and to remain in their seats until the platform party has left the stage and the graduate recessional has finished.

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A UNIVERSITY ENGAGED WITH THE WORLD

THE HISTORY OF NORTHEASTERN

Founded in 1898, Northeastern is a global research university and the recognized leader in experiential learning. Despite the university's current preeminence, Northeastern had modest origins.

At the end of the 19th century, immigrants and first-generation Americans constituted more than half of Boston's population. Chief among the city's institutions committed to helping these people improve their lives was the Boston YMCA. The YMCA became a place where young men gathered to hear lectures on literature, history, music, and other subjects considered essential to intellectual growth.

In response to the enthusiastic demand for these lectures, the directors of the YMCA organized the "Evening Institute for Young Men" in May 1896. Frank Palmer Speare, a well-known teacher and high-school principal with considerable experience in public schools, was hired as the institute's director. Two years later, under Speare's direction, the YMCA advertised the creation of the "Department of Law of the Boston YMCA," and on October 3, 1898, Robert Gray Dodge taught the first class. The program, an immediate success, marked the birth of Northeastern University. Speare would later remark, "We started with an eraser and two sticks of chalk."

When demand for other courses grew, Speare moved to add more programs, and in 1909 the full-time day colleges began instruction. That same year, the Evening Polytechnic School announced "cooperative engineering courses," in which students would have an opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in the workplace—the beginning of Northeastern's signature cooperative education program.

Decades of expansion

The school continued to grow, and in 1922 the College of Business was founded. More space was needed. The university purchased the former home of the Boston Red Sox in 1929, and in 1934 the Boston architectural firm Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson, and Abbott was awarded the contract to design Richards Hall. Using what was to become the campus signature—white brick—Shepley, Bulfinch presented plans for a neoclassical building. Opened in 1938, Richards Hall was the first building to appear on the front quadrangle.

As the campus grew, so did Northeastern's programs. In 1935, the College of Liberal Arts was added, signaling that Northeastern was on its way to becoming a major university.

When Speare stepped down as president in 1940, he was replaced by Carl Stephens Ell, dean of the College of Engineering. It was under Ell's leadership that Northeastern first admitted women to full-time day programs.

In the postwar world, Northeastern, like its peer institutions, saw a phenomenal increase in the number of people attending college. The university expanded its programs to accommodate this growing population of increasingly diverse students. In rapid succession,

additional programs and colleges were established: College of Education, 1953; University College, 1960; College of Pharmacy, 1962; College of Nursing, 1964; Boston Bouvé College, 1964; College of Criminal Justice, 1967; and College of Computer Science, 1982.

This expansion of programs brought with it a need for more buildings—and land. When Ell retired as president in 1959, he was succeeded by Asa S. Knowles. Under his leadership, suburban properties in Weston, Nahant, and Burlington were acquired and the Boston campus blossomed with new buildings, including various undergraduate dormitories designed to accommodate the increasing number of residential students at what had been primarily a commuter campus.

Transforming the Boston campus

When Knowles retired in 1975, he was succeeded by Kenneth G. Ryder, who had begun his career at Northeastern as a member of the history department and had risen through the ranks to become executive vice president before his election as president. Under his leadership, the university expanded and enriched its programs, particularly in the arts and humanities, and continued to improve its facilities. Plans for the Snell Library were finalized during Ryder's tenure, and the campus was beautified. During these years, Northeastern also deepened its commitment to Boston and its neighborhoods.

In 1989, Ryder stepped down as the fourth president of the university. He was succeeded by John A. Curry, Northeastern's executive vice president and its first alumnus to become president. With President Curry in charge, the university embarked on a series of ambitious undertakings, including a new science and engineering research center, a state-of-the-art classroom building, a recreation complex, and several new graduate and undergraduate programs.

To support these new ventures, Curry led Northeastern in a successful fundraising campaign. His years of leadership also featured significant restructuring as the university prepared to enter its second century. In June 1996, after four decades of service, Curry retired from Northeastern. To succeed him, the trustees elected Richard M. Freeland as the university's sixth president.

Elevating experience

A distinguished historian and administrator, President Freeland brought to the university a renewed sense of energy and mission. His programs were designed to support his vision of Northeastern as a university that would be student-centered, practice-oriented, and urban. Northeastern developed the West Campus with architecturally acclaimed residence halls and teaching facilities for the health sciences and computer science, and added new spaces to enrich student life on campus.

When Freeland stepped down in 2006, he was succeeded by Joseph E. Aoun, an internationally known linguistics scholar. Northeastern's seventh president came from the University of Southern California, where he served as dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences. President Aoun developed an academic plan outlining the university's vision in several areas: experiential learning, global outreach, use-inspired research, urban engagement, and intellectual life. He greatly expanded global co-op opportunities. He also aligned the university's research with three worldwide imperatives—health, security, and

sustainability—with a focus on interdisciplinary solutions.

