

OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE
STATE UNIVERSITY

Commencement 2023

CARL WOOTEN FIELD
ANCHOR D STADIUM
GOODWELL, OKLAHOMA

MAY 12, 2023

9:00 AM



2023 COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

- *Musical Prelude. *Encanto*
by Robert W. Smith
- *Musical Prelude. *March from 1941*
by John Williams
- *Processional. *Pomp and Circumstance*
by Edward Elgar
Concert Band—Mr. David Vaughn, Director
- *Presentation of Colors. Guymon Fire Department
- **The Star-Spangled Banner* Francis Scott Key
- *The OPSU *Alma Mater*—Crimson and Blue Milton Bradley
Chamber Singers—Mr. David Vaughn, Director
- *Invocation Mrs. MaKenze Anderson
Methodist Student Center, Goodwell
- Welcome Dr. Julie Dinger
President
- Greetings from the Oklahoma A&M Regents Mr. Jason Ramsey
CEO
- Greetings from the Student Government Association. Mr. Jesus Mesta
2022-2023 President
- Introduction of 2023 Commencement Speaker. Dr. Julie Dinger
- Commencement Address. Mrs. Jana Wallace
CEO, PTCI
- Presentation of J. R. P. Sewell Award Mrs. Laura Hutchinson
Dean, Student Affairs
- Welcome by Panhandle State Association of Alumni and Friends..Mrs. Katie Quebedeaux
Association President
- Certification of Candidates Dr. Theresa Billiot
Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs
- Conferral of Degrees. Dr. Julie Dinger
- Presentation of the Class of 2023. Mrs. Virginia Cruz
Director, Hispanic Student Center
- *Benediction. Mrs. MaKenze Anderson
- *Recessional. *Fanfare and Recessional*
by Edward Elgar

***PLEASE STAND**

one

JANA WALLACE

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Jana Wallace is the chief executive officer of Panhandle Telephone Cooperative, Inc. and its subsidiary Panhandle Telecommunication Systems, Inc., serving customers with landline, wireless, and high-speed broadband services in the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles.

With over 29 years of service at PTCI, Wallace is a seasoned executive in the telecommunications industry. She is involved in advocacy and policy efforts through active roles on several boards, including the board of OTA, the Oklahoma Rural Telecommunications Coalition, the Rural Broadband Association Innovation and Business Opportunity, and Smart Rural Community Committees. She also served as president of the Oklahoma Rural Broadband Association and of the national Rural Wireless Association and is past president of the Panhandle Regional Economic Development Coalition, Inc.

Jana graduated from OPSU in 1996 with a degree in business administration. She and her husband, Monte, have three children: Grayson, Gannon, and Greer. During football season, you can find them in the tailgate zone cheering on the Aggies.

As the fifth generation of her family to call the Oklahoma panhandle home, Jana has a deep sense of pride and respect for the people and accomplishments of our region.

BOARD OF REGENTS FOR THE OKLAHOMA

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Mrs. Laura Hutchinson	Dean, Student Affairs
Mrs. Virginia Cruz	Director, Hispanic Student Center

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

2022-2023

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE, AND NURSING

Mr. Tracy Kincannon, Dean

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

AGRIBUSINESS

Eli Braden Barger, *cum laude*

Chase Douglas Becker

Rylee Nicole Brock

Kristin Ashlee Brown, *cum laude*

Dakota DyAnn Cook

Kelly Ann Darnell

Charmane Gouldy-Myers

Ariel Nicole Hickey

Andrew Vincent Keathley

Denver Rae McGill

Faith Nicole McKenzie, *magna cum laude*

Carl McKenzie

Johanna Mergelman

Caleb Michael Newell, *magna cum laude*

Colee Rae Pehl

Wade William Pettijohn, *magna cum laude*

Rillie Lynn Ratliff

Kyle Reid

Douglas Reece Reynolds

Ayvree AnnMarie Smith

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

AGRIBUSINESS (CONT.)

