





**University of Houston**  
**Cullen College of Engineering**

**Commencement Ceremony**  
Saturday, December 18, 2021, 2 p.m.  
Fertitta Center

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# UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON



## Message from the President

December 17, 2021

Dear University of Houston Graduates,

Congratulations! The moment you've long dreamed of today becomes a reality. Today, you become a college graduate. The long hours, late nights and countless sacrifices have all been worth it. Your hard work has prepared you for a rewarding and successful career.

You are a class of graduates that didn't allow a global pandemic to stop you from achieving your goals. Staying the course during these trying times is a testament to your resilience and tenacity. I have no doubt these same attributes will serve you well as you make your mark in the world. You leave here today educated, equipped and prepared to succeed.

The support of your parents, families and friends, and the encouragement of your UH faculty, advisers and staff have also played a significant part in your success. Remember to thank them for their contribution.

You've received a first-class education here at UH. This is the home of "genius grant" winners, nationally top-ranked academic programs, world-renowned faculty, an NCAA Final Four basketball team, Carnegie-designated Tier One research and so much more. Now, go forward as proud graduates and take the world by storm. I know in my heart that you are now ready and able to be the leaders that our society needs. You are the future we have been waiting for.

With my best wishes for a bright and rewarding tomorrow, Go Coogs!

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Renu Khator". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Renu Khator  
*President*



# UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON



## Message from the Provost

Congratulations, Cougars!

I would like to personally congratulate each of you on this momentous achievement. You have worked hard to be here today, and that effort shows.

Your family, friends, mentors and peers have supported you and helped you to arrive at this great time in your life. So, I thank them, as I am sure you also do, for all they have contributed.

I would like to remind each of you to be proud of your time at the University of Houston. You graduate today as future intellectual leaders, researchers, entrepreneurs, healers and artists. Do not forget that you are bound together by your alma mater, and that bond is a strong one. Many of your predecessors have gone on to achieve great success in their professional lives. I wish the same for you.

Whether you are receiving your bachelor's, master's, professional or doctoral degree, you have achieved a major milestone in your life. We are proud of you, and we are proud you are now Tier One University of Houston alumni.

On behalf of all the University faculty and college deans, I congratulate you on your achievements. You are our best and brightest, and we are honored to have been a part of your lives.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula Myrick Short". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paula Myrick Short  
*Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost*

## University of Houston

Commencement Ceremony

## University of Houston System

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### BOARD OF REGENTS

Tilman J. Fertitta, *Chairman*  
Jack B. Moore, *Vice Chairman*  
Durga D. Agrawal, *Secretary*  
Doug H. Brooks  
Alonzo Cantu  
Steve I. Chazen  
Derek M. Delgado  
John A. McCall Jr.  
Beth Madison  
Ricky Raven

## University of Houston

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### PRESIDENT

Renu Khator

### PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Paula Myrick Short  
*Theresa M. Monaco Chair for the Provost*  
*Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost*

Raymond S. Bartlett  
*Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance*

Bettina Beech  
*Chief Population Health Officer*

Eloise Brice  
*Vice President for University Advancement*

Dona Hamilton Cornell  
*Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel*

Vallabh Das  
*President, UH Faculty Senate*

Amr Elnashai  
*Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer*

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*Vice President for University Marketing  
and Communications*

Michael Johnson  
*Chief of Staff*

Ramanan Krishnamoorti  
*Chief Energy Officer*

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*Vice President for Neighborhood and Strategic Initiatives*

Daniel M. Maxwell  
*Interim Vice President for Student Affairs  
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Michael Pedé  
*Associate Vice President for Alumni Relations*

Chris Pezman  
*Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics and Athletics Director*

Jason Smith  
*Vice President for Governmental Relations*

Stephen J. Spann  
*Vice President for Medical Affairs and  
Founding Dean, College of Medicine*



## University of Houston Deans

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Anthony P. Ambler  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Leonard M. Baynes  
UH LAW CENTER

Andrew Davis  
Founding Dean  
Cullen Foundation Endowed Dean's Chair  
KATHRINE G. MCGOVERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Alan J. Dettlaff  
Maconda Brown O'Connor Endowed Dean's Chair  
GRADUATE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

Jim Granato  
Dean  
HOBBY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Athena N. Jackson  
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean's Chair  
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES

Robert McPherson  
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean's Chair  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

William Monroe  
Nancy O'Connor Abendshein Endowed Professor  
THE HONORS COLLEGE

Daniel P. O'Connor  
Interim Dean  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Patricia Belton Oliver  
ACSA Distinguished Professor  
GERALD D. HINES COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Paul A. Pavlou  
Cullen Distinguished Chair  
C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

F. Lamar Pritchard  
Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Pharmacy  
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Dennis Reynolds  
Barron Hilton Distinguished Chair  
CONRAD N. HILTON COLLEGE OF HOTEL  
AND RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT

Stephen J. Spann  
Founding Dean  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Kathryn M. Tart  
Founding Dean  
Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Nursing  
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Joseph W. Tedesco  
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean's Chair  
CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Michael Twa  
Humana Endowed Dean's Chair in Optometry  
COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

Dan E. Wells  
Distinguished Professor of Science  
COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

## University of Houston

### Commencement Ceremony

## University of Houston History

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The University of Houston was established as the Houston Junior College in 1927. As the college grew, it prospered and officially became the four-year University of Houston in 1934. Two years later, the college attained land for a permanent campus, and in 1939 it constructed its first building, the Roy G. Cullen Building. The University became a state institution in 1963.

The University includes 15 academic colleges, one school and the multidisciplinary Honors College that teach a wide array of subjects – from math, arts and engineering to law, pharmacy and business. What started as a campus with a single building has grown into a world-class university, offering more than 270 undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 47,000 students annually.

UH is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university, and its public service and community activities, such as cultural offerings, clinical services, policy studies and small business initiatives, serve a diverse metropolitan population. Likewise, the resources of the Gulf Coast Region complement and enrich the University's academic programs, providing students with professional expertise, practical experience and career opportunities.

