



UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

# COMMENCEMENT

*School of Education*  
May 16, 2024 ♦ 6:00 P.M.

# MISSION STATEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

## **MISSION**

Since 1855, the University of San Francisco has dedicated itself to offering a daring and dynamic liberal arts education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. As a community, we empower and hold accountable our students, faculty, librarians, staff, administrators, alumni, and community partners to be persons for and with others, to care for our common home, including the native lands on which our campuses reside, and to promote the common good by critically, thoughtfully, and innovatively addressing inequities to create a more humane and just world.

We seek to live USF's Mission by nurturing a diverse, ever-expanding community where persons of all races and ethnicities, religions, sexual orientations, genders, generations, abilities, nationalities, occupations, and socioeconomic backgrounds are honored and accompanied. We are committed to educating hearts and minds to cultivate the full, integral development of each person and all persons; pursuing learning as a lifelong humanizing and liberating social activity; and advancing excellence as the standard for teaching, scholarship, creative expression, and service. Inspired by a faith that does justice, we strive to humbly and responsibly engage with, and contribute to, the cultural, intellectual, economic and spiritual gifts and talents of the San Francisco Bay Area and the global communities to which we belong.

*Approved by the Board of Trustees, September 24, 2021.*

165th Annual Commencement Exercises

# UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**MAY 16, 2024, 6:00 PM**

Today, the University welcomes you — the graduates and candidates of the class of 2024 — into the ranks of the proud alumni of the University of San Francisco.

We also welcome your families and friends to the celebration, mindful and appreciative of their contribution to your achievement, through their support, sacrifice, and encouragement.

---

*The University of San Francisco has made every attempt to include in this program all persons deserving of recognition. If there have been any errors or omissions, please accept our sincerest apologies.*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Jack Boland

*Chairman of the Board*

Ms. Mary M. Del Santo

*Vice Chair*

Rev. Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J.

*President*

Mr. Joseph C. Allanson

Mr. Mark W. Buell

Ms. M. Suzanne Calandra

Rev. Christopher A. Calderón, S.J.

Ms. Doris Cheng

Rev. Martin Connell, S.J.

Ms. Susan DaSilva

Mr. Maximillian C. Diez

Ms. Margaret Doherty-Simor

Rev. Michael Engh, S.J.

Rev. Michael J. Garanzini, S.J.

Rev. Andrew Garavel, S.J.

Mr. Daniel Giraud

Ms. Naomi Kelly

Rev. Patrick J. Lee, S.J.

Mr. Kevin Malloy

Ms. Jamie Martin

Ms. Joan M. McGrath

Ms. Stacy Miller Azcarate

Dr. Judy C. Miner

Mr. John Myers

Ms. Marta Nichols

Mr. Saul Peña

Ms. Karen Rose

Mr. James Sangiacomo

Mr. David Schrader

Mr. Tony Scott

Mr. Christopher Seiwald

Mr. Faisal Shah

Mr. Jeffery L. Silk

Mr. Timothy Alan Simon, Esq.

Mr. Martin Skrip

Mr. Charles H. Smith

Mr. Adam Swig

Mr. Arthur Tay

Ms. Carry Thacher

Ms. Irma E. Velasquez

Ms. Nora Wu

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J., D.èsL., S.T.D.**  
*President*

**John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., Ph.D.**  
*Chancellor and Chief Mission Officer*

**Eileen Chia-Ching Fung, Ph.D.**  
*Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs*

**Opinder Bawa, M.B.A.**  
*Vice President, Information Technology Services  
and Chief Information Officer*

**Charlie Cross, M.B.A.**  
*Vice President, Business and Finance*

**Donna J. Davis, JD**  
*General Counsel*

**Lindsey McClenahan**  
*Vice President, Development*

**Julie Orio, M.Ed.**  
*Vice President, Student Life*

**Ellen Ryder, M.A.**  
*Vice President, Marketing Communications*

**April Crabtree, M.S.**  
*Vice Provost, Strategic Enrollment Management*

**Rebecca Hong, Ed.D.**  
*Vice Provost, Student Success, Inclusive Excellence,  
and Curricular Innovation*

**Anastasia Vrachnos, M.S.**  
*Vice Provost, Global Education, Immersions and  
Strategic Initiatives*

**Shawn P. Calhoun, M.L.I.S., Ed.D.**  
*Dean, University Library*

**Otgontsetseg Erhemjamts, Ph.D.**  
*Dean, School of Management*

**Susan Freiwald, JD**  
*Dean, School of Law*

**Eileen K. Fry-Bowers, Ph.D., JD, RN,  
CPNP-PC, FAAN**  
*Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions*

**Shabnam Koirala Azad, Ph.D.**  
*Dean, School of Education*

**Jeffrey Paris, Ph.D.**  
*Acting Dean, College of Arts and Sciences*

**Jayne Burke, M.A.**  
*Associate Vice President, Development*

**Dominic L. Daher, MAcc, JD, LLM in Taxation**  
*Associate Vice President, Tax Compliance, Internal Audit,  
and Payroll Services*

**Desmond P. Dair, C.P.A.**  
*Associate Vice President, Accounting and Business Services*

**Shannon Gary, Ed.D.**  
*Associate Vice President, Student Life and Dean of Students*

**David Kirmse, M.B.A.**  
*Associate Vice President and Director, Educational  
Technology Services, Information Technology Services*

