



PennState
Altoona

Commencement

FALL SEMESTER 2023

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

ADLER ATHLETIC COMPLEX

11:00 A.M.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Dr. Brian Black



Dr. Brian Black is Distinguished Professor of History and Environmental Studies at Penn State Altoona, where he also served for over a decade as Head of Arts and Humanities. Recognized as a global expert on energy and petroleum history, he has taught or lectured in China, Britain, Germany, France, Sweden, and Norway. He is the author of more than a dozen books and his writing on energy for a general audience has appeared in the *Christian Science Monitor*, *USA TODAY*, the *Conversation*, and the *New York Times*. *ROAD TRIP: How Eisenhower's 1919 Convoy Paved the Way for the Roads We Travel*, his newest book, will be released in early 2024. Black hales from

Blair County and in his courses in history and Environmental Studies he loves to introduce students to our regional peculiarities, ranging from bank barns to hoagies, and mountain laurel to wind turbines.



View or download the complete program (PDF) at altoona.psu.edu/commencement

BACCALAUREATE AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM

Dr. Ron Darbeau
Chancellor and Dean of
Penn State Altoona
Presiding

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

Prelude to Te Deum, Charpentier
Performed by Encore Brass

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Sung by Clarissa J. Snyder
Penn State Altoona Class of 2024
*The audience is asked to join
in the singing.*

REMARKS

Chancellor and Dean Ron Darbeau

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Dr. Brian Black

AUTHORIZATION TO CONFER DEGREES

Dr. Nicholas Rowland
The Pennsylvania State University
Board of Trustees

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Leigh Ann Haefner
Interim Division Head,
Arts and Humanities
Division Head, Education, Human
Development, and Social Sciences

Dr. Edward Levri
Interim Division Head, Business,
Engineering, and Information Sciences
and Technology
Division Head, Mathematics and
Natural Sciences

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

Presiding: Chancellor and
Dean Ron Darbeau
Assisting: Doug Page, Chair, Faculty
Senate

CONGRATULATIONS BY THE COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD

Stephen G. Sheetz, Chair
Penn State Altoona Advisory Board

RECOGNITION BY THE PENN STATE ALUMNI SOCIETY

Dr. Tracy Hinish, President
Penn State Altoona Alumni Society

ALMA MATER

Sung by Clarissa J. Snyder
Penn State Altoona Class of 2024
*The audience is asked to join
in the singing.*

RECESSIONAL

Allegro Maestoso, Handel
Performed by Encore Brass

PLEASE NOTE

The audience is requested to remain seated during the recessional.
Following the recessional, a reception for graduates and their families
will be held in the Auxiliary gymnasium.

STUDENT MARSHALS

Each of the four student marshals is an outstanding student chosen by his or her division head to represent their respective academic division. We are proud to publish the following personal narratives highlighting their experiences at Penn State Altoona.

DIVISION OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

JORDAN ALWINE

Bachelor of Arts in Visual Art Studies

Escorted by Susan Marie Brundage

I am honored to be named the student marshal for the Division of Arts and Humanities for the graduating class of fall 2023.

Admittedly, Penn State Altoona was not my first choice when wanting to major in art—but, wholeheartedly, I would not trade my time here for anything. From my first day four years ago to now, I hold onto these memories dearly—the people, the professors, the classes, the experiences, all of it. From my very first art class, I saw myself being both supported and challenged, and I saw myself and my art grow in ways that I adore—a boost in confidence that I needed, concepts and materials I had not thought to work with before. I am grateful and proud of where I am today, and I know I will look back on my time here fondly for years to come.

DIVISION OF BUSINESS, ENGINEERING, AND INFORMATION SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

DOMINIC TORNATORE

Bachelor of Science in Business

Escorted by Paul Cooney

I knew I wanted to go to Penn State Altoona when I was a junior in high school. During that time in my life, I had a manager who was a Sheetz Fellow. She inspired me through her leadership to pursue the same path. Penn State Altoona held me to a high professional standard. There, I learned public speaking, networking, critical thinking, idea generation, and effective collaboration. The Sheetz Fellows program imbued me with the essential qualities that business leaders seek. I am profoundly grateful to Mr. Sheetz and the business department for challenging me. Throughout my four years of studies, I discerned my true calling: to be a leader who profoundly impacts others through both my work and character. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to every professor at Penn State Altoona for teaching me how to be a transformational leader in the community.

STUDENT MARSHALS

DIVISION OF EDUCATION, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

TAYLOR KALKE

**Bachelor of Science in Psychology
Escorted by Danielle DelPriore**

I am honored to have been selected as the student marshal for the Division of Education, Human Development, and Social Sciences for the fall 2023 graduation ceremony.