In keeping with the University's commitment to excellence, UH raised the benchmark of academic achievement when Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, awarded UH the approval to start a chapter in 2015. This designation welcomed UH to an elite group of the nation's most esteemed colleges and universities.

## Commencement Traditions

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Academic costumes of today have a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townspeople wore long flowing robes and gowns. The materials and colors were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns were developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. Scholars wore robes and hoods to protect their shaved heads. Later, skullcaps were worn on the head, and the hoods became a cape that could be pulled over the head during unpleasant weather.

As additional universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adapted by their faculties for bachelor's (apprentices of the arts), master's (teachers) and doctoral (teachers who had completed postgraduate studies). When caps and hats came into fashion in the 15th century, the hoods became ornamental, draped over the shoulders and down the back.

The academic hat was first worn as a symbol of the master's degree and existed in various forms. The mortarboard style comes to us from Oxford University. When academic costumes came to America in 1754, styles were quite varied. In Europe, they still are; however, in our country, usage has been standardized by the Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume.

### GERALD D. HINES COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Violet</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Violet Tassel: Black</i>

### KATHRINE G. MCGOVERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Brown</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Brown Hood (Music): Pink Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Pink Tassel: Red</i>

### C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Dark Blue</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Drab Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Dark Blue Tassel: Red</i>

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Light Blue</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Light Blue Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood (Ed.D.): Light Blue Hood (Ph.D.): Dark Blue Tassel: Red</i>

### CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Orange</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Orange Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Dark Blue Tassel: Red</i>

### CONRAD N. HILTON COLLEGE OF HOTEL AND RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Navy</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Navy, Red and White Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Dark Blue Tassel: Red</i>

# University of Houston

## Commencement Ceremony

### UH LAW CENTER

<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Purple Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Purple Tassel: Red</i>

### COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Citron</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Citron Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Dark Blue Tassel: Red</i>

### COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

<b>Doctor of Medicine Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Kelly Green Tassel: Red</i>
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### COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Golden Yellow</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Golden Yellow Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Dark Blue Tassel: Red</i>

### COLLEGE OF NURSING

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Apricot</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Apricot Tassel: Black</i>

### COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Gold Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctor of Philosophy Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Royal Blue Tassel: Red</i>
<b>Doctor of Optometry Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Seafoam Green Tassel: Red</i>

### COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Olive</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Olive Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctor of Philosophy Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Royal Blue Tassel: Red</i>
<b>Doctor of Pharmacy Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Olive Tassel: Red</i>

### GRADUATE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Citron Tassel: Black</i>
<b>Doctoral Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Citron Tassel: Red</i>

### COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	<i>Tassel: Maroon</i>
<b>Master's Degree</b>	<i>Hood: Maroon Tassel: Black</i>

### HOBBY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

<b>Master's Degree:</b>	<i>Hood: Peacock Blue Tassel: Peacock Blue</i>
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## Ceremonial Symbols

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### THE SEAL

Throughout history, seals have been used to authenticate official documents. The University of Houston and UH System seals both bear the Official Seal of Arms of General Sam Houston, as handed down to him from his noble ancestors. It includes the escutcheon in the center of the seal — consisting of checkered chevrons denoting nobility — and three martlets, gentle lowland birds that symbolize peace and deliverance. A winged hourglass is placed above the shield. Surmounting this is the motto “In Tempore,” meaning “In Time.” The greyhounds indicate speed of giving aid. The UH seal was first adopted in 1938 as the present campus was established. Although the look of the seal has evolved over the years, the first version was etched into the floor of the Roy G. Cullen Building.



### UNIVERSITY MACE

The University Mace, which is carried in academic processions, is a staff symbolizing the University’s authority and unity. The tradition of the academic mace began in the late 14<sup>th</sup> century when two ancient instruments, the royal scepter and the battle mace, were combined to form a university president’s symbol of authority.

### THE ALMA MATER

All hail to thee,  
 Our Houston University.  
 Our hearts fill with gladness  
 When we think of thee.  
 We’ll always adore thee  
 Dear old varsity.  
 And to thy memory cherished,  
 True we’ll ever be.

*Words and music by Harmony Class of 1942*

## **Academic Honors**

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Academic honors are based on the requirements of the catalog year students entered the University. The final designation for honors is determined by the Provost's Office upon final completion of all degree requirements.

Undergraduates who have graduated with the stated academic honors have achieved the following grade point averages earned in the last 54 hours completed at the University of Houston.

**3.90 TO 4.0** Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors)

**3.70 TO 3.89** Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors)

**3.50 TO 3.69** Cum Laude (with Honors)

This roster does not include the names of degree holders who chose to withhold information under the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

## Summa Cum Laude – 4.0 GPA Graduates

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The following graduates are recognized for achieving Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 cumulative grade point average while also completing their degree within four years of starting their first semester in college at the University of Houston.

### FALL 2021

Ryan Chang

*Bachelor of Science in Biology*

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Rabia Gadrab

Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management

*C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS*

Julia Nguyen

Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management

*C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS*

Kelly Nguyen

Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance

*C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS*

Kimberly Nguyen

Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management

*C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS*

Jacob Olsen

*Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management*

*C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS*

Precious Amber Vargas

*Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management*

*C.T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS*

Istvan Wang

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science*

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

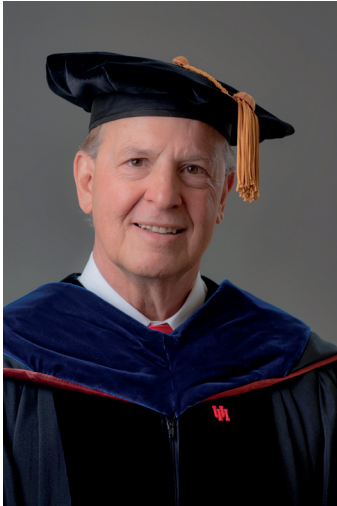
Shehzad Yousaf

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science*

COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS







# UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

CULLEN COLLEGE of ENGINEERING

## Message from the Dean

Dear Engineering Graduates,

The receipt of an engineering degree is a challenging, but worthwhile endeavor. Each of you spent thousands of hours studying, conducting research, gaining professional experience, giving back to the community and so much more. All of this took immeasurable amounts of hard work and sacrifice, made even more daunting by the pandemic, but you persevered. You are among the best, brightest and most committed engineers the world has to offer.

