

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

MAY 9, 2023



DOCTORAL HOODING CEREMONY

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023

3:00 P.M.

Brooks Center for the Performing Arts
Clemson, South Carolina

ORDER OF CEREMONIES

PROCESSIONAL

Stage Party

NATIONAL ANTHEM

(Please stand as you are able)

OPENING OF CEREMONY

Kristine Vernon
University Marshal

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

John Lopes
Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

GRADUATE ADDRESS

Nicholas Gregorich
Ph.D. Candidate: Chemical Engineering
Selected by the Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Advisory Committee

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Natasha Croom
Associate Dean of the Graduate School
(See page 4 for recipients)

REMARKS

John Lopes
Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School
and
Robert H. Jones
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

President James P. Clements

ALMA MATER

(See page 27 for lyrics;
please stand as you are able and remain standing for the recessional of the stage party)

Please remember to mute your phone during the ceremony.

Click or tap the name of a person on this page to see more information.

Today's ceremony is being streamed live with captioning at <https://tv.clemson.edu>. The recording will be posted on Clemson's YouTube page.

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Melissa C. Smith
Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence – Graduate

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David A. Bruce Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Jesus M. de la Garza School of Civil and Environmental
Engineering and Earth Sciences
Brian Dean School of Computing
Hai Xiao Electrical and Computer Engineering
Cindy M. Lee Engineering and Science Education
R. Joe Watkins General Engineering
Kevin M. Taaffe Industrial Engineering
Kyle S. Brinkman Materials Science and Engineering
Zoran Filipi School of Mechanical
and Automotive Engineering

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Space Optimization and Faculty Affairs

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Sean D. Brittain Physics and Astronomy

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

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Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

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Associate Dean

Brian N. Dominy
Associate Dean

Marieke Van Puymbroeck
Associate Dean

William G. Ferrell
Associate Dean

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Abi Roberts, Vice President

2022-2023 AWARDS IN GRADUATE EDUCATION

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant

Ali Shirzadi Babakan
Business Administration

Blake Splitter
Mathematical Sciences

Outstanding Researchers

Olivia McAnirlin
Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management

Haonan Wu
Physics

Distinguished Doctoral Mentoring

Marco Ajello
Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy

William C. Norman
Professor, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management

Distinguished Graduate Student Support Staff Award

Tonyia Stewart
Student Services Manager, College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Science

Norsaadah Husain International Graduate Student Support Award

Diana Vanegas
Assistant Professor, Environmental Engineering and Earth Science

Phil and Mary Bradley Graduate Student Award for Mentoring in Creative Inquiry

Vishal Manjunatha
Food, Nutrition and Packaging Science

DOCTORAL PIN

Earning a doctoral degree is never easy. Finishing a program in the midst of a global pandemic is truly remarkable.

To honor the extraordinary dedication and achievement of today's graduates, each one will receive a lapel pin designed for our doctoral graduates.

The pin features a block "C" logo that was in use in 1955 when Clemson offered its first doctoral degree program. Across the C are three stripes like the ones graduates are wearing on their sleeves today.



DOCTORAL HOODING

The doctoral hood is a symbolic honor of distinction bestowed upon scholars who have attained the highest level of formal education available in the world, representing a typical range of five to seven years of study beyond the bachelor's degree. Clemson's 46-inch-long doctoral hood is usually draped over the shoulders by the faculty member who, as chair of the advisory committee, has formally mentored and guided the student's research and education.

The University has
named "Clemson purple"
Regalia in a nod to these
stately gowns.

You will note that faculty members are wearing gowns, caps and hoods of many colors and designs. These academic costumes of medieval origin are, for faculty with degrees from U.S. institutions, specified by a uniform code maintained by the American Council on Education. Caps are black and are usually mortar boards or tams with tassels. Doctors of philosophy wear gold tassels usually of metallic thread; those with other degrees wear black or discipline colors. Those who have received their degrees from institutions outside the United States wear regalia specified by the awarding institutions.

Doctors' gowns are full, with bell-like sleeves. The front is bordered with velvet panels and the sleeves are marked by three velvet bars. While some gowns are black with black velvet, one variation is to replace black velvet with velvet in the discipline color. A second variation is a colored gown usually of the university's colors.

All hoods specify the level of degree, the type of discipline studied and the awarding institution. The width of the velvet trim conveys the degree. In addition, the degree is indicated by the color of the trim edging the hood to form the throat over the gown. The most frequently seen color is dark blue, which designates the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree. Finally, the color of the hood's lining is specific to the awarding institution. The colors are displayed in combinations that are drawn from heraldry. Notice that the Clemson University hood is lined with purple through which is an orange chevron (a "V"). Although many combinations are duplicated by dozens of institutions, Clemson is presently the only institution with that registered combination of purple and orange.

The officers, trustees and honored guests wear academic, ecclesiastical or military regalia as set forth by their professions. The president of Clemson University wears a purple gown with four velvet bars piped in orange and the University seal embroidered on the panels. Each trustee wears a similar gown with three velvet bars piped in orange for doctorates and an embroidered palmetto tree on each sleeve for those who do not hold doctorates. Trustee hoods are either from Clemson or from the awarding school.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF GRADUATE EDUCATION AND THE GRADUATE SCHOOL AT CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

[Clemson's faculty] would engage in original and important research, by which knowledge would be increased, whilst the immediate objects... would be the diffusion of facts on all scientific subjects. It would be vain to attempt to fix a limit to the benefits that would thus be conferred upon mankind and their effects upon society...
– THOMAS GREEN CLEMSON¹

In conceptualizing a “high seminary of learning” for South Carolina, Thomas Green Clemson knowingly set the stage for graduate education to emerge as an engine of economic development in the state. Graduate education quickly became synonymous with the application of theory to improving the practices of education and agriculture. The analysis of fertilizer, a contracted activity of the chemistry department that began in the late 1930s, would help restore depleted South Carolina soils, increase agricultural production, and spur a rapid development in opportunities for students at Clemson College to study beyond the baccalaureate degree.

Graduate coursework initially responded to the needs of veterans and to the interests of teachers wanting to improve their classroom skills, but also – from its inception – attracted international students' attention. On June 3, 1924, Patrick Hobson of Sandy Springs, South Carolina, earned the first master's degree awarded at Clemson. He used his degree in vocational education to serve as a high school principal and later as superintendent of schools in York County, South Carolina and Mitchell County, North Carolina. The third graduate degree, a master's in textile industrial education awarded to Ko-Chia Li from Mukden, China, on June 1, 1926, initiated an enrollment trend that has catapulted China to its status as the number-one sending country for international graduate students for many years. Mr. Li returned to China and taught as a professor of textile engineering at Peking University, and served as head of the construction department in LiaoBei Province.