Jebidiah Wyatt Stubbs

James Wilder Syzamore

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Skyla Jones

Abigail Rogers

Harlee Ann Wiggins, *summa cum laude*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

AGRONOMY

Daralyn Marina Bergin

Braelen Fisher

Mary Lee Graham, *summa cum laude*

Kaden William Kemp

Abigail Rogers

Tristen Michael Roll, *cum laude*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ANIMAL SCIENCE

McKenna Brennan

Rylee Nicole Brock

Kyle Lee Cavender, *cum laude*

Ry Thomas Albert Clark

Brielee Cathryn Daniell, *magna cum laude*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ANIMAL SCIENCE (CONT.)

Caryn Jewel Dodson

Joseph Harper

Tyriek Kimble

Faith Nicole McKenzie, *magna cum laude*

Johanna Mergelman

Mia Catherine Moore, *magna cum laude*

Wade William Pettijohn, *magna cum laude*

Rillie Lynn Ratliff

Bailey Lane Small

Shirley Kailee D'Shawn Smith

Jebidiah Wyatt Stubbs

Harlee Lace Voss

Harlee Ann Wiggins, *summa cum laude*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Hannah Alvarez

Lorenzo Amador

Claric Catherine Cain

Bianca Maria Camello

Cooper Laine Davis, *cum laude*

Ebony Rene Dykes, *cum laude*

Logan Denzel Elliott, *summa cum laude*

Tessa Michelle Francoise

Zoe Ann Fry

Tatum Chaleigh Hall

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE (CONT.)

Jose Jaregui

Faith Nicole McKenzie, *magna cum laude*

Maria Ortiz Medrano

Mia Catherine Moore, *magna cum laude*

Alexander Murrillo

Rayne Cruz Quinones

Gloris Lizbeth Villa

Mariana Williams, *magna cum laude*

Christian Wiman

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

MATHEMATICS

Nancy Melendez

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

NURSING

Mesa Briane Adams, *cum laude*

Vera Ambo

Kaleb Leroy Anderson

Megan Leigh Bailey

Valerie Alese Baker

Christine Marie Baker

Luz Alejandra Barboza Figueroa

Megan Bartels

James E. Barton, *cum laude*

Sydney Batson

Kandi Lea Bell, *magna cum laude*

Victoria Jolee Blemmel, *cum laude*

Heather Ruth Brewer

Kadi Jo Brewer

Michelle Cruz Bridges, *summa cum laude*

Kelly Jo Briggs, *magna cum laude*

Mary Allison Bryant

Tracey Anne Burrows

Makenzie Nicole Buse

Joanne Deana Butler

Tamara Julene Carter

Marc David Casinillo

Angela Chappell

Evangeline Chia

Maritza Del Carmen Colindres

Bria Conner, *magna cum laude*

Alicia Elizabeth Cupps, *cum laude*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

NURSING (CONT.)

Sandra Dale

Kailee Daun Daney, *cum laude*

Samantha Davis

Ricky Caleb Dennis, *cum laude*

Cole Michael Disney, *cum laude*

Krista Michelle Doan

Kymerley Daniéll Dragoo-Strange

Cassie Erwin

Victoria Irene Fletcher

Mariah Marie Fonville

Stacey June Fort

Isaiah Alexander Frye

Caylee N. Fulp

Valerie Lee Gilstrap

Robert Fox Glander, *magna cum laude*

Aambrea Faye Glodo

Chalin Nicole Graham

Farrah Dawn Green, *summa cum laude*

Deirdre Kaye Grimmitt

Kensy Jo Grissom

Emily Rae Grubbs

Lenora Mae Hadley

Paris Taylor Haines

Adrienne Kathyleen Harjo

Tanya Lynn Harris

Jessica Faye Herrin

Kathryne Lynne Hilmes, *magna cum laude*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

NURSING (CONT.)

Melanie Impson

Lacey Bernice Ives

Shaylee Ann Johnson

Charity Renee Johnson

Megan Mary Keim

Gage Cameron Kennedy

Faye Lyn Ketcher, *magna cum laude*

Taylor Michelle Khaki-Rains

Tamara Jo Kusser

Jennifer Ann Laizure

Rachelle Deann Larson

Tristan Leighnor

Ashley Renee Lewer

Irma Kathryn Angela McKenzie

Rani Lynn Melvin

Jade Elaine Moon

Amanda Taylor Nakvinda

Kristy Lynn Neely

Natisha Lee Nelson

Tilly Rae Nelson, *magna cum laude*

Valerie Kay Newkirk

Phi Nguyen, *cum laude*

Esther Ijeoma Okoro

Jennifer Erin Oldham

Cecily Ann Olvera

Patrick Kuranchie Owusu, *cum laude*

Hunter Bryce Pennington

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

NURSING (CONT.)

