



Commencement and Hooding Ceremony

DECEMBER 13, 2024

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Creighton

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Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD

President, Creighton University



Dear Creighton University Graduate,

On behalf of the Creighton University community, let me offer my heartfelt congratulations on your accomplishments as a member of the Class of 2024. This momentous occasion that we share in the company of family, friends, and supporters, is the culmination of much hard work, perseverance, and personal growth.

I know I join everyone who has helped you and supported you along the way when I say that we cannot wait to see what awaits you in this world of endless possibility. Cherish the hard work that has brought you to this point as you close one chapter and turn the page to discover the next.

I encourage you to take a moment during this celebratory time in your life to reflect on the transformative journey you have undertaken and how it has deepened your understanding of yourself and the world. You are prepared to make meaningful contributions to your profession and the communities you will join and serve.

Know, too, that you are not alone on this journey. The Creighton alumni family counts nearly 80,000 and stretches across the globe. It is a shared bond forged in the experiences of a Jesuit, Catholic education grounded in inquiry, imagination, and inspiration.

You have done something extraordinary in reaching this milestone, but do not let this be the end of your journey. As a changemaker, you do not wait for the world to come to you; rather, you are called to go forth and make it better.

Remember that you are a Bluejay, always. May God bless you and your loved ones on this noteworthy day.

Sincerely,

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD

Order of Exercises

PROCESSION

MACE BEARER

Mary Ann Danielson, PhD Faculty President Professor, Communication Studies

DEAN'S WELCOME

A. Barron Breland, DM Dean, Graduate School

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Diane Owens, MFA Instructor of Voice, Department of Fine and Performing Arts

INVOCATION Rev. Greg Carlson, sJ, DPhil Associate Director,

Deglman Center for Ignatian Spirituality

PROVOST'S MESSAGE Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN

Provost

DEGREE CONFERRAL STATEMENT

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN Provost

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EARNED DEGREES

Names read by A. Barron Breland, Dм Dean, Graduate School

College of Arts and Sciences Bridget M. Keegan, PhD, Dean

School of Medicine Robert W. Dunlay, мр, Dean

Heider College of Business Anthony R. Hendrickson, PhD, Dean

College of Nursing Jessica R. Clark, DNP, RN, Dean

College of Professional and Continuing Education Gayla M. Stoner, PhD, Dean

Hooding of graduates will be conducted by faculty from individual programs.

TURNING OF THE TASSEL

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN Provost

STAGE PARTY, FACULTY, AND GRADUATE RECESSIONAL

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION IN THE AHMANSON BALLROOM, 4TH FLOOR OF THE HARPER CENTER

College of Arts and Sciences

MASTER OF ARTS

Edmund Yainao Lunghar St. Francis, South Dakota Christian Spirituality

Aidan James Mulholland Rotorua, New Zealand Christian Spirituality

Kimberly Jean Nelson Dublin, Ohio Christian Spirituality

Huong Thi Nguyen Phu Tho City, Vietnam Christian Spirituality

Seth K. Owusu Avoca, Iowa Christian Spirituality

Lisa Marie Perkowski Tampa, Florida Christian Spirituality

Raquel Marie Tadeo Orbik Omaha, Nebraska Christian Spirituality

Amy S. Turbes Omaha, Nebraska Christian Spirituality

Myrna Jo Vasa Nebraska City, Nebraska Christian Spirituality

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Jack R. Beal Omaha, Nebraska Elementary Teaching

Lauren E. Doyle Omaha, Nebraska Elementary Teaching

Hayriye Melis Ibrahimiye Elkhorn, Nebraska Elementary Teaching

Genevieve M. Nassa Omaha, Nebraska Elementary Teaching

Ariana Gabrielle-Lee Nyambura Omaha, Nebraska Elementary Teaching

Nathanael Justus O'Reilly Omaha, Nebraska Secondary Teaching

Garrett C. Rolenc Red Oak, Iowa Secondary Teaching

Jackson James Smith Omaha, Nebraska Secondary Teaching

Tamara Ann Tarver North Platte, Nebraska Secondary Teaching John A. Vierra Honolulu, Hawaii Secondary Teaching