From 1938 until 1945, all aspects of graduate education (courses, programs, policies, procedures, admission, and graduation) developed under the auspices of the Committee on Graduate Instruction, chaired by F. H. H. Calhoun, Dean of the School of Chemistry and Geology. Twice during these years, the University's attempts to formalize graduate education were thwarted because of the challenges to the Committee to maintain the necessary standards of quality. Clemson faculty recognized early that to establish a graduate program that enabled Clemson alumni to enroll would require strengthening the undergraduate curriculum and courses to prevent knowledge gaps “between the two.”²

On March 14, 1945, President Poole received the Committee's resolution requesting the appointment of a Dean of the Graduate School. It had been ascertained by that time that 19 courses could be offered immediately by the schools of agriculture, chemistry, engineering, textiles, and arts and sciences. On July 27, 1946, the Board of Trustees approved the Committee's proposed graduate program of study and, that fall, formally admitted the first class of students into “the Graduate School.” However, it would not be until June 15, 1951, that Herbert J. Webb, Chair of the Department of Chemistry and Toxicology, was appointed as the first Dean of the Graduate School.

Masterfully stewarded by President Poole himself and modeled initially after several prestigious southern institutions, Clemson's graduate programs grew cautiously but steadily, introducing the first doctoral degree, in plant pathology, in 1955. Today, the Graduate School proudly enrolls more than 5,000 graduate students and is committed to continued growth at both the master's and doctoral levels.

1. Holmes, A. and G. R. Sherrill. *Thomas Green Clemson: His Life and Work*. 1937, p. 129.

2. Clemson University Library System archives. *Minutes of the Committee on Graduate Instruction, 1945-1953*, p. 7.

GRADUATE ADDRESS

NICHOLAS GREGORICH CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Speech Delivered at the Doctoral Hooding Ceremony, May 9, 2023



Good afternoon, everyone. I am honored to be sharing this stage with the doctoral class of Spring 2023. Our journeys to this stage come in all different shapes and sizes, and I am here to tell you mine was far from perfect. Nine years ago, I was working the deli counter at an Italian market slicing cold cuts in the Detroit metropolitan area without a college degree and a lot of uncertainty towards my future and what life had in store for me. I had just been placed on mandatory leave from The University of Michigan for a fourth time and struggled horribly with my mental well-being. It was during this time, I fortunately fell into a community of support from unlikely sources, people who didn't share my background or identities, who embraced me and my disabilities at this stage in life. That disability being sensorineural hearing loss, or partial deafness from birth.

With the encouragement and support of a close mentor, I decided to give college one last try. I excelled in my coursework, and during that transformative semester a close friend put me in contact with the owner of a research-based company in Detroit. Despite my glowing 2.2 GPA and an attractive work experience that included line cook at the popular fast-food chain Hardee's and raking sand bunkers at a golf club, I became the company's first intern.

Working under a research mentor at this internship inspired me to get my PhD in chemical engineering. I found my way here to Clemson University and hold much pride in knowing I will forever be part of the Clemson Tigers family.

One of the biggest themes that encapsulates a doctoral experience is venturing into the unknown. We enrolled in graduate school to undertake a research project investigating an area of research no one has considered or published before. Many times during this journey, I asked myself if the research was going to work out. Am I capable of doing this successfully? Will my research matter? Overcoming beliefs I had about myself as a researcher were at the core of a transformation I experienced with this degree.

My PhD advisor accepted me into his research group under his mentorship and molded me into a stronger, more capable researcher and communicator of science. This did not come without many trials and tribulations. This same narrative applies to everyone sharing this moment here today. Our advisors identified our potential as doctoral students and created amazing opportu-



A PHOTO SLIDESHOW OF THE MAY 2023 DOCTORAL CLASS
Click or tap the image to view the slideshow, or go to bit.ly/may23slideshow
Please remember to mute your phone during the ceremony.

nities for us moving forward because they saw the best in us. It was during those late nights in the lab, when we would rather be sleeping that we truly ventured into the unknown and bridged a gap in research. A gap no one else thought was possible. We bought into something we couldn't see and proved to ourselves in that moment that we are both proficient and capable of creating original, innovative ideas.

One of my favorite quotes by Wayne Dyer I truly appreciate is that "ducks quack and eagles soar." Ducks quack and complain. Eagles soar high above the crowd and elevate those around them. To me, that is leadership. As first-year graduate students, our advisors inspired us by believing in our abilities as researchers. Their guidance and mentorship elevated us to a new standard, and fostered growth that ultimately molded us into better people. I am inspired by the idea that while I am venturing into the unknown again and again, I am both tried and tested. We've proven to ourselves and our peers that we can create novel areas of research and discovery. We are capable of being successful in any new challenge we face, knowing that we proved it to ourselves during this transformative experience, and not just to our doctoral committees. You are now part of a whole graduating class who's doing it with you in stride as we leave this ceremony today.

We all come from diverse backgrounds, experienced different hardships, yet believed in ourselves, and made our mark on research. We rose to the occasion, and after many hard years are here together, sharing this special moment and celebrating an incredible achievement. Although the long journey as doctoral students at Clemson ends today, I see this as a first step to our next journey. A journey where it is now our turn to soar as eagles and elevate those around us. It's on us to encourage the generations that follow and inspire them to achieve as they venture into the unknown. Congratulations to everyone, thank you to the families and friends here today, and go Tigers!

CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTORAL DEGREE

John Lopes, Dean of the Graduate School

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND LIFE SCIENCES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Entomology

Matthew Brown Hendersonville, TN

B.S., Tennessee Tech University; M.S., Tennessee State University

Dissertation: Developing a Cultural Management Approach to Bermudagrass Mite (Acari: Eriophyidae) Infestation

Adviser: Dr. Juang Chong

Food, Nutrition, and Packaging Sciences

Ahmet Buyukyavuz Clemson, SC

B.S., Ataturk University; M.S., Clemson University

Dissertation: Filth Flies as a Vector for Some Pathogenic Bacteria Transfer

Adviser: Dr. Paul Dawson

Ahmet has accepted a postdoctoral position at Clemson University.

Plant and Environmental Sciences

Hope Renfro Becton Milan, TN

B.S., University of Tennessee at Martin; M.S., Mississippi State University

Dissertation: Epidemiological Approaches for Practical Solutions to Pertinent Peanut Problems

Adviser: Dr. Dan Anco

Hope was a recipient of the 2022-2023 Wade Stackhouse Fellowship. She has one peer-reviewed publication and one manuscript under review.

Sarah Katherine Holladay Florence, SC

B.S., Francis Marion University; M.S., Clemson University

Dissertation: Planting Date, Seed Size, and Maturity Effects on Cotton and Soybean Growth and Yield in South Carolina

Advisers: Dr. Michael Plumblee, Dr. Michael Jones

Sarah won first place at the 2022 CAFLS Graduate Student Research Symposium for her poster presentation and second place at the 2023 Beltwide Cotton Conferences for her oral presentation. She plans to accept a postdoctoral position at the USDA-ARS in Florence, South Carolina.