As you leave our labs and classrooms to embark on your careers, I encourage you all to ask questions and challenge the status quo. By asking questions, we introduce the need for change. As engineers, we have the power to create lasting impacts and perhaps, if we are lucky, leave the world a better place than we found it.

Congratulations, Cougar Engineers! Although you represent a wide variety of backgrounds and disciplines, today you all have one thing in common – you are all part of the Cougar Engineering family, now and always. Remember to work hard and to support each other where you can. Everything else will fall into place.

I look forward to seeing the impact your bright futures and careers will have on our world. Please stay in touch and keep me updated on your successes: [dean@egr.uh.edu](mailto:dean@egr.uh.edu).

All my best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Tedesco".

Joseph W. Tedesco  
*Dean and Professor*  
*Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean's Chair*

**University of Houston**  
**Cullen College of Engineering**

**Commencement Ceremony**  
Saturday, December 18, 2021, 2 p.m.  
Fertitta Center

<b>PLATFORM PARTY PROCESSIONAL</b>	Moores School of Music
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Jagannatha Rao <i>Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Distance Learning</i>
<b>PRESENTATION OF COLORS</b>	UH Army ROTC Color Guard
<b>NATIONAL ANTHEM</b>	Moores School of Music
<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM PARTY</b>	Joseph W. Tedesco <i>Elizabeth D. Rockwell Dean</i>
<b>GREETINGS</b>	Renu Khator <i>President</i>
<b>GREETINGS FROM UH SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS</b>	The Honorable Durga D. Agrawal <i>Secretary</i>
<b>PRESENTATION OF ACADEMIC AND SPECIAL HONORS</b>	Associate Dean Rao
<b>COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS</b>	Ram Seetharam
<b>DEGREE PRESENTATION</b>	Dean Tedesco
<b>CONFERRAL OF DEGREES</b>	President Khator
<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>	Dean Tedesco
<b>ALMA MATER</b>	Moores School of Music
<b>PLATFORM PARTY RECESSIONAL</b>	Moores School of Music



## RAM SEETHARAM

RAM SEETHARAM is currently an Energy Center Officer (part time) at UH Energy, a multi-disciplinary energy research program at the University of Houston. He serves as a project manager for low-carbon energy projects such as hydrogen, wind, geothermal and methane abatement. Seetharam is also the Executive Vice President for Business Development & Technology at Cozairo, a company that offers scalable carbon emissions reduction solutions to industry.

Seetharam recently retired from ExxonMobil as a senior executive after being with the company for 33 years and having accumulated nearly 40 years of experience in the upstream industry. His upstream experience includes subsurface, concept selection, project and oilfield economics, asset valuation and technical support of major capital projects. He has held multiple key managerial and technical leadership positions influencing major upstream projects in the industry across the globe, spanning Kazakhstan, Russia, the North Sea and the Middle East. He also has experience with unconventional.

Seetharam serves on the Industry Advisory Board for the UH Petroleum Engineering Department, and was recently recognized with the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award from the Cullen College of Engineering and UH Engineering Alumni Association.

Seetharam has a master's and Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Houston, and a bachelor's in chemical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

## Summer 2021 - Graduates

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### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Sadaf Ebrahimzadeh Pustchi

Engineering a Novel 3D Tumor  
Microenvironment for Drug Testing

ADVISOR: Dr. Metin Akay

Tina Kazemi

Investigating the Influence of Maternal  
Nicotine and Alcohol Co-Exposure in  
Genetic Profiles of Dopamine Neurons in  
Newborns

ADVISOR: Dr. Metin Akay

Dalia L. Lezzar

Novel Microfluidic Devices for Diagnosis  
and Treatment of Blood Disorders in  
Vulnerable Pediatric Populations

ADVISOR: Dr. Sergey S. Shevkoplyas

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Do Young Kim

Controlling Pathological Mineralization  
Using Molecular Modifiers

ADVISOR: Dr. Jeffrey D. Rimer

Peng Lin

Numerical Simulation of Plasma Flow in  
Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Jets

ADVISORS: Dr. Demetre J. Economou  
and Dr. Vincent M. Donnelly

Bhaskar Sarkar

Ignition-Extinction Analysis of Coupled  
Homogeneous-Heterogeneous Reactions  
in Monolith Reactors

ADVISOR: Dr. Vemuri Balakotaiah

Minjie Shen

Sustainable and Degradable Epoxy Resins  
Containing Multifunctional Biobased  
Components

ADVISOR: Dr. Megan L. Robertson

Maxwell William Smith

Understanding and Applying Anisotropic  
Virus Particle Transport in Complex  
Media

ADVISOR: Dr. Jacinta C. Conrad and  
Dr. Richard C. Willson

Ricardo David Sosa

Unraveling Barite Scale Crystallization  
Mechanisms in the Presence of Polyprotic  
Acids

ADVISOR: Dr. Jeffrey D. Rimer

Mingjie Tu

Reduced Order Models with Local  
Property Dependent Transfer  
Coefficients for Real Time Simulations  
of Single and Dual Layered Monolith  
Reactors

ADVISOR: Dr. Vemuri Balakotaiah

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Ali Ansari

Using Polymers to Improve Current  
Water Treatment Technologies:  
Contaminant Removal and Role of  
Microbial Communities

ADVISOR: Dr. Debora F. Rodrigues

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN GEOSENSING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES

Chi Hung Chang

Forecasting Flood Levels and Areal  
Inundation in Downstream Mekong  
Using Remotely Sensed Data and  
Modeling

ADVISOR: Dr. Hyongki Lee

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

Saba Ebrahimi

Analytical Models and Data-Driven  
Methods for Radiation Therapy  
Treatment Planning