A rising global profile

Under Aoun's leadership, Northeastern launched a system of campuses designed to be platforms for lifelong learning aligned with area economies. The first two opened in Charlotte, North Carolina (2011), and Seattle (2013). Three more campuses followed in San Francisco and San Jose, California (2015), and in Toronto (2016).

In 2016, Aoun led the development of a new academic plan, Northeastern 2025. The plan was a blueprint for transforming the university into a global university system—featuring networks of learners and innovators—designed to empower people to succeed in this era of unprecedented technological change. Accordingly, the university expanded the role of its global campuses to serve as platforms for learning, research, and industry partnerships. In 2019, it opened another location in Vancouver and acquired New College of the Humanities in London, now officially Northeastern University London and offering undergraduates a unique opportunity to earn a dual U.S./U.K. degree. Later in 2019, Northeastern launched a research campus in Arlington, Virginia, an addition to two existing research campuses in Nahant and Burlington, Massachusetts (formed in 1967 and 2012 respectively).

Then in January 2020, technology entrepreneur David Roux and his wife, Barbara, made an investment in the university to open the Roux Institute in Portland, Maine. The institute focuses on graduate studies and research in fields such as AI, digital engineering, and advanced life sciences, amplified by industry partnerships. It was specifically designed to be a model of how higher education can ignite economic development in regions of the country largely bypassed by the innovation economy, setting a new bar for what the global university system could achieve.

Resilience and momentum

The same revolutionary vision for global learning and discovery that inspired Northeastern 2025 infuses the university's latest academic plan, Experience Unleashed. The plan is designed to deepen the impact of Northeastern's global network by maximizing the power of experience to understand and solve the world's interconnected, ever-evolving challenges.

In 2022, the university took a significant step in realizing the potential for its global system by merging with Mills College in Oakland, California, becoming the first university with comprehensive residential campuses for undergraduate and graduate students on both U.S. coasts. Northeastern's Oakland campus is now home to Mills College at Northeastern and the Mills Institute, focused on equity, social justice, and women's leadership. Later in 2022, Northeastern announced its newest campus in Miami, with graduate education and innovation partnerships aligned with South Florida's economic growth.

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our university community, Frank Palmer Spence's "eraser and two sticks of chalk" have evolved into one of the world's most innovative universities and a platform for significant impact. Our faculty collaborates more fluidly with experts across industry, government, and community-based organizations. Ideas and solutions can be scaled. And our students are empowered to be true global citizens, scientists, entrepreneurs, and creators—prepared to make an impact wherever they go.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We honor indigenous peoples in the United States and Canada, including those whose ancestral homelands the Northeastern Global University system campuses reside. We are in the homeland of the Wabanaki, the People of the Dawn. We extend our respect and gratitude to the many Indigenous people and their ancestors whose rich histories and vibrant communities include the Abenaki, Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot Nations and all of the Native communities who have lived here for thousands of generations in what is known today as Maine, New England, and the Canadian Maritimes.

PROGRAM

ProceSSIONAL

Aileen Huang-Saad
Marshal

National Anthem

The Roux Institute Choir

Welcome

Chris Mallett
Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Administrative Officer

Global Network Greeting

Ken Henderson
Chancellor and Senior Vice President for Learning

Provost Office Address

Michael Pollastri
Senior Vice Provost and Academic Lead

Student Address

Daniel Avery, '23

Commencement Address

The Honorable Janet Trafton Mills
Governor of Maine

Degrees in Course

Chris Mallett
Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Administrative Officer

Conferring of Degrees

Michael Pollastri
Senior Vice Provost and Academic Lead

Announcement of Graduates

Alumni Welcome

Chandra Leister, '22

Alma Mater

The Roux Institute Choir

Charge to the Graduates

Chris Mallett
Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Administrative Officer

Recessional

Aileen Huang-Saad
Marshal

We ask those in attendance to silence their electronic devices.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Commencement Speaker

The Honorable Janet Trafton Mills

True to her upbringing as the daughter of working parents in rural Maine and her work experiences waiting tables and toiling as a hospital nursing assistant, Governor Janet Mills is a pragmatic leader who focuses on bridging political divides to solve problems.

That background has also shaped her policy priorities—promoting job growth and education, expanding healthcare access, and curbing domestic violence.

Under her leadership, Maine came through the pandemic with one of the highest vaccination rates and one of the lowest death rates in the nation. She has worked to help its economy emerge from the pandemic strongly, with one of the highest rates of GDP growth in the nation.

To help maintain that growth, Mills has worked with the legislature to enact the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan. It encapsulates investments in job training, housing, and other initiatives designed to address the state's longstanding workforce shortage.

As Maine's first female governor, Mills has been a strong advocate for women and strengthening the justice system's protections for victims of domestic violence. The latter issue has been a priority dating back to her days as a criminal prosecutor; she co-founded the Maine Women's Lobby in 1998 to support abused women.

Among her other achievements in office, Mills helped provide affordable healthcare to more than 90,000 Maine citizens while lowering health insurance premiums for small businesses; fully funded schools for the first time in Maine history while raising the minimum teacher salary; delivered free community college; cut taxes for retirees; and established stricter water quality standards for rivers used by Maine's native tribes for sustenance fishing.