Christianah Tinuola Oladoye Osogbo, Nigeria

B.Agric., Obafemi Awolowo University; M.Phil., Obafemi Awolowo University

Dissertation: Influence of Cover Cropping and Nitrogen Fertilization on Soil Properties and Cotton Productivity

Advisers: Dr. Bhupinder S. Farmaha, Dr. Michael W. Marshall

Christianah is the recipient of multiple honors, including the 2022 Corteva DELTA grant, the Wade Stackhouse Fellowship from 2021-2023, and first place in the American Society of Agronomy photo contest. She was an honoree in recognition of Black History Month by the Soil Science Society of America. She has presented her works at symposiums, farmers' field days, and annual international meetings. She will work in the horticulture and plant sciences industry

Wildlife and Fisheries Biology

- Matthew William Green Clemmons, NC
B.A., North Carolina State University; M.S., Appalachian State University
Dissertation: Revision, Description, and Diagnosis of Adult and Larval Pycnopsyche Spp. (Trichoptera: Limnephilidae) Using Morphological and Molecular Methods
Advisers: Dr. Catherine Bodinof Jachowski, Dr. John C. Morse
Matthew has five peer-reviewed publications and a monograph in preparation. He is currently a benthic ecologist in the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's biological assessment branch.
- Alex Joseph Jensen Lompoc, CA
B.S., University of California, Santa Barbara; M.S., California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Dissertation: Top Down Effects and Resource Selection by Coyotes in South Carolina
Adviser: Dr. David S. Jachowski
Alex has accepted a postdoctoral position at NC State and is excited about being a professor in the coming years.
- Michael Shawn Muthersbaugh Troy, NY
B.S., Gordon College; M.S., Virginia Polytechnic and State University
Dissertation: Drivers of White-Tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) Behavior, Survival, and Population Growth in the Piedmont of South Carolina
Adviser: Dr. David S. Jachowski
- Keifer Levi Titus Bellefontaine, OH
B.S., Radford University; M.S., Ball State University
Dissertation: An Integrative Approach to Modelling Human-Wildlife Coexistence Landscapes in the Northern Great Plains
Adviser: Dr. David S. Jachowski
Keifer received the Segars Graduate Fellowship for four consecutive years and was named the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences Outstanding Graduate Teacher in 2021. He also received the Interdisciplinary Research Fellowship as well as the Alexander Family Scholarship in 2022. He has authored seven academic publications and will be working as a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Conservation at Clemson.

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE, ARTS AND HUMANITIES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Planning, Design and the Built Environment

- Anna Christine Overby Apex, NC
B.S., Clemson University; M.S., North Carolina State University
Dissertation: Contrasting Public and Private Approaches to Private Land Conservation in the United States: Local Government, Land Trust, and Landowner Viewpoints
Adviser: Dr. Caitlin S. Dyckman
- Xiwei Shen Harbin, China
B.L.A., Louisiana State University; M.L.A., Harvard University
Dissertation: Conceptualizing Technology in Landscape Architecture (TLA) For the 21st Century
Adviser: Dr. Mary G. Padua

Rhetorics, Communication and Information Design

- Sarah Mae Cooper Greenville, SC
B.A., Clemson University; M.A., Purdue University; M.F.A., Converse University
Dissertation: “We Felt Powerful and Rebellious”: Contested Spaces, Lesbian Identity, and the Evolution of Separatism
Adviser: Dr. D. Travers Scott
Sarah was a 2022 Tee A. Corinne Fellow at the University of Oregon where she did archival research on southern Oregon lesbian lands. She also won the 2021 LGBTQ+ Faculty Excellence Award and the 2022 Gentry Award for Teaching Excellence.
- June Blalock Furr Charlotte, NC
A.A., Central Piedmont Community College; B.A., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; M.A., Queens University of Charlotte
Dissertation: Circumventing Ableism: A Grounded Theory Study Exploring Caregiver Strategies to Promote a Positive Identity
Adviser: Dr. David Blakesley
June worked as a global program director for Securitas throughout her Ph.D. program. She is a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, the National Society of Phi Kappa Phi, and the Omicron Delta Kappa Society.
- Nicholas Bryan Rader Los Angeles, CA
A.A., Pasadena City College; B.A., University of California, Berkeley; M.A., California State University, Long Beach
Dissertation: The Myth of Perfection: Charting the Rhetoric of Veteran Disability for a Course to Stability
Adviser: Dr. Ufuk Ersoy
- David Benjamin Weems, Sr. Fort Stockton, TX
B.A., M.Ed., Sul Ross State University; M.A., National University
Dissertation: The Erasure of Rural West Texas Voices in Higher Education Institutions an Autoethnographic Study of Minoritized Students of West Texas in Their Journey to Obtain Success in Higher Education Institutions
Adviser: Dr. Rhondda Thomas
David is a member of the Rhetoric Society of America and has toured the United States; presenting at EduTech Summits and System Admin conferences on technology exposure for the rural minoritized students of West Texas. He is the current Technology Chair for the Texas Teams User Group FRONTLINE EDUCATION Board of Directors. David will continue serving the students of West Texas as the Chief Technology Officer for Pecos Barstow Toyah Independent School District, increasing the student's exposure to modern technology.

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL, SOCIAL, AND HEALTH SCIENCES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Applied Health Research and Evaluation

- Emily A. Doherty Greenville, SC
B.A., Rhodes College; M.S., M.Ed., Ed.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Influences on Pregnancy: An Exploration of Maternal Discrimination, an Alternative Model of Prenatal Care and Health Information Online
Adviser: Dr. Kathleen Cartmell, Dr. Sarah Griffin
- Laksika Banu Madushani Sivaraj Seeduwa, Sri Lanka
B.S., University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Opioid Prescribing Practice & Policy – A Study of Medicaid Pediatric Population in South Carolina
Adviser: Dr. Khoa Truong
Laksika was awarded the Department of Public Health Science Graduate Research Excellence award in 2021 and plans to work in the healthcare field.

Healthcare Genetics

Joseph Herbert Blommel Rochester, MN

B.A., College of St. Scholastica; M.S., Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
Dissertation: Comparison of COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing Methodologies in the U.S.
Adviser: Dr. Sara Sarasua

Joe was awarded the Margaret Barch Best Workshop award from the Association for Genetic Technologists in 2019 and has been a guest speaker for the University of Minnesota Rochester and the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. He is a senior developer in the Advanced Diagnostics Laboratory within the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Mohammed Harris Union, NJ

B.A., Rutgers University; M.S., Johns Hopkins University
Dissertation: Diagnosis of Urinary Tract Infections and Rapid Molecular Characterization of Antibiotic Resistance
Adviser: Dr. Tracy Fasolino

Mohammed was recently accepted into the 2023 MPH program at Boston University to broaden his global health genetics and health equity interests. He was a finalist in the 2019 3-Minute Thesis competition and has seven peer-reviewed publications in the works.

