

CLASS OF 2024
Commencement



9 MAY 2024
SILICON VALLEY

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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). Additional campuses followed in Silicon Valley, 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.

On October 3, 2023, Northeastern marked its 125th anniversary. The milestone offered an opportunity both to recognize how the entire Northeastern community has been shaped by the power of experience and to herald the next 125 years of world-changing impact. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our university community, Frank Palmer Spear's "eraser and two sticks of chalk" have evolved into one of the world's most innovative universities. 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.

PROGRAM

Procession

Candidates for Master's Degrees

Candidates for Doctoral Degrees

Faculty

Platform Party led by Marshal Alvaro Monge

Teaching Professor, Assistant Dean and Director, Computing Programs, California, Houry

National Anthem

Marshal Alvaro Monge

Teaching Professor, Assistant Dean and Director, Computing Programs, California, Houry

Welcome

Dawn Girardelli

Associate Dean, Silicon Valley Campus

Global Network Welcome

Mary Ludden

Senior Vice President for Global Network and Strategic Initiatives

Introduction of Student Speaker

Karen Pryor

Director, Student Services, Silicon Valley Campus

Student Speaker

Isha Thakkar, '24

Candidate for Master of Science, Project Management, College of Professional Studies

Lux. Veritas. Virtus. Award Presentation

Mary Ludden

Senior Vice President for Global Network and Strategic Initiatives

Dean's Address

Caroline Simard

Regional Dean, Silicon Valley Campus

Degrees in Course

Caroline Simard
Regional Dean, Silicon Valley Campus

Degree Conferral

Mary Ludden
Senior Vice President for Global Network and Strategic Initiatives

Honoring of Graduates

Dawn Girardelli
Associate Dean, Silicon Valley Campus

Hooding Ceremony

Christopher Bolick
Associate Dean, Graduate Programs, College of Professional Studies

Introduction of Alumni Representative

Sagar Kamarthi
Professor and Associate Dean, Graduate Education, College of Engineering

Alumni Welcome

Claude Paillant, '07

Class Charge

Caroline Simard
Regional Dean, Silicon Valley Campus

Recessional

Led by Marshal Alvaro Monge
*Teaching Professor, Assistant Dean and Director, Computing Programs,
California, Khoury*
Platform Party
Faculty
Graduates

Post Ceremony Reception

Orchard Banquet Hall

DEGREES IN COURSE

College of Engineering

Master of Science in Cyber-Physical Systems

Joseph Oluwamuyiwa Afolabi

Shruti Lohani

Master of Science in Information Systems

Satyam Arora

Yunjia Sun

Charu Cheema

Raj Sudharshan Vidyalatha Natarajan

Santhoshi Manogna Chintakuntla

Wenxuan Wang

Zhe Ding

Rong Wu

Jiao He

Yue Xing

Jie He

Nan Yang

Jiaye Li

Yue Yu

Xikai Liu

Mengyun Zhang

Priya Mathanagopal

Yiran Zhang

Sayali Sanjay Nagarkar

Ayuan Zhao

Tiantian Ren

Zihan Zhao

Shivani Manojkumar Shah

Xinying Zheng

Kriti Sonal

Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Master of Science in Data Science

Sumukhi Ganesan

Yiyang Jiang

Varun Kabra

LeAnn Marie Medina Mendoza

Congkai Sun

Feiran Zhang

Master of Science in Computer Science

Jeremiah Oluwadamilare Asala

Soma Sai Kumar Badri

Hatem Benaghil

Matthew Paul Brunkhorst

Huajuan Chen

Kaiqi Chen

Linhao Chen

Shiyan Chen

Xiaowan Chen

YiAn Chen

Wenhu Cheng

Kelvin Christian

Prinjal Mayur Dave

Yaqun Deng

Ruihan Ding

Qishu Dong

Junjie Fang

Yuhan Fang

Xinyi Feng

Harshit Bhavesh Gajjar

Boyang Gao

Feier Gu

Shanshan Guo

Wanqing Guo

Ying Guo

Jinxin Hu

Xinlei Hu

Chuying Huang

Yingjie Huang

Yixuan Huang

Jiyeon Jeong

Kaicheng Jia

Xin Jin

Zhiyi Jin

Mihir Milind Kapile

Alexander Khoperia

Hamidreza Komaki

Qian Lang

Aaron Howan Leung

Baoyan Li

Dongze Li

Jinyan Li

Ke Li

Lei Li

Ruoliang Li

Siyue Li

Yangyi Li

Yueyan Li

Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Master of Science in Computer Science

