

SLU

2024 MIDYEAR
COMMENCEMENT



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Saturday, December 14
Chaifetz Arena
St. Louis, Missouri

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY VARSITY SONG

VERSE 1

Heirs of a royal name,
Dear Varsity,
For aye our faith and love
We pledge to thee.

Guardian of truth and light
We always knew,
Thou, whom the years have
crowned, Saint Louis U?

REFRAIN

All hail, Saint Louis U!
Valiant and strong
Noble old Varsity
Hark to our song;

Proudly our colors fly
Brave White and Blue,
Loud let the chorus swell,
Saint Louis U!

VERSE 2

Great is thy noble heart,
Tender and true,
Show us thy loyalty
Saint Louis U!

Bear we with pride and love
Thy White and Blue,
Sweet are thy memories,
Saint Louis U!

[REFRAIN]

VERSE 3

Truth and nobility
Thy halls enshrine,
Guarding the hallowed name
Forever thine.

May we with heart and hand
Through life renew
Thy noble victories,
Saint Louis U!

[REFRAIN]

Composed by Alfred G. Robyn (1860-1935)
Arranged for choir by Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.
Original lyrics by Paul L. Blakely, S.J. (1880-1943)
Lyrics adapted by Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.

ORDER OF EVENTS

Academic Procession

BEARER OF THE MACE ♦ UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION ♦ ENDOWED CHAIR HOLDERS
AND PROFESSORS ♦ MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY ♦ CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

PRELUDE

Commencement Ensemble | SLU Mastersingers

ANNOUNCER

Troy Hargrove, M.B.A., *Assistant Vice President, Division of Enrollment Management*

Program

BEARER OF THE MACE AND
MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Michael Lewis, Ph.D., *Provost*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

SLU Mastersingers

INVOCATION

Rev. Angela M. Tate, M.Ed.

Associate Pastor,

West Side Missionary Baptist Church

VARSITY SONG

SLU Mastersingers

SALUTATION

Fred P. Pestello, Ph.D., *President*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Neil Jansen, M.P.A.

Associate Professor, Accounting, and the 2024

Recipient of the Nancy McNeir Ring Award

Introduced by Mary Margaret Bausch,

President of Alpha Sigma Nu

Recognition of Candidates

READERS: ELAINA OSTERBUR, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DOISY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
AND DEBRA PIKE, M.B.A., ASSOCIATE DEAN, CHAIFETZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

COLLEGE OF ARTS
AND SCIENCES (1818)

Donna LaVoie, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (1836)

Christine Jacobs, M.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF LAW (1843)

Twinette Johnson, J.D., Ph.D.,

Dean

COLLEGE OF PHILOSOPHY
AND LETTERS (1889)

Randall S. Rosenberg, Ph.D.,

Dean

RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (1910)

Jackson Nickerson, Ph.D.,

Dean

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
AND ENGINEERING (1927)

Gregory Triplett, Ph.D., *Dean*

TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE
SCHOOL OF NURSING (1928)

Kristine L'Ecuyer, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF
SOCIAL WORK (1930)

Noelle Fearn, Ph.D., *Dean*

EDWARD AND MARGARET
DOISY COLLEGE OF

HEALTH SCIENCES (1979)

Bernard Rousseau, Ph.D.,

Dean

COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (1991)

Leslie McClure, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL
STUDIES (1996)

Scott Duellman, Ph.D., *Dean*

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION (1998)

Gary Ritter, Ph.D., *Dean*

BENEDICTION

Virginia Herbers, M.A.

Director of Mission Formation

RECESSIONAL

NANCY MCNEIR RING AWARD RECIPIENT

SPEAKER

NEIL JANSEN, M.P.A.



Neil Jansen, associate professor of accounting, is the 2024 recipient of the Nancy McNeir Ring Award for Excellence in Teaching.

At SLU, he has been the director of the Master of Accounting Program since 2010 and an associate professor since 2024.

Jansen earned bachelor's degrees in accounting and international business from Illinois State University in 1992, and initially, he worked as an accountant. Later, he went back to school and earned his master's of professional accounting degree from SLU in 1998.

In 2006, Jansen took the leap into education, teaching at Park University's School for Extended Learning at Scott Air Force Base. From there he joined the faculty at SLU in 2008 as an accounting instructor.

Jansen teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses in the Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business. The courses he teaches include Financial Accounting, Managerial Accounting, Cost Management and Financial Reporting III.