Jamee Perez, *cum laude*

Kaylun Larae Peters

Lauri Philpot

Rachel Pritchett

Stephanie Ann Ramsey

Harli Ridling

Brya Jenee' Roberts

Casey Jean Ruiz

Michael Heath Salsbury, *cum laude*

Jamie Lynn Sanderson

Ariel Beth Schoenecke

Rodney Daniel Shepherd

Hannah Nicole Silcott, *cum laude*

Tori Jean Simmons

Joshua Singer

Alexis Raechelle Smith, *cum laude*

Travis Lee Snow

Courtney Jane Soltero

Hannah Sontag, *summa cum laude*

Mary Sparks

Tracey Diane Stelly

Rebekkah Stone

Stephanie Talley

Vanessa Elizabeth Thomas

Tiffany Leigh Thomas, *magna cum laude*

Hannah Paige Thompson, *cum laude*

Callie Ann Troglin, *summa cum laude*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

NURSING (CONT.)

Salett Yvonne Tunley

Brittney Rae Vaughan

Adriana Velazquez

Ashton Nichole Vierus, *summa cum laude*

Kelly Vinson

Ashley Kay Walker

Karen Annette Wells

Zoey Wheeler

Michael Douglas White

Madison White

LauraLee Belloe Willcox, *summa cum laude*

Chelsea Jo Williams

Bethany Lynn Wilson

Taurie M. Workman

Lucero Zapata

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

Dr. Patrick Maille, Dean

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ENGLISH

Veronica Simone Ray, *magna cum laude*

BACHELOR OF ARTS

HISTORY

Jonathan Hunter Applebury

Silvia Lizeth Luna Jacquez

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

ART

Fernando Betancourt

Abigail Rochelle Colten, *magna cum laude*

Hope Elizabeth Luttrell

Carly Pryor

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Carlie Joann Murley

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Lorenzo Bachicha

Parker Boles

Lane Field

Julian Raul Jimenez

Evan William Meashaw, *cum laude*

Jimmy Lee Smith, *magna cum laude*

Sharon Torres

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Casie Faye Campbell

Michele Rene' Cox, *cum laude*

Dianne Garcia, *cum laude*

Lucero Loreda-Mendoza, *cum laude*

Carrie Faye Mathis, *magna cum laude*

Alisha Ann Minter, *suma cum laude*

Jennifer Rae Perkins, *magna cum laude*

Ashley Price

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Leonardo Ferreira Pinto Amaral, *cum laude*

Johnathan Hunter Applebury

Jaishone S. Brown

Payton Scott Brown, *cum laude*

Rebecca Candido

Cheslon Lee Carrollisen

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (CONT.)

Ja'Quavion Z. Daniels

RayQuan L. Elliott

Benanao Fernandez

Kendal Layne Henson

Tateum CheyeAnn Jones

Willie McCline

Justin Andrew Romel Pile

Clay Purnell

Yeimy Ramirez

Zoë Alexandra Salazar

Alejandro Salazar

Joshua Nathaniel Sanchez, *magna cum laude*

Clayton Kent Stallones

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

PSYCHOLOGY

Jade Velicity Adan

Parker Boles

Sarah Kathleen Conley, *cum laude*

Ebony Rene Dykes, *cum laude*

Quentin Dean Fankhouser

Lesly Galarza, *cum laude*

Lena Ernestina Garcia Diodosio

Julian Raul Jimenez

Sarah Amanda Landara, *magna cum laude*

Jared Perdue

Jimmy Lee Smith, *magna cum laude*

Joshua Christopher Stullivan

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Karen Goosen, Dean

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

ACCOUNTING

Evelyn Guerrero, *magna cum laude*

Jonathan Guzman, *cum laude*

Drew Houfek, *magna cum laude*

Catarina Guadalupe Tum Garcia

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Melissa Caitlin Amos, *cum laude*

Kalum Anchondo

Camryn Paige Ansley

Haylee Noelle Behne

Angelica Chavez

Cristina Chavez

Christopher Kyle Daley

Luis Dernas

Kate Lenore Dickinson

Jena Fankhouser

Sierra Fearn

Traegan Devada Flanagan

Christopher Adrian Gomez

Evelyn Guerrero, *magna cum laude*

Jonathan Guzman, *cum laude*

Kelsey Nicole Hallin, *cum laude*

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (CONT.)