**Stacy Lewis, MAcc, C.P.A.**  
*Associate Vice President, Finance and Treasury*

**Michael E. London, Esq.**  
*Associate Vice President, Facilities Management*

**Anneliese Mauch, M.I.A.**  
*Associate Vice President, Marketing*

**Srini Navaneethan, P.M.P.**  
*Associate Vice President and Director, Application Services,  
Information Technology Services*

**Diane L. Nelson**  
*Associate Vice President, Human Resources*

**Martha Peugh-Wade, M.B.A.**  
*Associate Vice President, Compliance*

**David J. Philpott, M.P.A.**  
*Associate Vice President, Labor and Employee Relations  
and Compensation*

**Angie Davis, M.S.**  
*Assistant Vice President, Marketing Communications*

**Patrick J. Lee, S.J., Ed.D.**  
*Rector, Loyola House Jesuit Community*

**Angélica Nohemi Quiñónez, Ed.D.**  
*Director, University Ministry*

**Lawrence Williams, Esq.**  
*Director, Athletics*

## ORDER OF CEREMONY

### Procession

The University Mace  
The Flags of the University  
The University Commencement Marshals  
The Class of 2024  
The Faculty of the Schools  
The Academic Directors of the Schools  
The Alumni Board of Governors  
The Student Speakers  
The Deans of the Schools  
The University Leadership Team  
The Members of the University Board  
of Trustees  
The Honorary Degree Recipient and  
Commencement Speaker  
The President of the University

### Prelude Processional

Baroque Ceremonial Music  
"Pomp and Circumstance" by Sir Edward Elgar

### Master of Ceremonies

**Eileen Chia-Ching Fung**  
*Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs*

### National Anthem

**Donna L. Creasman**  
*Associate Director for Administrative Services,  
School of Law*

### Invocation

**Angélica Nohemi Quiñónez**  
*Director of University Ministry*

### Official Opening of the Ceremony

*Member, Board of Trustees*

### Student Address

**Melissa Broome Ursin**  
*Candidate, Doctor of Education in  
Catholic Educational Leadership*

### Presentation of the Honorary Degree

**Shabnam Koirala Azad**  
*Dean of the School*

Recipient:

**Sr. Christina Heltsley, OP**  
*Prioress, Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa*

### Commencement Address

**Sr. Christina Heltsley, OP**

**Presentation of Candidates  
for Graduate Degrees**

**Shabnam Koirala Azad**  
*Dean of the School*

and

**Colette N. Cann**  
*Associate Dean*

**Formal Conferral of  
Graduate Degrees**

**Rev. Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J.**  
*President of the University*

**Presentation of Candidates  
for Doctoral Degrees**

**Shabnam Koirala Azad**  
*Dean of the School*

and

**Colette N. Cann**  
*Associate Dean*

**Formal Conferral of  
Doctoral Degrees**

**Rev. Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J.**  
*President of the University*

**Salutation to the Graduates**

**Rev. Paul J. Fitzgerald, S.J.**  
*President of the University*

**Benediction**

**Rev. Dónal Godfrey, S.J.**  
*University Chaplain*

**Recessional**

"Crown Imperial" by Sir William Walton

## GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF ARTS

### Catholic Education Leadership

Leonard A. Magnaye

### Counseling Psychology

Dreema Adrianna Abila  
Kristen Michelle Adamek  
Aurora E. Aguilar  
Monica Deyanira Aguilar  
Raihan Ahmed Ibrahim Ahmed  
Aysenaz Akyol  
Emma Chloe Alexander  
Angelina Marie Bello-Chong Allen  
Kiana Domenik-Alexis Ancheta  
Magdalia Silvia Angel-Hurtado  
Claudine Anglo  
Magdalena Dolores Barnes  
Maria Elena Bartra Cortez  
Johann C. Bautista  
Lilibeth Bautista  
Elizabeth S. Bazzano  
Raquel Elizabeth Berlanga  
Sierra Nicole Berrick  
Alexis Nicole Bishop  
Stephanie Lynn Blank  
Oceane Bouju  
Chelsea K. Bridges  
Diego Marquez Briones  
Taylor Estelle Bunkers  
Claire Fong Byrne  
Elisa Yvonne Cabrera  
Anyk Protesta Cajucom-Browning  
Eloisa Ceja Valdivia  
Lok Ka Heidi Chan  
Daniel Vickram Chappell  
Annie Chen  
Laniek Le'Jaune Clarke  
Sierra Rae Corriea  
Russell Joseph Cowick  
Aimee Nicole Cuellar  
Amaya Daher

Celine Tsai Dantes  
Simran Dosanjh  
Olivia Marie Essen  
Chinwe Anakela Ezeonu  
Samasoni T. Faalepo  
Deonne Tylynn Flanigan  
Laura Fovinci  
Breanna Julester Frelot  
Ada Alvarado Freund  
Dorothy Galloway  
Samantha Jara Garcia  
Kathryn Torres Gardella  
Yogita Rastogi Garg  
Justine Lanese Gaxiola Roland  
Rajdeep Kaur Gill  
Joshua David Gillespie  
Sabrina Yzabelle De Vera Gonzales  
Natalya Gabriela Gonzalez Mendez  
Julia Lucia Gonzalez  
Marlena Soledad Gonzalez  
Moises Gonzalez  
Veronique Esther Gonzalez  
Carly Ann Gould  
Madeline Jean Grames  
Aliyah Michelle Green  
Brandi Lynn Griffith  
Amanda Gudino  
Felicia Guerra  
Garad Gurhan  
Paola Elena Gutierrez  
Cessiley Nicole Haderlie  
Isabel Rose Hallock  
Vanessa Monique Harvey  
Cynthia Nalleli Muro Hernandez  
Sofia Areanna Hernandez  
Wilfrido Hernandez Flores



## GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF ARTS

### Counseling Psychology (*continued*)

Macey Ann Howeson  
Gabrielle Nikole Jacinto  
Issam Pacino Jarrouche  
Jazmine Jermaine  
Wenyang Jin  
Infiniti Victoria Johnson  
Michelle Karimi  
Julianna Katz  
Issa Khoury  
Devin Marie King  
Paul Jacob Kivelson  
Sabrina Grace Kohmann  
Natalie Augusta Lash  
Hayden John Lawless  
Andrew Lee  
Aidan Saffina Leslie  
Michael Albert Lewis  
Cindy Amelia Lobdell  
Victoria Nicole Lopez  
Liz Low  
Elie Lubino  
Jessica Lueza Maldonado  
Jenna Grace Magaldi  
Stephanie Malagon  
Larissa Arespacochaga Manalansan  
Anne Katherine Mangan  
Pamela Rochelle Mann-Jackson  
Nicole Michelle Manriquez Perez  
Lauren Delaney Marks  
Marc Abel Martinez  
Nureldin Maslu Lozoya  
Shaurnet Elizabeth Mason  
Lee Mauga  
Joy McCrea  
Janell Rene Mendoza  
Qingtao Meng  
Michaela Kathleen Miles  
Cassandra Beryl Millspaugh  
Ileana Bianca Moncada  
Eileen Michelle Morgan

Ana Karen Najera  
Andrea Elizabeth Navas Orozco  
Kendle Lorraine Norgaard  
Paulina Rebecca Olvera Wilson  
Cheyenne Raquel Maria Oropeza  
Taylor Penelope Orozco  
Aaron Nicolas Ortega  
Karina Pena  
Alejandra Perez Cisneros  
Edward Robert Perez  
Jana McComb Piazza  
Kyle J. Pinch  
Caitlin Tonantzin Polित्रon  
Christine Marie Pubill  
Jasmine Edith Nicole Raines  
Nallely Ramirez  
Nicolas Ramos  
Carlin Reed-Bippen  
Jacqueline M. Reyes  
Joy Sequoia Risley  
Andrea Prisca Rocha  
Laura Rodriguez  
Mark Anthony Rodriguez  
Ana Clara Mesquita Rosenthal  
Diana Aixa Ruiz  
Kamryn Ruiz  
Justin Cortes Sabino  
Leticia Salati D'Abronzo  
Briana Angelica Sanchez  
Jesus Sanchez  
Rosalinda Sandoval  
Angela Marie Grech Sanville  
Sara Margaret Sawtelle  
Frances Raquel Seeley  
Erika Christine Serame  
Christina Elizabeth Severin  
Jason Richard Shatzer  
Ethan Shen  
Marissa Casey Shepard  
Kristine Vidya Singh

## GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF ARTS

### Counseling Psychology (continued)

Cyril Millen Corcega So  
Samantha Arely Soberanes  
Jazmin Ivette Solis Galindo  
Jena Soykok  
Carly Anne Spagnola  
Cassidy Amber Steele  
Kyle David Stephens  
Meagan Lee Sufi  
Emily D. Taormino  
Alexis Tata  
Katherine Tegenkamp  
Michelle Torres Maxson  
Aria Carolyn Twilling  
Onaedo Vanessa Ugbene  
Iris Genevieve vanDalen  
Stephanie M. Vargas Angelez  
Kenzo Yanni Velasquez  
Zulema Guadalupe Victoria  
Rita Andreia Vieira Domingos  
Carina Villaseñor  
Kyle Rachel Wiesenthal  
Haley Ann Wiley  
Constance M. Williams  
Thalia Selena Williams  
James Alan Zengerle  
Sarah Rui Xian Zhou  
Muhammad Muneeb Anwar Zuberi

### Educational Technology

Qianfen Chen  
James Davis  
Phuong Ngoc Hong  
Hajirah Naseer  
Omelia Laela Tennant

### Higher Education and Student Affairs

Juan Jose Chihuahua  
Cole Morea DiGrazia  
Vanessa Galaviz  
María José Gavaldón Rojas  
Elizabeth Guerrero Muñoz  
Astrid Elin Hoover-Batt  
Kaitlyn Rebecca Hurley  
Roxanne Martinez  
Ryan Wesley Taylor

### Human Rights Education

Kathryn Abney  
Mikayla Feliciano

### International and Multicultural Education

Azalea M. Corral  
Victoria Lee Gonzalez  
Gaby Guzman  
Quinn Asa Magpie

## GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF ARTS

### Organization and Leadership

Khun Aung Aung  
Hannah E. L. Bloom  
Amy Anh Hoang Dinh  
Lian Guo Foreman  
Corey Michael Kowalczyke  
Yilin Ma  
Jorge Luis Murillo  
Andrew Francis Palos  
Cassandra Reinsel  
Leidy Johana Tovar-Almanza  
Anthony Ernesto Wolf

### Special Education

Lauren Catherine Adler  
Mingming Caressi  
Patrick Ian Collins-Bride  
Denise Valerie Garcia  
Julie Hae-Eun Kim  
Suzi Marianne Kwon  
Shuwen Li  
Elizabeth Ann Locher  
Rachael Studebaker

### Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Talleyrand May Hsu Caruso  
Amanda Monique Chevalier  
Susan Marie Filous  
Iris Lorraine Flores  
Lisa A. Guay  
Mina Hwang  
Seong Sun Kim  
Minha Park  
Bernardita María Ramírez Larraín  
Susan Dinsmore Scannon  
Mojtaba Tajeri

## GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

### Education

Edith Marlene Aguilar  
Valeria Alegrias Cambindo  
Kristie Ann Alejo  
Stephanie Briana Alonso  
Taylor Simone Anderson-Stevenson  
Alysa Nicole Aujero  
Adam Joseph Bates  
Ramón Alberto Bonilla  
Alyssa Maureen Buechele  
Lauren Anhthy Bui  
Alexis Lisa Marie Burke  
Elisabeth Jean Clubb Calandra  
Adrianna Lissette Castaing  
Marcela Ofelia Fernandez Cuomo  
Alma Angelica Roman Diaz  
Aresha Renee Dinkins  
Sarah Kathryn Fishtrom  
Harold Ping Fong III  
Sydney Brooke Francis  
Kyra Mel de Fontenay Ghosh  
Rebecca Dunn Giovannini  
Karen Renee Griffith  
Raul Antonio Guerrero  
Justine Michelle Hamric  
Danielle Hicks  
Isabella Siena Imperial  
Andria Elinda Kemp Sellers  
Leo Knudtson  
Joseph Lagomarsino  
Pamela Leyva Perez  
Andre Licudine

Katya Lohngoan  
Katrryn-Eliza Fontanilla Lopez  
Sandra Margarita Martinez Lopez  
Debra Marie McCracken  
Caroline Michael McLean  
Raymond William McMillan  
Hailey Grace Miller  
Skye Annabel Montgomery  
Anh-Hien Thianh Nguyen  
Josiah Paye  
Emily Beth Raaka  
Nicolette Ragone  
Rohini Ramkrishnan  
Sarah Anne Ratter  
Mikayla Reichhold  
Alyssa Victoria Reil  
John Mark Rodrigues  
Julia Christine Rose  
Taylor Emily Russell  
Logan Michael Sanders  
Gabriel Philip Schacter-Brodie  
Rusty Shabe  
Elleana Yasmeen Shepperd  
Stephanie S. Singer  
Kassandra Alejandrina Solano Magana  
Anh Tue My Tran  
Jesslyn Jane Marie Truttman  
Clementina Acosta Valenti  
Enedina E. Vera  
Sara Alexandria Yang

## GRADUATE DEGREES MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

### Urban Education and Social Justice

Ileina Vaolele Afuha'amango  
Diana Alexander Diaz-Noriega  
Meisha Fogle  
Aliyah Noel Kirkland Jackson  
Celeste McBride  
Charlotte Maria Moore  
Suroor Zahra Nakhoda

Fernando Enrique Pérez-Sotomayor  
Janet Rodriguez  
Amy Vijeswari Scharf False Katz  
Gracie Sula  
Alice Naini Thiuri  
Nkechi Comfort Uzoegwu

## DOCTORAL DEGREES DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

### Catholic Educational Leadership

Michele Carlene Darchuck  
Noé González Alfaro  
Emmit Moulton Hancock  
Melissa Broome Ursin

### International and Multicultural Education

GraceAnn Labaco Cadiz  
Yue Cai  
Elizabeth Lynn Eastman  
Fiona Belle Edwards  
Johanna Estrella  
Jacqueline Gamboa  
Juan Antonio Gamboa, Jr.  
Roy Edgardo Garanton Perez  
Catherine Michelle Goins  
Eghosa Obaizamomwan Hamilton  
Tamra Gertrude Jenkins  
Heidi Lorena Pereira Bonilla  
Griselle Janette Rose  
Matilda Sioson Tavares Hanson  
Chelsea Lynn Cullen-Tran  
Lynne Shirley Von Glahn  
Min Chuan Jasmine Wang

### Learning and Instruction

Jessica Rocio Cervano  
Thomas Charles Conmy  
Carmen De Jesús  
Yen Thanh Hai Duong  
Anthony MacArthur Elmore  
Juhee Mo  
Travis VanderVelden

### Organization and Leadership

Diana E. Aroche  
Raminder Kaur Attwal  
Ronald William Campana  
Louis James Grice, Jr.  
Christopher Matthew Kelly  
Tanya Nora Koroyan  
Sunil Orathel  
Kim Westerman  
Kanakano Tanaka Freyer Wong  
You Wu

## CANDIDACY

Candidacy for degrees is based on a preliminary review of the academic records of students petitioning for graduation in the respective term. Degrees are considered official when all grades are received and all requirements for degree fulfillment are met. Some students listed as candidates may already have been notified that they have met all requirements, but, because of printing deadlines, are listed here as candidates.

## Honorary Degree

# SR. CHRISTINA HELTSLEY, OP PRIORESS, DOMINICAN SISTERS OF SININAWA

Courageous leader at the frontlines of anti-gentrification activism. Bold investor in the human economy.  
Powerful ally of the underserved. Undaunted warrior in the battle against ineffective housing policies and political inertia.  
Mission-driven woman determined to change the world — one child, one family, one neighborhood at a time.

Sr. Christina Heltsley is committed to living a faith that does justice by creating safe, stable, and attainable communities of hope. Where others see problems, she sees potential. Where developers see dollar signs, she envisions life-changing opportunities for families in need. For more than two decades, she served as executive director of the St. Francis Center in North Fair Oaks near Redwood City. She developed innovative strategies for acquiring a high-profile portfolio of derelict properties to renovate and protect as affordable housing units. She moved at lightning speed to buy area buildings on the market. She ensured that the properties were deed-restricted as “affordable” in perpetuity, protecting them from the vagaries of capitalism and gentrification. Since 2000, she purchased nearly 20 properties, transforming them into more than 250 units of affordable housing. She dramatically expanded the center’s basic services to include a neighborhood school, English language classes for parents, after-school programs and care, a food pantry, clothing closet, showers and laundry, and a community garden, plus immigration counseling through Catholic Charities.