Jansen's approach to teaching has earned him accolades. Before winning the Nancy McNeir Ring Award, he was named the Beta Alpha Psi Outstanding Faculty Member of the Department of Accounting three times (2010, 2014, 2018), the Graduate Business Faculty Member of the Year in 2018, the winner of the Student Government Association Faculty Excellence Award in 2018 and the recipient of the Beta Gamma Sigma Outstanding Teacher Award in 2018 and 2021. He also received the Debra Barbeau Non-Tenured Faculty Service Award in 2018 and 2023.

Throughout his teaching career, Jansen said he has made it a priority to make contacts in the business community so he can bring guest speakers into his classes. The speakers offer his students a real-life look at their potential future careers.

In addition to his work at SLU, Jansen has served as a consultant for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. In that role, he helped develop a course for newly ordained priests to prepare them to run a parish.

Established in 1966, the Nancy McNeir Ring Award was named after the University's first dean of women, who was known for her devotion to students. It is presented annually to a member of the faculty who displays a special dedication to students both inside and outside the classroom. It is the only student-initiated and sponsored teaching award at SLU that encompasses all college and schools of the University.

MUSICIANS AND SINGERS

COMMENCEMENT ENSEMBLE

Conductor:

Robert Hughes, Ph.D.

Professor of Music

VIOLIN

Satvika Bejwar

Valerie Galiano-Rouge

Riley Luebbers

Henry Meiners

Meagan Sloup

Colin Summers

Essence Williams

VIOLA

Victor Humphrey

Amy Pennington

CELLO

Marie Brown

Katrina Churchill

Chris Laul

MASTERSINGERS

Director:

David Kowalczyk

Instructor of Music

Abby Busch

Maria Blanner

Pearle Bramlett

Dianne Collins

David Dwyer

Talia Engstrom

Anthony Heinemann

Analiesa Hollowood

Isaac Layugan

Debby Lennon

Gavin Martin

Evelyn Maruszak

Taylor Mollett

Eugene Pierce

Enrique Riojas

Valerie Rosqueta

Sophie Smith

Ben Walsh

Ittmum Zahir

UNIVERSITY MARSHALS

THE MARSHALS OF SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY HAVE A CENTRAL ROLE IN THE UNIVERSITY'S MOST SIGNIFICANT ACADEMIC OCCASIONS. THE POST OF MARSHAL IS ONE OF HONOR, WITH MARSHALS APPOINTED BY THEIR COLLEGE OR SCHOOL TO SERVE AS CEREMONIAL LEADERS. MARSHALS WEAR DISTINCTIVE MEDALLIONS INDICATIVE OF THEIR ROLE.

UNIVERSITY CO-MARSHALS

**Christopher H.
Thomas, Ph.D.**

*Richard A. Chaifetz
School of Business*

**Joanne C.
Langan, Ph.D.**

*Trudy Busch Valentine
School of Nursing*

COLLEGE/SCHOOL MARSHALS

COLLEGE OF ARTS
AND SCIENCES

Elena Bray-Speth, Ph.D
Thomas J. Finan, Ph.D.
Aaron Johnson, D.M.A.
Lisa M. Willoughby, Ph.D.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Bill Bowey, Ph.D.

SCHOOL OF LAW

Kerrin M. Kowach, J.D.

RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Patricia Bagsby, Ph.D.
Debra N. Pike, M.B.A.

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
AND ENGINEERING

Sanjay Jayaram, Ph.D.
Michael Swartwout, Ph.D.
Gajapriya Tamilselvan, Ph.D.
Brent M. Znosko, Ph.D.

TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Karen Cuvar, Ph.D.
Sam Marquard, D.N.P.
Karen S. Moore, Ph.D.
**Michelle Papachrisanthou,
D.N.P.**
Karen Scaglione, D.N.P.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Shannon Cooper-Sadlo, Ph.D.
Brandy R. Maynard, Ph.D.

EDWARD AND MARGARET
DOISY COLLEGE OF
HEALTH SCIENCES

Carol L. Beckel, Ph.D.
Tim G. Howell, Ph.D.
Lori Jones, Ph.D.

Elaina F. Osterbur, Ph.D.

Tim R. Randolph, Ph.D.

Amanda Reed, M.A.E.

Christine M. Werner, Ph.D.

COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Michael Elliott, Ph.D.
Kathleen N. Gillespie, Ph.D.
Travis M. Loux, Ph.D.