Sarah Nosheen Quadri Chicago, IL

B.A., University of Illinois at Chicago; M.S., Saint Xavier University
Dissertation: Communication in Phelan-McDermid Syndrome: Assessment and Genotype-Phenotype Correlation
Adviser: Dr. Linda Ward, Dr. Sara Sarasua

Human Factors Psychology

Nathan A. Dumessa Nashville, TN

B.A., Vanderbilt University; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy Through a Trust in Science Training Intervention
Adviser: Dr. Leo Gugerty, Dr. Kaileigh Byrne

Nathan received the Outstanding Doctoral Student in Human Factors Award in 2022. He has been conducting cognitive psychology research and will pursue a career as a cognitive systems engineer.

Claire Textor Wilmette, IL

B.S., University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: The Role of Attention Control in Automation Performance
Adviser: Dr. Richard Pak

Claire was presented with the Outstanding PhD Award by the Department of Psychology in 2023 and received a Best Paper Award in 2020 for her thesis work. In her time at Clemson, she served in multiple leadership roles including as President of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society and Deputy Director of the Research Initiatives Committee. This summer, she will be finishing her first-year as a human factors researcher at Battelle Memorial Institute.

Industrial and Organizational Psychology

Kenzie Joy Hurley Plymouth, MA

B.S., Florida Southern College; M.A., University of West Florida
Dissertation: "The People Make the Place": Evaluating Mattering's Influence on Graduate Students' Intentions to Graduate
Advisers: Dr. Robin Kowalski

Kenzie was named Outstanding Ph.D. Student in 2023 by the Department of Psychology. She has five peer-reviewed publications, with six more under review, and was a finalist in the 2022 Three Minute Thesis competition. Kenzie has accepted a position as a consultant and will partner with organizations like the Army Research Institute.

Gwendolyn Paige WatsonJefferson, GA
 B.S., University of Georgia; M.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: Meaning Matters: Cognitive Crafting as a Sensemaking Mechanism and Motivational Process to Enhance Gig Driver Well-being
 Advisers: Dr. Robert R. Sinclair
 Paige was a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow and received numerous departmental awards during her time at Clemson. She led an undergraduate research team for three years, and her team was recently awarded the Clemson Libraries Undergraduate Research Award in 2023. Paige has four peer-reviewed publications and four manuscripts in the review process. She has accepted a tenure-track faculty position in the Industrial/Organizational Psychology program at Auburn University.

International Family and Community Studies

Jason Neal Pope Berlin, CT
 B.S., Toccoa Falls College; M.A., Columbia International University; M.P.P., Georgia State University
 Dissertation: Validating a Human Trafficking Screening Tool for Women Returning to Uganda From the Middle East
 Adviser: Dr. Mark Small
 Jason recently completed a Fulbright Specialist assignment in the Philippines. He plans to pursue his research interests through the Rain Collective, a non-profit he founded that addresses human trafficking in the Middle East and North Africa.

Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management

Akiebia S. Hicks..... Ellaville, GA
 B.A., Georgia Southwestern State University; M.P.A., University of West Georgia
 Dissertation: Understanding Job Satisfaction in the National Park Service, the Needs of Black Employees, and the Decision-Making of Managers
 Adviser: Dr. Aby Sene-Harper
 Akiebia was named Outstanding Graduate Student by Clemson University's Commission on Women in 2021 and has been asked to present her research to several environmental agencies, including the National Park Service. Akiebia has accepted a position with the Connecticut Energy and Environmental Protection Agency.

Olivia Ellen McAnirlin Newport, ME
 B.S., Colby-Sawyer College; M.S., Miami University
 Dissertation: Reflections on Co-creating Nature-Based Virtual Reality Experiences for Adults Living With Severe COPD
 Adviser: Dr. Matthew Browning
 Olivia is the 2023 Clemson University Outstanding Graduate Researcher and author of sixteen peer-reviewed publications and one co-authored textbook chapter. She has served as lab manager for Clemson's Virtual Reality and Nature Lab and completed her dissertation in partnership with Bon Secour and Prisma healthcare systems. She plans to continue her research on virtual reality, co-creation, nature, and human health in academia.

Felipe Bertazzo Tobar..... Campinas, Brazil
 LL.B., M.C.H., Univille University
 Dissertation: Exploring the Interpretation of Difficult Heritage at Football Grounds in Spain, Portugal, and Germany
 Adviser: Dr. Gregory Philip Ramshaw
 Felipe received the Francis A. McGuire Graduate Student Teaching Award for exhibiting care, passion, and student engagement in 2022 and has sixteen peer-reviewed publications. He has conducted sport-based research in Europe and North and South American countries. Since 2021, he has voluntarily been the Clemson Paralympic Soccer Team Coach. He has accepted a faculty position at Clemson University.

Pramod Kumar YadavTarya Sujana, Kushinagar India
B.S., Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur; M.S., Indraprastha University, New Delhi
Dissertation: Investigating and Addressing Tiger Conservation in the Himalayas
Adviser: Dr. Matthew T.J. Brownlee

WILBUR O. AND ANN POWERS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Economics

Terrence O'neal Jewell Athens, GA
B.B.A., University of Georgia
Dissertation: Essays in Urban Economics
Adviser: Dr. Curtis Simon
Terrence has accepted a postdoctoral scholar position at the University of Pennsylvania and an assistant professor position at West Virginia University.

Jacob Michael Lamb Birmingham, AL
B.S., Auburn University; M.A., Clemson University
Dissertation: Essays on the Economics of Sports Wagering Markets
Adviser: Dr. Raymond D. Sauer
Jacob was the Tollison Fellow for the John E. Walker Department of Economics from 2021 to 2023 and was the winner of the Best 3rd-Year Graduate Paper Award from the Department of Economics in 2022. He is currently the director of research at the Alabama Business Intelligence Center.

Lan Lan Jinan, China
B.S., University of Minnesota, Twin-Cities; M.S., University of Wisconsin, Madison
Dissertation: Essays on Labor Market Size and Job Match Quality
Adviser: Dr. Curtis Simon
Lan has accepted a faculty position at Liaoning University in China

Jun Li Central, SC
B.A., Nanjing University of Finance and Economics; M.A., Renmin University of China
Dissertation: Credit Constraints and Innovation
Adviser: Dr. Santiago Caicedo
Jun has accepted a postdoctoral position at the University of Hong Kong.