ADVISOR: Dr. Gino J. Lim

Zahed Shahmoradi

Data-driven Inverse Linear  
Programming: Integrating Inverse  
Optimization and Machine Learning

ADVISOR: Dr. Taewoo Lee

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Tzu-Han Li

Control Strategies for Minimizing the  
DC-link Capacitance used in Power  
Electronics Converters for Aircraft  
Electrical Power Systems

ADVISOR: Dr. Kaushik Rajashekara

Hyunseok Sim

Soft Stretchable Synaptic Electronics and  
Integrated Systems

ADVISOR: Dr. Cunjiang Yu

Ye Zhang

Charge Storage Mechanism of Redox  
Polymers For Energy Storage

ADVISOR: Dr. Yan Yao

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Alicia Li Jen Keow

Modeling and Control of Hydrogen  
Systems

ADVISOR: Dr. Zheng Chen

Nidhin Thomas

Molecular Insights into the  
Electromechanical Coupling in  
Membranes and Membrane-Protein  
Systems

ADVISOR: Dr. Ashutosh Agrawal

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
IN PETROLEUM  
ENGINEERING**

Naveen Krishnaraj

Title: Joint Inversion and Unsupervised Learning Applied to NMR Data Processing that Eliminates the Need for Regularization

**ADVISOR:** Dr. Michael T. Myers

Kaiyi Zhang

Mechanistic and Kinetic Study of Gas Storage and Transport in Unconventional Reservoirs Using Molecular Simulation

**ADVISOR:** Dr. Guan Qin

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING**

Jean Banks

Kolade Oreoluwa Olowookere

William Joseph Riley

**MASTER OF CHEMICAL  
ENGINEERING**

Khang D. Nguyen

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING**

Sangmin Chae

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN CIVIL ENGINEERING**

Shuvam Nandi

Dolunay Oniz

Niraj Shrestha

Sumnima Singh

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN COMPUTER AND  
SYSTEMS ENGINEERING**

Depka Sathu

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

Muhammad Rafay Akhter

Luciano Rezende Fiuza Branco

**MASTER OF ENGINEERING  
MANAGEMENT**

Leslie Frank Rodriguez

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN ENVIRONMENTAL  
ENGINEERING**

Tchemongo Barakissa Berte

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERING**

Kalyan Boyina Satish

Shaobin Du

**MASTER OF PETROLEUM  
ENGINEERING**

Robel Sintayehu

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
SUBSEA ENGINEERING**

Ben Robert Krier

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING**

Anjan Nagesh Ballekere <sup>2</sup>

Tu Trung Nguyen <sup>3</sup>

Jahnvi Rajput <sup>2</sup>

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING**

Thy Phuong Nguyen

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN CIVIL ENGINEERING**

Eyad Tanbouz

Imad M. Tanbouz

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

Linh Hoang <sup>1</sup>

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERING**

Ahmad Mohamad Al Abdallah <sup>3</sup>

Mohammad Neem Alkhayyat

Harrison J. Azbell

Blake Ryan Bolster

Sharla May Cimbak

Matthew Doan <sup>3</sup>

Gerardo Garza

Nofil Haque

Tanvi P. Parikh <sup>3</sup>

Woolford Price

Akintunde O. Sowunmi

Tyler Addison Vance

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING**

Cristian J. Anguiano

Nhung Thi Hoang Nguyen <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Summa Cum Laude - <sup>2</sup> Magna Cum Laude - <sup>3</sup> Cum Laude - <sup>4</sup> Banner Bearer (highest GPA)

## Fall 2021 - Candidates for Graduation

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### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Hongqiu Zhang  
Noninvasive Optical Imaging for  
Assessment of Tissue Properties  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Kirill V. Larin

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Ankur Agarwal  
Molecular Modelling of Interfacial  
Processes and Mass Transport in Zeolites  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Jeremy C. Palmer

Heng Dai  
Exploiting Nonclassical Crystallization  
to Tailor Molecular Diffusion in Zeolite  
Catalysts  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Jeffrey D. Rimer

Rishabh Jain  
Developing Organic Free Crystallization  
Pathways for the Optimization of Zeolite  
Catalysts  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Jeffrey D. Rimer

Kyle Andrew Karinshak  
Enhanced Methane Oxidation Catalysis  
through Feed Modulation and Oxygen  
Storage  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Michael P. Harold

Deepak Mangal  
Simulation of Finite-sized Nanoparticles  
Transport Through Porous Media  
**ADVISORS:** Dr. Jacinta C. Conrad and  
Dr. Jeremy C. Palmer

Qianyu Ning  
A First-Principle Investigation of C-H  
bond Activation on Nickel Oxide:  
Electrochemical Activation of Methane  
and Oxidative Dehydrogenation of  
Ethane  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Lars C. Grabow

Yixi Wang  
Engineering Escherichia Coli for  
Anaerobic Alkane Activation:  
Biosynthesis of (1-methylalkyl) Succinates  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Patrick C. Cirino

Yuechuan Xu  
Microscopic Dynamics of Amyloid  $\beta$   
Fibrillization  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Peter G. Vekilov

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

Cynthia Vail Castro  
Nature-based Solutions at the Interface  
of Hydro-environmental Science, Social  
Justice, and Complex Decision-making  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Keh-Han Wang

Tejasree Mohan Phatak  
Optimal Material Design for Transport  
and Multi-criteria problems using  
Topology Optimization  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Kalyana B. Nakshatrala

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Md Rafiul Amin  
Scalable and Robust Inference of Hidden  
Impulsive Physiological Variables via  
Sparse Optimization  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Rose T. Faghieh

Hamid Fekri Azgomi  
Closed-Loop Regulation of Internal  
States in Wearable Brain Machine  
Interfaces  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Rose T. Faghieh

Dawei Chen  
Machine Learning for Multi-access Edge  
Computing and Autonomous Driving  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Zhu Han

Yulang Feng  
Design and Calibration of High-Speed  
and Power-Efficient Flash ADC in FDSOI  
CMOS  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Jinghong Chen