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Neha Devi Panipat, India Medical Physics

Sarthak Dhungana Bhaktapur, Nepal Medical Physics

James J. Kostal Fremont, Nebraska Physics

Margaret Ann Mahoney Chicago, Illinois Educational Specialist Areas

Maimuna Nagey Omaha, Nebraska Medical Physics

Ikenna Emmanuel Odezuligbo Omaha, Nebraska Physics

Jacob L. Raths Fergus Falls, Minnesota Education and Educational Leadership

Hannah Michelle Schloman Lee's Summit, Missouri Medical Physics

Roxanne M. Terán Nogales, Arizona Education and Educational Leadership

Harsh Gopee Krishna Uppala Omaha, Nebraska Medical Physics

School of Medicine MASTER OF PHYSICIAN

ASSISTANT STUDIES

Alexa Grace Augustine Scottsdale, Arizona

Colton Riley Belnap Pocatello, Idaho

Allegra Elaine Blomenberg Omaha, Nebraska

Luke Pierson Brooks Pembroke, North Carolina

Kristen Grace Calderon Frisco, Texas

Sandy Dao Salina, Kansas

Kennedy Paige Dyer Scottsdale, Arizona

Sheza Faruqi Olathe, Kansas Elisa D. Foreman Bennington, Nebraska

Kyle Bruce Fowler Colorado Springs, Colorado

Michele Ihilani Fujita Waipahu, Hawaii

Clara Jean Genereux Honey Creek, Iowa

Sophia Rene Gomez Miami, Florida

Elissa Rae Guttmann Lake St. Louis, Missouri

Josiah James Hoskins Blackfoot, Idaho

Hannah Rae Hunke Snyder, Nebraska

Whitney Pepper Jackson Wichita, Kansas

Maddison Paige Johnson Salina, Kansas

Allabelle Lindsey Highlands Ranch, Colorado

Caitlin Marie Lonergan Bozeman, Montana

Nick Allen Maddox Nebraska City, Nebraska

Morgan Alexandra Newman Yardley, Pennsylvania

Nhung Hong Nguyen South Sioux City, Nebraska

Aoife Dorothy O'Brien Scottsdale, Arizona

Justin Chidi Arinze Onwugbufor Wichita, Kansas

Gracelyn Sales Council Bluffs, Iowa

Grace Lynn Schilling Blackstone, Virginia

Kaleb John Schwinefus Mondovi, Wisconsin

Riley Jo Seidel Kansas City, Missouri

Mary A. Styren Dallas, Texas

Jennifer Dahly Thul Iron River, Wisconsin

Gabrielle Hope Tingstad Papillion, Nebraska

Emily Rose Volz Dakota Dunes, South Dakota

Leah Marie Willhite Overland Park, Kansas

Ashley Katharine Wiseman Mesa, Arizona Tara Michelle Wyley Plymouth, Minnesota

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Ansley Elizabeth Atkinson Minneapolis, Minnesota

Danielle Alexandrea Hotalling Lee's Summit, Missouri

Megan Kailey Skaff Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Lind-sae D. Wilkes Olathe, Kansas

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Steve Suk Jae Chang Fullerton, California Integrated Medical Sciences

Kelly Nicole Christopher Bemidji, Minnesota Integrative Health and Wellness

Aimee De Poortere Summerfield, North Carolina Integrative Health and Wellness

Jillian Leah Geoffrey Colorado Springs, Colorado Bioethics

Sarah Marie Giacomini Los Alamitos, California Integrative Health and Wellness

Katherine Marjory Hillmer Omaha, Nebraska Bioethics

Carol D. McCabe Omaha, Nebraska Integrative Health and Wellness

Jacob Meierer Troutman, North Carolina Integrative Health and Wellness

Rebecca Ke'ala Ka'apuokalani Mahi'ai Akina Meyer Kalihi, Hawaii Integrative Health and Wellness