Illia Polovnikov Dnipro, Ukraine
Bachelor & Master, National Mining University of Ukraine; M.A., Kent State University; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Two Essays in Human Capital
Adviser: Dr. Robert Tamura, Dr. Jorge García

Hugo Vaca Pereira Rocha Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia
B.A., University of Arkansas at Fayetteville; M.A., Bowling Green State University; M.A., Clemson University
Dissertation: Essays on Manufacturing and Growth
Adviser: Dr. Michal Jerzmanowski

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Education Systems Improvement Science

Todd G. Howard.....Clemson, SC

B.A., M. Arch., Ed.S., Clemson University;

Dissertation: Annotations of Awareness: A Framework for Externalizing Thinking to Promote Metacognitive Discourse in High School English and Social Studies Classrooms

Adviser: Dr. Noelle A Paufler

Todd is a National Board Certified Teacher for English and the instructional coach at D. W. Daniel High School in Central, South Carolina. In 2019, he was named the school's Teacher of the Year and an Honor Roll Teacher by the School District of Pickens County.

Virginia Shaw Perry.....Lexington, SC

B.S., Wofford College; M.A., Ed.S., The Citadel

Dissertation: Use of Vocabulary Strategies to Aid English Language Learners in a General Education Biology Classroom

Adviser: Dr. Reginald Wilkerson, Dr. Hans Klar

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Educational Leadership

Ann Marie Alexander.....Clemson, SC

B.A., Duke University; M.A., Columbia University; M.B.A., Fordham University

Dissertation: Women's Advancement to U.S. Higher Education Executive Leadership: an Intersectional, Secondary Data Analysis

Adviser: Dr. Tony Cawthon

Ann Marie serves as Assistant Vice President of Strategic Corporate Partnerships in the Division of External Affairs at Clemson University. She and a co-author have a peer-reviewed manuscript that is scheduled to be published in June, and she is a co-PI on a federal government/industry grant application.

Betty Thompson Bagley.....Clemson, SC

B.A., Southern Wesleyan University; M.Ed., Clemson University; Ed.S., M.Ed., The Citadel

Dissertation: My Superintendent Journey From Educator to Activist: An Autoethnography Across Three Decades

Adviser: Dr. Jane Clark Lindle, Dr. Hans W. Klar

Shanae Monique Bodrick.....Charlotte, NC

B.A., Virginia State University; M.A., Howard University

Dissertation: To Give or Not To Give: A Qualitative Descriptive Study on Alumni Giving Behavior at a Historically Black College and University

Adviser: Dr. Tony Cawthon

Shanae has three peer-reviewed publications with two more under review. She is working in the field of historic preservation as an archivist.

Leverett Marlin Bruner.....Clemson, SC

B.S., Ed.S., Clemson University; M.Ed., Southern Wesleyan University

Dissertation: A Multi-Agent Modeling Social Network Analysis of Cooperative Learning Groups Within a Simulated Adult Education Classroom Learning Environment

Adviser: Dr. Hans Klar

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- Roberto Carlos Flores..... Miami, FL
 B.S., Clemson University; M.S., M.B.A., Swiss Business School
 Dissertation: Understanding the Factors Affecting Expatriate Teacher Retention In a Cross-Cultural Setting: A Case Study of an American International Sschool In Panama
 Adviser: Dr. Hans Klar
 Roberto has more than 15 years of K-12 international education experience and will advise a prestigious Central American school's governance body. He'll shape practices in line with the school's mission and values, and will be instrumental in maintaining its top-tier reputation.
- Timothy Ray KeownIva, SC
 B.S., M.AgEd., Ed.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: A Narrative Inquiry of Selected Women's Career Pathways to State-Level Leadership in Agriculture
 Adviser: Dr. Hans Klar
 Tim serves as the President of the new South Carolina Governor's School for Agriculture. SCGSA is the only residential high school in the US that trains students in agriculture, forestry, and natural resources.
- Joshua E. MillerInman, SC
 B.M., Furman University; M.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: The Struggle Is Real: Understanding Impacts of Racial Microaggressions on Black Teachers
 Adviser: Dr. Natasha Croom
 Joshua has received numerous recognitions for his commitment to music education through conference performances, presentations, and awards; such as being named the WYFF Teacher of the Year. He will be transitioning to an administrative role within Spartanburg School District 2 next school year.
- Matthew Lee Moore..... Greenville, SC
 B.A., M.Ed., Ed.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: Instructional Leadership Practices and Problem-Solving Processes Among Secondary School Principals During the COVID-19 Pandemic
 Adviser: Dr. Jane Clark Lindle
 Dr. Moore's education at Clemson University has been instrumental in serving the Greenville County School District for the past nineteen years, sixteen of those years in a leadership capacity. He currently serves as Assistant Principal of JL Mann High School. With his doctorate, he looks forward to growing into more leadership positions in the future.
- George Robins RhodesSimpsonville, SC
 B.S., Wofford College; M.A.T., Ed.S., University of South Carolina;
 Dissertation: The Perceived Role of School Counselors in RAMP and Non-RAMP Schools
 Adviser: Dr. Hans Klar

Literacy, Language and Culture

- Hayley Jordan Hoover.....Clemson, SC
 B.S., Southern Wesleyan University; M.Ed., Clemson University
 Dissertation: A Mixed Methods Study of the Literacy Motivation of Students with Intellectual Disability Labels
 Adviser: Dr. Jacquelynn Malloy
 Hayley worked as a graduate research assistant in the Early Literacy Center for South Carolina and served on Clemson's Graduate Student Government. She has five peer-reviewed publications and eleven national conference presentations with one more under review.

Macy Christine James Glenwood, GA

B.A., M.A.T., Georgia State University;

Dissertation: Our Voices Matter: Engaging Middle Grades Hispanic Students In a Summer Literacy Program

Adviser: Dr. Jacquelynn Malloy

Oluwaseun Ayobami Oti Ilesha, Nigeria

B.S., Bowen University; M.A., University of Ibadan

Dissertation: Supporting Preschoolers' Early Writing Through Parent-Teacher Collaboration: A Design Based Study

Adviser: Dr. Celeste Bates

Oluwaseun was the director of Clemson University's America Reads program. In the future, she plans to find a position that will allow her to continue impacting children's lives.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, COMPUTING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Automotive Engineering

Daniel Zachary Egan University City, MO

B.S., Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Accelerating the Derivation of Optimal Powertrain Control Strategies Using Reinforcement Learning and Virtual Prototypes
Advisers: Dr. Robert Prucka, Dr. Qilun Zhu
Dan is excited to work in the motorsport industry at Bosch.