Han Lu  
Efficient Inversion Methods for Large-  
Scale Geophysical Inverse Problems  
**ADVISORS:** Dr. Xin Fu and Dr. Jiefu Chen

Sasidharan Prakashan  
Hybrid Supercapacitor Electrodes  
Based on Transition Metal Oxide/  
Graphene/3D-Porous Nickel  
Architecture  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Shin-Shem Steven Pei

Goutham Selvaraj  
Control Strategies for Minimizing the  
DC-link Capacitance used in Power  
Electronics Converters for Aircraft  
Electrical Power Systems  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Kaushik Rajashekara

Akshay Sujatha Ravindran  
Developing Robust Explainable  
Deep Learning Models using  
Electroencephalography for Brain-  
Machine Interface Systems  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Jose Contreras-Vidal

Yuxuan Tang  
High-Performance CMOS Front-End  
ASICs for SiPM Detectors and High-  
Frequency Ultrasound and Photoacoustic  
Imaging  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Jinghong Chen

Vani Murthy Vellanki  
Radar Cross Section Reduction of an  
Arbitrary Object using Active Antenna  
Elements  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. David R. Jackson

Li Yan  
2D Pixel-Based Inversion for  
Electromagnetic Logging Data  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Jiefu Chen

Xu Yang  
Developing Label-free Imaging  
Techniques to Study Biological and  
Energy Conversion Processes  
**ADVISOR:** Xiaonan Shan

Yu Yao  
Fast Response DC/DC Converters for  
Pulsed Load Applications  
**ADVISOR:**  
Dr. Harish Sarma Krishnamoorthy



## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Adithya Govindarajan

Sediment Dynamics and Associations  
with Polychlorinated Biphenyls and  
Dioxins in an Urban Estuary

ADVISOR: Dr. Hanadi S. Rifai

Sachin Paudel

Polymer-Based Nanocarriers to Treat  
Intestinal Infection and Reduce Impact on  
Gut Microbiome

ADVISOR: Dr. Debora F. Rodrigues

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN GEOSENSING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES

Le Thuy Tien Du

Operational Water Management in  
Transboundary, Highly Regulated  
Watersheds using Multi-Basin Model and  
Earth Observations

ADVISOR: Dr. Hyongki Lee

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Nikhil Milind Chaudhari

Electrochemical Characterization of  
Negative Lead Electrode in Lead-acid  
Battery

ADVISOR: Dr. Stanko R. Brankovic

Benjamin Jason Emley

Scalable Processing Routes for Solid-State  
Energy Conversion and Storage Devices

ADVISOR: Dr. Yan Yao

Sofia K. Fanourakis

Visible Light Photocatalytic MoO<sub>3</sub>-Based  
Nanomaterial Synthesis, the Effect of  
Polymer Coatings on Their Photocatalytic  
Activity and Dissolution, and Their  
Applications in Water Treatment

ADVISOR: Dr. Debora F. Rodrigues

Qiang Fu

Investigation of Interface in Flexible  
Polymer Lithium Ion Batteries

ADVISOR: Dr. Haleh Ardebili

Jasdeep Makkar

Experimental and Numerical Fracture  
Toughness Evaluation of Phase  
Transforming Shape Memory Alloys

ADVISOR: Dr. Theocharis Baxevanis

Jonathan Javier Penaranda Mora

Elevated-Temperature Oxidative Curing,  
Friction and Wear of Polyphenylene  
Sulfide (PPS) and its Composites

ADVISOR: Dr. Su-Su Wang

Navjot Singh Randhawa

Flexible, Self-Attaching Substrates for  
Extra-Neural Cuff Interfaces based on  
Shape-Shifting Polymers

ADVISOR: Dr. John C. Wolfe

Zhoulyu Rao

Materials and Manufacture of Soft  
Optoelectronics for Curvilinear Imaging  
and Biological Stimulation

ADVISOR: Dr. Cunjiang Yu

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Maryam Bagheri

Grouping of Individual Entities Based on  
Common Features

ADVISOR: Dr. Andrea Prosperetti

Sihong He

Integrated Stress Wave Based  
Communication and Health Monitoring  
in Pipelines

ADVISOR: Dr. Gangbing Song

Nazmul Hossain

Performance Analysis of Numerical  
Models and the Effects of Key Parameters  
in Fluidized Beds

ADVISOR: Dr. Ralph Metcalfe

Xiongfeng Yi

Visual Servoing Control of Robotic  
System for Off-shore Oil and Gas  
Pipeline Inspection

ADVISOR: Dr. Zheng Chen

Mengqian Zhang

Advanced Modeling of the  
Thermomechanical Response of Shape  
Memory Alloys

ADVISOR: Dr. Theocharis Baxevanis

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PETROLEUM ENGINEERING

Bingwen Deng

Numerical Simulation of Coupled  
Processes of Fluid Flow and Reactive  
Transport in Fractured Carbonate  
Formations Induced by Seawater  
Injection

ADVISOR: Dr. Guan Qin

Anandhan M. Selveindran

Machine Learning Assisted Reservoir  
Management for Injection Projects

ADVISOR: Dr. Ganesh C. Thakur

Clara Patricia Palencia Hernandez

Shale Gas Reservoir Spontaneous  
Imbibition Experiments, insight into  
Flowback Water Salinity

ADVISOR: Dr. Lori Hathorn

Seyed Mahdi Razavi

Nonintrusive Reduced Order Modeling  
of Particle in Fluid Flow – Proppant  
Transport

ADVISOR: Dr. Syed M. Farouq-Ali

CO-ADVISOR: Dr. Mohamed Y. Soliman

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Omar I. A. Abunofal

Anbuechezian Arasu

Briana Banks-Jefferson

Alec Martin Entringer

Amin Firouzi

Lei Gonzalez

Ilaaf Husain

Ayooluwapo Peter Ijaseun

Tsunami M. Pinkney

Dennis Tran

Sylvia Xie

Crystal Mouliere Yarbrough

## MASTER OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Patrick James Cable

Omar Y. Enan

Kevin Trung Thanh Le

Ramsha Syed

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING**

Mohamed Seddik Abdennadher  
Yikang Peng  
Ana Paola Valecillos Sandra

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN CIVIL ENGINEERING**

Farzanuddin Hisam Ahmad  
Milad Ajir  
Emmanuel Omara Ameda  
Ashman Bhusal  
Orlando Jose Mireles Gonzalez  
Taha Saeed  
Duong Thuy Vu

