



COMMENCEMENT

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE
ANGWIN, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 12 ~ 14, 2026

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026

- 3:00 p.m. Nursing Graduate Recognition Service (CS)
- 5:30 p.m. President's Reception for Graduates,
Parents, and Faculty (PH)
- 8:00 p.m. Consecration (CS)

SABBATH, JUNE 13, 2026

- 8:30-9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast (FR)
- 10:00 a.m. Sabbath School (CS)
- 11:15 a.m. Baccalaureate (CS)
- 3:00 p.m. Teacher Dedication (SC)
- 4:30 p.m. Social Work Consecration (SC)
- 5:30 p.m. Adventist Colleges Abroad
& Student Missions Stole Conferral (AM)

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026

- 9:00 a.m. Commencement (MC)

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- (AM) Amphitheater (next to Stauffer Hall)
 - (CS) Church Sanctuary
 - (DC) Dining Commons
 - (FR) Fireside Room
 - (MC) Maxwell Commons (near Paulin Hall)
 - (PH) Paulin Hall (Lobby and Fountain)
 - (SC) Scales Chapel
-

VIEW THE GRADUATION PROGRAM ON YOUR PHONE.

Scan the QR code below or visit puc.edu/grad-program



CEREMONY & CELEBRATION

Welcome to Pacific Union College's annual Graduation Weekend. We're so glad you could join us in celebrating the hard work and achievements of the students you have entrusted to us. As this year's graduates prepare to begin their busy lives after college, we hope this weekend will include many moments you and your graduate will treasure forever.

ABOUT PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE

Founded in 1882, Pacific Union College is an accredited Seventh-day Adventist Christian college where students learn with purpose, rise in faith, and serve with love. PUC has been recognized as a best value college for its diverse student population, strong retention, and high acceptance rates of its graduates into medical school, dental school, and prestigious graduate programs. The college is committed to providing students with an exceptional experience focused on outstanding academics and Christian values.

POINTS OF DISTINCTION

- The college prides itself on a long tradition of high acceptance rates to medical and dental schools and graduate programs. Alumni have attended Loma Linda University, UC Davis School of Law, UCLA, Yale, and other prestigious institutions.
- PUC ranks third in the nation for associate degree schools that provide the best return on investment after graduation (payscale.com).
- The department of biology houses several first-rate collections, including a geology and paleontology museum, a vertebrate animal collection, and a herbarium.
- The Herbert Ford Pitcairn Islands Study Center houses the largest collection of Pitcairn artifacts in the world.
- The Albion Field Station serves as a 17-acre satellite campus on the Pacific Coast near Mendocino, California.
- PUC has sent over 1,400 student missionaries to serve in countries including Chile, the Czech Republic, Fiji, Kazakhstan, Kenya, the Marshall Islands, and South Korea.
- Students participate in over 20 cultural, academic, and special interest clubs; 11 honor societies; and six community outreach programs.
- PUC is one of only 58 NAIA Institutions to achieve gold level Champions of Character Five-Star status, among 250 member schools.
- PUC has over 29,000 graduates who are making a difference in our world.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

PUC equips and empowers students to pursue wisdom and serve others in an academically outstanding and spiritually authentic Seventh-day Adventist learning community.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

Ralph R. Trecartin, Ph.D., M.B.A.	<i>President</i>
Lindsay Hayasaka, Ph.D.	<i>Vice President for Academic Administration & Academic Dean</i>
Joy Hirdler, M.B.A.	<i>Vice President for Financial Administration & Chief Financial Officer</i>
Aimee Leukert, Ph.D.	<i>Vice President for Student & Spiritual Life</i>
Gene Edelbach, M.A.	<i>Vice President for Enrollment, Marketing & Communication</i>
Carlos Garcia, D.Min, M.Div.	<i>Vice President for Alumni & Advancement</i>

SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	Jacqueline Messing
<i>Executive Vice President</i>	Madison-Alejandra Dietrich
<i>Religious Vice President</i>	Abiel Irving
<i>Public Relations Vice President</i>	Patricia Simamora
<i>Social Vice President</i>	Anne Lopez
<i>Class Sponsors</i>	Kent Davis, Tammy McGuire, Jim Wibberding

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEATING

All weekend events except the Nursing Graduate Recognition Service on Friday have an open seating plan. No more than one row per graduate may be reserved (up to 14 seats). A person must be present and remain present to reserve seats. Seats may not be held past 11:05 A.M. for Baccalaureate; seats for Commencement may only be held from 7:00 A.M. until 8:45 A.M., when all seats become available for the general audience.

PHOTOS AT BACCALAUREATE

Other than during the processional, please refrain from using flash photography during the service. The processional will take place down the center aisle. Please stay behind the rope boundaries.

PHOTOS AT COMMENCEMENT

1. Graduates will march down the left and right inner aisles. Check the seating chart board at the back of Maxwell Commons for your graduate's marching side (left or right).
2. For pictures of your graduate actually receiving their diploma, please rely on the professional photographers from GradImages (gradimages.com or 800-261-2576). Other photographers are not allowed near the stage or inside the roped-off area.
3. On the left side, as you face the stage, the ropes are located near where your graduate will come down the steps after receiving their diploma. That will be your best position to snap your own picture of your graduate. Do not go behind the ropes.
4. Following the ceremony, graduates are requested to go directly to the designated meet-up areas of their academic home department. Please meet at these locations for photos.

COMMENCEMENT LIVE STREAMING

Commencement will be streaming live on our website at puc.edu.

SPEAKERS



CONSECRATION

JENNIFER O. PEÑAFLORIDA is professor of education and English at Pacific Union College, and serves as chair of the department of education. She received her bachelor's degree in English literature in 2001 from La Sierra University, followed by two master's degrees in rhetoric and composition from California State University San Bernardino in both literature and composition. She also holds a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction, literacy, from University of Arkansas.

Over the past decade, Peñaflorida has been published in various peer-reviewed journals on topics such as state reading policy, transformative learning for international graduate teaching assistants, and writing. She has also written a book chapter on artificial intelligence for the National Council of Teachers of English, and has completed over two dozen presentations across the U.S.

Peñaflorida has taught at the middle school, secondary school, and higher education levels in California, Hawai'i, and Arkansas. She is a member of several professional organizations, such as the National Writing Project, the Literacy Research Association, the National Council of Teachers of English, and others. She has received several awards, including Teacher of the Year at Berryville High School in Arkansas, Doctoral Academy Fellow from University of Arkansas, and the Giving Tree Grant Award from Arkansas Community Foundation.

Outside of work, Peñaflorida enjoys reading whilst eating snacks lounging in her hammock on the back deck, watching survivalist vloggers on YouTube whilst eating snacks on her couch, and adventuring on road trips with her family whilst eating snacks and listening to podcasts.



BACCALAUREATE

DAVID A. DEAN is the Executive Secretary for the Central California Conference. He earned a master's degree in theology from La Sierra University. Throughout his pastoral ministry Pastor Dean has been passionate about developing leaders, inspiring young people, leading worship, and teaching people how to think from a biblical worldview. He is co-founder of Clovis Life Hope Center (a free health clinic serving the Fresno/Clovis area) and co-creator of Biblical Worldview Audio Podcast. David and his wife, Maya, have three children and in his free time he enjoys producing music, writing poetry, and exploring nature.



COMMENCEMENT

GLENWARD ALEXANDER (“ALEX”) BRYANT currently serves as president of the North American Division (NAD) and vice president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Prior to his current role, he has served as executive secretary, president, superintendent, and director at various levels and areas of the Adventist church.

Bryant earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in theology and business administration from Oakwood College in Alabama in 1981, and began his pastoral ministry in Missouri and Kansas. He was ordained in 1986 and received his Master of Divinity from Andrews University in 1988. In December 2011, he completed his Doctor of Ministry at Fuller Theological Seminary in Southern California. He has served in his current role since 2020.

In his capacity as NAD executive secretary, he served as a spokesperson for the church in news venues such as Meet the Press, MSNBC, and other media outlets.

Driven by a deep passion for evangelism, Bryant has conducted numerous evangelistic meetings across Africa, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, and London, England. He has preached the gospel all over the world, planted several churches, and his ministry has led to many baptisms.

He is married to the former Desiree Wimbish, with whom he has three children and three grandchildren. Bryant loves serving God with all his heart and looks forward to the day when he, along with his family and loved ones, will be able to stand together on the sea of glass in the heavens and the new earth.

CONSECRATION SERVICE

SANCTUARY, FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026, 8:00 P.M.

Welcome		Nils Anderson
Invocation		Abiel Irving <i>Senior Class Religious VP</i>
Song Service		Praise Team
Tribute to Families		Jacqueline Messing <i>Senior Class President</i>
Scripture	<i>Colossians 2:6-7</i>	Samuel Parker
Introduction of Speaker		Madison-Alejandra Dietrich <i>Senior Class Executive VP</i>
Address	<i>What No One Sees</i>	Jennifer Peñaflorida <i>Professor of Education & English</i>
Benediction		Tessa Hutzkal

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PRAISE TEAM

Vocals

Leila Beltran

Emily Lalas

Bethanee Tabura

Piano

Taytan Bereket

Guitar

Natalie Nakanishi

Bass

Kyra Grant

Please refrain from using flash photography during the service.

SABBATH SCHOOL
SANCTUARY, SABBATH, JUNE 13, 2026, 10:00 A.M.

Welcome & Invocation	Abiel Irving <i>Senior Class Religious VP</i>
Collegiate Sabbath School Highlights	Britney Hernandez
Senior Year Highlights	Britney Hernandez Taytan Bereket Noah Marsh Kyra Grant Mikayla Neely
Benediction	Abiel Irving

BACCALAUREATE
SANCTUARY
SABBATH, JUNE 13, 2026, 11:15 A.M.

Prelude	<i>Arabesque and Berceuse</i> LOUIS VIERNE	Ronnie Zanella <i>Assistant Professor of Music</i>
Processional	<i>Marche de Procession op. 41 Nr. 5</i> ALEXANDRE GUILLMANT	Ronnie Zanella
Invocation		Madison-Alejandra Dietrich <i>Senior Class EVP</i>
Song of Praise	<i>Leaning on the Everlasting Arms</i> HYMN #469	Natalie Nakanishi
Congregational Prayer		Kyler VanHook <i>Student Association Religious VP</i>
Children's Story		Ashley Castro
Song Service		Praise Team
Offering		Andrea Maidan

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BACCALAUREATE
(CONTINUED)

Offertory		Abigail Suttan
Scripture	<i>Colossians 2:6-7</i>	Abiel Irving <i>Senior Class Religious VP</i>
Special Music		Senior Choir Directed by Ronnie Zanella
Introduction of Speaker		Jacqueline Messing <i>Senior Class President</i>
Address	<i>Man's Search for Meaning</i>	David Dean <i>Executive Secretary, Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists</i>
Benediction*		Bethanee Tabura <i>Student Association President</i>
Recessional & Postlude	<i>Carrillon de Westminster</i> LOUIS VIERNE	Ronnie Zanella

PRAISE TEAM

Vocals

Leila Beltran

Lily Chaffee

Natalie Nakanishi

Keys

Kateryna Popravkina

Guitar

Kyler VanHook

Electric Guitar

Jonathan Murdock

Bass

Ashley Castro

*Following the benediction, the congregation will be seated until after the recessional.
Junior class members Emma Gheen and Danielle Tarango will usher the senior procession.
Please refrain from using flash photography during the service.

COMMENCEMENT

MAXWELL COMMONS, SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026, 9:00 A.M.

Faculty Processional	<i>Intrada Festiva</i> PAUL FEY	Ronnie Zanella <i>Assistant Professor of Music</i>
Student Processional	<i>Military March No. 1</i> EDWARD ELGAR	Ronnie Zanella
Welcome		Ralph Trecartin <i>President</i>
Invocation		Sandra Roberts <i>Board Chair</i>
Scripture Reading	<i>Colossians 2:6-7</i>	Anne K. Lopez
Introduction of Speaker		Ralph Trecartin
Commencement Address	<i>Eagle's Wings</i>	G. Alexander Bryant <i>President, North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists</i>
Musical Selection		Senior Class Ensemble
A Valedictory	<i>The Legacy We Leave Behind</i>	Jacqueline Messing <i>Senior Class President</i>
Presentation of Class Gift		Jacqueline Messing
Presentation of Class		Lindsay Hayasaka <i>VP for Academic Administration & Academic Dean</i>
Conferring of Degrees		Ralph Trecartin
Ringing of the Healdsburg Bell		Milbert Mariano <i>Dean, School of Arts, Humanities, and Professional Studies</i>
Alumni Welcome		Carlos Garcia <i>VP for Alumni & Advancement</i>
Benediction		Aimee Leukert <i>VP for Student & Spiritual Life</i>
Recessional	<i>Procession of the Nobles</i> NIKOLAI RIMSKY-KORSAKOV	Ronnie Zanella

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REGISTRAR: Craig Philpott; COMMENCEMENT MARSHALS: Katrina Blue and Keith Neergaard
Junior class members Emma Cheen and Danielle Tarango will usher the senior procession.
Please remain seated until graduates and faculty have exited.

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE
CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES ~ JUNE 2026

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

HeeEun Jeon
(Secondary)

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Bryan Dillon Loh
(Management)

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Ayodele Alabi
(Leadership and Business Management)
Erick Josue Cruz Larios
(Education)
Bianca Erghelegiu
(Education)
Jamie Amber Flores
(Education)
Michael Magnus Olbrantz Lehman
(Education)
Milka De Michael Saint-Vil
(Leadership and Business Management)
Esperanza Toscano
(Leadership and Business Management)

CLASS OFFICERS

†Jacqueline Messing
Bachelor of Science in Biology;
Minor in Communication
Senior Class President
HONORS PROJECT: *Fire-Induced Soil
Changes and Their Effects on the
Invasive French Broom in Napa Valley*
*◇Madison-Alejandra Dietrich
Bachelor of Science in Psychology;
Bachelor of Social Work
Senior Class Executive Vice President
(Cum Laude)
Abiel Keilah-Icylynn Irving
Bachelor of Science in Psychology;
Minor in Chemistry
Senior Class Religious Vice President
(Cum Laude)

Patricia Simamora

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design
Senior Class Public Relations Vice President

Anne Katheryn Lopez

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry
Senior Class Social Vice President

STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

◇Bethanee Keikilani Tabura

Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences;
Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art
*Student Association President (2025-2026),
Student Association Social Vice President
(2023-2024, 2024-2025)*
(Summa Cum Laude)

†Justin Bernard Taina

Bachelor of Science in Biology
*Student Association Executive Vice
President (2024-2025, 2025-2026)*
(Summa Cum Laude)

Anthony Arochi III

Bachelor of Business Administration
(Accounting)
*Student Association Financial Vice
President (2025-2026)*

Kyler Leland VanHook

Bachelor of Arts in Theology;
Minor in Fine Art
Student Association Religious Vice President
(2025-2026)
(Magna Cum Laude)

◇Leila Anaiis Mendoza Beltran

Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies;
Associate of Science in Music
*Student Association Religious Vice
President (2024-2025)*
(Summa Cum Laude)

Ashley Estefania Castro Rodriguez

Bachelor of Arts in Communication and
Theology
*Student Association Religious Vice
President (2022-2023, 2023-2024)*

◇Tessa Rose Hutzkal
 Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design and
 Language and Culture Studies
 (Spanish and Music); Associate of
 Science in Emergency Services
*Student Association Public Relations and
 Marketing Vice President (2023-2024)*
 (Magna Cum Laude)

Kaylin Alexis Mincey Neal
 Bachelor of Science in Psychology
*Student Association Social Vice
 President (2025-2026)*

◇Eden Darcy Salazar
 Bachelor of Science in Emergency
 Management; Associate of Science in
 Emergency Services; Minor in Spanish
*Student Association Social Vice
 President (2022-2023)*
 HONORS PROJECT: *Living the Dream:
 A Look Into Cumulative Trauma in
 First Responders*

Britney A. Hernandez
 Bachelor of Science in Psychology;
 Minor in Communication
*Student Association Secretary (2024-2025,
 2025-2026)*
 (Summa Cum Laude)

Capriana Vynesaestel Jackson
 Bachelor of Arts in Language and Culture
 Studies (French and Writing); Minors in
 Art History and Aviation
 (Magna Cum Laude)

*Amy Lesha Martinez
 Graphic Design

*Soren Nelson
 Fine Art

Kateryna Popravkina
 Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design
 and Film
 (Summa Cum Laude)

Korey Rangel
 Graphic Design

Brenna Joelle Richards
 Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design;
 Minor in Photography

Daria Shelkovska
 Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design;
 Minor in Photography

Aleks Sotelo
 Business Administration

Sean Andre Beo Tierra
 Bachelor of Arts in Business
 Administration; Minor in Psychology

Jason Vasquez
 Global Health

Magdalena Emily Maria Walters
 Fine Art

Mackenzie LaRae Wheeler
 Religion (Biblical Studies)

Edwin Hugo Zabala
 Bachelor of Arts in Business
 Administration; Minor in
 Communication

SCHOOL OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND PROFESSIONS

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Isaac Baek
 English (Writing)

Teresa L. Chaffee
 Religion (Biblical Studies)
 HONORS PROJECT: *Whole Person Transfer:
 A Neuro-Pedagogical Framework Based
 on the Teaching Methods of Jesus*
 (Summa Cum Laude)

Emma Fedchenko
 Graphic Design

Kaleb Hubbard
 Business Administration

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Allison Marisol Arenas Sosa
 (International Business)