Tyler Grimm Beaver, PA

B.S., Penn State University
Dissertation: Classification of Electrical Current Used in Electroplastic Forming
Adviser: Dr. Laine Mears

Bioengineering

Dylan G. Chitwood Winfield, TN

B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Dissertation: Assesment of Structure, Function, and Microevolutionary Dynamics of Extrachromosomal Circular DNA in Chinese Hamster Ovary Cells
Advisers: Dr. Sarah W. Harcum, Dr. Christopher A. Sasaki
Dylan has four peer-reviewed publications and received the Michael A. Zebuhr Memorial Award for Excellence in Graduate Research from the Department of Bioengineering in 2023.

Therese Parr Freehold, NJ

B.S., Rowan University
Dissertation: Development of a Novel Predictive Model and Prosthetic System to Assess Dynamic Leg Length Based Gait Biomechanics in Lower Limb Prosthesis Users
Adviser: Dr. John DesJardins, Dr. Ge Lv
Therese has accepted a research fellowship position with the Air Force Research Laboratory Biodynamics Section.

Austin R. Smothers Myrtle Beach, SC

B.S., Coastal Carolina University; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Advancement of Detection and Treatment for Triple-Negative Breast Cancer and Infectious Disease
Advisers: Dr. Brian Booth, Dr. Delphine Dean
Austin will continue working in the REDDI Lab, doing research and developing educational opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students in disease diagnostics and pre-professional health.

Mathew Murphy Stanford Amory, MS

B.S., Mississippi State University; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: 3D Printing with Photopolymerizable Polyester Resins for Resorbable Medical Device Applications
Advisers: Dr. Melinda K. Harman, Dr. M. Aaron Vaughn
During his PhD work, Mathew maintained full-time employment as an R&D Engineer at Poly-Med, Inc. He was granted inventorship on two patents and authored four abstracts accepted for presentation at national conferences. He continues to work for Poly-Med, Inc. in Anderson, South Carolina.

Biomedical Data Science and Informatics

Benjamin Walker Martin.....Clemson, SC
B.S., M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Modeling Antihypertensive Therapeutic Inertia And Intensification To Support Clinical Action
Toward Hypertension Control
Adviser: Dr. Ron Gimbel
Ben is finishing a ten-year career as a student at Clemson and will be moving to Baltimore for a postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

Chemical Engineering

Nicholas Ethan Gregorich.....Sterling Heights, MI
B.S., University of Michigan
Dissertation: Elucidating the Mechanical and Transport Properties of Lignin-Based Hydrogel Composites
Adviser: Dr. Eric Davis
Nicholas has two peer-reviewed publications and another in preparation. He is a Department of Education Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need Fellow and was awarded the RC Edwards Outstanding Graduate Student Award for the 2021-2022 academic year. He won the Three Minute Thesis competition at Clemson in 2019 and was a finalist at the 2020 Conference of Southern Graduate Schools Regional 3MT competition, where he placed in the top 8 out of 54 schools in attendance.

Madeline Ellen McCarthy.....Manlius, NY
B.S., Clarkson University
Dissertation: Fluorescence Multiplexing with Combination Probes for Biological and Diagnostic Applications
Adviser: Dr. Marc Birtwistle
Madeline has three peer-reviewed publications with two more under review. She has accepted a full-time position as a scientist for meso scale diagnostics

Zachariah Alfred Pittman..... Storrs, CT
B.S., University of Connecticut
Dissertation: Characterization of Lignin and Cellulose Biopolymers Structure – Function Relationships
Adviser: Dr. David Bruce
Zachariah has a peer-reviewed publication, with three more under review, and plans to work in the sustainability industry.

Graham W. Tindall..... Pendleton, SC
B.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Bridging the Gap Between Phase Behavior and Processing For Renewable and Refinable Carbonaceous Precursors
Adviser: Dr. Mark C. Thies
Graham received departmental awards for first-place in the ChBE Symposium Poster Session and Best Teaching Assistant in 2022. He has authorship on nine published papers and has accepted a position as a research engineer with Solvay Specialty Polymers.

Jiarun Zhou.....Zhangjiagang, China
B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology
Dissertation: Probing the Structure of Water on Surfaces: From Water Absorption to Ice Nucleation
Advisers: Dr. Sapna Sarupria, Dr. David Bruce
Jiarun won several awards in department symposiums.

Civil Engineering

- Bibek Bhardwaj Maharani Jhoda, Jhapa, Nepal
B.S., Tribhuvan University, Pulchowk; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: An Experimental and Numerical Investigation of the In-plane Shear Behavior of Cantilever Cross-Laminated Timber Diaphragms
Advisers: Dr. Weichiang Pang, Dr. Thomas Cousins
- Somnath Mondal Central, SC
B.E., Jadavpur University, India; M.Tech., Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati
Dissertation: Explaining Spatio-Temporal Evolution of Extreme Hydro-Climatic Events Using a Complex Network Framework
Adviser: Dr. Ashok Mishra
Somnath's primary research is in hydroclimatic extremes and he looks forward to working in academia.
- Sadegh Sadeghi Tabas Central, SC
B.S., B.S., M.S., University of Birjand; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Explainable Physics-informed Deep Learning for Rainfall-runoff Modeling and Uncertainty Assessment across the Continental United States
Advisers: Dr. Abdul Khan, Dr. Vidya Samadi
- Fengjiao Zou Shanghai, China
B.S., Southwest Jiaotong University; M.S., Tongji University
Dissertation: Studying Pedestrian's Unmarked Midblock Crossing Behavior on a Multilane Road When Interacting With Autonomous Vehicles Using Virtual Reality
Adviser: Dr. Jennifer Ogle
Fengjiao was the recipient of several awards, including the RC Edwards Outstanding Graduate Student Award given by the Clemson University Division of Student Affairs, and the Dr. James Edwin Clark Transportation Fellowship from the Glenn Department of Civil Engineering, both in 2021. Additionally, she received the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant award from the Graduate Student Government in 2020. Fengjiao has five peer-reviewed publications and began her career in the intelligent transportation systems industry last year.
- Ramprasad Yaddanapudi[†] Bangalore, India
B.Tech, Acharya Nagarjuna University; M.Tech, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati
Dissertation: Multivariate Modeling of Compound Natural and Human Disasters
Adviser: Dr. Ashok Mishra

Computer Engineering

- Joseph Franklin Clements Clemson, SC
B.S., Huntingdon College; B.S., University of South Alabama
Dissertation: Adversarial Deep Learning and Security with a Hardware Perspective
Adviser: Dr. Yingjie Lao
- Snigdhaswin Kar Bhubaneswar, India
B.Tech., NIT Rourkela; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Enabling High Throughput and Reliable Low Latency Communication over Vehicular Mobility in Next-Generation Cellular Networks
Adviser: Dr. Kuang-Ching Wang
Snigdha has seven peer-reviewed publications, with four more under review. She has joined Apple as a Cellular Engineer in the Wireless Technologies and Ecosystems group in San Diego. She is working on developing cellular protocols for next-generation iPhones.