Carley Pels Seminole, Florida Integrative Health and Wellness

Leah Rose Krevans Rude Omaha, Nebraska Integrative Health and Wellness

Daniel Robert Snyder Mason City, Iowa Biomedical Sciences

Lisa Sofiar Singapore, Singapore Integrative Health and Wellness

Allison Rene Whitten Simpsonville, South Carolina Integrative Health and Wellness

DOCTOR OF PHILSOPHY

Margaret Mary McCann

St. Louis, Missouri Biomedical Sciences The rat as a translational model of

neurotrauma: Primary somatosensory input and imaging biomarker validation following spinal cord and peripheral nerve injuries

Brian Thien Nguyen Martinez, California Medical Microbiology and Immunology The characterization of circular extrachromosomal RDNA elements in naegleria spp

Seraphine Kamayirese Kigali, Rwanda

Biomedical Sciences The development of peptides that target 14-3-3ɛ in cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, and exploring the role of residue types in ligand recognition by 14-3-3 proteins

Rachael Ann Urquhart Omaha, Nebraska Pharmacology TREM1-mediated neuroinflammation is critical to global ischemiainduced neurodegeneration and cognitive deficits

School of Law

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Shelby Siera Soper Adair, Iowa Government Organization and Leadership

Heider College of Business

MASTER OF ACCOUNTING

Allison Rae Brown Omaha, Nebraska

Raylynn JiaAn Haas Tucson, Arizona

Jack Douglas Marasco Mission Hills, Kansas

Jake Ryan McGregor Elkhorn, Nebraska

Taylor Kay Mead Syracuse, Nebraska

Bennett Wu Xia Prince Victor, New York

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Christopher Aaron Bates Denver, Colorado Mohit Bharadwaj ♦ Omaha. Nebraska

Elisabeth M. Bichelmeyer Mission Hills, Kansas

Hunter Bradley Chandler *Almena, Kansas*

Michael Gene Cox

Logan, Iowa

Shane Parker Denton • Omaha, Nebraska

Tyler Joseph Didier Minneapolis, Minnesota

Kaleena Suzanne Fong Hastings, Nebraska

Halie Joelle Gill Omaha, Nebraska

David James Griego Paradise Valley, Arizona

Brennan Hammer Omaha, Nebraska

Emily Mae Hegarty
+ Hartford, Connecticut

Chad S. Jukkala-Lewis Chicago, Illinois

Peter O'Leary Kiscoan Omaha, Nebraska

Michael Stone Olson Burnsville, Minnesota

Graeham Robert Ryan Omaha, Nebraska

MASTER OF FINANCE

Hunter Bradley Chandler
Almena, Kansas

Thomas Victor Engle Chicago, Illinois

Joshua Reimann Koerper Lexington, Kentucky

Breanna Irene Thompson Omaha, Nebraska

MASTER OF FINANCIAL PLANNING AND FINANCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Cleo Camille Childress Nashville, Tennessee

John Joseph Fitzsimons IV Long Island City, New York

Daniel Gonzalez Georgetown, Texas

Debbie J. Slaugher Fort Liberty, North Carolina

MASTER OF INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Peter Tinsley Daood Wichita, Kansas

Shane Parker Denton ◆ Omaha, Nebraska

Matthew Nathan Eglseder Omaha, Nebraska

Griffin Green Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Samuel James Irwin Marshalltown, Iowa

David George Mowad Hawthorn, New Jersey

Thomas Mario Schorn Siesta Key, Florida

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Mohit Bharadwaj ♦ Omaha, Nebraska Business Intelligence and Analytics

Jose De Jesus Costilla Santana Grand Island, Nebraska Business Analytics

Michael Gene Cox ◆ Logan, Iowa Business Intelligence and Analytics

Richard A. Darrell, Jr. Omaha, Nebraska Analytics

Brian Hurler Los Angeles, California Analytics

Korinne Bailey Klingelsmith Fort Collins, Colorado Analytics

John West Stapleton, Jr. Kansas City, Missouri Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

