

Gillette College

Northern Wyoming Community College District

Virtual Commencement 2020



September 18, 2020

6 p.m.

gillettecollege.org/commencement

Welcome

It is my honor and privilege to welcome all of you to the Northern Wyoming Community College District – Gillette College commencement ceremony. This is our 30th annual commencement exercise in Gillette, continuing our long tradition of academic service in Campbell, Johnson, and Sheridan Counties.

The achievement of a college diploma or certificate is a significant life milestone. Regardless of major, a college diploma signifies persistence, sacrifice, self-discipline, intellectual accomplishment, and that graduates have the ability to set an important long-term goal and achieve it in spite of the obstacles we all know will arise along the way.

We extend a special thank you to all of the family members and friends of our graduates who have supported them over the years as they pursued their educational goals. For each individual who crosses the stage today, there are many loved ones in the background whose sacrifices helped turn these dreams into reality.

— Dr. Walter Tribley
President

Northern Wyoming Community College District



Northern Wyoming Community College District

Board of Trustees

Walter Wragge, *Chair*

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Robert Palmer, *Chair*

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Cindy Kremers, *Chair*

Executive Administration

Dr. Walter Tribley, *President*

Dr. Estella Castillo-Garrison, *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

Jen Crouse, *Vice President of Student Affairs*

Cheryl Heath, *Vice President of Administrative Services & Chief Financial Officer*

Janell Oberlander, *Vice President of Gillette College*



Gillette College Virtual Commencement 2020

| | |
|--|--|
| Introduction | <i>Micah Olsen</i> <i>Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, NWCCD</i> |
| Welcome | <i>Mrs. Janell Oberlander</i> <i>Vice President of Gillette College, NWCCD</i> |
| “The Star-Spangled Banner” | <i>Please rise for this acappella performance</i> <i>by Beck Bridger, Sheridan College Music alumna</i> |
| Introduction of Board of Trustees and Vice Presidents | <i>Dr. Walter Tribley</i> <i>President, NWCCD</i> |
| Welcome | <i>Mr. Walter Wragge</i> <i>Chair, NWCCD Board of Trustees</i> |
| President’s Award | <i>Dr. Walter Tribley</i> <i>President, NWCCD</i> |
| 2020 Commencement Address | <i>Dr. Walter Tribley</i> <i>President, NWCCD</i> |
| Presentation of Candidates for Degrees | <i>Dr. Estella Castillo-Garrison</i> <i>Vice President of Academic Affairs, NWCCD</i> |
| Conferral of Degrees | <i>Dr. Walter Tribley</i> <i>President, NWCCD</i> |
| Recognition of Graduates | Scroll of graduate names |
| Tassel Turning Tradition | <i>Mrs. Jen Crouse</i> <i>Vice President of Student Affairs, NWCCD</i> |



National Anthem

Beck Bridger



Northern Wyoming Community College District 2020 Retirees

Brett Burtis

Martha Davey

Jed Jensen

Amy Wyatt



NWCCD Mission:

NWCCD welcomes all learners, empowers student success,
encourages and strengthens community development.

2020 Commencement Address

Dr. Walter Tribley, President



Dr. Tribley is a life-long learner. He holds a bachelor's degree in Secondary Science Education, bachelor's and master's degrees in Biology from the University of Idaho, and a PhD in Biochemistry from Washington State University.

Dr. Tribley's pursuit of knowledge and passion for education has guided him throughout his career, from working as a scientist at a biotechnology startup to a tenured faculty member, and now as a respected higher education administrator.

Known by many of you as simply, "Walt", he brings a personal touch and compassion to the president's office at NWCCD. Whether greeting students on the first day of class or recounting a student success story to members of the community, Dr. Tribley's enthusiasm for education and commitment to student success is apparent to everyone.

Over the past year as President of NWCCD, Dr. Tribley has worked with students, faculty, and staff to develop a more accessible and inclusive environment for student success. He has expanded access to higher education through additional online offerings, flexible programs like Weekend Welding, and new financial aid options.

Dr. Tribley is dedicated to the mission of community colleges, where student success is celebrated, employees are honored, and communities are empowered.



2020 President's Award Recipient Andrea Pfeil



Gillette College graduate Andrea Pfeil is the recipient of the 2020 President's Award. This award is presented to a Gillette College graduating sophomore based upon cumulative GPA and their participation and leadership within both Gillette College and the broader community.

Pfeil is from Moorcroft, Wyoming, and is the first in her family to attend college. She received her Associate of Science in Engineering and Mathematics and plans to continue her education at Black Hills State University this fall where she will study engineering.

During her time at Gillette College, Pfeil volunteered with several clubs and organizations both on and off campus, including serving as president of the Student Senate and participating in the Gillette College Student Activities Board, Math Club and Phi Theta Kappa. In addition, she volunteers for the Emergency Medical Service and was honored as Wyoming's youngest Emergency Medical Technician for her service beginning at 14 years old.