[†] Awarded posthumously

Prabodh Kumar Mishra Bhubaneswar, India
B.Tech., NIT Rourkela; M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Enhanced Mobile Networking using Multi-connectivity and Packet Duplication in Next-Generation Cellular Networks
Adviser: Dr. Kuang-Ching Wang
Prabodh has joined Apple as a cellular firmware engineer in the Wireless Technology Ecosystems team working on a cellular baseband module for next-generation iPhones. He has seven peer-reviewed publications, with another four under review.

Computer Science

Adil Abdulaziz S. Alsuhaimeh Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
B.S., King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals; M.S., University of Southern California
Dissertation: VANET Applications Under Loss Scenarios & Evolving Wireless Technology
Adviser: Dr. Long Cheng

Electrical Engineering

Kunjian Dai Hengshui, China
B.S., M.S., Beijing Institute of Technology
Dissertation: A Study on Asymmetric Perfect Vortex: Fractional Orbital Angular Momentum and Nonlinear Interaction
Adviser: Dr. Eric Johnson

Prahaladh Prakasan Paniyil Mumbai, India
B.Tech., NMIMS MPSTME, Mumbai
Dissertation: Photovoltaics, Batteries, and Silicon Carbide Power Electronics Based Infrastructure for Sustainable Power Networks
Adviser: Dr. Rajendra Singh
Pralad was named Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant in 2022 by the Holcombe Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He has fifteen publications with two award-winning papers. He has accepted an electrical engineering position at Milwaukee Tool in Wisconsin.

Dehao Qin Dalian, China
B.S., M.S., Northeastern University
Dissertation: Design and Implementation of High-Efficiency, Lightweight, System Friendly Solid-State Circuit Breaker
Adviser: Dr. Zheyu Zhang

Balaadithya Uppalapati Kambhavi, India
B.E., Visvesvaraya Technological University; M.S., University of Dayton
Dissertation: III-Nitride Triangular Microcantilevers For Multimodal Sensing Applications
Adviser: Dr. Goutam Koley
Balaadithya won a seed grant from the Institute of Nano-Electronics in 2019 and participated in an NSF non-academic research internship in 2021. He has published six peer-reviewed publications, with one more under review, and he plans to work in the semiconductor/microelectronics industry.

Engineering and Science Education

Catherine Mary Kenyon Evans, GA
B.S., M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Assessing What We Value: Interactions between Student Perceptions of Assessments in the Calculus Classroom and Their Future-Oriented Motivation
Adviser: Dr. Lisa Benson
Catherine was also a full-time faculty member with the School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences during her doctoral studies, serving as a lecturer and course coordinator for Calculus.

Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences

Lisa Margaret Manglass..... Denver, CO
B.S., University of Georgia; M.S., Colorado State University
Dissertation: Partitioning and Microdosimetry of Plutonium-239 and 55-Iron in Environmental Bacteria Grown in Liquid Cultures
Adviser: Dr. Nicole Martinez
Lisa has served as an assistant professor of Physics at Francis Marion University since the Fall 2020 semester. She has published three first-author publications and a book chapter, and she was selected for the Environmental Scholar award by the EEES department in 2020.

Zuo Zhou..... Linyi, China
B.S., Shandong Normal University; M.S., University of Florida
Dissertation: Computational Modeling of Patterned Membranes and Spacers for Improved Hydrodynamics and Fouling Reduction in Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Processes
Adviser: Dr. David A. Ladner
Zuo has four peer-reviewed journal publications and accepted a position as a lecturer in the Department of General Engineering at Clemson.

Human Centered Computing

Christopher Flathmann..... Fountain Inn, SC
B.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: How to Make Agents and Influence Teammates: Understanding the Social Influence AI Teammates Have in Human-AI Teams
Adviser: Dr. Nathan J. McNeese
Christopher has accepted a position as a research professor with Clemson University.

Aaron Magruder Gluck Santa Barbara, CA
A.A., Santa Barbara City College; B.S., Boise State University
Dissertation: Accessible Virtual Reality for Older Adults
Adviser: Dr. Julian Brinkley

Lingyuan Li..... Wuhan, China
B.E., Southeast University; M.S., New York University
Dissertation: Beyond Just Money Transactions: Redesigning Digital Peer-to-Peer Payments for Social Connections
Adviser: Dr. Guo Freeman
Lingyuan was named Outstanding PhD Student in Human-Centered Computing by the School of Computing in 2023. In the past 3.5 years, her research work has led to a highly impressive record of seventeen peer-reviewed publications, with twelve as first-author, at the most prestigious venues in HCI and Social Computing. One of her first-author papers has won the Best Paper Honorable Mention award at the 2023 Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems.

Rui Zhang.....Shenyang, China
 B.S., M.S., Beijing Institute of Technology
 Dissertation: Structuring AI Teammate Communication: An Exploration of AI's Communication Strategies in Human-AI Teams
 Adviser: Dr. Nathan J. McNeese
 Rui has published a book chapter and nine peer-reviewed publications, with three more under review, and she was a finalist in the CHI student game competition. Rui has had two internships as a UX researcher and plans to continue her career in the same field.

Industrial Engineering

Amogh Sunil Bhosekar[‡]..... Mumbai, India
 B.Sc., University of Mumbai; M.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: Essays On Perioperative Services Problems In Healthcare
 Advisers: Dr. Tugce Isik, Dr. Sandra Eksioglu
 Amogh received the Best Student Paper award at LISE 2019 Healthcare Division. He has two peer-reviewed journal publications with one more in review, and three conference publications. He has accepted a position at Ford Motor Company as a analytics scientist.

Materials Science and Engineering

Vaibhav Abhay Palkar Mumbai, India
 B.Tech., IIT Gandhinagar
 Dissertation: Mesoscale Modeling of Controlled Degradation in Polymer Networks and Melts
 Adviser: Dr. Olga Kuksenok

Mechanical Engineering

Maher Bassam Alghalayini.....Beirut, Lebanon
 B.E., M.S., American University of Beirut; M.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: A Value-Based Sequential Optimization Framework for Efficient Materials Design Considering Uncertainty and Variability
 Adviser: Dr. Fadi Abdeljawad, Dr. Chris Paredis
 Maher was the chair of the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Student Council when it won the Outstanding Graduate Student Organization award. He is currently a postdoctoral scholar at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab.

Malek Bassam Issa Alkayyali Amman, Jordan
 B.S., The University of Jordan; M.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: Mesoscale Modeling and Machine Learning Studies of Grain Boundary Segregation in Metallic Alloys
 Adviser: Dr. Fadi Abdeljawad
 Malek won the Department of Mechanical Engineering poster competition in Spring of 2022, was awarded three graduate travel grants to present at conferences, and has been published in several top-tier journals, including Physical Review Letters. Malek served on several committees at the department and college levels and was Vice President of the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Student Council for the academic years of 2021 to 2023. Malek plans to start his career as a research and development engineer.