Chad Wendel Thompson

Neligh, Nebraska
Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

Connor Orin Watley Harrisburg, South Dakota Business Intelligence and Analytics

College of Nursing

MASTER OF SCIENCE

David Anderson Bérubé Brule, Wisconsin Paramedicine

Leann Marie Hunt Freistatt, Missouri Emergency Medical Services

Loren Leslee Jones Lawrenceburg, Indiana Paramedicine Joel Henry Otte West Des Moines, Iowa Paramedicine

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Carisha Alma Cabasa

Bonney Lake, Washington Nursing Administration and Leadership Addressing social determinants of health in diabetes education

Candra C. Day

San Antonio, Texas Nurse Practitioner -Pediatric Acute/Primary Care Addressing post-intensive care syndrome with family centered interventions

Kellee LaRae Jindra

Omaha, Nebraska Implementing Enhanced Barrier Nursing (EBN) Precautions: A quality improvement project

Dolorita Hakoma Onguru Chicago, Illinois Screening, evaluation and management of depression by utilizing an evidence-based algorithm in older homebound patients in primary care

Trudie Jeanine Owens Omaha, Nebraska Go wish together for pediatric solid organ transplant families

Katie Elizabeth Zander

Omaha, Nebraska Increasing awareness of interprofessional collaboration in healthcare among high school students

College of Professional and Continuing Education

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Andrew John Eckart Mead, Nebraska Organizational Leadership

Emily Mae Hegarty Hartford, Connecticut Organizational Leadership

Katherine Cecelia Lamb Grafton, Wisconsin Organizational Leadership

Heather Dawn Ord Beatrice, Nebraska Organizational Leadership

Lorna Jo Puhl Council Bluffs, Iowa Organizational Leadership Austin John Steele La Crosse, Wisconsin Organizational Leadership

Chad Wendel Thompson Neligh, Nebraska Organizational Leadership

Sarah Ann Zimmerman Omaha, Nebraska Organizational Leadership

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Vivian Aidevohi Amu

Omaha, Nebraska Leadership preparedness of international students attending American midwestern Jesuit Catholic universities

Staci Harper Bennett

Alexandria, Minnesota Outsiders, impostors, and equals: A quantitative study of workplace ostracism, impostor phenomenon, and perceptions of fair treatment

Anna Jo Bruton

Oxford, Florida An exploration of proactive followership in the co-creation of leadership process: A qualitative descriptive study

Stanley John Cordero

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Nathan W. Emmorey

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Carla K. Dirkschneider

Omaha, Nebraska Organizational adaptations during uncertain times: A qualitative study of decision-making in small, hospitalaffiliated healthcare colleges

Kevin Montie Fuller

North Platte, Nebraska Religious affiliation in women formed by single-gender Catholic schools

Frederick VaShawn Gill

Honolulu, Hawaii Factors impacting doctoral success: A phenomenological study

Eric Brian Gray

Graford, Texas Perceptions of the influence of transformational leadership on active-duty U.S. Army soldiers' decision-making in enrolling into institutions of higher education

Andre Nicholis Jackson

Fort Lauderdale, Florida Plugging the holes of the teacher shortage: A case study of novice teacher development provided by an alternative teacher preparation program

Marcus Edward Johnson

Springfield, Illinois A phenomenological study exploring the lived experiences of African American non-profit executives

Marvin Derrick Nick Jones, Jr.

Owings Mills, Maryland The rose phenomenon: Making the case for more black female leaders

Kelli Decker Kidwell

Wilmington, North Carolina How teacher Psycap is supported or inhibited in a North Carolina public school: A case study

Dan Paul Mabery, Jr.