Sr. Christina’s acumen for beating the competition in high-stakes real estate transactions is legendary. St. Francis Center board members conjectured that, if she hadn’t taken the veil 40 years ago, she would be the CEO of a Fortune 500 company today — but that was never her plan. Instead, she wrapped her arms around families in need as her life’s mission. On their behalf, she avoided the risky delays inherent in the government’s application and funding process by amassing the private funds from generous donors and corporations to restore dignity, equity, and engagement to a neighborhood lost to unfair business, housing, and educational practices, and gang violence. She stars in the stories about “the nun who mastered private equity’s game” and brought affordable housing back to the area block by block.

Sr. Christina faced down a gang member’s gun, as well as neighbors, business owners, elected officials, and others whose bandwidth of solutions was not as expansive as hers. Today, the center provides affordable homes for hundreds of underserved families. The community is thriving. Those who lived in the original neighborhood are still there. She accomplished revitalization, not gentrification. The center’s next initiative, begun under her leadership, is a 40-unit, \$20 million modular building that will increase the number of its affordable housing holdings to nearly 300. In 2023, Sr. Christina was called back to Wisconsin, where she was elected to a five-year term as General Prioress of the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary. The St. Francis Center has retained her as a consultant on its new building project.

A California native, Sr. Christina is one of nine children. Her life among many siblings, no doubt, taught her early on how to serve, survive, and thrive in a competitive community. Developing strong negotiating skills was vital. As a student at Wisconsin’s Edgewood College, she volunteered for a year of service with Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa. She realized that the tug on her heart was God calling her to a vocation. The Dominicans’ all-encompassing commitment to service as a community “willing to take the risks the Gospel demands to respond to the needs of the world” compelled her join. She professed her final vows in 1979. Two of her many degrees — a doctorate in education in 1996, and a master’s in 1997 — were awarded by this University. She holds another master’s from University of Dayton.

Sr. Christina’s legacy of leadership, activism, and public service has garnered a litany of awards. The Sr. Christina’s Legacy Fund was established in 2023 “to honor, preserve, and amplify her tremendous impact at the St. Francis Center.” She was named the 2023 Bay Area Jefferson Awards Silver Medalist for “multiplying good in the Bay Area as an inspiration to action for others.” In 2015, she was named to San Mateo County’s Women’s Hall of Fame for her innovative strategies to secure permanent affordable housing.

That all may know of our great esteem for her extraordinary fidelity to her life’s mission to house families in need and her tremendous efforts to transform marginalized communities, the University does, therefore, confer upon Sr. Christina Heltsley, a treasured alumna of this University, the degree of Doctor of Humane letters, *honoris causa*, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, given this sixteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four, and of the University, the hundred and sixty-ninth year, in San Francisco, California.



*The following is a listing of dissertations completed during the 2023-2024 academic year.  
The assisting chairperson's name is listed below the candidate's name.*

## Catholic Educational Leadership

Mothering in Higher Education — Creating Inclusive Spaces for Mother-Scholar Faculty at Jesuit Universities

*Michele Carlene Darchuck*

DR. JANE BLEASDALE

The Permanent Diaconate: Latinx Men Responding to the Growing Needs of the Catholic Community in the Diocese of Oakland

*Noé González Alfaro*

DR. GENEVIEVE NEGRON-GONZALES

Liberating Catholic Education: Adult Perspectives of Extraordinary Children's Yoga

*Emmit Moulton Hancock*

DR. JANE BLEASDALE

From Novitiate to Classroom: A Case Study of the Formation of Catholic Teaching Sisters

*Melissa Broome Ursin*

DR. JANE BLEASDALE

## Dissertations

The following is a listing of dissertations completed during the 2023-2024 academic year.  
The assisting chairperson's name is listed below the candidate's name.

### International and Multicultural Education

From Lovelessness to Liberation: Transforming Educational Spaces Through a Pedagogy of Love

*GraceAnn Labaco Cadiz*

DR. MELISSA ANN CANLAS

Tanda de Idioma: An Indigenous Latinx/e Language Preservation Project

*Johanna Estrella*

DR. ROSA JIMENEZ

Women Strength: Using Photovoice to Explore Female Chinese International Students' Experiences

*Yue Cai*

DR. MELISSA ANN CANLAS

Sacred Circulos and Testimonios of Chicanas/ Latinas in Higher Education

*Jacqueline Gamboa*

DR. ROSA JIMENEZ

Trauma-Informed Teaching with Adult English Language Learners: A Study in a Community-Based Organization

*Elizabeth Lynn Eastman*

DR. SEDIQUE POPAL

"This Is Bigger Than Academics!" Finding Purpose, Healing, Liberation and Community: Testimonios of Current Community College Students and Alumni in Ethnic Studies and Chicanx Studies

*Juan Antonio Gamboa, Jr.*

DR. ROSA JIMENEZ

THE REEDUCATION OF THE UNTEACHABLE DUNCE STUDENT! Exploring the Impact of Plantation Pedagogy on Inclusive Peace Education Towards Students with Learning Challenges in Dominica Schools

*Fiona Belle Edwards*

DR. MONISHA BAJAJ

Towards a Sacred Critical Theory (SACCRIT)

*Roy Edgardo Garanton Perez*

DR. EMMA FUENTES

The following is a listing of dissertations completed during the 2023-2024 academic year.  
The assisting chairperson's name is listed below the candidate's name.