Kearston Janae McCain, *magna cum laude*

Jeremy Mendenhall

Zachary Wayne Miller

Danny Millis, *summa cum laude*

Sarai Ortega

Johanna Elizabeth Quintero

Marco Antonio Ramos

Kathy Janett Rosas

Laky Da Graca Samo

Annica Witt Slater

Anna Grace Soza, *magna cum laude*

Ntandoyenkosi Peace Tshuma

Damon Craig Walkup

Essence Marie West

Astrid Keily Fabiola Zamudio García

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Nora Paulina Castillo, *cum laude*

Kaleb Ray Dawkins

Bilal Mohamed

Cody James Pierce

Jayden Valdez, *magna cum laude*

Stephen James Webb

BACHELOR OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Alfred Yassir Alkannama, *magna cum laude*

Enrique Alvidrez, Jr., *cum laude*

Mitchell Gregory Bazzell

Lance Mark Coronado, *cum laude*

Christopher Lewis

Jasper Reed Painter

Rebecca Andrea Vargas, *cum laude*

ASSOCIATE DEGREES

2022-2023

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE, AND NURSING

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

AGRICULTURE

Michael Ayol

McKenna Brennan

Rylee Nicole Brock

Ry Thomas Albert Clark

Brielee Cathryn Daniell

Caryn Jewel Dodson

Carl McKenzie

Faith Nicole McKenzie

Johanna Mergelman

Tristin Niccoli

Wade Pettijohn

Rillie Lynn Ratliff

Buster Roy Reis

Shirley Kailee D'Shawn Smith

Jebidiah Wyatt Stubbs

James Wilder Syzamore

Seth Dawson Wallace

Harlee Ann Wiggins

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

GENERAL STUDIES

Nathan Baker

Katelin Berry

Taylor Blanton

Brisa Elizabeth Chavez-Fernandez

Ja'Quavion Z. Daniels

Khaleb Diaz-Alvarez

Logan Elliot

Delaney Eskew

Kenna Lynn Garcia

Gage Gonzales

Bianca Gonzalez

Darius Grays

Braden Greene

Kyleigh Grove

Kathryne Lynne Hilmes

Dylan Hughs

Julian Raul Jimenez

Kadence Kunselman

Joelle Lydia Laforce

Tara Miller Lakely

Yvonne Landeros

Ashley Renee Lewer

Kohley Longmeyer

Ariel Orta Mata

Emma Kaitlynn Montgomery

Carlie Joann Murley

Thy Ngoc Quynh Nguyen

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

GENERAL STUDIES (CONT.)

Clay Purnell

Brandon Rodriguez

Britney Webb

Addison Williams

Tierra Williams

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Ryan Nathaniel Acosta

Nathan Alvarado

Kevin Andres Brekke

Jennifer Lynn Costner

Charlie Hardman

Carlos Gabino Joaquin Sabino

Dillon Rhae Lester

Sarai Ortega

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Jordin Hunter

CERTIFICATE

TECHNOLOGY IN EMS/HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

David Adrian Salcedo

CERTIFICATE

WIND ENERGY AND MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY

Rebecca Andrea Vargas

BACCALAUREATE GRADUATION

WITH ACADEMIC HONORS

Special recognition at graduation is provided for students with outstanding academic records. Graduates who have achieved academic excellence receive a gold cord symbolizing the excellence of the achievement. The cord indicates *cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, or *summa cum laude*. Distinctions for the corresponding grade point averages appear below. Graduation honors with an asterisk are contingent upon spring and/or summer 2022 semester grades.