SCHOOL FOR
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Stacy Godlewski, M.S.
Matthew J. Grawitch, Ph.D.
Srikanth P. Mudigonda, Ph.D.
Maria Weber, M.S.
Steven L. Winton, Ph.D.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Christa Jackson, Ph.D.
Jessica A. Leonard, Ph.D.
Kathryn M. Pierce, Ph.D.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Martha H. Allen, M.L.S.
Miriam E. Joseph, Ph.D.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Alex A. Ocasio, Ph.D.

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

The colorful attire worn by graduates, faculty, trustees and officers of the University has historic roots in the distant medieval past. Dressed in cap and gown, the graduates and their professors are part of a long tradition that dates back to Paris and Bologna, Italy, to Oxford and Cambridge, England, in the days of their Catholic glory.

The exact origins of several parts of the academic garb are a bit of a mystery. Because medieval students enjoyed the status of cleric during their university years, one might guess 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 recalls the skullcap of days when tonsured heads needed protection against the drafts of medieval classrooms.

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

THE GOWNS

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 has sleeves long and closed but slit just above the elbow to allow the forearms to protrude; the gown of the doctor 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.

THE HOOD

The hood at first seems to have been worn over the head and attached to the gown. When the skullcap was introduced, the hood was retained but detached as a separate piece and worn much as it is today.

Each degree (bachelor's, master's, doctoral) has its special hood, which varies in length and, for the doctor, also in pattern. The color or colors lining the hood are those of the college or university that granted the wearer's degree. For example, Saint Louis University is known by blue chevron on a field of white. The colored velvet binding or edging of the hood, in different widths for bachelor, master and doctor, is determined by the field of study.

THE CAP

The cap, or mortarboard, has become the universally accepted style for U.S. colleges and universities. Many European institutions still retain distinctive forms of academic headdress.

THE TASSEL

The tassel is perhaps the most iconic souvenir of academic attire. The doctoral graduate can wear a gold or black tassel on the mortarboard. However, varying the color of the tassel based on the field of study has gained acceptance throughout academia. Colors include:

Allied health professions: Mint green

Arts: White

Business: Drab

Education: Light blue

Hospital administration: Salmon

Law: Purple

Medicine: Green

Nursing: Apricot

Philosophy: Dark blue

Public administration: Peacock blue

Science: Gold-yellow

Social work: Citron

Technology and engineering: Orange

Theology: Scarlet

ABOUT SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY



Saint Louis University is one of the oldest and most prestigious Catholic universities in the United States. Founded in 1818, the University is recognized nationally for world-class academics, life-changing research and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Guided by its enduring Jesuit mission, Saint Louis University offers students a highly rigorous and deeply transformative education that empowers them to become bold, confident leaders.

In 2024, Saint Louis University educated more students than ever before: 15,334 students, from all 50 states and 100 countries. SLU's campus in Madrid, Spain, enrolled 1,246 students this fall.

A dedication to values-based education and social justice has earned Saint Louis University widespread acclaim and bolstered its status as a character-building college. Seventy-five percent of SLU students volunteer each year, nearly triple the national average among college students.

SLU is also a catalyst for urban renewal in the heart of a vibrant city. More than \$2 billion in housing, retail and business development is underway in Midtown St. Louis, and the University is in the center of the neighborhood's growth.

Inspired by its pioneering history while focused on its promising future, Saint Louis University continues to move forward with an unwavering commitment to serve a higher purpose while always seeking the greater good.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

One of the country's top colleges (The Princeton Review, *The Wall Street Journal* and *Forbes* magazine) – and one of the country's top-13 Catholic colleges (Niche)

RESEARCH

Among the fastest-growing private research universities in the country, SLU had a 96% increase in research expenditures over the last seven years.

SERVICE

1.6 million hours of service completed by the SLU community annually

ENDOWMENT

\$1.9 billion, an increase of 78% over the last decade

ATHLETICS

NCAA Division I, Atlantic 10 Conference

MASCOT

The Billiken, a mythical good-luck figure who represents “things as they ought to be”

ALUMNI

134,336 alumni in 50 states and 154 countries

THE MISSION OF SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

The Mission of Saint Louis University is the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity. The University seeks excellence in the fulfillment of its corporate purposes of teaching, research, health care and service to the community. It is dedicated to leadership in the continuing quest for understanding of God's creation and for the discovery, dissemination and integration of the values, knowledge and skills required to transform society in the spirit of the Gospels. As a Catholic, Jesuit university, this pursuit is motivated by the inspiration and values of the Judeo-Christian tradition and is guided by the spiritual and intellectual ideals of the Society of Jesus.

SHARE YOUR GRADUATION NEWS



#SLU2024

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**SAINT LOUIS
UNIVERSITY™**

— EST. 1818 —