### International and Multicultural Education (*continued*)

A Seat at Our Own Table: Elevating the Voices of Black, Indigenous, and Other People of Color Women Leaders in Early Childhood Education Advancing Racial Equity

*Catherine Michelle Goins*  
DR. DAVID DONAHUE

The Power of Teacher Inquiry and Reflection: Teacher Action Research Investigating How English Learners Learn Content and Language Through an Integrated S.T.E.A.M. Curriculum

*Griselle Janette Rose*  
DR. DAVID DONAHUE

From Creamy Crack to Locs: The Oppression and Liberation of Black Women Educators Through Black Hair Identity

*Eghosa Obaizamomwan Hamilton*  
DR. COLETTE CANN

Parent Strategies for Antiracist Parenting in Families of Multiracial and Asian Descent

*Matilda Sioson Tavares Hanson*  
DR. MELISSA ANN CANLAS

For the Love of Black Children: Towards Black Liberatory Educational Subversion

*Tamra Gertrude Jenkins*  
DR. COLETTE CANN

Exploring the Development of Intercultural Competence within EFL Teachers in Thailand

*Chelsea Lynn Cullen-Tran*  
DR. SEDIQUE POPAL

"Cabeza, Hombros, Rodillas y Pies:" A Critical Race Examination of the Challenges and Triumphs of First Generation Latinx Mothers in Graduate School

*Heidi Lorena Pereira Bonilla*  
DR. EMMA FUENTES

Examining Community-Based ESOL Teachers' and Tutors' Conceptualization of Culturally Responsive Teaching

*Lynne Shirley Von Glahn*  
DR. SEDIQUE POPAL

The Challenging Experiences of Chinese Heritage Language Learners in Chinese Programs in California Public High Schools

*Min Chuan Jasmine Wang*  
DR. SEDIQUE POPAL

## Dissertations

The following is a listing of dissertations completed during the 2023-2024 academic year.  
The assisting chairperson's name is listed below the candidate's name.

### Learning and Instruction

Reading Comprehension: Effects of Think-aloud with Worked Examples for Secondary School Students Who are Reading Below-grade Level

*Jessica Rocio Cervano*

DR. PATRICIA BUSK

A Case Study of Teacher Perceptions of Student Engagement and the Promise of Agentic Engagement

*Anthony MacArthur Elmore*

DR. XORNAM APEDOE

We Are Still Playing: A Meta-Analysis of Game-based Learning in Mathematics Education

*Thomas Charles Conmy*

DR. PATRICIA BUSK

The Relationship Between Cognitive, Metacognitive, and Socio-affective Listening Comprehension Strategy Use and Listening Comprehension Proficiency Using Authentic Materials in Korean as a Foreign Language: A Mixed-Methods Study

*Juhee Mo*

DR. PATRICIA BUSK

The Effectiveness of Mind Maps as an Instructional Approach for Developing Critical Thinking Skills and Dispositions: A Meta-Analysis

*Carmen De Jesús*

DR. PATRICIA BUSK

The Relationship Between Situated Reading Motivation and Perception of the Learning Environment for Adolescent Students

*Travis VanderVelden*

DR. XORNAM APEDOE

The Effects of Online Mind Mapping on the Cognitive Outcomes of Students and Their Perceptions in the Collaborative Prewriting Stage.

*Yen Thanh Hai Duong*

DR. PATRICIA BUSK

The following is a listing of dissertations completed during the 2023-2024 academic year.  
The assisting chairperson's name is listed below the candidate's name.

## Organization and Leadership

Emergence: Social Movements, Law Enforcement,  
and Defending the Sanctity of Life

*Diana E. Aroche*

DR. GENEVIEVE NEGRÓN-GONZALES

Shattering Ceilings: Women of Color, Mentorship,  
and Corporate Oppression

*Raminder Kaur Attwal*

DR. DESIREE ZERQUERA

Empowering Continuation High School Latinx  
Students

*Ronald William Campana*

DR. JANE BLEASDALE

Teacher and Students' Reflections on the  
Closure of an Alternative Community  
Correctional School

*Louis James Grice, Jr.*

DR. DARRICK SMITH

Reflecting on Choices: How a California Charter  
Residency Influences the Career Paths Teachers  
Take

*Christopher Matthew Kelly*

DR. DARRICK SMITH

The Experience of Second-Hand Trauma and  
Burnout Among Resident Directors

*Tanya Nora Koroyan*

DR. SEENAE CHONG

The Aspirations of the Youth of South Sudan  
towards Tertiary Technical Education, Peace,  
Development and Civic Engagements

*Sunil Orathel*

DR. GENEVIEVE NEGRÓN-GONZALES

Mindfulness Matters: Addressing Anxiety and  
Navigating Wellbeing Through MIEA Mindfulness  
Practices, a Mixed-Methods Study of LGBTIQ  
Graduate Writing Students' Experiences

*Kim Westerman*

DR. GENEVIEVE NEGRÓN-GONZALES

Supporting Mentors of Color in Charter Schools  
through Collaborative Practices in a Teacher  
Induction Program

*Kanako Tanaka Freyer Wong*

DR. SEENAE CHONG

What Role Does Parent and Acculturation Play  
in Chinese Female International High School  
Students' Mental Health?