Class of 2020

Certificate of Completion

Conferred Graduates – Fall 2019 & Spring 2020

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Tristen Benner | Ryan Jones | Samantha Mitchell ♦ | Devin Scott Φ ♦ |
| Colten Blackburn | Wyatt Jones | Leah Moberg | Della Simmons |
| Jordan Brandon | Zachary Kelley ★ | Makayla Morris | Melissa Snively ♦ |
| Kortni Brown | Austin Kercher | Clancy Ortmann | James Soesbe Φ |
| Cole Cook | Dedra Ladd | Christina Porter | Mikenna Waggener |
| Dustin Dighans | Rheann Larsen | Camille Prella | LeeAnn Walker ♦Φ |
| Cody Elliott | Riley Lindskov | Anna Rorison | Jennifer Wenig ♦Φ |
| Baylee Englebert | Carson Long | Abigail Royce | Noah Williams |
| Clay Englebert | Siaha Marcelli Φ | Cristian Sanchez | Elizabeth Wright |
| Hayden Erdman | Holly Matovich | Isaiah Sandford | |
| Carly Fuller | Katie Meron | Dalton Schiller | |

Candidates for Graduation – Summer 2020

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Tyler Boller | Jeremiah Oller |
| Neisha Hanzlik | Theresa Thallas |
| Nicholas Larson | |



Associate of Applied Science Degree

Conferred Graduates – Fall 2019 & Spring 2020

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Colten Blackburn | Zane Fichter ★ | Makayla Morris |
| Jordan Brandon | Christian Godinez | Cameron Riddle |
| Austin Braun | Austin Kercher | Raymond Roser Φ ★ |
| Jamie Christensen ♦ | Carson Long | Cristian Sanchez |
| Rhys Crawford | David Malan | Isaiah Sandford |
| Cody Elliott | Siaha Marcelli Φ | Bradley Stone |
| Trent Erickson | Ann Molder | Noah Williams |

Candidates for Graduation – Summer 2020

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Tristen Benner | Clay Englebert | Joshua Petersen |
| Tyler Boller | Oscar Flores | Theresa Thallas |
| Cole Cook | Nicholas Larson | |
| Dustin Dighans | Jeremiah Oller | |



Associate Degree in Nursing

Conferred Graduates – Fall 2019 & Spring 2020

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Bevan Beck | Stephanie Farley | Kylee McGowan Φ |
| Marcy Bowling | Laurie Helmrichs | Cherol Minton Φ |
| Melissa Cantu Φ | Angela Hodge | Elizabeth Murdock |
| Brooke Cargal | Cheyenne Kapptie | Suellen Pillow Φ |
| Sarah Crawford Φ | Tonya Karr | Laura Schofield Φ |
| Tim Cudmore ★ | Hope Lyon Φ | Christina Schwedes ★ |
| Amanda Fairbairn Φ ♦ | Stephanie McConnell | Cori Wade |

The status of the graduates are as of 8/1/2020.

Key: Phi Theta Kappa Φ, Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces ★, Sigma Alpha Pi ♦

Class of 2020

Associate of Science Degree

Conferred Graduates – Fall 2019 & Spring 2020

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Jessica Adkins ♦ | Shelly Eliason | Desha Matuska Φ | Brianna Smith |
| Bradley Akhile | Irie Elliott Φ | Alexis McBride ♦ | Martin Soto |
| Rose Anderson | Melinda Fortune Φ | Teila McInerney Φ | Kassidy Tabatt ★ |
| Mason Archambault | Sharon Goodrich Φ | Samantha Mitchell ♦ | Sydney Thompson Φ |
| Laritza Barcenas Mendoza | Brooke Gumber Φ | Allyssa Molenda | Diana Treto |
| Kevin Becenti | Javen Gumber | Dreyson Nichols | Karlie Valdez Φ |
| Kristi Bell | Jacqueline Hanson ♦ | Mary Niedzwiecki Φ | Falen Vanpelt |
| Samantha Benjamin | Jason Harris | Skylar Patton | Jacque Vanvleet Φ |
| Makayla Brown | Kelsey Hogan | Kathy Paxton | Shayna Wade |
| Mikkael Chick Φ | Kelsey Holthaus | Andrea Pfeil Φ | Channing Waldrop |
| Drusilla Clingan | Evan Howie | Tonya Pilcher | LeeAnn Walker Φ ♦ |
| Molly Coleman | Ashley Irizarry | Thomas Pobiak | Sheyanne Walker |
| Shane Copps | Maria Iroz ♦ | Taylor Primm ♦ | Tasha Walker ♦ |
| Leslie Cundy Φ | Caembrea Kline Φ | Taylor Primm ♦ | Corey White |
| Cayla Debolt ♦ | Tristan Knottnerus Φ ♦ | Taylor Reynolds | Zachary Wolz |
| Dacee Dickson | Christina Krasovich Φ | Gretchen Roush Φ | Tatum Zickefoose |
| Emily Dillon Φ | Maddison Lachtara | Melissa Safora ♦ | Thane Zickefoose |
| Shaelee Douglas Φ | Dedra Ladd | Niccole Sassman ♦ | Rebecca Zierlein |
| Audrey Dunn Φ ♦ | Jessica Long | Evan Schliske | |
| Tarig Eisa | Shandra Maston Φ | Bryleigh Sessions | |