Although starting at Penn State during a pandemic was a unique and certainly challenging college experience, I had the privilege of undergoing personal growth, becoming more independent, making lifelong friendships, and obtaining an education that will significantly help me achieve my future professional goals. During these last few years of my life, as I have struggled and encountered bumps along the way, I have developed a particular appreciation for the supporters in my life. I could not have done this without my family, friends, and professors. I am proud to be a Penn State student, and I consider myself extremely lucky to have had the opportunity to further my education at Penn State Altoona.

We Are!

DIVISION OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES

VINCENT RESTAURI

**Bachelor of Science in Biology
Escorted by Mary Kananen**

I want to communicate my deepest appreciation for being selected as the Student Marshal for the Division of Mathematics and Natural Sciences to the Penn State Staff and Faculty. I am standing here because of the accomplishments I have had at Penn State. Yet, many of these achievements are milestones that WE all have shared.

WE all came to Penn State as a decision to better ourselves. WE attended classes for our futures. WE listened and followed along during lectures. WE studied for numerous hours. WE finally learned to stop procrastinating. WE had professors who forced us out of our shells. WE presented information that WE researched ourselves. WE persevered despite the challenges ahead of us. WE had incredible opportunities opened to us. WE participated in clubs where WE met others with common interests. WE showed our pride at Penn State Football games. WE had research opportunities available, and WE took them. WE were inspired by our professors. WE were encouraged to ask questions, and WE had those questions answered. WE were given the tools to succeed in life, and WE are here now because of it. WE have willpower. WE have grit. WE are powerful. WE are proud.

WE ARE...PENN STATE.

HONOR SOCIETIES

Alpha Phi Sigma
(National Criminal Justice Honor Society)
Blue and gold braided cords

Rachel Marie Rennie

Beta Beta Beta
(National Biological Honor Society)
Forest Green and red cords

Connor Dean Oakes

Kappa Delta Pi
(International Honor Society in Education)
Green and purple cords

Lindsey Mae Kensinger

Lambda Pi Eta
(National Communication Association Honor Society)
Gold cords

Madison Elizabeth Eisaman
Troy H McCarty

Sheetz Fellows
Medallion with blue ribbon

† Dominic S. Tornatore

Sigma Beta Delta
(International Honor Society for Business, Management and Administration)
Green and gold cords

Jacob Ryan Bradish
Shayna Marie Helsel

† Student Marshal

* Degree conferred August 2023.

~ Anticipated graduation date is May 2024.

This program lists graduation candidates as of November 27, 2023.

Degrees officially will be conferred in late December 2023, pending successful completion of all degree requirements.

Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of minimum criteria, distinction may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

PLEASE NOTE

The information in this document was produced on December 4, 2023, as an official list of students who indicated an intent to graduate. Students who indicated their intent to graduate after that production date are not listed.

Degrees officially will be conferred in January, pending successful completion of all degree requirements. Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of minimum criteria, distinction may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements.

DIVISION OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Associate in Arts
Multidisciplinary Studies
Altoona College

Zachary Lee Hopson

Bachelor of Arts
Communications
Altoona College

Madison Elizabeth Eisaman,
Summa Cum Laude
*Brianna Gearhart
†Troy H. McCarty
*Brittany L Schroeder

Bachelor of Arts
English
Altoona College

Ella Grace Gable
*Jordan Eve Morral

Bachelor of Arts
Multidisciplinary Studies
Altoona College

Mia McCombie Cooney
Hannah Gabrielle Jean-Pierre

Bachelor of Arts
Visual Art Studies
Altoona College

† Jordan Marie Alwine, *Magna Cum Laude*
Abraham W. Onkst

† Student Marshal

* Degree conferred August 2023.

~ Anticipated graduation date is May 2024.

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**DIVISION OF BUSINESS,
ENGINEERING, AND
INFORMATION SCIENCES AND
TECHNOLOGY**

Associate in Science
Business Administration
Altoona College

Jason Anthony Miller

Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Altoona College

Marissa A. Harclerode
Shayna Marie Helsel

Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Altoona College

Mitchell Allen Barton
Jacob Ryan Bradish
Mario Octavio Castillo Jr.
Dylann Taylor Condryn
*Kaitlynne Gibson
Anthony Vincenzo Iannizzi
Hayden Scott Ickes
Albert Koenigsberg
Cierra Jayde Lewis
Trey Charles Maxwell
Keaton Andrew Nolan
Gaige Orndoff
~Max Pedone
*Adam Francis Ratkus
† Dominic S. Tornatore

Bachelor of Science
Electro-Mechanical Engineering
Altoona College

*Elizabeth Nicole Bender
Austin Burnett
Delaney Craighead
Hunter Heaton
Devin Oswald
Daniel L. Vandrew II

Bachelor of Science
Rail Transportation Engineering
Altoona College

Nicholas William Martino
Hunter Rivers ODell

Bachelor of Science
Security and Risk Analysis
Altoona College

*Sarah K. Kidd
Joshua S. Krish
Paul Hunter Mulcahy

† Student Marshal

* Degree conferred August 2023.