Tahlequah, Oklahoma Academic and non-academic support desired by American-Indian and Alaska native students at midwestern regional university to increase their graduation rates

Samiatu Bogobiri Mante

Accra, Ghana Exploring the resilience of Ghana's education system: A case of the state of higher education institutions (HEIS) during Covid-19

Timothy Alan Piper

Oro Valley, Arizona An Afghan community's acculturation to the United States: A qualitative study

Natasha Patrice Ramberg

Odenton, Maryland B'More for healthy babies: A case study

Brenda Joyce Spencer-Ragland

Lawton, Oklahoma Interagency collaboration of agencies supporting homeless veterans

Susan Marie Spethman-Sullivan

Omaha, Nebraska A phenomenological study on building math confidence in female high school students: The teacher experience

Aaron Michael Stutzman

Easton, New York Exploring shared mental models within submarine tactical multiteam systems

Tyler Toline

West Point, Nebraska Rural hospitals CEOs challenges and successes

James Patrick Wetzel

Bellevue, Nebraska Identifying core competencies for remote team leadership

Stuart Lee Wilson

Indianapolis, Indiana A hermeneutic phenomenological study: Does passion ensure nonprofit leadership excellence?



Traditions of Creighton



Creighton Seal

The Creighton University seal includes elements representing the Creighton family, Creighton's Jesuit tradition and the Omaha Archdiocese.

The gold stripes on the red field, in the upper left-hand quadrant of the shield, come from the family coat of arms of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). The lion rampant comes from the Creighton family coat of arms, and the three seashells on a field of white and red sable come from the Wareham family coat of arms—paying homage to Creighton University's founding families. The design for the shield's final quadrant, in the lower left, comes from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Omaha. The starburst behind the shield comes from the seal of the Society of Jesus.



Ceremonial Mace

In the Middle Ages, the mace was a club used in battle and carried by a bodyguard to defend a person of authority. Over the years, it began to lose its warlike image and became a symbol of peaceful leadership.

At an academic institution, the mace is the symbol of the legal and chartered authority of the leadership to whom the board of trustees has delegated authority. When the ceremonial mace is present, the authority of the University is present. Use of the mace is reserved for occasions of outstanding importance, and it is an honor to bear the mace.

The Creighton University mace was designed and fashioned by Brian K. Besack, operations supervisor of the University's carpenter shop, at the invitation of then president, the Rev. John P. Schlegel, sJ, to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the University.

Using a cherry wood baluster from a long-abandoned staircase in the attic of Creighton Hall, the oldest building on Creighton's campus, Besack designed and fashioned the shaft, head and foot of the mace. Each facet of the nine-sided head displays a bronze, gold-plated medallion bearing the name and founding date of the University's schools and colleges. Its foot is sheathed in gold-plated brass, and cradled in its shaft rests the official seal of the University. At its top, the mace is crowned with a three-dimensional blue and gold medallion symbol of the Society of Jesus.

History of Academic Regalia

The robes, hats and hoods worn by faculty members and graduates as they march into the commencement hall, and even the different colors you see on them, have historical origins and significance. During the Middle Ages, scholars at the earliest English and European universities wore wool or fur garments to stay warm in the drafty, stone buildings that were poorly heated. Most of the scholars were also monks or priests, and as such had the hair shaved from the crowns of their heads in the distinctive clerical tonsure. Most wore cloaks that included a hood that could be pulled up to keep their heads warm. The academic gowns and hoods were adapted from both secular and clerical garments of the time, and the hood was chosen by the early scholars to indicate by color, trim or binding the degree held by the wearer.

The style of academic dress most frequently worn in the United States dates back to colonial times, although it was not formally adopted until near the end of the 19th century, when it was chosen as appropriate attire by the Intercollegiate Commission during a meeting in New York. It has remained the general standard in America since, although some variations occur at individual institutions. In the United States, black is the traditional color for academic gowns, although some institutions allow holders of doctoral degrees to wear robes in the university's colors.

The sleeves of the robes vary, depending on the degree held by the wearer. The bachelor's robe has long, pointed sleeves. The master's robe has sleeves that are oblong and closed at the ends, with slits through which the arms may be extended. The doctoral robe has a full sleeve with a velvet facing on the front and at the neck, and three velvet bars on each sleeve. The velvet may be black or of a color that symbolizes the degree held by the wearer.

The head covering most commonly used in the United States is the square, tasseled "mortarboard." Some American universities, however, use berets, and in other countries a variety of styles of head coverings is worn with academic regalia. The tassel is usually black and is worn over the left front quarter of the mortarboard. Holders of doctoral degrees may wear gold tassels. The hood is the most distinctive feature of American academic dress, which through color and design may indicate the wear's degree and the institution at which that degree was earned. Hoods are lined with the colors of the institution that awards the degree, and may be faced with the color designating the degree awarded. Hoods vary in length. The bachelor's hood is about three feet long, the master's slightly longer and the doctoral version is longer still and is decorated with broad color panels.

Candidates may have the hood ceremoniously placed upon them, as is done at some British universities, or a college/school may 'self-hood' en masse at the appropriate time during the ceremony as has been the practice at Fordham University in the United States. Additionally, the code allows for the wearing of the hood into the commencement ceremony as part of the academic procession, but only if neither of the two procedures above are being employed.

The code also states: "It is quite appropriate for the bachelor's gown to be worn without a hood." Many institutions, particularly larger ones, have therefore dispensed with the bachelor's hood at commencement ceremonies altogether, though a graduate is still entitled to wear one once the degree is conferred. Honorary and/or earned doctoral degrees are very often conferred by the highest academic officer of an institution bestowing the appropriate hood at the podium, regardless of the procedure being followed for other candidates at the ceremony.

Only one hood may be worn at any given time. Trim colors may not be combined or displayed together in any way to attempt to indicate more than one academic field. The regalia indicating the highest degree attained is usually worn, though the code seems to allow for a graduate to revert for some occasion to the entire academic costume (e.g., robe style, trim width, hood length, etc.) of a lesser degree earned. Those who hold multiple degrees of the same level (i.e., more than one master's or doctorate degree) may wear at any given time the regalia, in its entirety, of any one degree earned. The code does not allow for "mixing-and matching." The regalia prescribed by an academic institution and the degree actually awarded by that institution to the wearer (as indicated by trim color, hood length, robe style, etc.) must be consistent. The one exception is for officers of the academic institution who, while wearing a doctoral gown of the university being served, may display one hood from any degree earned from any institution.

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W. Wayne Young Jr., PhD* Vice Provost, Student Success

*Creighton alumnus/alumna

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Sarah Emily Creighton

Edward Creighton

Mary Lucretia Creighton John Creighton

History of Creighton University

Edward and Mary Lucretia Creighton, along with Edward's brother, John, settled in Omaha in the 1850s. John married Mary Lucretia's sister, Sarah Emily Wareham, in 1868, and the four are considered the founders of Creighton University. Edward's work with the transcontinental telegraph and freighting, ranching, railroading and banking became a major force in the city's economic development. The two brothers were widely known for their business enterprises, and the two couples were also widely regarded for their philanthropy.

Edward died in 1874, and his widow included \$100,000 in her will to establish Creighton College in memory of her husband. Mary Lucretia died in 1876, and her executors, who included her brother-in-law John, purchased 6.2 acres of land at the northwest corner of what is currently 24th and California streets. The land and additional securities were transferred to Bishop James O'Connor of Omaha, and construction began on the school.

The bishop asked the Jesuits to operate the school and the first president, Roman A. Shaffel, sJ, arrived in Omaha in late 1877; the school opened on Sept. 2, 1878. One priest, two scholastics, a layman and a laywoman formed the faculty. The school began with 120 students ranging in age from 6 to 30. On Aug. 14, 1879, Bishop O'Connor surrendered his trust to the Jesuits, who incorporated "The Creighton University" under Nebraska law. Much of the initial teaching was below the collegiate level; in 1891, Creighton University awarded its first baccalaureate degree.



Edward and Mary Lucretia's generosity is credited with establishing Creighton College, while John and Sarah Emily's philanthropy enlarged it to a five-school university. Today, Creighton University consists of nine schools and colleges:

- College of Arts and Sciences (1878)
- School of Medicine (1892)
- School of Law (1904)
- School of Dentistry (1905)
- School of Pharmacy and Health Professions (1905)
- Heider College of Business (1920)
- Graduate School (1926)
- College of Nursing (1971; four-year bachelor's degree program began in 1958)
- College of Professional and Continuing Education (Established as University College in 1983)



Connect to the Creighton Commencement experience using #CreightonGrad

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