Candidates for Graduation – Summer 2020

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Rachel Anderson | Bella Flores | Charity Knopp | Martin Soto |
| Jami Brooks | Chandraya Foos Φ | Ellen Lapke ♦ | Breanna Stone |
| Kadin Bullinger | Joseph Gilbar | Kayla Lower | Kallee Warren |
| Kadin Bullinger | Karen Hayden | Cristian Martinez | Leslie Wooten |
| Hannah Coleman | Wyatt Jones | Caitlyn McKillop | |
| Kesa Copps | Amayah Kilian | Heather Olson | |
| Heather Cornelius | Megan King | Jayden Parsons | |
| Hannah Dodge | James Kirwan | Shannon Randall | |



Associate of Arts Degree

Conferred Graduates – Fall 2019 & Spring 2020

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Evelyn Airam Φ | Cheyenne DuBeau | Niccole Sassman ♦ |
| Jaylen Baxter | Raechel Haught | Skylar Scheele |
| Jacob Brennan | Courtney Michael | Isaack Shire |
| Sienna Cortez | Alexandra Petrigash | Titus Stevens Φ |
| Dacee Dickson | Kolbi Ring | Cleo Williams |

Candidates for Graduation – Summer 2020

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Lorenzo Angel-Santamaria | Veronica Koch | Charity Zumpf |
| Kimberly Campbell | Destynie Rodriguez Φ ♦ | |
| Dalton Coleman | Tammy Wolf | |

The status of the graduates are as of 8/1/2020.

Key: Phi Theta Kappa Φ, Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces ★, Sigma Alpha Pi ♦

The Academic Costume Code

The tradition of wearing academic dress (caps, hoods, and gowns) dates back to the 1300s, when the universities of Europe designated specific costumes for their students and faculty. These costumes varied according to university, and European institutions still show a wide diversity of academic dress. American academic apparel, however, was standardized in 1895. While this standardization has been reviewed periodically, the basic code of academic costume remains.

The code specifies that gowns used in colleges and universities follow three basic designs—the bachelor’s with pointed sleeves and a closed front; the master’s with oblong sleeves open at the wrist and a closed or open front; the doctor’s with bell-shaped sleeves open at the wrist and a closed or open front. All gowns for bachelor’s degrees or above are black, although the bands of velvet which adorn the doctor’s robe may be the color distinctive of the subject to which the degree pertains. The colors in the hoods are the official colors of the institution from which the degree was conferred.

The color of the velvet edging of the hood (and, optionally, of the tassel on the cap and of the velvet trim on the doctor’s gown) is associated with the subject area in which the degree was taken. Examples of these colors follow:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Agriculture | Maize |
| Arts, Letters, Humanities | White |
| Commerce, Accountancy, Business | Drab |
| Dentistry | Lilac |
| Economics | Copper |
| Education | Light Blue |
| Engineering | Orange |
| Fine Arts, including Architecture | Brown |
| Forestry | Russet |
| Journalism | Crimson |
| Law | Purple |
| Library Science | Lemon |
| Medicine | Green |
| Music | Pink |
| Nursing | Apricot |
| Oratory (Speech) | Silver Gray |
| Pharmacy | Olive Green |
| Philosophy | Dark Blue |
| Physical Education | Sage Green |

It is possible, then, to determine from the academic dress the college attended, the degree awarded, and the area in which the degree was earned.

(American Council on Education. *An Academic Costume Code and an Academic Ceremony Guide*. American Universities and Colleges. 12th ed. New York; Walter de Gruyter, 1983. 2069-72.)

Ceremonial Mace

The ceremonial mace, a symbol of university scholarship and integrity since the 11th century, is used to lead the academic procession at commencement and other special ceremonial occasions, signifying the importance of the event and the conformation of the academic process.

The Northern Wyoming Community College District’s mace was designed by Machine Tool Faculty Randy Whyte and Josh Michelena, Director of Construction Technology, and was crafted by Whyte’s students in collaboration with Sheridan and Gillette College Foundations.

Chain of Office

For centuries, Chains of Office have honored the highest officials in education. The Chain of Office is crafted to display the NWCCD seal, encircled by four sterling silver banners. The banners represent the four core values of NWCCD – Respect, Integrity, Excellence, and Learning.



300 West Sinclair
Gillette, Wyoming 82718
(307) 681-6000 • (888) 681-6070

Congratulations Graduates!

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the printed program with respect to the degrees awarded. The appearance of a name in the list of degree candidates is not to be regarded as conclusive. The student's permanent record is the official record of degrees and honors awarded. Degrees will be awarded once all requirements are met and on file with the Registrar's Office.

Northern Wyoming Community College District prohibits discrimination in employment, educational programs and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other class protected under state and federal law. The District also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to its facilities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act may be referred to the Assistant Vice President for Human Resources, Jennifer McArthur, NWCCD's Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator, Sheridan College, Griffith Memorial Building, Room 141D, 1 Whitney Way, Sheridan, WY 82801; 307-675-0505. Inquiries also may be made to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Federal Building, Suite 310, 1244 Speer Boulevard, Denver, CO 80204-3582; 303-844-3417; or TDD 303-844-3417.