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
COMPUTER AND SYSTEMS  
ENGINEERING**

Alex Michael Magyari  
Bryan Onose Obabori  
Sri Ram Rachakonda

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

Binh Luong Duong  
Avish Paresh Gandhi  
Mohamed H. Hassan  
Farhana Islam  
Saman Khazaei  
Sana Mujeeb  
Ravi Namuduri  
Yang Hoc Nguyen  
Uttam Reddy Pailla  
Monica Virginia Perez  
Ritik Ranjan  
Javeria Saleem  
Yaping Shi  
Jose Alexander Tolino  
Lynn Tran  
David Chukwunweiken Utomi  
An Thanh Vu  
David H. Wong

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN ENGINEERING DATA  
SCIENCE**

Mary B. Bittar  
Subin Roy Varghese

**MASTER OF ENGINEERING  
MANAGEMENT**

Diego Jose Barrera  
Ali Furati  
Zain Rasheed Rajput  
Alejandra Guadalupe Rangel

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN ENVIRONMENTAL  
ENGINEERING**

Jonathan Martin Vasquez

**MASTER OF INDUSTRIAL  
ENGINEERING**

Pradeep Reddy Amireddy  
Wenjun Chen  
Yash Mukesh Gandhi  
Rajat Gupta  
Mohammad Abid Mansoorali Jamadar  
Muhammad Taimur Kamil  
Ranjan Kumar  
Tejas Mistry  
Lohith Mittapally  
Hardik Shrikant Pancholi  
Vamshi Sama  
Harsh Yatin Shah  
Jai Sisodia  
Kameswara Suresh Sista  
Sanket Mhasku Tajane  
Poojan Jatinbhai Vora

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN MATERIALS SCIENCE  
AND ENGINEERING**

Kunal Hansrajbhai Dudhat  
Ikram Ul Huda Shehna

**MASTER OF MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERING**

Michael Payne  
Brittany H. Spivey  
Christopher Ryan Williams

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERING**

Kylie Quinn Hornbeck  
Nastaran Khodabandehloo  
Edmundo Martinez  
Sina Nazifi Takan Tappeh  
Anish Pageni  
Daniel Putt  
Dominic Van Der Walt  
Yejin Wi

**MASTER OF PETROLEUM  
ENGINEERING**

Mohammad Shirf Alawadi  
Mustafa Bulut  
Tejas Jayvant Pawar  
Jade Elise Poxon

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING**

Jose Augusto Benavides Arancibia  
Aryab Mazumdar

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN SPACE ARCHITECTURE**

Gerardo Cambronero  
Osaid Sasi

**MASTER OF SCIENCE  
IN SUBSEA ENGINEERING**

Fabio Armando Iguaran Castillo  
Elizabeth Gabriela Morillo  
Tejas Jayvant Pawar  
Zainab Zikar



### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING**

Muhamed Hafi I. Abdulrahman<sup>3</sup>  
Amirah Noorjahan Alam<sup>1</sup>  
Kelly L. Graham<sup>3</sup>  
Hakeem Muhammad-Ali Kassamali<sup>2</sup>  
Imad Salman Mahmood Magna<sup>3</sup>  
Nhi Vu Thao Nguyen<sup>2</sup>  
Thea Thao Pham<sup>1</sup>  
Vi Cao Tran<sup>3</sup>  
Esperanza Vazquez<sup>2</sup>

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING**

Taha Ahmed Alali<sup>2</sup>  
Jakob Armond Claret  
Manuel Carlos Diaz Bohorquez  
Jv Kyle Alfeche Eclarin<sup>3</sup>  
Elias E. El-Tayssoun<sup>2</sup>  
Michael Anne Keaton  
Mohamed Khaled Khalil<sup>1</sup>  
Iryna Lagrone<sup>3</sup>  
Temitayo Kolade Okeowo<sup>3</sup>  
Al Wayne Paredes  
Laosha Lashay Quaites  
Eniola Ruth Sam-Olibale  
Raymond Vo

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING**

Fatimah Fathi Ismael Al Bazzaz<sup>3</sup>  
Nijo J. Alex<sup>3</sup>  
Hasan Almashhadani<sup>3</sup>  
Joaquin Isrrael Castaneda  
Brandon Chandler  
Mitchell Andrew Clark  
Ryan Jay Cole  
Fabiola Coronado<sup>3</sup>  
Yinglin Deng  
Nikunj Manish Desai  
Farah Mohamad Farhoud<sup>3</sup>  
Abi Marie Fleischmann<sup>2</sup>  
Hugo Garza<sup>2</sup>  
Alexis E. Gonzalez

Edward R. Hall  
Chase Colby Jinks<sup>2</sup>  
Vontonio Rico Jones  
Waleed A. Kanaan<sup>3</sup>  
Christopher Leija  
Oscar Daniel Leon<sup>2</sup>  
Nolan Maciejeski  
Ayman Mubarak Manasia  
Karol N. Napoles  
Vainqueur Mbuinga Ndangi<sup>2</sup>  
Nicky Nguyen  
Thien Hoang Nguyen  
Thomas M. Ochoa<sup>2</sup>  
Andrew Navarro Ramirez  
Jose Armando Rodriguez  
Thalia Salas<sup>3</sup>  
Edgar Eleuterio Salazar Fernandez  
Bryan Daniel Sandoval Medellin  
Amanda Scudder  
Matthew Mokhtar Shakerian  
Cheuk Lung Wai<sup>1</sup>  
Xiangkai Zeng

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING**

Alexis Cervantes  
Luigi Alessandro Chiapponi<sup>3</sup>  
Dana Elisabeth Dailey<sup>1</sup>  
Hussein R. Jabak  
Daniel King<sup>2</sup>  
Christopher Rene Montealvo  
Charles Nguyen<sup>2</sup>  
Edward Arthur Sotelo  
Othniel E. Udoh

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

Felix Gha Achuo  
Cristian Jonathan Bernal<sup>2</sup>  
Jared M. Cantu  
Mark A Eisenhour  
David El Achi<sup>1</sup>  
Martin Esparza III  
Christopher Allen Ester

Derian Fraga Salas<sup>3</sup>  
Marissa N. Garcia<sup>3</sup>  
Christopher Joseph Gerard  
Sarah Danielle Hannusch<sup>3</sup>  
Brandon Alexander Harkins<sup>3</sup>  
Soha Haydari  
Patrick D. Kelling<sup>1</sup>  
Sajid A. Khan<sup>2</sup>  
Mai Nu Ngoc Le<sup>3</sup>  
Adrian Lopez  
Lance Austin Montoute<sup>1</sup>  
Zouheir Daniel Obeid<sup>3</sup>  
Dhruv R. Patel  
John Logan Sammons  
Thomas M. Samuel  
Kathika J. Seneviratne<sup>3</sup>  
Christopher Darius Shedrick  
John Davis Thibodeaux  
Christine V. Tran  
Dat Huynh Tran<sup>1,4</sup>  
Meghna Ajitsinh Vansia  
Gibrian Vargas  
Hannah Vu<sup>1</sup>  
Tawfiq Onimisi Zubairu

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING**

Bayan Abdelhakim Bani-Hani<sup>3</sup>  
Anderson U. Igben  
Sai Anuroop R. Mulukuri

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

Aya Shawky Abushmeis<sup>2</sup>  
Taimoor Akram<sup>2</sup>  
Shady Fouad Alissa<sup>2</sup>  
Kazi Tanisha Zaman Angshu  
Luis A. Araujo<sup>3</sup>  
Carlos A. Arcilla  
Richard A. Ardila Cantillo  
Eason Ryan Avant  
Samantha M. Bales<sup>3</sup>  
Tommy James Belyeu

1 Summa Cum Laude - 2 Magna Cum Laude - 3 Cum Laude - 4 Banner Bearer (highest GPA)

**University of Houston**  
**Cullen College of Engineering**

**Commencement Ceremony**

Alexander L. Blick <sup>1</sup>  
Cierra C. Capdeville  
Nicolas Castillo  
Andrea Chapa <sup>3</sup>  
Becca Rose Cox <sup>2</sup>  
Natalie E. Crow  
Dauda Ayodeji Babatunde Dauda  
Norianne Georgette Dimalaluan  
Jhon Anthony Dominguez Cancimanse  
Andrew L. Dougherty  
Bilal Elhaibe <sup>2</sup>  
Christian J. Emanis <sup>3</sup>  
Brian Flores  
Christian Michael Gadbois <sup>1</sup>  
David Eduardo Garcia  
Gabriel Jesus Gutierrez Vasquez  
Erick Gutierrez-Orizaba  
Jessica T. Ha <sup>2</sup>  
Julio J. Herrera  
Chantz D. Howell  
Kathryn L. Kaiser  
Mishal Saed Khalil <sup>2</sup>  
Chaeyoung Kim  
Noah C. Lafferty  
Kai Y. Loh <sup>3</sup>  
Audrey Lynn Lusk  
Jhonatan Manjarrez <sup>1</sup>  
Mark Christain Manriquez

Alejandro Martinez  
Yonatan Mascorro <sup>1</sup>  
Anthony Leon McBride, Jr.  
Oscar Mendez  
Alfonso Merino  
Julio Cesar Miranda Perez <sup>3</sup>  
Derek Nguyen <sup>1</sup>  
Hieu Thanh Nguyen <sup>2</sup>  
Hoang Nguyen  
Son Hoang Nguyen  
Tien Quoc Nguyen <sup>2</sup>  
Tram Belle Nguyen  
Mohammad Odeh <sup>2</sup>  
Nicolas Orbegozo <sup>2</sup>  
Jordan M. Palmer <sup>1</sup>  
Louis Joseph Parlangeli  
Arturo Favio Parra Ramos  
Jay V. Patel  
Kirby Valtaria Rainer <sup>1,4</sup>  
Matthew Justus Ramirez  
Patricia Running  
Daniel John Saber <sup>1</sup>  
Michelle R. Sapon  
Nicholas Greyson Schmutz <sup>3</sup>  
Emily Selladurai  
Irtaza Zafar Sheikh  
Muhammad Usama Sheikh  
Shelby Lynn Sinor

Javi J. Solano <sup>1</sup>  
Gerald Soto  
Carlton C. Storey  
Helio Casimiro Marcolino Tchipoque <sup>3</sup>  
Brian Truong  
Joel Uribe  
Aabel Kanavil Varghese  
Erick Vazquez  
Quang Ngoc Vo

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING**

Zaid Anwar Hassan Al Ramadneh  
Hattim Abdul-Majeed Araim <sup>3</sup>  
Liam Dinh  
Nolan B. Griffin <sup>3</sup>  
Linh Diem Thi Hoang  
Kelsey Jones  
Vinh Le <sup>2</sup>  
Manas Mereddi  
Hector Moya  
Henry Quang Nguyen  
Jennifer Lynn Stewart <sup>1</sup>  
Hai Dong Tran  
Peter Winski <sup>2</sup>  
Ricardo Zuniga <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Summa Cum Laude - <sup>2</sup> Magna Cum Laude - <sup>3</sup> Cum Laude - <sup>4</sup> Banner Bearer (highest GPA)







UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON  
THE HONORS COLLEGE

**Message from the Dean**

December 17, 2021

We think of commencement as an end, a finish line, yet the word proclaims that this moment is a new beginning, that “today is the first day of the rest of your life” as the old posters and new memes remind us. Our graduation ritual of “walking” has been revived, despite the challenges familiar to us all, thanks to a promise and a commitment from Chancellor Khator. Walking is treasured by students and their families because it conveys in motion, symbol, and

photograph the fact that you are literally taking next steps on a new journey into a new world.

