

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY



COMMENCEMENT

MAY 4, 2024

1:00 P.M.

CIMPL ARENA, YANKTON, SD

2024 COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

PROCESSIONAL

“Pomp and Circumstance”

Marches, Op. 39, No. 1

by Sir Edward Elgar

Led by Dr. Krystal Diedrichsen

Associate Professor of Nursing and 2023

Distinguished Teaching Award Recipient

NATIONAL ANTHEM

“The Star Spangled Banner”

by Francis Scott Key

Mount Marty University Chamber Choir

INVOCATION

Dr. Courtney Ott '23

**“The Mount Marty
University Prayer”**

by Anthony Maglione

Mount Marty University Chamber Choir

WELCOME

Dr. Marcus Long

President

STUDENT AWARDS

Dr. Andrea Roberts '19

Director, Nurse Anesthesia

Dr. Kathy Magorian '97

Dean of Nursing and

Health Sciences

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Dr. Ronald Place

Regional President & CEO,

Avera McKennan Hospital and

University Health Center

HOODING AND

PRESENTATION OF

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Dr. William Miller

Executive Vice President and

Provost

Dr. Andrea Roberts '19

Dr. Kathy Magorian '97

Dr. Deborah McCuin

Director, Graduate Teacher

Education

Dr. Mark Brown

Director, Biotechnology

Dr. Heather Swanson

Track Coordinator, Graduate

Nursing

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Marcus Long

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WELCOME

Dr. Andrea Roberts '19

“Come to the Water”

by Lynda Hasseler

Mount Marty University Chamber Choir

BENEDICTION

Mitchell Lonneman '21, '24

RECESSIONAL

“Procession of the Nobles”

from Mlada

by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Led by Dr. Krystal Diedrichsen

It is customary for the audience to stand during the Processional, National Anthem, Invocation, Benediction and Recessional.

MOUNT MARTY PRAYER

O God,

Creator of all things and source of wisdom and knowledge, send your Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts, words, and actions so that everything we do will begin with your inspiration and continue with your guidance and blessing. Help us to speak and act with integrity so that we may uphold the values of Mount Marty University. May we use our talents and abilities in the best ways possible so that You may be glorified and our neighbor served.

We pray these things through Jesus, your Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

AMEN.

*The Mount Marty Prayer was written by
Father Thomas Wordekemper, OSB, '79.*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

by Ronald Place, MD

Dr. Ron Place hails from South Dakota and graduated from the University of South Dakota with a bachelor's degree in Chemistry. He was also a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society and earned an ROTC commission in the U.S. Army. He then graduated from Creighton University School of Medicine as a member of Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society. Dr. Place completed his General Surgery internship and residency training at Madigan Army Medical Center, Ft. Lewis, WA, and fellowship training in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

Dr. Place was a full-time surgeon for the first half of his military career, including combat deployments to Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) twice, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Joint Guardian (Kosovo). He gradually transitioned to full time executive leadership, leading at every level with the military medical system; including surgical department chief, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Operating Officer, CEO of two community hospitals, and CEO of two regions. He completed his nearly 37 years of military service as a lieutenant general and the 3rd Director of the Defense Health Agency.

Dr. Place is board certified in both General Surgery and Colorectal Surgery. He is the author of over 40 peer reviewed articles and book chapters. He is a clinical professor of surgery at both the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences and the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Natural Sciences at Mount Marty University.

Dr. Place is now the Regional President and CEO of Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center in Sioux Falls. He also serves on the Board of Directors for The Link Community Triage Center, the Avera Heart Hospital, and the Greater Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce.