*You Wu*

DR. SEENAE CHONG

## *Student Achievements*

# UNIVERSITY WIDE AWARDS

### Hilary Williams Ford Award

Recognized for her contributions and commitment to her field and the University of San Francisco, the Hilary Williams Ford Award is presented to a graduate student who has initiated positive changes in their field, and is awarded to:

*Zulema Guadalupe Victoria*

# HONOR SOCIETY

### Phi Delta Kappa (ΦΔΚ)

Phi Delta Kappa is an international professional fraternity for men and women in education. Membership is composed of recognized leaders in the profession and graduate students in education whose leadership potential has been identified. The following graduates are members of the University of San Francisco Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa:

*Louis James Grice, Jr.*

*Kim Westerman*

## ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

### McGrath Scholars

The McGrath Scholars of the Change the World From Here Institute was created to develop critically aware, mission-driven and goal-oriented system thinkers who are motivated to change their communities for the common good. The program engages and further develops established campus leaders across all disciplines who practice ethical, cooperative, collaborative and inclusive leadership; engage in both courageous and compassionate action; cultivate changes in values by reframing and reinterpreting situations, and practice contemplative self-reflection. The Scholar honored here represents members of the graduating class that have completed both the curricular and co-curricular components of the program successfully. The graduating student is:

*Omelia Laela Tennant*

## UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS

### Academic Innovation Award

The Academic Innovation Award was created by the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs in order to recognize and celebrate one or more faculty, librarians and/or staff who have discovered and implemented innovative ways of serving students, and/or advancing a more just, humane and sustainable world. Eligible projects may include academic and co-curricular programs, administrative systems, new technologies, start ups and research discoveries.

*Claire Sharifi, Gleeson Library*

### Collaborative Leadership and Commitment to Shared Governance Award

The Collaborative Leadership and Commitment to Shared Governance award recognizes and honors the work of a USF faculty, librarian, or staff member who has modeled collaborative leadership, built trust and mutual understanding, and made exceptional contributions to enhancing shared governance within the USF community.

*Lori Prince, Student Financial Services, Strategic Enrollment Management*

### Community Engaged Learning Faculty Award

The University Community Engaged Learning Faculty Award recognizes the work of full-time faculty in developing service-learning opportunities for USF students. The awardee shall be a full-time faculty member who has demonstrated a commitment to service learning through the integration of service-learning into the curriculum; innovation in employing a reflective teaching methodology to connect community and public service experience with academic study; and demonstration of leadership that promotes service-learning on campus.

*David Silver, College of Arts and Sciences*

### Distinguished Adjunct Teaching Award

A purse and a plaque, awarded jointly by the USF Faculty Association and the University, to a part-time faculty member for extraordinary dedication to teaching and students, and for innovative and gifted approaches to teaching and the classroom at USF, are awarded to:

*Gaëlle Corvaisier, College of Arts and Sciences*

*Peter Kline, College of Arts and Sciences*

*Alyssa Lund, School of Education*

*Nathaniel Stevens, College of Arts and Sciences*



## UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS

### Distinguished Research Award

A purse and a plaque, awarded jointly by the USF Faculty Association and the University, to a full-time faculty member whose recent research and scholarship have made an outstanding contribution to his or her academic discipline, are awarded to:

*Aparna Venkatesan, College of Arts and Sciences*

### Distinguished Teaching Award

A purse and a plaque, awarded jointly by the USF Faculty Association and the University, to a full-time faculty member for extraordinary dedication to teaching and students, and for innovative and gifted approaches to teaching and the classroom, are awarded to:

*Stephen Kraus, School of Management*

### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership Award

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership Award is awarded to a faculty, librarian, or staff member who conveys through their teaching and example the equitable and inclusive values identified in the University's founding principles and mission. The University Community, in grateful recognition of teaching and service to students, awards the Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Award to:

*Nour Al-muhtasib, College of Arts and Sciences*

### Educational Effectiveness Award

The Educational Effectiveness Award (EEA) is given out annually to one team in recognition of excellence in assessment practices at the University of San Francisco. The recognized assessment work should show evidence of student learning, use of student learning evidence, and help the University, or any part of the University or community, achieve its learning outcomes, goals or mission. Exemplary assessment work should also support a culture of assessment at USF, and include a plan for closing the loop.

*Amy Flynn, School of Law*

### Global Justice Award

The Global Justice Award recognizes a faculty, librarian, or staff member who furthers social justice in a global context, including advancing ADEI work in communities around the world or in an intercultural space on-campus, global work on sustainability and environmental justice, and work with partners and communities in the Global South that amplifies their voices.

*Kevin Lo, School of Management*

## UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS

### Ignatian Service Award

Ignatian Service Award recognizes an exceptional commitment to the service of students, the University, and the community at large, in light of the religious and moral legacy of St. Ignatius. The awardee shall be a full-time faculty member who has demonstrated an ongoing and creative commitment to the realization of this legacy through his/her actions and accomplishments.

*Angelika Williams, Student Financial Services,  
Strategic Enrollment Management*

### Innovation in Global Education Award

The Innovation in Global Education Award recognizes a faculty, librarian, or staff member who demonstrates innovation in facilitating global educational opportunities (study abroad, immersion programs, internships, research opportunities) or bringing a global perspective to campus (incorporating global into courses, developing new global courses, or broadening access to global perspectives).

*Lindsay Harris, School of Law*

### Innovation in Teaching with Technology Award

The CIT Awards honor faculty or staff who have demonstrated excellent use of technology in education. Recipients have supported the development of teaching and learning contributing to the overall quality of the USF learning environment.