[‡] Awarded December, 2022

Jacob Lee Biddlecom Charlotte, NC
B.S., M.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: The Effects of Laser Shock Peening on the Fatigue Life of Additive Manufactured AlSi10Mg
Adviser: Dr. Garrett Pataky
Jacob was selected to be an ACE Fellow and a THINKER Fellow, with both projects funded by the National Science Foundation. He completed three peer-reviewed journal articles and he recently accepted an engineering position with NUCOR steel in Huntsville, Alabama.

Shahab Karimi Tehran, Iran
B.S., University of Tehran; M.S., Western Carolina University
Dissertation: Deep Reinforcement Learning and Game Theoretic Monte Carlo Decision Process for Safe and Efficient Lane Change Maneuver and Speed Management
Adviser: Dr. Ardalan Vahidi

Mahabubur Rahman Noakhali, Bangladesh
B.S., Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
Dissertation: Molecular Dynamics Simulation on Molybdenum Disulfide: Thermal-Mechanical Properties and Phase Transitions Under External Loading
Adviser: Dr. Huijuan Zhao
Mahabubur won the Mechanical Engineering departmental poster competition and intends to pursue a career in academia.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Chenyang Chang Shanxi, China
B.S., Central South University, China
Dissertation: New DNA Repair and Demethylation Functions in Uracil DNA Glycosylase Superfamily
Adviser: Dr. Weiguo Cao

Jillian Elisa Milanese Aiken, SC
B.S., Clemson University
Dissertation: Glycolytic Inhibitors as Leads for Drug Discovery in the Pathogenic Free-Living Amoebae
Adviser: Dr. James Morris
Jillian was named the College of Science Outstanding Graduate in Discovery in the Spring of 2023. She has produced eight publications, with five as first-author. She has presented her research with poster and oral presentations at more than eighteen different events, and she will continue working in Dr. James Morris's lab as a postdoctoral fellow after graduation.

Chemistry

Paola Andrea Benavides Palmira, Colombia
B.S., Universidad del Valle; M.S., Universidade de Sao Paulo
Dissertation: Supramolecular pi-Donor/Acceptor Arrays Based on Redox-Active Metal-Organic Coordination Assemblies
Adviser: Dr. Dr. Sourav Saha
Paola has eleven peer-reviewed publications and received the Mandel Fellowship and the Graduated Faculty Award from her department. Paola has accepted a senior research specialist position at The Dow Chemical Company.

Ebube Evaristus Oyeka Oraukwu, Nigeria
 B.S., M.S., University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria; M.S., Tohoku University, Japan
 Dissertation: Designing Noncentrosymmetric Multifunctional Materials
 Adviser: Dr. Thao Tran
 Ebube received the Outstanding Graduate Researcher award from the Department of Chemistry in 2022. His work focused on creating multifunctional materials for developing next-generation electronic devices. Ebube has accepted a postdoctoral fellowship position at Texas A&M University.

Matthew Steffen Powell.....South Mills, NC
 B.A., B.S., North Carolina State University
 Dissertation: Hydrothermal Synthesis of Frustrated Lanthanide Pyrochlores and Transition Metal Double Perovskites and Germanates
 Advisers: Dr. Joseph W. Kolis, Dr. Brian Powell
 Matthew has several peer-reviewed publications on refractory lanthanide-containing single crystals with unique physical or magnetic properties. He has a future position as a postdoctoral fellow at Clemson, heading the new multi-disciplinary Physical Property Measurement System lab.

Genetics

Oly Ahmed.....Central, Bangladesh
 B.S., M.S., University of Dhaka
 Dissertation: Acetate Metabolism in the Fungal Pathogen *Cryptococcus Neoformans*
 Adviser: Dr. Kerry Smith

Emily Wagner KnightKingsport, TN
 B.S., University of Tennessee; M.S., Georgia Southern University
 Dissertation: Methyltransferase, Glucose Adaptation, and Import Complex in *Trypanosoma Brucei*
 Adviser: Dr. Meredith Morris

Jacklyn Thomas..... Benton, AR
 B.S., M.S., University of Central Arkansas
 Dissertation: A Multi-Pronged Investigation to Identify Genes Affecting the Autoregulation of Nodulation: Lasercapture Microdissection and the Barely Any Meristem Gene Family in *Medicago Truncatula*
 Adviser: Dr. Julia Frugoli

Mathematical Sciences

Sean Walker Ingimarsen..... Pittsburgh, PA
 B.S., Slippery Rock University; M.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: Advancements in Fluid Simulation Through Enhanced Conservation Schemes
 Advisers: Dr. Leo Rebholz, Timo Heister
 Sean has three peer-reviewed publications and accepted a job as a software engineer at Applied Research Associates in Raleigh, North Carolina..

Andrew Carl Pangia Milledgeville, GA
 B.S., Georgia College & State University; M.S., Clemson University
 Dissertation: Multiparametric Continuous and Mixed-Integer Nonlinear Optimization with Parameters in General Locations
 Adviser: Dr. Margaret Wiecek
 Andrew was a graduate teacher of record alternating between business calculus and basic statistics courses as needed. He served as secretary of the Clemson Chapter of the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics during coronatide and earned recognition for outstanding citizenship in his department. He intends to apply his degree outside of academia.

Physics

Ross Michael Silver Reisterstown, MD

B.S., Gettysburg College

Dissertation: The Search for Heavily Obscured Active Galactic Nuclei in the Local Universe

Adviser: Dr. Marco Ajello

Ross was named Outstanding Graduate Researcher in 2023 by the Department of Physics and Astronomy and has three peer-reviewed publications, with one more under review. He has accepted a postdoctoral position at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

Haonan Wu Clemson, SC

B.S., University of Science and Technology of China

Dissertation: Studies of the Ionosphere-Thermosphere Responses to Multi-Scale Energy Deposition Processes

Adviser: Dr. Xian Lu

Haonan received an Outstanding Graduate Researcher award in 2023 and will join the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado as an advanced study program postdoctoral fellow.

CLEMSON ALMA MATER

Farmer and McGarity/arr. Freeman

Where the Blue Ridge yawns its greatness,
Where the Tigers play;

Here the sons of dear Old Clemson
Reign supreme always.

Chorus

Dear Old Clemson, we will triumph
And with all our might,

That the Tiger's roar may echo
O'er the mountain height.

We will dream of greater conquests,
For our past is grand,

And her sons have fought and conquered
Every foreign land.

Where the mountains smile in grandeur
O'er the hill and dale,

Here the Tiger lair is nestling
Swept by storm and gale.

We are brothers strong in manhood,
For we work and strive;

And our alma mater reigneth
Ever in our lives.