She is also a powerful voice on the issue of climate change, which earned her an invitation in September 2019 to address the United Nations General Assembly—the first sitting Maine governor to do so. Mills told world leaders that she intended to put Maine on a path to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

Prior to winning the governor's office, Mills achieved another first—becoming the first woman to serve as state attorney general. In that office, she sued mortgage lenders for dishonest practices and pharmaceutical companies for their role in contributing to Maine's opioid crisis.

She was also elected to three terms in the Maine House of Representatives, where she served on its judiciary, criminal justice, and appropriations committees.

Mills entered public service in 1976 as an assistant attorney general in charge of criminal prosecutions. She was subsequently elected district attorney for Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford Counties, the first woman in New England to be elected to that office.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Massachusetts Boston and a juris doctor from the University of Maine School of Law.

KHOURY COLLEGE OF COMPUTER SCIENCES

Graduate Certificate in Cloud Software Development

Bryan Woodhams

Master of Science in Computer Science

David Anderson

Matthew Menzi

Kriston Barnes

Evrard Ngabirano

Alexander Kershaw Berger

Nathan Novak

Eugene Carlino

Samuel Call Wilkens-O'Brien

Brenden Collins

Amal Omar

Brian Laich

Bettina Puzzo

Paul LeBorgne

Gregory Scott Valcourt

Master of Science in Cybersecurity

Solomon Ruzima

Master of Science in Data Science

Sophia Cofone

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Graduate Certificate in Applied Analytics

Amanda Blake

Catherine McGowan

Magda Cardenas

Olive Mukantwari

Sarah Chang

Anne Nanovic

Katrina Hoop

Deborah Noble

Venkatesh Joshi

Daniella Sirois

Lisa Kennedy

Molly Szeman

Hunter Mahoney

Graduate Certificate in Project Management

Emma Etnier

Miranda Hanson

Gillian Ford

Hayden Harding

Joseph Griswold

Noah Haversat

Lily Hampton

Matthew Jackson

Erin Kane

Alison Wenzel Kieffer

Peter Martin

Satchel Toole

Stephanie Watson-Todd

Savannah Young

Master of Professional Studies in Analytics

Abraao Antonio

Brittany Begley

Nicholas Scott Beliveau

Zoram Blancas Ruiz

Emma Brown

Nicole Castonguay

Oscar Enrique Castro Carrillo

Isabel Clarke

Gabriella Evans

Nick Fagone

Riley Finley

Sean Fitzgerald

Dominic Fitzpatrick

Sarah Gilligan

Daniel Griffin

Deborah Groff

Amanda Gross

Ryan Harrington

Miranda Harvey

Robin Jettinghoff

Emily Kelly

Colin Kuhn

Jeremy Labbe

Molly Lindberg

Ian Liphart

Jun Ma

Molly Massa

Erin McGuffee

Tom Nagler

Matthew Polewaczyk

Jacob Sagrans

Savannah Sessions

Daniel Bernard Skinner

Mark Tomaschek

Master of Science in Project Management

Elena Agori

Lindsey Armstrong

Elizabeth Bradbury Atwood

Caroline Camille Bauer

Conrad Bollinger

Rachael Bornheimer

Haden Brooks

Justine Carbonell

Stevie Carey

Lisa Carney

Jill Charette

Haesel Charlesworth

Emily Dempsey

Kristin Farley

Caroline Foster

Joshua Graceffa

Adam Green

Dana Hom

Colbey Kennedy

Griffin LeClair

Camille Liedtka

Echo Echevarria McDonough

Kyle McGadney

Nathan Pinnette

Ali Said Rami

Lydia Roy

Michelle Sommers

Peter Gabriel Stegemann

Hannah Sullivan

Tanner Sutkowski

Lydia Swann

Elsa Thibodeau

John Paul Violette

Sarah Williamson

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Graduate Certificate in Bioinformatics

Megan Beauchemin

Master of Science in Biotechnology

Samira Ahmed

Daniel Avery

Laura Beth Brown

Anthony Cavallaro

Adam Gaines

Katie Hepburn

Yodit Herrmann

Sammira Rais-Rohani

Theobard Rutaganda

Lindsay Watts

Master of Science in Bioinformatics

Shoshana Brown

Samantha White

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Carmen Sceppa, *Bowé College of Health Sciences*

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Hazel Sive, *College of Science*

Emery Trahan, *Interim, D'Amore-McKim School of Business*

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Oh, Al - ma Ma - ter, here we throng, And
sing your prais - es strong; Your child - ren ga - ther far and near And
seek your bless - ings, dear. Fair mem - o - ries we cher - ish now And
will for - ev - er - more. Come, let us raise our voi - ces strong, North -
east - ern we a - dore.

*Oh, Alma Mater, here we throng,
And sing your praises strong;
Your children gather far and near
And seek your blessings, dear;
Fair memories we cherish now
And will forevermore.
Come, let us raise our voices strong,
Northeastern, we adore.*