*Nicole Phillips, School of Law  
Sedique Popal, School of Education  
John Shafer, School of Law*

### Mentor of the Year Award

The Mentor of the Year Award was created by the Provost Council in order to recognize a faculty member or a staff person who furthers the Vision, Mission and Values of the University through their demonstrated commitment to and excellence in advising and mentoring our graduate and undergraduate students. The award recognizes individuals who help our students (1) identify their academic goals; (2) establish relationships between their curricular and co-curricular activities; (3) develop the expertise, skills and values that support academic and personal achievement; and, (4) discern how their USF experience will assist them in forming a more humane and just world, and is awarded to:

*Patricia Busk, School of Education*

### Outstanding Teamwork in Advancing the University's Strategic Plan Award

The Outstanding Teamwork in Advancing the University's Strategic Plan Award was created by the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs in order to recognize and honor a team of faculty, librarians and/or staff who have made exceptional contributions to advancing USF's Strategic Plan, with an emphasis on creative co-design, collaboration, and cross-departmental/divisional teamwork.

*Carolina Echeverria and SONHP team,  
School of Nursing and Health Professions*

## UNIVERSITY-WIDE AWARDS

### Sarlo Prize for Excellence in Teaching

The Sarlo Prize recognizes excellence in teaching based upon the moral values that lie at the foundation of USF's identity. The awardee shall be a proven, effective full-time faculty member who through his/her teaching exemplifies the ethical principles that inform the University's vision, mission, and values.

*David Philoxene, School of Education*

### Sr. Vicky Siu Award for Outstanding Contributions and Service to the University of San Francisco

A purse and a plaque, awarded jointly by the USF Faculty Association and the University, to a part-time faculty member who has volunteered to organize workshops, performances, lectures, or other opportunities for students at USF — beyond the responsibilities of their teaching position, are awarded to:

*Susan Stryker, School of Management*

## *American Flag*

USF's ROTC Color Guard proudly presents the American flag flown over the United States Capitol on the day of Pope Francis' historic address to a Joint Session of Congress, September 24, 2015. On that inspiring day, Pope Francis renewed the faith of Catholics worldwide and inspired a new generation, regardless of their religious affiliation, to be instruments of peace. He reminded us of our sacred and inescapable responsibility to those struggling to escape poverty, persecution and war. He challenged us to rescue our planet from the climate crisis that threatens the future of our children and the health of God's creation - and to do so in a way that is sensitive to the needs of the poor. He urged us to live our values and reach beyond our divisions.

The colorful attire worn by the graduates, the faculty, and officers of the University on the occasion of these Commencement Exercises has historic roots in medieval times. Dressed as they are in cap and gown, the graduates and their professors form part of a long tradition which dates back to Paris and Bologna, to Oxford and Cambridge in the days of their Catholic glory.

The precise origins of the several parts of the academic garb are not easy to discover. However, since medieval students enjoyed the status of clerics during their university years, one is hardly far wrong in asserting that their attire found its inspiration in the clerical dress of medieval times. The gown seems to be an adaptation of the robe of friar or priest; the hood, of the monk's or friar's cowl; and the mortarboard cap of today, the end product of curious evolution, recalls the skull cap of days when tonsured heads needed protection against the drafts of medieval classrooms.

Academic attire began to appear quite generally on United States campuses in the late 1890s. Since that time, its use has become universal for solemn university functions, and its pattern highly uniform.

## THE GOWN

The gowns are three in number and styling. That of the bachelor is a yoked, closed-front garment, with long, pointed sleeves; that of the master is cut to be worn open front, its sleeves are long and closed, slit cut just above the elbow to allow the forearm to protrude; the gown of the doctor is also worn open and has full bell-shaped sleeves. Only the doctor's gown is trimmed—with velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on each sleeve.

Though black velvet is proper trimming for all doctor gowns, the color and material of the panels and sleeve bars is often varied in order to indicate the faculty which granted the wearer's degree; dark blue for Philosophy (PHD); light blue for Education (EDD); white for Arts and Letters (LITTD); gold-yellow for Science (SCD); orange for Engineering (ENGD, DCE); purple for Law (LLD, DCL, JD, JUD, JCD); green for Medicine (MD); scarlet for Theology (STD, DD).

## THE HOOD

The hood at first seems to have been worn over the head and was attached to the gown. When the skull cap was introduced, the hood was retained, but detached and worn much as it is today. Each degree (bachelor, master, doctor) has a right to a hood, which varies in length and, in the case of the doctor's, also in pattern. The bachelor's hood is three feet long; the master's hood, three and one-half; the doctor's hood, four, with wide panels on either side.

The color or colors with which the hood is lined are those of the college or university that granted the wearer's degree—for example, the University of San Francisco is known by the gold chevron on the field of Kelly green. The colored velvet binding or edging of the hood, in different widths for bachelor, master, doctor, is a key to the faculty granting the degree. The velvet colors include white for Arts, gold-yellow for Science, drab for Business, apricot for Nursing, light blue for Education, royal blue for Nonprofit Administration, peacock blue for Public Administration, scarlet for Theology, purple for Law, and so forth.

## THE CAP

The mortar board has become the universally accepted style in United States colleges and universities. Many European institutions still retain distinctive forms of academic headdress—for example, the University of London's tam-o-shanter cap.

The doctor, following graduation, has the right to wear a gold tassel on the mortar board; black, however, is perfectly proper and perhaps more common.



UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE