



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN

Commencement

FALL 2025



Honoring the Class of 2025

FALL COMMENCEMENT UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN

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This program presents an accurate record of candidates for degrees as of the publication date.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR



Congratulations, Graduates!

You did it! You studied hard, worked hard and, hopefully, found some time for fun and friends along the way. Now, it is time to put your dreams into practice.

You are poised to contribute great things to our community and our society. With the skills, knowledge and experience you have gained at UM-Dearborn, you are empowered to make a meaningful difference in the world. You will continue to learn and grow, and there will be both opportunities and challenges along the way, but your UM-Dearborn education will provide a solid foundation for everything you do.

As you move forward in your journey, I encourage you to remain open to new ideas and new experiences. The same sense of curiosity and drive you brought into the classroom will serve you well throughout your life and career. And no matter where your next steps take you, please remember, UM-Dearborn will always be your home.

As a graduate, you now join the University of Michigan alumni network, one of the country's largest at more than 690,000 strong. I am delighted to welcome you into this powerful global community.

Class of 2025, we are so proud of you! You have demonstrated what it means to be leaders and best. I offer you my heartfelt best wishes and look forward to hearing about your future successes and adventures!

Go Blue and Go Dearborn!

Gabriella Scarlatta
Interim Chancellor

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Honoring the Class of 2025

| | |
|---|---|
| Presiding | Gabriella Scarlatta <i>Interim Chancellor</i> |
| Graduate Processional* | St. Andrew's Pipe Band of Detroit |
| Administration and Faculty Processional | "Pomp and Circumstance" by Edward Elgar |
| Welcome | Ghassan Kridli <i>Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs</i> |
| Presentation of the Colors | University of Michigan ROTC Color Guard |
| National Anthem* | "The Star Spangled Banner" by Francis Scott Key Sung by Kavahna Heard |
| Platform Party Introductions | Ghassan Kridli <i>Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs</i> |
| Greetings on Behalf of the University of Michigan Board of Regents <i>(10 a.m. ceremony only)</i> | U-M Regent Representative |
| Remarks on Behalf of Students | Kennedi "Ifasekemi" Hammonds <i>College of Education, Health, and Human Services</i> |
| Introduction of the Commencement Speaker | Ghassan Kridli <i>Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs</i> |

Commencement Address

Dr. Sadaf Lodhi, '96 BS
Founder and CEO, Femme Vie Health

Presentation of Degree Candidates

Dagmar Budikova
Dean, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Frédéric Brunel
Dean, College of Business

Ann Y. Lampkin-Williams
Dean, College of Education, Health, and Human Services

Armen Zakarian
Interim Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science

Presentation of the Chancellor's and Dean's Medallion Winners

Dagmar Budikova
Dean, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Frédéric Brunel
Dean, College of Business

Ann Y. Lampkin-Williams
Dean, College of Education, Health, and Human Services

Armen Zakarian
Interim Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science

Recognition of Honors Graduates

Ghassan Kridli
Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Remarks on Behalf of the University

Gabriella Scarlatta
Interim Chancellor

Recessional*

St. Andrew's Pipe Band of Detroit

*Those who are able are asked to stand for these portions of the program. At the conclusion of the program, the audience will please remain standing until the platform party has left the arena.

Sign Language Interpretation is provided through DeafCAN of Sylvan Lake, Michigan.

STUDENT HONORS

The University of Michigan-Dearborn recognizes outstanding academic achievement in certain programs by calculating the cumulative grade point averages of the students in those programs. Students in all UM-Dearborn undergraduate and graduate programs with a cumulative GPA of 3.8 and above are designated as graduating "With High Distinction." Their names are followed by a double asterisk in this commencement program. Students with "High Distinction" are invited to wear a blue and gold variegated cord in recognition of this honor.

Students in all UM-Dearborn undergraduate and graduate programs who have a cumulative GPA between 3.5 and 3.79 are designated as graduating "With Distinction." Their names are followed by a single asterisk in this commencement program. Students with "Distinction" are invited to wear a gold cord in recognition of this honor.

Chancellor's Medallion

The Chancellor's Medallion is presented to one graduate, from among the Dean's Medallion candidates, based on their quality of character, vitality, intellect, integrity, academic record and altruism. This graduate represents the top graduate for the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Dean's Medallion

The Dean's Medallion is presented to three graduates from each college, selected by their college faculty, based on their quality of character, vitality, intellect, integrity and academic record. These graduates represent the top graduates for each of the four colleges at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Engineering Experiential Honors Program

The College of Engineering and Computer Science Experiential Honors Program inspires the intellectual and leadership growth of students by engaging them in experiences that enhance their preparedness to meet the challenges of their future careers. The program requires students to complete four semesters of faculty-mentored experiential endeavors that include a professional educational experience with industry as well as engineering design and/or research experiences. Those students with the "*" symbol next to their names are recognized for completing program requirements.

Honors Program

The Honors Program at the University of Michigan-Dearborn is a specialized program designed to provide an extra level of challenge for highly qualified and highly motivated students who seek a rigorous college experience. Those students with the "+" symbol next to their names are recognized for completing the Honors Program.

(M)Talent

Students achieve the (M)Talent distinction by earning 50,000 points in the Talent Gateway and successfully presenting at the (M)Talent Showcase. Through this program, students develop creative, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and their willingness to extract deeper meaning from their academic, professional and personal experiences through self-reflection demonstrates their commitment to excellence and investment in their own professional development. Those students with the “■” symbol next to their name are recognized for achieving (M)Talent, and are also identified by the gold stole.

Secondary Provisional Teacher’s Certification

UM-Dearborn students in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters may complete the requirements to receive a recommendation to test for a Secondary Provisional Teacher’s Certificate while earning their bachelor’s degree. A Secondary Provisional Teacher’s Certificate allows students to teach in grades six through 12. Those students with the “^” symbol next to their names have been recommended to test for a Secondary Provisional Teacher’s Certificate by the Governing Faculty of the College of Education, Health, and Human Services.

Veteran/Military Recognition

The University of Michigan-Dearborn recognizes our student veterans/military personnel and honors their service to our country. These students are invited to wear red, white and blue cords in recognition of their service, contribution and sacrifices for our country.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Dr. Sadaf Lodhi, '96 BS

Founder and CEO, Femme Vie Health

Dr. Sadaf Lodhi is a board-certified OB-GYN with over 20 years of experience dedicated to empowering women through education, advocacy and personalized care. She is the founder and CEO of Femme Vie Health, a concierge gynecology practice in New York, and also provides telehealth services for patients in Michigan. Her clinical focus spans the full spectrum of women's health, with a specialization in menopause, sexual health and intimacy coaching.

Dr. Lodhi is a Menopause Society Certified Practitioner, an ISSWSH Fellow, and a sexual counselor and educator through the University of Michigan. She holds a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry with honors from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and earned her doctorate in osteopathic medicine at Michigan

State University.

Dr. Lodhi's impact extends beyond the clinic. In 2023, she delivered a TEDx talk, "Sexual Education for Physicians: Lessons from a Muslim Gynecologist." In 2024, she was honored as Distinguished Alum of the Year by the University of Michigan-Dearborn for her pioneering advocacy through the globally recognized "Muslim Sex Podcast," which has reached audiences worldwide with accessible conversations on menopause, intimacy and sexual health. She is also a contributing author in "Thriving After Burnout" and "Made for More 2," further amplifying her mission to help women embrace midlife as a season of vitality and possibility.

STUDENT SPEAKER



Kennedi "Ifasekemi" Hammonds

College of Education, Health, and Human Services

Since transferring to UM-Dearborn in 2023, Kennedi "Ifasekemi" Hammonds has distinguished herself as a scholar, leader and advocate for equity in health and education. A mother of three, she is graduating with high distinction and has been recognized on the Dean's List every semester since Fall 2023. In addition to academic excellence, Ifasekemi has demonstrated a deep commitment to campus and community engagement. She served as the 2024-25 chair of the Student Government Inclusion Committee and is currently basileus (president) of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Xi Upsilon Chapter, where she has championed initiatives centered on women's wellness, inclusion and service. She also served as social media and marketing chair for the Black Student Union in Fall 2024 and has mentored peers through the SOAR and Wolverine Mentor Collective programs. In addition, Ifasekemi is a proud member of the National Society of Leadership and

Success and Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society.

A recipient of multiple honors, including the Beth Beson Returning Women Scholarship, the Janet & Cynthia Hewitt Scholarship, the Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship and the Velda D. Taylor Scholarship, Ifasekemi has combined scholarship with impact. Professionally, she works as a contingent doula with Henry Ford Health and a community health worker with Corewell Health's east region, contributing to the Healthy Baby Connect AI-ECHO program, which uses artificial intelligence to improve maternal and infant outcomes. Following graduation, she plans to pursue a Master of Public Health, specializing in maternal and child health and health informatics and advancing her mission to improve birth equity and family health outcomes through innovation and compassion.

CHANCELLOR'S MEDALLION RECIPIENT

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES



Kimberly Bertges

Degree: Bachelor of Science in health and human services, human services concentration; minor in criminology and criminal justice

Awards, Honors and Distinction: Dean's List (F24, W25); University Honors (F24, W25); James B. Angell Scholar (2025); member of Alpha Sigma Lambda and Phi Theta Kappa honor societies

Scholarships: MI Fostering Futures Scholarship; Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship; Destination Blue Scholarship

Academic Achievements and Internships: Kimberly collaborated with faculty, students and community organizations on research projects, including program planning for the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance; an HHS 410 project titled "Insight Into the Complex Nature of Marital Dependency and Its Implications for Mental Health;" a mini-literature review on attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder; and a StoryMap project titled "Vanishing Biodiversity: A Looming Threat to Food Security." Additionally, Kimberly participated in the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program with Professor of History Anna Muller as part of the criminology and criminal justice minor, where she participated in a creative reinterpretation of themes in "Othello," "Oedipus Rex," "Fences" and "Desdemona."

Kimberly was one of the first graduates of a Henry Ford College transfer agreement that enabled her to earn her Associate of Applied Science in social work and counseling technician and then her Bachelor of Science in health and human services with a human services concentration. Kimberly completed her studies at UM-Dearborn in just three semesters. "Kimberly is a strong student who has overcome obstacles and always tries harder when met with challenges," observed Health and Human Services Lecturer Samantha Hallman.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Girl Scouts leader; weekly Dearborn Support volunteer; Wolverine Mentor to 12 students; member of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Collective, First Gen Student Org, TRIO and SOAR; parent-teacher association member in multiple Livonia public schools

Future Plans: After graduation, Kimberly plans to pursue employment in foster care or correctional rehabilitation. Drawing from her own experiences in the foster care system and her academic background in human services and criminology and criminal justice, she is committed to advocating for system-involved individuals. Kimberly intends to take a gap year to gain additional professional experience before pursuing graduate studies, with the long-term goal of creating meaningful change that supports those whose voices often go unheard.

DEAN'S MEDALLION RECIPIENTS

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND LETTERS



Julia Fahling

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in international studies with concentrations in Spanish and museum studies, and Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic studies

Awards, Honors and Distinction: University Honors (W22, F23, W24, F24); Honors Scholar (2025); James B. Angell Scholar (W25); Dean's List (F21-W25)

Scholarships: Michigan Competitive Scholarship, Honors Scholarship, Beth A. Beson Anthropology Field Study Scholarship

Academic Achievements and Internships: As a double major, Julia has been recognized as an outstanding student by both Hispanic Studies and Behavioral Science faculty. She has worked as an archaeology research assistant under the supervision of Professor of Anthropology John Chenoweth, contributing to the study of Great Lakes trade networks. In Summer 2025, she completed a scholarship-supported archaeological field workshop on Roman pottery in North Macedonia.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: La Mezcla (Spanish club), Candid Conversations, Cultural Showcase Night organizer, Study Abroad (Spain), museum conservation work (Henry Ford Museum), young adult ministry (Ward Church)

Future Plans: Julia is currently employed as a conservation specialist at the Henry Ford Museum. She plans to continue in this role while applying to graduate programs in art conservation.



Sara Moughni

Degree: Bachelor of Science in behavioral and biological sciences

Awards, Honors and Distinction: University Honors (F22, W23, W24, W25); James B. Angell Scholar (W24, W25); William J. Branstrom Freshman Prize (W23); Dean's List (F22-S25)

Scholarships: Chancellor's Scholarship, Honors Scholarship, Rosa Parks Scholarship

Academic Achievements and Internships: Sara has been recognized for academic excellence in multiple fields as recipient of the General Chemistry and ACS Organic Chemistry awards, and the Behavioral and Biological Sciences Outstanding Student and Research awards. She has conducted neurobiology research in the laboratory of Associate Professor of Neurobiology Zhi "Elena" Zhang since Fall 2022, co-authoring three publications and receiving a Summer Undergraduate Research Experience fellowship.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Creative Needs Project (chapter president), Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (youth fellow), Center for Health and Research Transformation (community advisory board), volunteer with Mainstay Foundation and Zaman International, medical scribe and medical assistant with local clinics

Future Plans: Sara has completed pre-medicine prerequisites as a BBS major and has been accepted to Michigan State University Medical School. She will begin in Fall 2026.

DEAN'S MEDALLION RECIPIENTS

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND LETTERS



Mohammad Serhan

Degree: Bachelor of Science in biological sciences; minors in music and philosophy

Awards, Honors and Distinction: University Honors (F23, F24, W25); James B. Angell Scholar (W25); William J. Branstrom Prize (W24); Dean's List (F23-W25)

Academic Achievements and Internships: Mohammad has conducted research on cell chirality in the laboratory of Assistant Professor of Biology Jie Fan, for which he was recognized with Best Presentation at the 2025 Natural Sciences Poster Session and Research Awards. He is currently drafting two research papers based on this work. He was recognized by Natural Sciences faculty with the 2025 Cell and Molecular Biology Award.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Philosophy Club, Wolverine Mentor Collective peer mentor, piano instructor and performer, medical assistant (Breathing and Sleep Medical Center), math peer tutor (Henry Ford College), Dearborn poll worker, clinical volunteer, community tree planting volunteer, assistant soccer coach

Future Plans: Mohammad plans to continue conducting research with Prof. Fan and Associate Professor of Neurobiology Zhi "Elena" Zhang, while applying to medical school.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS



Christopher Hinojosa

Degree: Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting

Awards, Honors and Distinction: University Honors (F24, W25); Dean's List (F23-W25)

Scholarships: College of Business Undergraduate 4+1 Scholarship; Destination Maize; Tax Executives Institute Accounting Scholarship

Academic Achievements and Internships: Christopher completed an internship at Ernst & Young in summer 2025, where he specialized in technology risk assurance. He honed his technical skills working on the global audit engagement for General Motors, one of EY's most complex and high-profile accounts. This work included in-depth analysis of complicated systems and navigating multifaceted information system processes, while also requiring strong collaboration skills and professionalism. His supervisor, Nevada Hargress, described Christopher as a "gold-standard intern" and noted that his proactiveness and adaptability made him stand out among his peers.

As a transfer student, Christopher's academic career has not been a straightforward journey. He began at Schoolcraft College with a plan to study engineering but ultimately chose to pursue business. He transferred to UM-Dearborn to take advantage of its smaller class sizes and opportunities to connect with faculty. Christopher's academic skills were apparent early on, when he excelled in Accounting Information Systems, which is known to be one of the most difficult courses in the undergraduate accounting program. His outstanding performance earned him a position as a grader for the course for three semesters beginning in Fall 2024. The instructor for the class, Associate Professor of Accounting Kevin Kobelsky, praised Christopher's ability to go above and beyond and his dedication to helping his peers learn, all while balancing personal challenges and volunteer work.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Beta Gamma Sigma honor society, Gleaners Food Bank, guest speaker for BA 100

Future Plans: Christopher has accepted an offer to return to Ernst & Young in their technology risk division following the success of his summer internship. He plans to take the CPA exam with Information Systems and Control as the discipline section, and to one day pursue certifications and a master's degree in the cybersecurity field.

DEAN'S MEDALLION RECIPIENTS

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS



Jessica Ley

Degree: Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting and finance

Awards, Honors and Distinction: University Honors (W23, F24, W25); Dean's List (F21-F23, F24-W25)

Scholarships: College of Business Undergraduate 4+1 Scholarship; EY-Hilary Q. Kind Memorial Scholarship; Kris and Ruth Pfahler Scholarship; College of Business Board of Advisors Scholarship; Central Study Abroad Scholarship; Michael and Vana Surmanian Family Scholarship

Academic Achievements and Internships: Jessica worked as an assurance intern at Yeo & Yeo from January to August 2024 and began another internship there in May 2025. In her role, Jessica has been responsible for auditing financial statements and has strengthened her communication and collaboration skills by working with other audit teams and contacting clients. Jessica's academic excellence led to her becoming a supplemental instructor from September 2023 to April 2025. She received frequent positive feedback from students who attended her sessions.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Beta Alpha Psi member since W23; BAP Assistant Director of Member Relations (F23); BAP Director of Member Relations (W24); BAP Co-President (F24-present); Beta Gamma Sigma honor society; International Summer Program in Management (ISPM-Italy) participant; frequent guest speaker in BA 100; student speaker for COB Celebration of Excellence; panelist for Michigan Association of CPAs High School Leadership Event; speaker for Undergraduate Admissions recruiting event; volunteer at Edgemont Elementary; Fleece & Thank You volunteer.

BAP's faculty advisor, Lecturer of Accounting Patricia Graybeal, praised Jessica's dedication to creating opportunities for members to grow professionally and give back to their communities, describing her as a selfless role model who epitomizes UM-Dearborn's values.

Future Plans: In January 2026, Jessica will begin working full time at Yeo & Yeo as a member of the assurance staff. She will complete her Master of Science in accounting and graduate in May 2026 as a participant in the 4+1 program and begin preparing for the CPA exams.



Mariana Molinari Barros

Degree: Bachelor of Business Administration in supply chain management and finance

Awards, Honors and Distinction: University Honors (F21, W22); William J. Branstrom Freshman Prize (W22); Dean's List (F21-W25)

Scholarships: Council for Insurance Agents and Brokers Scholarship, Michael and Vana Surmanian Family Scholarship

Academic Achievements and Internships: Mariana has completed several internships in the supply chain field. In summer 2023, she was a materials intern at Adient, where she enhanced inventory control processes and supported the implementation of new management systems. From October 2023 to March 2024, Mariana was a student buyer on the Mechatronics and Modules Purchasing team at Stellantis and improved her analysis and project planning skills. In summer 2025, she took on greater project coordination responsibilities in her project management internship at OneDigital.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Office of Student Life Leadership Program; International Summer Program in Management (ISPM-Italy); Midwest Decision Science Institute Case Competition (team earned 2nd place); Supply Chain Association member since Fall 2021; SCA Director of Events (September 2021-May 2022, September 2025-present); SCA President (September 2023-May 2024, Winter 2025); Society for Human Resource Management Vice President of Recruitment (Winter 2025); SHRM General Vice President (September 2022-March 2023)

Mariana led the College of Business team to 2nd place in the 2024 MWDSI Case Competition. She guided the team through project design and execution and faced some of the difficulties of being a leader when she had to restructure the team to address performance challenges. Her natural talent for project management has also been praised by her OneDigital supervisor Hannah Zieser, who noted Mariana's ability to comprehend all levels of a project and described her as "one of the most impressive early-career professionals" she has met. Mariana has given back to the College of Business by developing presentation training for future case competition teams and creating new industry connections as a leader of the Supply Chain Association while increasing membership numbers.

Future Plans: Mariana has already taken on a full-time role at OneDigital as a project coordinator and will continue to pursue her passion for project management. She plans to earn her Project Management Professional certification in 2026 and eventually pursue a master's degree in the field.

DEAN'S MEDALLION RECIPIENTS

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE



Nicholas Wheelock

Degree: Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering

Awards, Honors and Distinction: University Honors (F23-W25); Honors Scholar (2024); James B. Angell Scholar (2025)

Scholarships: Battery Workforce Challenge BattScholar

Academic Achievements and Internships: Nick served as a teaching assistant for ECE 210 and ECE 3731 under Lecturer Azeem Hafeez for two years, and developed instructional videos for ECE 480 and ECE 450 under Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Selim Awad. He worked as a drone research assistant on brushless DC electric motor applications under Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Taehyung Kim, supported by a National Science Foundation grant. As hardware team lead for the Battery Workforce Challenge in the first year of the three-year competition, Nick helped his team achieve a Top 3 ranking in a national deliverable competition. In summer 2024, he interned at Stellantis as a charging and power moding calibration intern.

Future Plans: Nick is currently an electronics engineer at Ambient Biosciences, specializing in firmware development. He is also pursuing a Master of Science in electrical engineering with a focus in embedded systems at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.



Owen Gill

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Engineering in mechanical engineering

Awards, Honors and Distinction: Dean's List (F21-F25); University Honors (F22-W24); James B. Angell Scholar (2023-2025)

Scholarships: Owen was awarded the James and Geraldine Poe Research Assistantship for the 2024-25 academic year. Only two such assistantships are granted annually to undergraduate students in the Department of Mechanical Engineering to support faculty-guided research projects.

Academic Achievements and Internships: Owen completed two undergraduate research projects under the guidance of Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering Rafael Ruiz, focusing on the development and testing of mechanical suture joint mechanisms. The results were presented at the Fall 2024 Summer Undergraduate Research Experience Showcase. Currently, Owen works in Prof. Ruiz' research lab, collaborating on projects involving polycatenane metamaterials, joint geometries and the non-destructive evaluation of hydrogel mechanical properties. Since May 2023, Owen has also worked part time as a co-op intern at Maxion Wheels, and he helps run his family's automotive repair shop. In Fall 2025, Owen was selected as one of five CECS students to attend the Management Briefing Seminars organized by the Center for Automotive Research at Michigan Central Station in Detroit. He was also a member of the senior design team that received Honorable Mention in the Winter 2025 CECS Senior Design Competition.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Since 2023, Owen has been a member of MASA-Dearborn, the university's rocketry club, and served as one of the technical team leaders. He led the boat tail design team, working to reduce aerodynamic drag, and has presented results at four technical design reviews to faculty and alumni. He also served as a tutor at the Math Learning Center in Fall 2023 and Winter 2024, tutoring Calculus I-III, Differential Equations and Linear Algebra. Owen has volunteered for various activities, including open labs for prospective students and with Forgotten Harvest.

Future Plans: Owen is currently enrolled in the 4+1 program and plans to complete his MSE in mechanical engineering at UM-Dearborn. He is in the process of being hired as a full-time engineer at Maxion Wheels. His career goals include gaining expertise in advanced powertrain engineering and joining the research and development team at Cummins. Alternatively, he is considering pursuing a PhD at UM-Dearborn and a future in research and academia.

DEAN'S MEDALLION RECIPIENTS

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE



Vlad Nitu

Degree: Bachelor of Science in computer and information science, information systems concentration

Awards, Honors and Distinction: University Honors (F22-W25); William J. Branstrom Freshman Prize; James B. Angell Scholar (2024, 2025)

Scholarships: Excellence Scholarship (2022-2025)

Academic Achievements and Internships: As part of his Senior Design project, Vlad worked with the Friends of the Rouge to design a machine learning model and architecture to determine frog species based on their recorded calls, map their location and then save all data to a database. He also contributed to the development of an AI-based app that uses the model. This helps Friends of the Rouge volunteers to streamline their ecological monitoring in the Rouge River area, as well as easily and efficiently gather and store data. He also took part in the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience and researched active learning methods, where an AI model can select the most informative data, maximizing performance while keeping the amount of data minimal. The project also involved filtering out incorrect noisy labels based on loss and autonomously fixing them using similarity measures. This project, presented at the 2025 SURE Showcase, showed promise for cost-efficient means of training machine learning models that can handle potentially inaccurate data. Vlad continued this work into his final semester with the aim of publication.

“Vlad demonstrated exceptional research maturity during his work on the SURE project,” observed Assistant Professor of Computer and Information Science Srijita Das, who was Vlad’s SURE faculty mentor. “He quickly grasped advanced concepts and complemented this understanding with effective hands-on implementation of research ideas. His contributions have enabled us to make significant progress toward addressing an important challenge: building machine learning models from less data while handling annotation errors — issues that frequently arise in domains such as computer vision and natural language processing. This work will be submitted soon in an esteemed conference for publication.”

Extracurricular and Community Projects: MASA-Dearborn rocketry club, Artificial Intelligence Club, computer science tutoring, Forgotten Harvest volunteer

Serving as this year’s lead for the dashboard project of MASA-Dearborn, Vlad worked on and led a team that created a program to display the trajectory and all data streamed from a rocket in real time as it transmits sensor readings during its flight. The program will be utilized at the 2025 International Rocketry Engineering Competition. The previous year’s work focused specifically on aggregating GPS and altimeter data for a real-time 3D trajectory visualization.

Future Plans: Vlad hopes to continue in the field of artificial intelligence development and research, designing novel and efficient means of using AI to help people and companies.

DEAN'S MEDALLION RECIPIENTS

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES



Dalya Dakroub

Degree: Bachelor of Science in health and human services, public health concentration

Awards, Honors and Distinction: James B. Angell Scholar (2024, 2025); University Honors (F22-W25); Dean's List (F22-W25); All-NAIA Scholar Athlete Award (2024, 2025); All-District Academic Team, College Sports Communicators (2024, 2025); Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference All-Academic Team (2024, 2025); Chi Alpha Sigma Award, National College Athlete Honor Society (2025)

Academic Achievements and Internships: Dalya served as treasurer and public relations officer of the Pre-Physician Assistant Association at UM-Dearborn, where she managed budgets and events, supported members through application cycles to physician assistant programs, and fostered inclusivity and unity within the organization.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Captain, UM-Dearborn Women's Soccer Team (W24-F25); volunteer, Zayn Initiative; volunteer, Orphans Overseas Foundation

Future Plans: Dalya graduated in Summer 2025 and applied to physician assistant programs, with the goal of beginning studies in 2026. She plans to pursue a career as a physician assistant in orthopedic and sports medicine at the University of Michigan Health System, helping athletes return to play and improving quality of life for patients of all ages. Dalya also hopes to work in emergency medicine before transitioning to orthopedic sports medicine, incorporating her background in public health and health and human services to address the physical, mental and environmental needs of her patients and improve public health outcomes.



Saba Elmaweri

Degree: Bachelor of Arts in elementary education, concentrations in pre-kindergarten to third grade and third to sixth grade

Awards, Honors and Distinction: Honors Scholar (2024); University Honors (W24); Dean's List (W23-F24); member, Society for Collegiate Leadership and Achievement; Spirit of SOAR Award (2024); Henry Ford College Dean's List (2018-2021); Phi Theta Kappa scholar (2018-2025); Alpha Sigma Lambda honor member (2024)

Scholarships: Daniel Little and Bernadette Lintz Endowed Scholar (2025-2026); Moreland Family Annual Scholar; CEW+ Molly H. Dobson Scholar (2024-2025)

Academic Achievements and Internships: Saba completed several undergraduate projects, including a learning management system design using Google Classroom to organize lessons and create assessments to encourage and evaluate student learning; creation of integrated curricula by designing interdisciplinary lessons, leading to greater engagement and understanding; a metacognition project; and a child maltreatment project. She completed Apprenticeship I, part of the initial teacher preparation program, at William Ford Elementary with Mrs. Hamm (kindergarten) and Mrs. Lutteke (fifth grade); Apprenticeship II at Thorne Elementary with Mrs. Shepherd (first grade) and Mrs. Allen (fifth grade); practicum at Salina Intermediate with Mrs. Kolin (pre-school); and a service learning project at the UM-Dearborn Early Childhood Education Center with Mrs. Schimm.

Extracurricular and Community Projects: Dearborn Public Schools Parent Teacher Association secretary and event organizer; William Ford Elementary, Geer Park Elementary and Salina Elementary Parent Teacher Association volunteer; volunteer testing proctor for Dearborn Public Schools; parent volunteer for Dearborn Public Schools; SOAR member and peer mentor; local charity organizer

Future Plans: With her elementary education degree, Saba plans to advocate for fair access to education and culturally responsive teaching methods. She is committed to fostering inclusive learning environments that celebrate diversity and encourage global thinking. Saba intends to collaborate with educators worldwide, participate in conferences, and engage with online educational communities to share insights and contribute to global educational progress.

Doctor of Education

Farqad Ayad Alfatlawy**

AB, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2005

MA, Eastern Michigan University, 2014

EdS, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2023

Dissertation: Instructional Coaching and Family Partnerships:
Empowering Teachers and Parents to Support the Academic Growth
of Middle Eastern Multilingual Learners

Arus Khcheyan Movsesyan**

BA, Yerevan State Linguistic University, 2012

MA, Yerevan State University, 2014

MA, American University of Armenia, 2017

Dissertation: Unraveling Teacher Lore: Pedagogical Beliefs, Challenges,
and Professional Development Needs of Western Armenian Heritage
Language Teachers in U.S.-Based Armenian Schools

Susan Kay Vandersloot**

BBA, Western Michigan University, 1994

MA, Western Michigan University, 2007

EdS, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2022

Dissertation: Warm Humans: A Case Study of Transnational Craft
Pedagogy for Identity Development in Children Within the Context
of Knitting

Doctor of Philosophy

Computer and Information Science

Kapotaksha Das
BTech, PES University, 2019
MS, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2021
Dissertation: HS-MAP: Human State Detection Via
Multimodal, Attentive & Personalized Networks

Khairul Mottakin
BS, United International University, 2017
MS, Bournemouth University, 2022
Dissertation: Multi-Modal WiFi Sensing For Smart Building

Industrial and Systems Engineering

Golnoosh Garakani
BS, Azad Islamic University, 2010
MA, University of Tehran, 2016
Dissertation: Seeing the Malfunction Before It Happens,
Through Information Cues Designed to Support Drivers'
Situation Awareness in Automated Vehicles

Mechanical Sciences and Engineering

Kyle Dakota Mathews
BSEME, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2022
MSE, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2024
Dissertation: Overcoming Locking in NURBS-Based
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MS, North China Electric Power University, 2019
Dissertation: Power Converters Optimization for Electrified Transportation Applications

Aydin Zaboli
BS, Babol Noshirvani University of Technology, 2012
MS, Amirkabir University of Technology, 2015
Dissertation: AI-Driven Anomaly Detection in Modern Power Systems

Industrial and Systems Engineering

Darlington Ihunanyachukwu Egeonu
BE, University of Nigeria, 2010
MS, Wayne State University, 2018
Dissertation: Development of a Computer Vision-Based Biomechanical Framework for Real-Time Analysis of Impact of Exoskeleton Usage in Industrial Environments

Yuchi Guo
BE, Xi'an Jiaotong University, 2020
MSE, University of Michigan-Dearborn, 2021
Dissertation: Operations Management Strategies for Complex Supply Chains and Urban Logistics

Master of Public Administration and Policy

Christopher Cespedes*

Master of Science

Criminology and Criminal Justice

Ian Joseph Cole
Nicole Rene Griffith-Lorenz
Ty'Ree Monet Jones

Psychology

Oksana Viktoria Balaban
Mariam Daweeth*
Allie Michelle Dolby
David James Keenan
Gordon Max Kinsey-Kerr*
Karla Mishreky
Jelena Alethea Simon
Ryan Andrew Stewart*
Abirami Suthan**

Master of Business Administration

Hassan Al Awadhi
Aaron Jamal Amin
Zaynab Aous Asfar
Kelly Marie Bedro
Connor William Bradfield*
Maya J. Dbaibo
Leatha Hallmark
Lilian Rose Lebednick
Shane Bryan Lynch*
Dylan Neel Patel
Henry William Poston
Tyler Swallen
Nausheen Khalid Virk*
Joshua Thomas Wright
Shiming Zheng

Master of Science

Information Systems

Md Yusuf Bin Forkan**

Marketing

Katherine Gass
Noura Muhanad Jassem

Supply Chain Management

Shiming Zheng

Master of Science in Accounting

Brandon Robert Athey
Shane Collins**
Jie Ji
Hassan Ali Khalil
Emmaline Moore*
Emily C. Moores

Master of Science in Finance

Lenma Steven Johansen

Master of Arts

Blair Steven Arbaugh
Wanda Renee Canty

Master of Arts

Education

Oday H. Dabaja
Pamela Denise Harris-Hawthorne*
Jackson Scott Waddell*

Early Childhood Education

Chia-Hua Hu**
Taylor Marie Pritchett*

Instructional Design and Learning Technology

Samuel Porter Boughton**

Master of Science

Artificial Intelligence

Jose Luis Gala-Garza
Akash Ashok Mahajan
Ramazan Mengi
Nayan Dashrathbhai Patel**
Abhishek Kumar Shah*

Computer and Information Science

Rahul Ghanshyam Chavan**
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Faraz Gurramkonda**
Hassan Essa Kadiri*

Program and Project Management

Ali Alaboodi

Software Engineering

Nicholas R. Freda
Aradhay Gupta

Cybersecurity and Information Assurance

Uppalapati Srinivas Raju**
Vivian Elisa Weaver*

Engineering Management

Maher Fawzi Hamzeh*

Master of Science in Engineering

Automotive and Mobility Systems

Antonio Michael Pecci

Computer Engineering

Mohammed-Baker Ismail Habhab

Electrical Engineering

Ali Alfadawi**
Nabil Mohammed Idris*
Swetha Rani Kasimalla**
Ali Ahmad Srour*
Dominic F. Trudell*

Industrial and Systems Engineering

Duha Alkurdi**
Terrance Gregory Mbagwu
Tony Bumjun Suh*
Faith Deborah Zagore**

Mechanical Engineering

Khaled Ameen Al Zowkari
Christine Katherine Determan*
James Michael Groh
Alexey Konstantinov*
Zachariah Philip Sytles*
Arun Sukesh Viswanathan

Robotics Engineering

Matthew Kwan**

AUGUST 2025 RECIPIENTS OF UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES
COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND LETTERS

Bachelor of Arts

Fatima Ali*
Fatima Ali Alkaabi
Thenaa Hussain Al-Kafaji*
Aseel Sufyan Almarashi**
Alexander Christian Anderson
Emily Martha Awad
Nathalie R. Barajas
Drake Alan Biggie
Daniel Joseph Broadwater
Barry M. Brodsky**
Kiara Denise Buckley*
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Theodore Casgrain Donnelly*

Monya Issa Elzein**
Anthony Alan Fraga**
Sebastian Garza*
Abdullah Sammy Hamad
Mackenzie Dae Higbee
Vishali Jayendran*
Simone Zaria Mahler
Alexandria Raine McDonald**
Julia Alaa Nabha**
Cecilia Ortega
Stacy V. Peterson**
Ali Pharoan**

Gabrielle Lyn Sethi**
Madeline Shea Short
Atia Siddiqui
Mariyah Deshay Simmons
Mariah Alisa Taylor
Nora Reese White**
Leah Naomi Williams*
Joseph Ryan Young**

Bachelor of General Studies

Robin Michele Messman*

Bachelor of Science

Philip James Albright
Amjid Algalham*
Batoul Almoussawi*
Zachary Ryan Altizer
Komal Ali Azhar
Michael James Ballas
Zeinab Hassan Berro
Daniel Joseph Broadwater
Arjun Chatrath
Yarra H. Chehimi**
Angel Jaden Alexis Dantzler**
Ivan Andres Davila-Valencia*
Celena El Hallak*
Ahmed Mohamed Furwan**
Nadia Hinawi*
Ayah Ali Kassir
Julia Alaa Nabha**
Lesly Nunez
Abdulkarim Omer*
Hanan Abraham Saif*
Andrea Hernandez Sanchez
Faizan Ali Shah**

Bachelor of Business Administration

Fatima B. Ahmad*■
Mahde Luay Alresul*
Ali A. Alsaady
Ikdar Alsanai Jr.
Yusuf Javaid Arrine
Jackson Danial Brooks
Jocelyn R. Dean*
Jack Henry Elkins
Camille Jean Fanning*
Jae Daniel Fox*
Valeria Garcia-Lopez+
Emily Grace Hall**
Niemer Hamood
Majd Harb*
Rami Jaber*
Lilliana Johnson**
Patrick Timothy Karn
Zain Anwar Khurram**
Dan Felipe Kimura**
Brian Anthony Lange*
Jake Matthew Lansaw
Jessica Lynn Ley**
Grant R. Loving*
Yahya Adel Mawri*
Lawrence Emad-G Namou
Ahmad Nasr*
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Espoir Ndizeye*
Mariam M. Obeid*
Ahmad Ozeir
Ayah Salam*
Jason William Sims*
Michael Jacob Theisen*
Joshua Emmanuel Warren
Alexa Audrey Young

Bachelor of Arts

Emma R. Lehnert*
Katelyn Ann Piccoli*

Bachelor of Science

Ayah Abdallah**
Eman J. Alhashidi
Rena Arabi**
Summer Hussein Bazzi**
Dalya Dakroub**
Batoul Marwan Faraj
Ahmad B. Farhat*
Morgan E. Faryniarz**
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Kayla Regine Renee Higginbotham
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Anxhela Lami*
Andrew Anthony-Doudly Leamy
Jayla Lilly-Marie Metoyer**
Emmi Elizabeth Pinkowski*
Sean Patrick Reilly**
Neveen A. Sobh*
Malik Daniel Unis*
Jenna Mila Zein**

AUGUST 2025 RECIPIENTS OF UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Bachelor of Science

Cybersecurity and Information Assurance

Ivan Ray Bartholomew
Filip Jankowski*
Nicholas Uzowuru Onye
Andrew Michael-Palad Ramos**
Bethany Jane Slone*
Anika Tabassum Tahrin*

Computer and Information Science

Nayef Abdullah**
Andrew Douglas Alsop**
Anoud Altayeb
Rasheed Alward*
Layth A. Alyacoubi*
Hamze Ali Beydoun**
Rittik Gupta*
Ali Hachem

Andrew Thomas Jenks*
Ryan William Klingensmith
Michael Chi Vy Luong**
Maheel Ali Luqman**
Mohamed R. Mezahi
Husam M. Muthanna**
Soham Naik
Mara Dora Ramshaw
Youseph Hilal Saad*
Alexander Edward Scicluna*

CIS Mathematics

Byron Alexander Hodel**

Data Science

Andrew Douglas Alsop**
Kathryn G. Bigelow**+
Ryan William Klingensmith

Software Engineering

Austin Abro**
Mohammadbaquer Alakaeshy*
Gina Marie Bain+
Klaurent Buci*
Artjona Corbaxhi*
Hadi N. Hamadeh**
Nicholas Owen Harrison**
Byron Alexander Hodel**
Benedict Sukchan Hong*
Luca Nicholas Irimic*
Afrah Mohamed**
Hisham Khaled Odeh**
Brukli Peshku
Musa Amer Shueb**
Christopher Charles Woods**

Bachelor of Science in Engineering

Bioengineering

Mary Brigid McCarthy

Computer Engineering

Jacob Lee Hnri**
Hadi Hassan Rhayel
Rihana Ali Saleh
Gawharah Yehya*

Electrical Engineering

Ahmed Saleh Abdullah
Osama Ahmed Algalham
Mohamed Aljahmi
Siham Aljahmi**
Wasem Fath Alsaadi
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Hutheifh Abdulwahab Mohamed
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Ali Qasem**
Ahmed Saleh*
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Mohamed Abdo Saleh

Sergejs Sardiko*
Ali Elhadi Hassan Sbeity*
Sarah Ann Singer**
Nicholas Paul-Smith Wheelock**
Cody James White
Abdullah Khaled Yafai*
Lea Zaytoun**

Engineering Mathematics

Joseph Dominic Rosato**

Industrial and Systems Engineering

Joseph W. Cullinan

Mechanical Engineering

Najwa Noor Aboudaya
Jad Bakri
Jacob Donald Bigelow*
Adam A. Mallah
Joseph Dominic Rosato**
Maksym Rozhko**

Robotics Engineering

Antonio Alvarez Tostado Aerdker
Aaron C. Forbes*

• Engineering Experiential Honors * Distinction ** High Distinction + Honors Program

^ Secondary Provisional Teaching Certificate ■ (M)Talent

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| Paul W. Brown | <i>Ann Arbor</i> |
| Sarah Hubbard | <i>Okemos</i> |
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|--------------------------|---|
| Frédéric Brunel | <i>College of Business</i> |
| Dagmar Budikova | <i>College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters</i> |
| Armen Zakarian (Interim) | <i>Dean College of Engineering and Computer Science</i> |
| Ann Y. Lampkin-Williams | <i>College of Education, Health, and Human Services</i> |

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Protesters also have a right to express their opposition to a speaker in appropriate ways, both within the confines of this building and outside the facility. However, protesters must not interfere unduly with communication between a speaker or artist and members of the audience.

If the hosts of this event or University representatives believe that protesters are interfering unduly with a speaker or performer's freedom of expression, those protesters will be warned. If the warnings are not heeded and the interference continues, then the individuals responsible may be removed from the building.

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