<i>cum laude</i>	3.50 to 3.74
<i>magna cum laude</i>	3.75 to 3.99
<i>summa cum laude</i>	4.00

PARTICIPATION REGALIA

Blue and Gold Cord	Alpha Zeta
Red Cord	Chi Sigma Alpha
Light Blue Cord	Teacher Education Candidate
Green and White Cord	Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature
Serape Stole	Hispanic American Leadership Organization
Navy, White, Red Cord	First Generation
White Stole with Blue Trim	Student Ambassador
Red Embroidered Stole	Cherokee Nation Oklahoma
Silver Stole	Early College High School

MARSHALS

USHERS

Kyrstan Cook
 Daniel De Mello
 Regina Mejia Medina

Emily Robertson
 Sydnee Roth

Academic dress worn today originated in 12th century Europe when the ordinary dress of the student and teacher was that of the cleric. Long gowns may have been necessary for warmth in unheated buildings. In the 14th century, statutes of several colleges required the wearing of gowns. While European institutions have had great diversity in academic dress, American colleges and institutions have developed a fairly standardized system. The Intercollegiate Commission established regulations in 1895 which prescribed the cut, style, material, and colors of academic dress. Committees authorized by the Academic Council on Education received and modified the code in 1932, 1959, and 1986.

A doctor's degree gown is trimmed with black velvet facing down the front and three bars of velvet across the sleeves. The sleeves are large and bell-shaped at the wrist. Its hood is the longest of all hoods at four feet while the master's hood is shorter. The color of the hood's lining represents the official colors of the university conferring the degree, and the binding or edging of the hood indicates the color of the discipline of the granted degree. The dark blue trim of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) represents the mastery of the discipline of learning and scholarship in a field; it does not necessarily represent the field of philosophy. The tassel on the cap may be gold or the color appropriate to the discipline. Material for the gowns and their hoods varies with climate but is usually black.

The oblong sleeves of the master's degree gown open at the wrist. Velvet does not trim this gown, but it does have a hood with appropriate colors.

A bachelor's gown has untrimmed, pointed sleeves. Although it may be worn with a hood, many American universities have abandoned this practice. The most common form of cap worn with the bachelor's gown—the mortarboard—carries either a black tassel or the appropriate color for the discipline.

The list below indicates the tassel colors appropriate for this commencement.

Accounting, Business	Drab
Agriculture	Maize
Humanities	White
Education	Light Blue
Fine Arts	Brown
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Physical Education	Sage Green
Science	Golden Yellow

Source: Academic Costume Code of the American Council on Education

OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE STATE UNIVERSITY

A BRIEF HISTORY

Oklahoma Panhandle State University's mission is to provide higher education for the Oklahoma Panhandle and surrounding areas through academic programs, cultural enrichment, life-long learning experiences, and public service activities. Educational experiences enrich students and prepare them for roles in agriculture, business, education, government, and industry.

The Panhandle State campus comprises 131 acres. The farm encompasses 1,900 acres including 450 acres of cultivated land. The original 80-acre site cost \$2,400.00 in 1909. Panhandle State averages 1,300 students and has 160 personnel. The Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges governs the University. The accrediting body is the Higher Learning Commission.

Originally known as Pan-Handle Agricultural Institute, it offered secondary agricultural education beginning November 1, 1909, with 57 students; the first enrollee was Flora Elswick. Most males lived in tents in an area named "Rag Town." Some students lived in a hotel—the local bank's second floor. Others boarded with local families or commuted by train, horse, or buggy. Two instructors and President Sanders W. Black donated books for a library. Built in 1910, Old Hesper Hall and Franklin Hall (now on the National Register of Historic Places) were the first buildings. The initial commencement in 1911 graduated four students. Now, Panhandle State graduates about 280 students yearly.

In 1921, Oklahoma allowed a two-year college curriculum and changed the name to Panhandle Agricultural and Mechanical College. The State Board of Agriculture granted permission for upper-level collegiate courses in 1925. Since then, two name changes have occurred: Oklahoma Panhandle State College of Agriculture and Applied Science (1967) and Oklahoma Panhandle State University (1974).

As a result of its mission, Panhandle State monitors educational needs in the state and region and responds appropriately. At the institution's beginning, President Black once claimed: "Methinks that great men and women will go out from this school." He was correct.

Oklahoma Panhandle State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Catherine Kimball, Title IX (sex), Office: SL 125, Telephone: 580.349.1574; Laci Unruh, Section 504/ADA (disabilities), Office: ML 107B, Telephone: 580.349.1556.



OKLAHOMA
PANHANDLE STATE
UNIVERSITY