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CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

DIVISION OF EDUCATION, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Associate in Science

Criminal Justice

Altoona College

Jeremy Stevenson

Bachelor of Arts

Psychology

Altoona College

Alexis Ryan Robbins-Walters

Bachelor of Science

Criminal Justice

Altoona College

Lacey M Barnhart

Eric Gabriel Hooper

*Austin Levi Miller

Andrea Marie Morris

Rachel Marie Rennie

*Raylene Denae Simmers

Bachelor of Science

Elementary and Early Childhood Education

College of Education

Kiya Leigh Diehl

Karlie N. Feathers, *Cum Laude*

Sydney May Frank

Brodie Elias Harbaugh

Lindsey Mae Kensing, *Summa
Cum Laude*

McKenna Jolene Mock

Bachelor of Science

Human Development and Family Studies

Altoona College

Kevin Joseph Karpovich

*Scott David Mccale

Bachelor of Science

Kineisology

Altoona College

*Christopher Ben Loera

Casey Morgan Reese

*Katanna Yohn

Bachelor of Science

Nursing

College of Nursing

Lyndsay Anne Bolger

Taylor Brianna Bolger

Sherby Hector

Katherine Elizabeth Hergenreder

Jessica Jack

Paola Jaramillo Calderon

Whitney Rachele Lewis

Lauren Marie Martin

Mary-Anne Nortier

Chaceun Park

Daniella Kristine Ramirez

Summer Lynne Shirey

Cassidy Rae Somma

Sarina Sutura, *Cum Laude*

Bachelor of Science

Psychology

Altoona College

† Taylor Victoria Kalke, *Magna
Cum Laude*

Tyhanna Larock

Amelia Kathleen Paterno

Erick R. Villegas

† Student Marshal

* Degree conferred August 2023.

~ Anticipated graduation date is May 2024.

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CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

DIVISION OF MATH AND NATURAL SCIENCES

Bachelor of Science

Biology

Altoona College

*Hannah Lynn Eck

*Connor Dean Oakes

† Vincent Restauri

Bachelor of Science

Math

Altoona College

Holden William Lupey

ALL OTHER DEGREES

Master of Professional Studies

Strategic Communications

The Graduate School

Jonathan C. O'Harrow

† Student Marshal

* Degree conferred August 2023.

~ Anticipated graduation date is May 2024.

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Nomenclator

William J. White

Associate Professor of Communication Arts and Sciences

Penn State Altoona Advisory Board

Chairs: R. Lee Hite and Stephen G. Sheetz

Treasurer: Bernard L. Creppage

Secretary: Ron Darbeau

Members

Jennifer Bates

Carmen Bilek

William J. Castle

Andrea Cohen

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Dr. Adam Goddard

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Fredina Ingold

C. David Kimmel

Tom Koehle

Phil Merilli

Shannon Morris

Neil Port

Mark Ritchey

Ryan Sheetz

Tom Smith

Clark Stapelfeld

Denny Stewart

Commencement Marshals

College Marshal

Nathan Kruis

Faculty Marshals

Shawn Bernecky

Deborah K. Hommer

KT Huckabee

Lauren McConnell-Jacobson

Laura K. Palmer

Laura E. Rotunno

Elizabeth M. Seymour

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Penn State Altoona
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GRADUATES!

The bookstore will
be open from
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

*Alumni (wear your
cap and gown)
discount is 10%*



PennState
Altoona

NATIONAL ANTHEM

by Francis Scott Key

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming;
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

ALMA MATER

by Fred Lewis Pattee

For the glory of old State,
For her founders, strong and great,
For the future that we wait,
Raise the song, raise the song,
Sing our love and loyalty,
Sing our hopes that, bright and free,
Rest, O Mother dear, with thee.
All with thee, all with thee.
When we stood at childhood's gate,
Shapeless in the hands of fate,
Thou didst mold us, dear old State,
Dear old State, dear old State.
May no act of ours bring shame
To one heart that loves thy name,
May our lives but swell thy fame,
Dear old State, dear old State!

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

The University is committed to equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment for all persons. It is the policy of the University to maintain an environment free of harassment and free of discrimination against any person because of age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, marital or family status, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, physical or mental disability, gender, perceived gender, gender identity, genetic information, or political ideas. Discriminatory conduct and harassment, as well as sexual misconduct and relationship violence, violates the dignity of individuals, impedes the realization of the University's educational mission, and will not be tolerated. Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to Dr. Suzanne C. Adair, Associate Vice President for Affirmative Action, Affirmative Action Office, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Bouckce Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901; Email: sca917@psu.edu; Tel 814-863-0471. U.Ed. AAO 24-141 mbw184