Then-Senator Barack Obama, however, in a definitive speech entitled “A More Perfect Union,” quoted this famous line from a William Faulkner novel: “The past is never dead. It’s not even past.” And a great teacher and scholar, R.J. Kaufmann, had this insight about what we read, say, write, do, and experience: “Nothing is ever lost.” So, to understand a person in midlife, you need to know what they were doing between the ages of 18 and 24 and what was going on in the world during those years. To anticipate the person you will become, you might well reflect on what you have been doing over the last four or five years, inside and outside the classroom, and what has been going on in the world.

We are confident that what you have been reading, writing, and doing during your undergraduate years, the tonic tasks that you have undertaken, will not be lost. Breaking through to that hard-won epiphany in a Human Sit paper; taking your first oral exam and killing it (or vowing to kill it next time!); presenting your poster, virtually or in person, at Undergraduate Research Day; making the transition from mentee in year one to mentor in year three; developing a partnership with a middle school whose students could really use some Honors College tutors; developing cultural competencies and medical skills so you can responsibly serve a refugee community in Jordan; representing UH in a Model Arab League simulation in Washington or Cairo; becoming certified as a Community Health Worker in order to assist Third Ward families; completing a competitive application for a major award, and then interviewing for and perhaps winning a Fulbright, a Goldwater, or a Critical Language Scholarship. Despite the many challenges—or perhaps because of them—your generation has the opportunity to become a great generation, perhaps the greatest generation of the 21st century.

Our hope is that the past four or five years have prepared you for deep satisfactions in your professional lives, and beyond your professional lives. This week you are commencing, you are walking on in your journey. We are proud of you, and we hope that you will not be a stranger to joy or a stranger to us in the years to come.

Be safe and be well,

Bill Monroe  
The Honors College

# UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

## THE HONORS COLLEGE

### The Honors College Honors

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The Honors College at the University of Houston offers students special opportunities to develop their academic abilities. Below are the Honors College designations.

#### **University Honors and University Honors with Honors in Major**

Students who complete the Honors College curriculum (36 hours) graduate with University Honors. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with University Honors with Honors in Major.

#### **Collegiate Honors and Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major**

Students who fulfill the requirements for the honors program in the college of their major, including 21 hours of honors courses; who complete an Honors College minor, or who complete 21 hours of approved honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major.

#### **Membership in The Honors College and Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major**

Students who affiliate with the Honors College during their undergraduate years and complete fewer than 21 hours of honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis and fulfill the requirements of their major with distinction, they graduate with Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major.

#### **Honors in Major**

Students who complete a senior honors thesis but are not members of the Honors College.

## University Honors with Honors in Major

### COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Hannah Aurora Martinez

## University Honors

### C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Cem Baber  
Josue Isai Cruz-Arriola  
Alexandra Dearborn  
Paisley Fernandez  
Kaleigh Michelle Flynn  
Luis Felipe Galleno  
Amanda Lynn Ganis  
Juan Gabriel Laxa  
Karim Hazem Machkhas  
Shaan Moosa Muhammad  
Bassam Razzaq  
Megan Ann Robinson  
Zoe Rountree  
Rida Jawad Sarwar  
Gabriel Segovia-Plate  
Brooklyn Renee Smith  
David Smith  
Trang Pham Thuy Than  
Thanh Tu Tran  
Kathryn Paige Van Horn

### COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Hunter Douglas Anderson  
Alexander Kristopher Andrews  
Miles Lockhart Bednorz  
Ruth Ellen Carroll  
Gabrielle Charvat  
Ceyda Iclal Ersoy  
Alma Jakelin Garcia  
Daniela Louise Graham  
David Matthew Hartman  
Hannah Rebecca Hassel

Treana Hebert  
Sean Hu  
Mytrang Huynh  
Brock Liu  
Karim Hazem Machkhas  
Tayma Lynn Machkhas  
Elizabeth Aleksandra Merlinsky  
Penelope Itzae Moreno  
Camille Ngo  
Anh Tu Nguyen  
Sean Gwyneth Perry  
Aleksandar Petrusevski  
Katherine Sophia Solberg  
Lena D. Teckenbrock  
Alondra Anahi Torres  
Ealee Tuan

### KATHRINE G. MCGOVERN COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Doriane Alfon  
Gabriela Ruth Gonzalez

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Megan Dorothy Cudal Buena  
Tayma Lynn Machkhas  
Kamryn Milan Schafer  
Sara Safwan Syed  
Vivian Nguyen Tran

### CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kyle Alfeche Eclarin  
Marissa Garcia  
Sarah Danielle Hannusch  
Sajid Khan  
Oscar Daniel Leon  
Alfonso Merino  
Sai Anuroop Mulukuri  
Derek Nguyen  
Zouheir Daniel Obeid  
Megan Ann Robinson  
Eniola Ruth Sam-Olibale  
John Logan Sammons  
Peter Winski

### COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

Nooha Ali Ahmed  
Alexander Kristopher Andrews  
Travis Joseph Baylor  
Brenna Chan  
Richa Dudhia  
Sydney Elizabeth Nutter  
Elizabeth K. Odonnell  
Alejandra Paiuk  
Emma Schenck  
Bryana Stigers  
Pardis Zohari

## Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major

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### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dua Abidi

## Collegiate Honors

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### C. T. BAUER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Alison Fae Vasterling

### COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Megan Faye Barineau  
Sean Patrick Dalton  
Sophia Marie Frusco  
Rhonda Hassan  
Krystal Hinojosa  
Ivana Lozano  
Nathalie L. Nava

Ashlee Nixon  
Ejenavi D. Ojigho  
Hannah Elisabeth Price  
Enrique Salinas

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Areeba Ahmed  
Emily Grace O'Neill

### CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Samantha Marie Bales  
Kelly Graham

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## Membership in The Honors College

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