Harry de Koning
 (Marketing); Minor in Communication

Kamryn Elise Douglas
 (Accounting)

Campbell Stephen Fuller
 (Management)

Jonathan Dewey Murdick
(Marketing)
HONORS PROJECT: *From Patronage to
Playlists: A Comparative Study of Classical
Music Marketing*
(Cum Laude)
Samuel Aaron Parker
(Healthcare Management)

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Nils Anderson
Film
HONORS PROJECT: *A Machine for Lying*
(Magna Cum Laude)
Makenna Brabrook
Film
(Cum Laude)
Fabiola Alexandra Ixcot Rodriguez
Film
Melaney Grace Klinedinst
Film
(Cum Laude)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Adwoa Appiah-Boateng
Bachelor of Science in Health
Communication; Minor in Chemistry
(Cum Laude)
Daniel A. Benjamin
Communication
Taytan Bereket
Health Communication
*Ryan Christopher Bigelow
Business Administration
(Cum Laude)
Victor Antonio Garcia III
Management Information Systems
(Magna Cum Laude)
Lorenzo Lucas Lentini
Bachelor of Science in Communication;
Minor in Psychology
Elvis Luevano
Aviation
Paola Sabine Millan Bernal
Early Childhood Education
(Cum Laude)

Kate Ho'olana Nakamura
Bachelor of Science in Health
Communication; Minor in Fine Art
(Summa Cum Laude)

Natalie Adrienne Emi Nakanishi
Bachelor of Science in Business
Administration and Psychology;
Minor in Pre-Law
HONORS PROJECT: *Buying with the Heart;
The Equine Market*
(Cum Laude)

Noah Jayden Mendoza Noble
Aviation
(Cum Laude)

Anna Maria Ramos Marin
Bachelor of Science in Communication;
Minor in Public Relations

Makayla Ann Riddle
Liberal Studies
(Cum Laude)

Jessica Ivett Solis
Liberal Studies

Abigail Ronayn Suttan
Bachelor of Science in Strategic
Communication; Minor in
Health Communication

Noa Svendsen
Business Administration

Connor Murray Virnig
Music (Composition)
(Cum Laude)

Angelina Tess Anara Walters
Liberal Studies

Isabel Westenrider
Early Childhood Education
(Summa Cum Laude)

*Renee Whitlock-Hemsouvanh
Early Childhood Education

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Marc Roy Perez Ejurango
Music

SCHOOL OF SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

†◇Andrew Baluyot

Bachelor of Science in Chemistry;
Associate of Science in Health Sciences
(Summa Cum Laude)

◇Vatemo Boubouvesi

Bachelor of Science in Biology;
Associate of Science in Global Health

Hannah Choi

Biology

Cassandra Lynn Cundy

Biochemistry
(Cum Laude)

Adrian Martinez Denoncourt

Data Science
(Cum Laude)

†Tiffany Bao-Tram Do

Biochemistry
(Summa Cum Laude)

Ethan Landau Durns

Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science;
Minor in Business Administration

Aaliyah Maryah Gaitan

Exercise Science

◇Kyra Ann Grant

Bachelor of Science in Psychology;
Associate of Science in Music

Raven Alexis James

Exercise Science
(Cum Laude)

Isaac Kim

Biology
(Cum Laude)

◇Emily Ann Lalas

Bachelor of Science in Biology;
Associate of Science in Music
HONORS PROJECT: *Preservation of
Musical Memory in Alzheimer's Disease:
Promises in Music-based Therapy*
(Cum Laude)

Ryin Le

Biology

Andrea Michelle Maidan

Biology
(Summa Cum Laude)

Noah Emil Marsh

Exercise Science

Caleb A. Ortiz

Exercise Science

Ronan Paterno

Biology

Sho Tsuchiya

Bachelor of Science in Psychology;
Minor in Emergency Management

Judy Vallier

Psychology

Cierra Chantal Williams

Psychology
(Magna Cum Laude)

Rachel H. Yoo

Biology
(Cum Laude)

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Jared Alexander Diaz

Social Work

Natalia Irene Marron

Bachelor of Social Work;
Minor in Spanish
(Magna Cum Laude)

Serene Ahwah Oler

Social Work
(Cum Laude)

Abigail Rose Sauser

Social Work

Elizabeth Marie Vargas

Social Work

Patrick Louis Douglas Whiteside

Social Work

SCHOOL OF NURSING AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

◇Julien Karla Acupan

Associate of Science in Nursing

Tirza Nicol Alvarez

Yaw Appiah-Boateng

*Deanna Marie Basham

(Cum Laude)

Mary Dennise Jumangit Bayabaya

*Maia Lee Blundell

(Magna Cum Laude)

David Em Bui

(Cum Laude)

◇Edith Ivette Bustos

Associate of Science in Nursing

Cynthia Morales Camarillo

*Deog Ae Cha

◇Elysia Skye Jaque Cid

Associate of Science in Nursing

(Magna Cum Laude)

*Jennifer De La Rosa Garcia

(Cum Laude)

Karena Dawn Cheryl DeHaven

(Magna Cum Laude)

◇Bianca Dela Torre

Associate of Science in Nursing

*Carlo Garcia Deleon

(Cum Laude)

*Peace Kelechi Echendu

(Magna Cum Laude)

*Rebecca Emerson

Princess Aniyah Espinoza

*Joyce Figueroa

(Magna Cum Laude)

Paola E. Flores

Jessica Lizbeth Garcia Guillermo

Adam Gaviola

◇Rachel Hidalgo Gaviola

Associate of Science in Nursing

(Magna Cum Laude)

◇Rochelle Hidalgo Gaviola

Associate of Science in Nursing

(Cum Laude)

*Miguel Angel Gomez

*Destiny Rose Irene Gray

*David Joshua Gutierrez Pineda

*Leslie Denisse Gutierrez Rodriguez

Kare-Lee Chanel Henry

Tamera Henry

Jan Jernigan

Jessica Knight

(Cum Laude)

Kylie Justine Lampela

◇Ailyn Rose Lara

Associate of Science in Nursing

Ynarose Santos Lara

*Morgan Marie Le Derout

(Cum Laude)

Andrea Kaylie Gallego Liwanag

◇Madeline Kay Bao Lo

Associate of Science in Nursing

*Hillary Luciani

(Magna Cum Laude)

Kiana Navarro Lulu

*Thai Hoang Luong

*Beryl Shane Sorilla Maghinay

(Summa Cum Laude)

Vanessa Marie Manzanares

Breanna Denise Meyer

(Cum Laude)

Carmen Naomi Miller

*Leo Luna Ocampo Jr.

