



COMMENCEMENT

Class of 2019

Physician Assistant Studies

COLLEGE OF HEALTH & WELLNESS

Providence, Rhode Island
May 21, 2019



Dear Class of 2019,

Today we are here to celebrate you — the members of Johnson & Wales University's physician assistant studies graduating Class of 2019.

Earning your Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies degree from Johnson & Wales is an extraordinary achievement. When you cross the stage today to receive your diploma, think of all the people who helped you get here: your family and friends, your professors, advisors and staff, mentors and clinical training associates. We are so proud of what you have accomplished.

You are now prepared for what is next, including passing the PANCE (Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam). To many, this may be daunting, but I know you are ready because your Johnson & Wales education and experience have prepared you well. You took full advantage of all that JWU has to offer, experiencing your future through the intellectual challenges of the classroom and the opportunity for discovery in the laboratory and clinical rotation sites. Now, it is time to make your mark on the world, just like the 81 JWU physician assistant studies graduates who have come before you.

The feelings of belonging you have to the Providence Campus will deepen in the years ahead as you benefit from your Johnson & Wales degree and alumni connections. You will always have a home at JWU. Be a proud Wildcat for life, stay connected, and watch the university grow in the coming years.

The entire university community shares my pride in what you have accomplished at JWU. You have our gratitude and our best wishes for your continued success.

Forever JWU,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie Bernardo-Sousa".

Marie Bernardo-Sousa, L.P.D., '92
Providence Campus President

Order of Exercises

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Candidates for the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies

Faculty for the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies

Platform Party led by Mace Bearer — Billye W. Auclair, Ph.D., provost

WELCOME

Marie Bernardo-Sousa, LP.D., '92, Providence Campus president

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Marie Bernardo-Sousa

CLASS OF 2019 STUDENT ADDRESS

Alysse Pazienza '19 M.S.P.A.S.

GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Andrew Mayer, PA-C, '18 M.S.P.A.S.

PRESENTATION OF M.S.P.A.S. DEGREE CANDIDATES

Billye W. Auclair

CONFERRAL OF M.S.P.A.S. DEGREES

Marie Bernardo-Sousa

RECESSIONAL

Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies Degree Recipients

ARIANA M. AFRICO

ABBIGAIL BOOMHOVER

JAMEE BRESEE

ALYSON CAREY

RACHEL ELIZABETH HARRIS
CORCORAN

MORGAN RUTH COVENSKY

JACLYN NICOLE DECOURSEY

DEVON ADARE DOUGHERTY

AARON JAMES ESTRELA

HARSIMRAN KAUR GREWAL

KIRSTEN M. HARRINGTON

BRITTANY MARIE HEFFERNAN

NAJAT G. HELWANI

ASHLEY ROSE HELWIG

VICTORIA JEDSON

SIMRAN KOCHAR

COURTNEY LEIGH LIEBERMAN

KAYLA LYNCH

MORGAN GARREN LYNCH

MEGAN KATHLEEN MCCREA

NERINA TERESA MCDONALD

MOLLY ELIZABETH MCWILLIAMS

ALAN MILLER

KELLEY MARIE MURPHY

KELLY LYNN MURPHY

RYAN THOMAS O'KELLY

ALYSSE KATHERINE PAZIENZA

TRISTA RAE PENNINGTON

JACKLYN M. REIS

EMMIE LOU ROBERTS

JENNIFER LYNN ROSSI-STEPHENS

MEGAN CHRISTINA SCHANCK

MARISSA ANN SYLVESTER

LAUREN J. VOLPE

JESSICA C. WOOD

Student Speaker

ALYSSE PAZIENZA '19 M.S.P.A.S.

A Rhode Island native who grew up in Saunderstown, Alysse Pazienza graduated cum laude from the University of Maryland in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology and a minor in Human Development. She competed on the club gymnastics team during her time at the University of Maryland and served as the competition coordinator and the club president during her sophomore and junior years respectively. During her senior year, Pazienza worked as a patient care technician at Doctors Community Hospital, which helped to reinforce her decision to pursue a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies degree. She was also a medical assistant at Ortho Rhode Island in Wakefield.

At JWU, Pazienza served as the community outreach coordinator for the PA Student Society. During her first year in the PA program, she was a mentor for the Brown University Pathways to Medicine Mentorship Program, teaching high school students how to take vital signs and a patient history, guiding them in independent research projects, and assisting with clinical skills workshops. Her master's thesis was on catheter-directed thrombolysis for management of clinically significant pulmonary embolism.