DOCTOR OF NURSE ANESTHESIA PRACTICE

HEATHER ADOLPH

Sioux Falls, SD

MIGUEL ARROYO-BENITEZ

Dallas, TX

BRITAIN YVONNE BURDITT

Spearfish, SD

JUSTIN CORY CASSELS

Clear Lake, SD

ANDREA CASTRO

Tinton Falls, NJ

NICHOLA L. EVENSON

Saint Paul, MN

AUSTIN WADE FOX

Coral Springs, FL

ELIZABETH MARIE FURMAN

Sutton, NE

MELVIN GABEL

Kenai, AK

MELANIE NICOLE GIBBONS

Sioux Falls, SD

ANNA LAUREN GLATT

Boise, ID

ABBIGAIL HATCH WILLIAMS

Sioux Falls, SD

DANIEL C. HILSON

Granite Bay, CA

DANIEL ROBERT JANU

Fargo, ND

AMANDA FAYE JOHNSON

Chelsea, MI

MELISAH MAE KING

Minneapolis, MN

RYAN GARRETT MENSSEN

Sioux Falls, SD

WILLIAM GREGORY MOFFET

Kindred, ND

IMRAN AHMED MOHAMED

Ann Arbor, MI

ADELAIDE NAA ADE OMANE

Dayton, OH

JESSE ROBERT PECHOUS

Scotland, SD

MORGANNE BRIELLE PFAFFLE

Okoboji, IA

MARSHEL LANE RENZ

Loon Lake, WA

ABBY MICHELLE RICHARDS

Sioux Falls, SD

TYLER A. RICHARDSON

Rapid City, SD

ZANE ALLEN RIGGINS

Wanblee, SD

JENNIFER JEAN RUPP

Bozeman, MT

AUDRA STEINBORN

Sioux Falls, SD

KAYCIE LEE-MARIE STEWART

Corvallis, MT

BENSON GATOGO WAHOME

Fremont, CA

MARY TICKNOR

Sioux Falls, SD

CHANTAL MARIE WAKEFIELD

San Diego, CA

REGINA VANDERLINDEN

Janesville, WI

RACHEL MARGARET WUNDER

Westminster, MD

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

ASHLEIGH EILTS*

Leadership and Education

Mitchell, SD

SUZIE ANN WALGRAVE*

Leadership and Education

Luverne, MN

COURTNEY M. OTT*

Leadership and Education

Lawton, IA

MASTER OF EDUCATION

CLAYTON CHIPCHASE

Coaching Leadership
Yuba City, CA

ELIANNA MICHELLE CLARK

Coaching Leadership
Gayville, SD

SHELBY RAYE DAVIS

Coaching Leadership
Rapid City, SD

JADIE KARON DELANGE^

Curriculum and Instruction
Monument, CO

DILLON KENNEDY GROSS

Coaching Leadership
Madison, SD

JOHNNA JONES

Coaching Leadership
Drummonds, TN

WYATT SCOTT MCKNIGHT

Coaching Leadership
Sutherlin, OR

ZOE MOJAVER

Coaching Leadership
Katy, TX

SEAN O'HAGAN

Coaching Leadership
Thornton, CO

DELWIN JAMES POTTER

Coaching Leadership
Battle Mountain, NV

JACOB WIEBELHAUS

Coaching Leadership
Fordyce, NE

SETH W. WIEBELHAUS

Coaching Leadership
Fordyce, NE

MASTER OF SCIENCE

TYLER JAMES ANDERSON

Biotechnology
Montbello, CO

J. FLETCHER BROWN^

Biotechnology
Austin, TX

MICAH W. HOYLMAN

Biotechnology
Omaha, NE

AARON MICHAEL KOUPAL

Biotechnology
Elk Point, SD

TIFFANY A. LEE

Biotechnology
Fort Collins, CO

MITCHELL LONNEMAN

Biotechnology
Sioux Falls, SD

AVA PTAK

Biotechnology
Prior Lake, MN

PEYTON M. ROBIE

Biotechnology
Aurora, CO

KATHERINE JOHANNA ROTH

Biotechnology
Viborg, SD

MARGARET CELIA SCHAUB

Biotechnology
Fort Collins, CO

SARA ELIZABETH SELLERS^

Biotechnology
Longmont, CO

JOANIE ANN VILLAFUERTE

Biotechnology
Hebron, NE

MADISON GRACE WELTY

Biotechnology
Westminster, CO

IAN WETTLAUFER

Biotechnology
Libertyville, IL

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

KYLE GILBERT

Family Nurse Practitioner
Sioux Falls, SD

MARC R. JOHNSON

Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner
Lincoln, NE

MELISSA A. JOHNSON

Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner
Lincoln, NE

KAYLA ANN ORGAARD^

Family Nurse Practitioner
Gillette, WY

TIFFANY LYNN RITTER

Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner
Sioux Falls, SD

**ROYLYNN DOLORES
UNDERWOOD^**

Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner
Central Point, OR

ABBIE JO VOGT

Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner
O'Neill, NE

KAITLYN WALKER

Psychiatric Mental Health
Nurse Practitioner
Sioux Falls, SD

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The tradition of academic costume has a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townsmen wore long flowing robes or gowns. The materials and colors varied greatly, according to wealth and rank of the individual and were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. This tradition survives today in gowns of religious orders, the judiciary and the academic regalia.