(Cum Laude)

Rawnie O'Connor

◇Tiffany Palacol

Associate of Science in Nursing

Eiden Kylee Bagang Paras

◇Devin-Kyle Racel

Associate of Science in Nursing

Mariah Elyssa Ramirez

(Summa Cum Laude)

Elle Lilia Ramos

*Jose Luis Reyes III

*Jennifer Roark

(Magna Cum Laude)

Edyan Bless Rodriguez

(Cum Laude)

Shauna Kristine Rogers

*Elaha Shams

Jasmyne Raecel Spencer-Wheeler
(Cum Laude)

*Rachel Starr
Nathaniel Anthony Bagang Suarez
(Cum Laude)

Crystal Raine Valerie Turner Tamayo

*Leslie Maria Tamayo
(Cum Laude)

Catherine Isabella Tarango

Cristina Leticia Torres

Jennifer Tran

Samantha Nicole Wisco Trinidad
(Magna Cum Laude)

*Eril Udarbe
(Cum Laude)

*David Villagomez Barcenas

*Reilly M. Waddington
(Magna Cum Laude)

*Quinn Alexandra Washburn

◊Maki Lisa Waters
Associate of Science in Nursing
(Magna Cum Laude)

Bailey Wong

Jasmine Marie Wood

*Crystal Yanez

*Teresita Zamudio Bucio
Jing Zhang
(Cum Laude)

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Connor Michael Phillips
Emergency Services

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

*Brianna Shea Adams
(Magna Cum Laude)

Ariana Paola Alfaro

Jai Nazareth Almaraz

Stephanie Alvarado Vazquez

Alma Laura Amaya
(Cum Laude)

Darnell Andrew Aparicio

Nayeli Arroyo

Jake Bahls

Christine Joy Lacap Balabis
(Magna Cum Laude)

Nico Ferrer Bangsal
(Cum Laude)

Vince Eivan Abarca Barcelona

*Ryan James Baudoin

Vera Quinne Tayo Bautista

Tanya Renee Becerril

*Lynn Berger
Pablo Bernal
(Cum Laude)

*Danielle Alexandria Blaschke
(Magna Cum Laude)

Derrick Cole Bohlman

Jessica Marie Bowles

Zoe Tyler Bruns
(Cum Laude)

Adam Andre Canlas
(Cum Laude)

Ranz Klyden Monegas Carvajal

Alondra Cendejas

Suhaan Singh Chandni

*Dana Chinier
Gabrielle Raine Cortez

Victoria Layne Crane
(Cum Laude)

Gabriella Nicole Curtola

Justine Damazo

Czarina S. Dayahan

Van Gerald Del Valle

Chelsea Alohilani DeMello

Melody Melina Dodge

Shaelyn Dominguez
(Cum Laude)

Terese Francheska Uera Dumbrique
(Cum Laude)

*Jennifer Marie Eads
Leylah Echeverria

†June Eo
(Magna Cum Laude)

Skye Trinity Anita Evans

Bradley Kelechi Ezike

Matthew Fernandez

Mylene Rose Sangco Francisco

Shelby Geremia

Trinidad Fierro Gleave

Jazlyn Godinez

Brittini Taylor Gomez

- *Andrea Gruber
(Cum Laude)
Sara Guerrero
Isabel Rose Harper
Shavon Christine Henley
Jasper Lawrence Henry
(Cum Laude)
Kristina Hewitt
Abigail Ashley Huerta
(Cum Laude)
Kristal Lynn Jacobs
Jacob M. Jory
*Jacob Jovick
Siena Karp
Leena Johanna Keith
(Cum Laude)
Hyoung Jin Kim
Christina E Konberg
*Marcy Ann Donaldson Leboy
Jayme Lynn Lewallen
Gabriel Llanell-Vararaj
Ngan Kim Luong
Scotia Lynch
Anabel Maldonado
Mary Katherine Sim Garduce Manuta
Araceli Martinez
Jadan Mintzita Martinez
(Summa Cum Laude)
Marika Martinez
Maricela Mateo
(Cum Laude)
Javier Mazzaferri
Rachel McCoy
Isabelle Miller
(Cum Laude)
Maggie Louise Mills
Stacey Mina
(Magna Cum Laude)
Hailey Alexis Navarro
(Cum Laude)
*Jason Patrick Naylor
Mikayla Jenae Neely
Sherane Uy Negre
(Cum Laude)
MacKenna Nesbitt
Madison Nieman
Melissa Rae Niemeyer
Sarah Elizabeth Nuth
John E. O'Bryan Jr.
Estefania Orozco Lopez
*Linda Papapetrou
Alaya Pallais-Parish
Samuel Sang Yeol Park
Eva Marie-Alix Pavon
(Cum Laude)
Brittney Sue Platt
Angela Marie Pofi
(Cum Laude)
Aspen Janae Pouncey
(Cum Laude)
Elizabeth Andrade Pulido
Czerina Purdy
Maria D. Ramirez Rivera
Kevin Reticado
Jacqueline Adriana Reyes
*Jessica Lynn Ridout
Daniel Hugh Riley
Faye Rippe
(Cum Laude)
Kelly Jean Roberts
*Megann Rubash
Andrew Jay Bagang Sagad
Taehlar Shay Samuels
(Magna Cum Laude)
Junel Capicoy Sanchez
(Cum Laude)
Yetzenia Guadalupe Sanchez-Mendoza
Jazmine Anne San Pedro Santiago
(Cum Laude)
Zophia Dhel San Pedro Santiago
(Cum Laude)
Alexis Louise Bernardo Santos
(Cum Laude)
Jordan Glenn Sarran
Julie Schafer
(Cum Laude)
Jeromey Eugene Schwarm, Sr.
(Cum Laude)
Raelynn Scott
Maria Serinity Reyes Siao

Kishi Alessandra Macatiag Sigua
(Cum Laude)
*Michael David Skaggs
(Magna Cum Laude)
Jamie J. Snyder
Tiahna Justine Solon
Brittany Nicole Stevens
Hannah Elizabeth Tanguay
†Yaelle Puen Tanjuakio
(Cum Laude)
Matthew Julius Thompson
Tomi A. Tietjen
*Annika Todd
(Cum Laude)
Chioma Tyra Ugoh
Elisabeth Shea Unsworth
(Magna Cum Laude)

Shannen Kate Urquiola
Ximena Valencia Ruiz
Yvette Yovanna Valle-Guerrero
*Ryann Rose Van Horn
(Cum Laude)
*Rita Jesusa Vela
Jeffrey Ryan William Veness
Raijan Joseph Camoro Villacruel
Sarah Adams Vogt
(Summa Cum Laude)
Rachel Walters
Tyzel Duane Watson
Montanna Wilkinson
(Magna Cum Laude)
†Matthew Ryan Winokan
(Cum Laude)
Alyssa Zabala

**In Absentia †Maxwell Scholar ◊Completing dual degrees*

The commencement program does not constitute an official list of the 2026 graduates.



CLASS THEME:

Evergreen

CLASS MOTTO:

The deeper the roots, the stronger the calling.

CLASS SCRIPTURE:

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Banner Bearers

Platform Party:

Program Participants

Vice Presidents

Board Members

Commencement Marshals

Administration Associates

Professors Emeriti

Faculty:

Professors

Associate Professors

Assistant Professors

Instructors

Lecturers

Staff

Graduating Class of 2026:

Master of Business Administration

Master of Education

Master of Science in Nursing

Senior Class Officers

Student Association Officers

School of Arts, Humanities, and Professions:

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Business Administration

Bachelor of Fine Art

Bachelor of Science

Associate of Science

School of Sciences:

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Science

Bachelor of Social Work

Associate of Science

School of Nursing and Emergency Management:

Bachelor of Science

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Associate of Science

Associate of Science in Nursing

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ACADEMIC BANNERS

The eight banners used in the graduation procession and displayed during the ceremony represent the college seal and the seven areas of study that are part of the college's legacy of academic offerings. Each banner incorporates either the torch or the book—elements of PUC's college seal. The colors and other symbols employed in each banner represent the academic fields.

- ~ APPLIED ARTS: *Symbols*—Torch and Symbol for Constructing
Colors—Maroon, Orange, and Green
- ~ FINE ARTS: *Symbols*—Torch and Spiral (symbolizing the golden mean)
Colors—Gold Yellow, Crimson, and White
- ~ HUMANITIES: *Symbols*—Book and Quill Pen
Colors—Light Blue and Citron
- ~ NATURAL SCIENCES: *Symbols*—Book and Symbol for the Four Elements
Colors—Green and Gold Yellow
- ~ PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: *Symbols*—Torch and Scroll
Colors—Burnished Gold, Silver Gray, and Apricot
- ~ RELIGION: *Symbols*—Cross and Book
Colors—Scarlet and Purple
- ~ SOCIAL SCIENCES: *Symbols*—Torch and Globe
Colors—Citron and Sage Green

SIGNIFICANCE OF ACADEMIC REGALIA

Caps and gowns worn in formal academic convocations in American colleges and universities are the descendants of the everyday attire worn in the universities of medieval Europe.

Three basic types of gowns are worn: bachelor's gowns have long, pointed sleeves; master's gowns have long, closed sleeves; and doctorate gowns have full sleeves with velvet bars. The bars may be black to indicate any doctoral degree, or the color of the particular degree, e.g., dark blue for Doctor of Philosophy.

The part of the regalia that tells the most about the degree is the hood. Hoods for master's degrees are lined with satin in the colors of the academic institution conferring the degree. The edging or trim of the hood is a wide velvet band, the color of which indicates the academic area in which the degree is earned. The wide, velvet edging of the doctoral hood indicates the particular kind of degree held, e.g., dark blue for Ph.D., light blue for Ed.D., and green for M.D.. The length of the hood reflects the level of the degree represented.

Some universities include stoles specific to their university. PUC graduates have the option of adding the college's stole or stoles representing their cultural heritage, status as a first-generation college graduate, or status in the U.S. military to their regalia. PUC's stole is green with the college's seal in gold. Graduates who have participated in the Adventist Colleges Abroad and PUC World Missions programs wear white and light gray stoles, respectively, with the flag of each country in which they studied or served, while members of the National Society of Leadership & Success may wear platinum stoles with black embroidery.

The mortarboard or beret is worn with all degrees. The tassel should be black or the color appropriate to the subject, with the exception of the doctor's cap that may have a tassel of gold.

STUDENT ROBE COLORS

19

M.A.T., M.B.A., M.Ed., M.S.N., B.A., B.S., B.B.A., B.F.A.	Black
A.S.	Navy
A.S. in Nursing	White

TASSEL COLORS REPRESENTING FIELDS OF STUDY

Arts, Letters, and Humanities	White
Aviation.....	Orange
Business	Burnished Gold
Communication, Speech.....	Silvery Gray
Education, Liberal Studies.....	Light Blue
Emergency Management	Kelly Green
Health Sciences.....	Salmon Pink
Journalism	Crimson
Kinesiology, Physical Education.....	Sage Green
Music.....	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Psychology.....	Gold
Religion, Theology	Scarlet
Social Studies	White
Social Work.....	Citron
Sciences, Mathematics	Gold Yellow
Visual Arts.....	Brown

HONOR CORDS & MEDALLIONS

- ~ Seniors graduating Summa Cum Laude have attained a G.P.A. of 3.90 or above and wear three gold cords.
- ~ Seniors graduating Magna Cum Laude have attained a G.P.A. of 3.75-3.89 and wear two gold cords.
- ~ Seniors graduating Cum Laude have attained a G.P.A. of 3.5-3.749 and wear one gold cord.
- ~ Honors Program graduates wear blue, white, and gold cords.
- ~ Maxwell Scholars wear a medallion with green and gold ribbon.
- ~ Officers of the senior class wear a gold stole.
- ~ Student Association Senators wear a medallion with gold ribbon.
- ~ Officers of the Student Association wear a medallion with green and yellow ribbon.
- ~ Veterans, reservists, and active duty military personnel wear a red, white, and blue cord.
- ~ Members of the International Honor Society in Business, Management, and Administration (Sigma Beta Delta) wear a medallion with forest green ribbon.
- ~ Members of the National Honor Society for Homeland Security, Intelligence, Emergency Management, and all Protective Security Studies Disciplines (Omicron Sigma Sigma) wear blue and gold honor cords.
- ~ Members of the International Honor Society in English (Sigma Tau Delta) wear black and red honor cords.
- ~ Members of the International Honor Society in History (Phi Alpha Theta) wear red and blue cords.
- ~ Members of the International Honor Society in Music (Pi Kappa Lambda) wear gold and white honor cords.
- ~ Members of the Communication National Honor Society (Lambda Pi Eta) wear red and white honor cords.
- ~ Members of the PUC Nursing Honor Society wear apricot and green honor cords.
- ~ Members of the Nursing National Honor Society (Sigma) wear lavender and white cords.
- ~ Members of the Psychology National Honor Society (Psi Chi) wear a blue and silver cord with blue and silver tassels.
- ~ Members of the Social Work National Honor Society (Phi Alpha) wear a blue and gold cord with blue and gold tassels.
- ~ Members of the National Society of Leadership & Success (Sigma Alpha Pi) may wear platinum and black cords.
- ~ Certified Nurse Educators or Clinical Nurse Educators wear red or red and white cords.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NURSING PIN

Florence Nightingale is the first nurse known to have been presented with a professional nursing pin, awarded by Queen Victoria for her outstanding patient care to soldiers during the Crimean War.

The Associate of Science graduates' pin is in the form of a Greek cross, which has become a symbol of unselfish nursing service given with professional knowledge and skill. The lamp in the center of the pin symbolizes the relief of suffering by nurses who give love, care, and healing.

The Bachelor of Science graduates' pin has three circles surrounded by a laurel wreath. Within the inner circle is a flaming torch denoting Christ as the light of the world, and an open book which represents the book of life and the wisdom of the scriptures. The next circle contains the motto of the college, "They shall be all taught of God," and the outer circle identifies the college name, Pacific Union College. The wreath signifies the achievement of the victors of the baccalaureate nursing program.

CLASS VITAE

GRADUATES	LARGEST DEPARTMENTAL GROUPS	ACADEMIC DISTINCTION	
Total Graduates	Nursing	Summa Cum Laude.....	15
	Business Administration.....	Magna Cum Laude.....	28
DEGREES	Psychology & Social Work.....	Cum Laude.....	67
Associate	Visual Arts.....	With Honors.....	7
Bachelor	Biology	Maxwell Scholars	7
Master	Communication & World Languages		
Minors.....			
Total Degrees			

21

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS REPRESENTED

STATES REPRESENTED	COUNTRIES REPRESENTED
California.....	New Mexico.....
Colorado.....	New York.....
Florida.....	Oregon.....
Hawaii.....	Tennessee.....
Indiana.....	Utah.....
Maryland.....	Washington.....
Nebraska.....	
	Australia.....
	Japan.....
	Mexico.....
	Philippines.....
	Republic of Korea.....
	Ukraine.....

STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Anthony Arochi	<i>SA Financial Vice President 2025-2026</i>
Leila Beltran.....	<i>SA Religious Vice President 2024-2025</i>
Ashley Castro Rodriguez	<i>SA Religious Vice President 2022-2023, 2023-2024</i>
Tessa Hutzkal.....	<i>SA PR/Marketing Vice President 2023-2024</i>
Kaylin Mincey Neal	<i>SA Social Vice President 2025-2026</i>
Bethanee Tabura	<i>SA Social Vice President 2023-2024, 2024-2025; SA President 2025-2026</i>
Eden Salazar	<i>SA Social Vice President 2022-2023</i>
Justin Taina	<i>SA Executive Vice President 2024-2025, 2025-2026</i>
Kyler VanHook	<i>SA Religious Vice President 2025-2026</i>
Britney Hernandez.....	<i>SA Secretary 2024-2025, 2025-2026</i>

PARKING

Plan to arrive at least an hour early to Commencement to find parking and get seated. Guests can park on the main campus. Campus parking lots will be closed as they become full. Overflow parking will be at the Howell Mountain Market on Howell Mountain Road. *See map on the following page for parking locations.*

CEREMONY ETIQUETTE

Service dogs accompanying their designated person are the only animals allowed on campus. Emotional support animals and pets are not allowed onsite. As weather may contribute to heat exhaustion of animals, pets should not remain in cars throughout the ceremony and will not be permitted to stay unattended.

Air horns and confetti bombs will be confiscated by event staff and held at the Information Booth for guests to pick up after the ceremony.

If tortillas are thrown, they should not reach the platform and should only be used at appropriate times in the program. Please be respectful of those speaking on the platform.

Pacific Union College is a drug-free and alcohol-free campus. The possession and/or use of any alcohol, smoking device, or smoking equipment on campus is strictly prohibited at all times and will be confiscated by event staff.

ABOUT MAXWELL COMMONS

D. Malcolm Maxwell was the nineteenth president of PUC and the first alumnus to serve in that role. He had the longest tenure—18 years—of any president of the college. Maxwell passed away in 2007, but his legacy and impact on PUC continue to live on. He is remembered for his energy, passion, and commitment to higher education, and it is in this spirit Maxwell Commons was named.