After graduation, she will be working in the Medical Intensive Care Unit at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut.



Alumni Speaker

ANDREW MAYER, PA-C, '18 M.S.P.A.S.

Andrew Mayer is in the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Physician Extender Development Program at Brown University. In this year-long program, he is learning about the emergency management of different cases and teams, including child protective services, pediatric intensive care and surgery.

Mayer graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Fitness Nutrition and Exercise Science in 2014 from City University of New York at Queens College. He competed on the Queens College cross country/track and field team and was an All Conference Athlete. After graduation, he became a certified emergency medical technician at SeniorCare Emergency Medical Services for one year before shadowing at Comprehensive Medical Services in Lynbrook, New York — experiences that solidified his choice to pursue physician assistant studies.

At JWU, Mayer focused his master's thesis on the use of buprenorphine in the treatment of neonatal abstinence syndrome. When his physician extender program ends in August, he has been offered a full-time position in the emergency medicine department at Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence.

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Joseph J. Greene Jr. '89, '98 M.S., CPA, treasurer and chief financial officer

Emily A. Gilcreast, B.S., university secretary



Diplomas will be awarded upon completion of all university requirements.

The commencement program listing contains the names of students meeting eligibility criteria and submitted for publication as of April 26, 2019. Names that are printed in the commencement program should not be used as an indicator of degree completion. Students must satisfy all graduation requirements before officially graduating and receiving a diploma.



For the safety of everyone in attendance and to comply with local fire department regulations, guests are requested to remain in their seats during the program.

After the ceremony, guests may join the graduates outside of the Xavier Academic Complex. For your convenience, the commencement ceremony is being professionally photographed (and videotaped) by Grad Images®. For information on ordering photos (or a DVD of the ceremony), please contact Grad Images® at 800-261-2576 or online at gradimages.com. Grad Images® has agreed to provide a free 5x7 of the graduate's choice to each graduate that provides his/her email and mailing address to Grad Images®. The ceremony is also being streamed live at <http://portal.stretchinternet.com/jwuri>.

Symbols of Commencement

UNIVERSITY SEAL

The university seal represents Johnson & Wales University's roots. The year at the top of the shield, 1914, is the year that the university was founded by Gertrude I. Johnson and Mary T. Wales. The dragon of St. George on the upper portion of the crest honors the Wales family, while the lower portion of the crest bears the cross of St. John and honors the Johnson family.

MACE

The Johnson & Wales University mace symbolizes the ideals and values of JWU's educational philosophy. Cast of silver and bronze, it is engraved with the names of our chancellors, past and present. Our campus locations are engraved on the golden bands. On ceremonial occasions, university officials carry the mace to display the unity and continuity of Johnson & Wales University.

The mace dates to medieval times, when it was first used as a weapon. Forbidden to use swords, medieval European bishops were allowed to enter battle with a mace — typically an iron or steel club designed to split armor. By the 16th century, the mace had become a symbol of authority that colleges and universities began using ceremonially. That tradition continues today, and the mace is carried as part of formal academic occasions like these at colleges and universities across the globe.

ACADEMIC DRESS

The tradition of wearing distinctive dress for academic reasons dates back to the Middle Ages. Today, academic costumes are usually worn in the United States by people participating in academic ceremonies.

The faculty and platform party wear regalia representative of the degrees they possess.

HOODS

Originating from the cowls of monastic orders, the hoods are the most distinctive part of the academic regalia. Their shape and size indicate the level of degree attained, and the colors reflect both the academic field as well as the institution that granted the degree.

The fields of study most frequently represented in academic processions are the following:

FIELD OF STUDY	COLOR
Arts, Letters, Humanities	White
Business, Commerce	Nugget
Education	Light Blue
Fine Arts	Brown
Law	Purple
Physician Assistant Studies	Green
Social Work	Citron

CAPS

There is more variety in the shape and color of academic hats than in any other area. Master's and doctoral degree recipients wear the tassel on the left throughout the ceremony, and the doctoral soft-cap often features a gold tassel.

To attendees of this event:

Johnson & Wales University has hired professional photographers/videographers to capture images of this graduation for use in educational and promotional materials. Attendance at this event constitutes each individual's consent to Johnson & Wales University to have their image and voice recorded and retransmitted for any and all purposes at the university's discretion. *If you do not agree with the foregoing, please see a university special events staff member.*