The gowns worn by the recipients of the various degrees vary somewhat in design. The sleeves of the gown worn by recipients of the baccalaureate degree are long and pointed, while the sleeves of the gown worn by the master's degree recipients are square at one end with a slit at the elbow. The doctor's gown has flowing sleeves with three bars of velvet and a facing of velvet down the front of the gown.

Most distinctive of the academic regalia is the hood, which identifies the graduate degree and the institution where the degree was awarded. The hood is lined with silk in the official colors of the institution. The velvet edging indicates the degree as follows:

Arts, Letters, Humanities: White
Commerce, Accountancy, Business: Drab
Education: Light Blue
Fine Arts: Brown
Music: Pink
Nursing: Apricot
Philosophy: Dark Blue
Physical Education: Sage Green
Science: Golden Yellow
Theology: Scarlet

*** INDICATES DECEMBER 2023 GRADUATE**

^ INDICATES AUGUST 2024 CANDIDATE

Names listed in this publication and participation in the commencement exercises may not be construed as documentation of completion of degree requirements. Certification of the conferral of a degree is by official transcript noting degree completion.

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY

Mount Marty University is a Catholic, Benedictine institution of higher learning founded in 1936 by the Sisters of Saint Benedict of Yankton, South Dakota. The institution is named in memory of Martin Marty, a Swiss monk, who came to the Dakota Territory in 1876 and became the territory's first Catholic bishop. As bishop, he invited the Benedictine Sisters to establish a religious community in Yankton.

The university functioned as a junior college for women for 15 years; in 1951 it awarded its first Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. In 1969, the college became coeducational. Associate of Arts degree programs were introduced in 1975 in areas compatible with already existing programs. Graduate study came to the institution with the first Master of Science degree being awarded in 1983, followed by the first Master of Art degree in 1999. The first doctorate in Nurse Anesthesia Practice was approved in 2016. Mount Marty University is the first private university in South Dakota to offer doctoral degrees.

Mount Marty University's main campus is located in Yankton, SD. There are two additional locations in Watertown, SD, and Sioux Falls, SD.

Mount Marty University-Watertown has been serving northeast South Dakota since 1972 and offers numerous undergraduate degrees in non-traditional formats. This non-residential learning environment offers flexible options that cater to all students and working professionals looking to enhance their lives and further their careers through higher education.

Sioux Falls is home to the Mount Marty Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice graduate program, a program that has been producing successful nurse anesthetists for over 75 years. This 36-month program prepares the next generation of advanced practice nursing professionals for commitment to excellence in clinical care, advancing the profession and service to the human community. The Sioux Falls location is also home to Mount Marty University's new Master of Science in Biotechnology degree, the first such degree in the state.

In keeping with the Benedictine tradition, the university exists as a community of learners. Primary emphasis is placed on the development of each person as a complete human being with intellectual competence; professional and personal skills; and a composite of moral, spiritual and social values.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

The Presidential Medallion represents the authority granted to the President of the institution by the Board of Trustees. It carries the seal of the university as well as four banners with the core values: awareness of God, community, hospitality and lifelong learning. They serve as a constant reminder that these values are believed in and carried out from the leader of the institution on to the various internal and external publics that Mount Marty University serves. On the bottom of the medallion are the words; scientia (knowledge), veritas (truth) and sapientia (wisdom). It is a symbol that will inspire the quest for knowledge by the faculty and our students. It is a symbol that will inspire the pursuit of spiritual wholeness for all the members of our community.

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Mount Marty University, an academic community in the Catholic Benedictine liberal arts tradition, prepares students for a contemporary world of work, service to the human community and personal growth.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2023 - 2024

**CHAIR, DR. JIM FITZGERALD
VICE CHAIR, MR. ROB STEPHENSON
SECRETARY, SR. MARY JO POLAK
TREASURER, MR. DENIS FOKKEN '73, HD'23**

**Sr. Penny Bingham '73
Sr. Mildred Busch '67
Mr. Michael Donohoe
Mr. Shawn Gallagher '76
Dr. J. Lee Johnson
Fr. James Keiter
Sr. Barbara McTague '71**

**Mr. John Porter
Mr. Donald Roby
Mr. Daryl Thuringer
Sr. Patricia Ann Toscano '71
Sr. Carol Jean VanDenHemel
Dr. Rachel Vannatta '87
Dr. Marcus Long, President**