THE HISTORY OF THROWING TORTILLAS

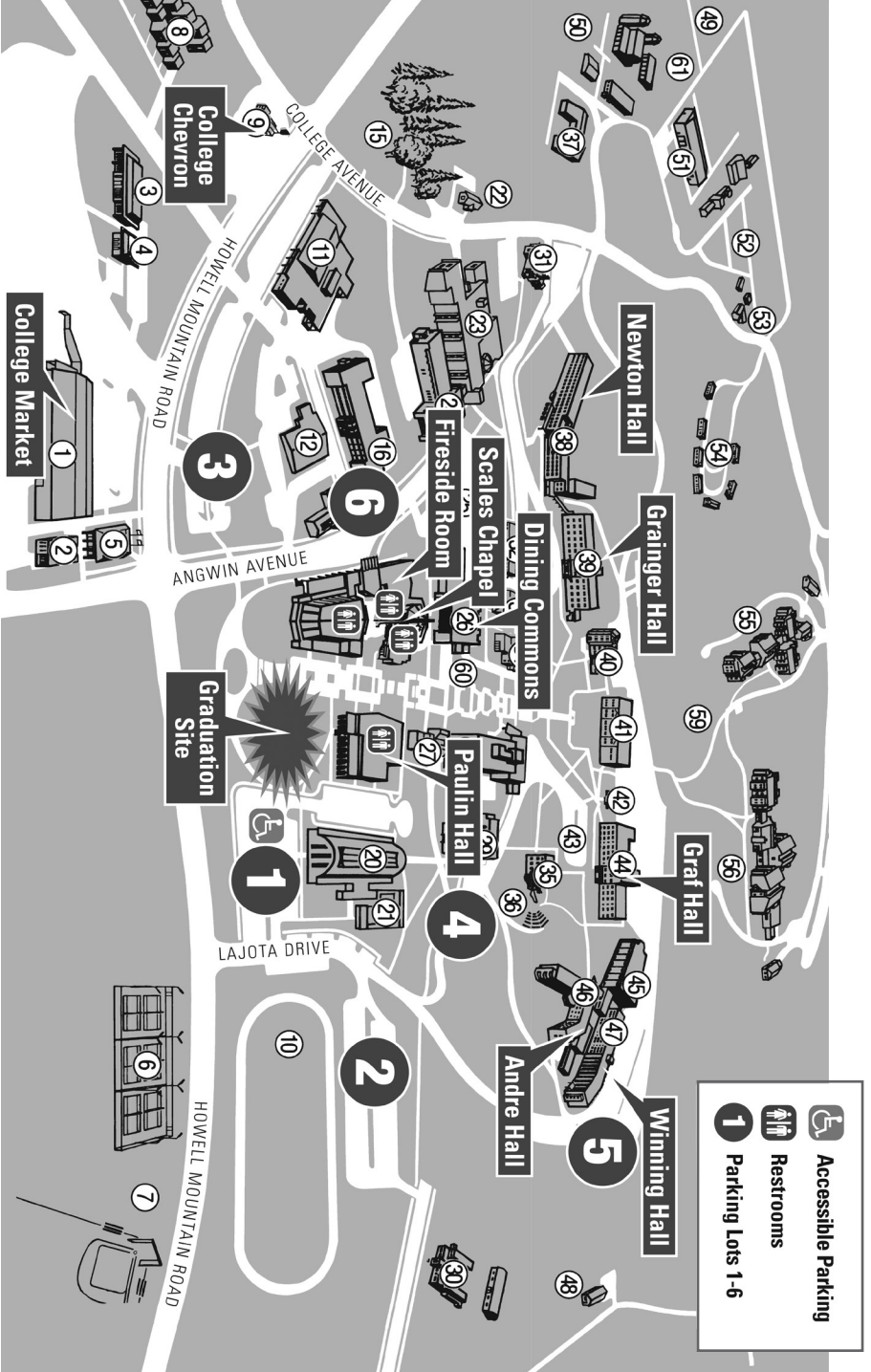
The tradition of throwing tortillas at graduation began in the mid- to late-90s during Pacific Union College's graduation in Commencement Grove. Beach balls and confetti poppers were a time-honored tradition, but then tortilla tossing was introduced. Due to its novelty, it quickly gained popularity, and slowly the other traditions (i.e., beach balls and poppers) faded.

The tortilla-throwing tradition possibly began at Bay to Breakers, the annual footrace in San Francisco. No one really knows when it started, but for decades now, thousands of people have gathered at the starting line and tossed tortillas in the air before the official race begins.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

ROSS E. WINKLE has taught in the Theology department at PUC since 2005, serving as department chair from 2014 to 2022. He received his undergraduate education at Walla Walla College and his master's degree at Andrews University. After one year of chaplaincy and thirteen years of pastoral ministry in Oregon, he began work on his Ph.D. in New Testament studies at Andrews University. His dissertation explored clothing imagery in Revelation 1 as a role-related indicator of the high priestly status of Jesus. Dr. Winkle is a member of the Adventist Society for Religious Studies and the Society of Biblical Literature and has presented academic papers at major biblical studies conferences in Austria, Italy, Poland, Scotland, Türkiye, Bulgaria, the Netherlands, Sweden, Belgium, and the United States. He has received several PUC Faculty Development Research and Honors awards and two Herber Faculty Development Awards. He is currently co-authoring a commentary on 1 Peter. As a professor, he has a talent for transforming rigorous academic insight into ideas that are deeply engaging, intellectually accessible, and genuinely compelling for a wide audience. Alumni frequently remark that years later, they can still vividly recall his lectures and the lasting impact of the way he brought complex subjects to life. Ross and his wife Darla, a dental hygienist, are the parents of Tristan, Elise, and Alexis, and grandparents of four grandchildren.



	Accessible Parking
	Restrooms
	Parking Lots 1-6



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