Yunxiao Li	Ziyang Song
Xiaodong Li	Suparna Srinivasan
Haoping Lin	Akhila Sulgante
Hantong Liu	Guoqin Sun
Huazhou Liu	Tzu-Chi Tai
Jiayang Liu	Tianyu Tan
Pingting Liu	Vaishali Taneja
Yongfei Lu	Ting Tang
Jing Luo	Kasi Viswanath Vandanapu
Jingyi Luo	Rongchang Wang
Yuqin Luo	Tengjiao Wang
Chengcheng Lyu	Yan Wang
Qingxuan Ma	Zhu Wang
Xiaoqing Meng	Tengjiao Wang
Mihir Himmatbhai Mesia	Yadan Wei
Jiayi Nie	Chenjie Wu
Amit Pai	Xiaolan Wu
Zhangjin Pan	Sibo Wu
Ashay Amish Panchal	Qianrui Xia
Liyang Pang	Suisui Xia
Yongzheng Qi	Yuanhao Xu
Yuanxun Qin	Zhehao Xu
Changxu Ren	Jianhua Xue
Armen Sarkisian	Bingqian Yang
Jishva Mahavirbhai Shah	Xiaoman Yang
Yuting Shao	Yulu Yang
Ying Shen	Zhengyu Yang
Manbir Singh	Jiajie Yin
Spencer Alan Solomon	Bolang Yu

Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Master of Science in Computer Science

Di Zhang

Jiaming Zhou

Dongxin Zhang

Yi Zhou

Haoyu Zhang

Yiyang Zhou

Naiyi Zhang

Tong Zhu

Xi Zhang

Xun Zhu

Yakun Zhang

Yuxiao Zou

Yalei Zhang

Yuze Zhang

Yingqi Zhang

Yao Zhong

Chenyang Zhou

College of Professional Studies

Doctor of Law and Policy

Pamela S. O'Dell

Master of Professional Studies

Junchen Bu

Nikshita Ranganathan

Sihang Chen

Heejae Roh

Kuan-Yu Chi

Rui Shang

Wui Lung Choi

Li Shen

Hongyi Gao

Liyin Zhang

Mengke Han

Xiaoge Zhang

Qihuan He

Yuchen Zhao

Bhagyashri Ram Kadam

Xuejiao Zhong

Sourabh Dipak Khot

Master of Science in Project Management

Sowrabha Venugopal Avadhani

Ruchika Sharma

Bhagirathi Calavai Sankara Narayanan

Nischitha Shetty

Shreeya Shrikant Chavan

Puja Singh

Abirami Chockalingam

Isha Thakkar

Amrutha Sree Cootharambakkam

Nithisha Thavanam

Nadadur

Grishma Rajesh Vira

Paridokht Sadat Esbah Tabaei

Zhengyi Wang

Aviral Ghimire

Tianpeng Xian

Shilpa Sahoo

Yash Shashikant Zare

Richa Sawahney

LUX. VERITAS. VIRTUS. AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023–2024

Wui Lung Choi

College of Professional Studies

LeAnn Mendoza

Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Isha Thakkar

College of Professional Studies

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Jared Auclair, *Interim, College of Professional Studies*

David De Cremer, *Dunton Family Dean, D'Amore-McKim School of Business*

James R. Hackney, *School of Law*

Elizabeth Hudson, *College of Arts, Media and Design*

Beth Kochly, *Interim, Mills College at Northeastern University*

Elizabeth D. Mynatt, *Khoury College of Computer Sciences*

Carmen Sceppa, *Bowé College of Health Sciences*

Hazel Sive, *College of Science*

Kellee Tsai, *College of Social Sciences and Humanities*

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M Benjamin Lipman

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Susan A. Morelli

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James Q. Nolan Jr.

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Richard A. Schoenfeld

Peter J. Smail

Shelley Stewart Jr.

Karen Tay Koh

Gordon O. Thompson

Alexander L. Thorndike

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Mark L. Vachon

Laurie B. Werner

E. Leo Whitworth

Donald K. Williams Jr.

Donald L. Williams

Akira Yamamura

Richard R. Yuse

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