



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE

SPRING 2021 GOLDEN GRADUATION

MAY 7



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WELCOME TO SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE



On behalf of the faculty, staff and students of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, I am pleased to welcome you to the 128th commencement celebration, the third virtual ceremony and the fourth year of celebrating our Golden Graduates. Though the COVID-19 pandemic prevents us from gathering together in our traditional setting, our Golden Graduates have achieved a significant milestone in their lives, deserving of recognition and celebration. This esteemed group of alumni graduated from SIUE 50 or more years ago, and their accomplishments since that time continue to bring pride to the University.

SIUE is a place where dreams are built and futures are formed. Our Golden Graduates paved the way for future generations of Cougars. The University community is proud of the many impressive achievements of this group over the past 50 years, and we are thankful for their steadfast commitment to SIUE and the Cougars who have followed in their footsteps. At the conclusion of this year's virtual ceremonies, the Golden Graduates will be among more than 115,000 Cougars who have graduated from SIUE.

Golden Graduates, congratulations on your wonderful accomplishments as students and as alumni. Thank you for helping SIUE fulfill its mission to shape a changing world. We value your continued dedication to the University, and we look forward to welcoming you back to campus soon.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Randall G. Pembroke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Randall G. Pembroke, PhD
Chancellor



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

The Southern Illinois University (SIU) System is comprised of two sister institutions: SIU Edwardsville, with a School of Dental Medicine in Alton and the SIUE East St. Louis Higher Education Campus in East St. Louis, and SIU Carbondale, with a School of Medicine in Springfield.

With a budget of approximately \$867 million, the SIU System employs over 7,000 faculty, staff and administrators who serve more than 28,000 students. A modern and comprehensive post-secondary educational system, the SIU System offers a broad range of academic programs that lead to associate, bachelor's, master's, specialist, doctoral and professional practice degrees in a variety of fields, including law, medicine, pharmacy, and dental medicine.

SIU Carbondale was chartered in 1869 as Southern Illinois Normal University, a teachers' college. In 1947, the name was changed to reflect the institution's academic expansion. The University also expanded geographically.

As early as 1949, courses were being offered in the metropolitan East St. Louis area, which led to the development of SIUE, now the largest campus in the SIU System.

The instructional, scholarship and service missions of the two constituent institutions reflect the needs of the geographic areas in which they are located. The SIU System is also committed to serving statewide, national and international needs. This commitment is reflected in educational activities and outreach in communities throughout the state, as well as through research and training exchanges and worldwide student exchange programs.

The SIU Board of Trustees governs the SIU System and sets policy that enables both universities to carry out their established missions and goals. The president of the System is its CEO and reports to the board of trustees. The University chancellors report directly to the president and are responsible for the internal operations of SIUE and SIUC, respectively.

Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees

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SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) traces its origin to a recommendation made in 1956 by the Southwest Illinois Council for Higher Education. The council was convinced that higher education facilities were needed in the Metro East. They hired consultants whose reports documented that need, and they appealed to Southern Illinois University (SIU), 100 miles south, to establish satellite campuses.

In 1957, SIU opened two “residence centers” in Alton and East St. Louis. The University expected to enroll 800 students, but actual enrollment reached 1,776. By 1959, the number of students had more than doubled to 3,800, greatly exceeding the capabilities of the physical facilities. This burgeoning population demanded services faster than the University could develop and supply them.

A planning team investigated sites in the Metro East counties and selected one just south of Edwardsville. In 1960, the Illinois legislature authorized a bond issue for construction of a new state university campus. Voter approval came in November 1960. After nearly three years of planning, University officials and area residents attended ground-breaking ceremonies for the first permanent buildings.

In the fall of 1965, SIUE moved onto its new campus just 25 miles from St. Louis—2,660 acres of rolling land and woods dotted with lakes along bluffs flanking the Mississippi River. Much of the land still retains its natural shape.

Emphasizing teaching, research and public service programs, SIUE is a fully accredited comprehensive university with nearly 13,000 enrolled students. After being classified as a master’s-large institution for most of its history, SIUE was reclassified in January 2019 by The Carnegie Commission on Higher Education to the newly created doctoral/professional universities category. The University is proud to be ranked by *Washington Monthly* among the top 30% of doctoral universities in the nation.

The City of Edwardsville is ranked among the nation’s top 15 safest college towns by Safewise in its 2020 Safest College Towns list. More than half of SIUE’s 115,000 graduates live and work in the St. Louis region. SIUE makes more than a \$514 million economic impact on the region every year.

The University offers undergraduate and graduate areas of study encompassing the arts, sciences, nursing, education, health, human behavior, business and engineering. The Schools of Dental Medicine and Pharmacy award first professional doctoral degrees in dental medicine (DMD) and in pharmacy (PharmD). Doctoral degrees are available in nursing practice and educational leadership. Cooperative PhD programs in history, environmental resources and policy, engineering science, and computer science are offered with SIU Carbondale. The Edwardsville campus is enhanced by campuses in East St. Louis and Alton.

At SIUE, students find comprehensive educational opportunities and a community in which individuals support each other in their search for knowledge and individual development.

Officers of Administration Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Randall G. Pembroke

Chancellor

P. Denise Cobb

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

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Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

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SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Mission

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is a student-centered educational community dedicated to communicating, expanding and integrating knowledge. In a spirit of collaboration enriched by diverse ideas, our comprehensive and unique array of undergraduate and graduate programs develop professionals, scholars and leaders who shape a changing world.

Vision

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville will achieve greater national and global recognition and academic prominence through innovative and interdisciplinary programs that empower individuals to achieve their full potential.

Values

Recognizing public education as the cornerstone of a democracy, SIUE carries out its mission based on certain fundamental, shared values. We value:

Citizenship

- Social, civic and political responsibility-globally, nationally, locally and within the University
- Active partnerships and a climate of collaboration and cooperation among students, faculty, staff, alumni and the larger community
- Sustainable practices in environmental, financial and social endeavors

Excellence

- High-quality learning within and beyond the classroom
- Continuous improvement and innovation
- Outstanding scholarship and public service

Inclusion

- A welcoming and supportive environment
- Openness to the rich diversity of humankind in all aspects of university life
- Respect for individuals, differences and cultures
- Intellectual freedom and diversity of thought

Integrity

- Accountability to those we serve and from whom we receive support
- Honesty in our communications and in our actions

Wisdom

- Creation, preservation and sharing of knowledge
- Application of knowledge in a manner that promotes the common good
- Lifelong learning

SIUE Statement on Diversity

The SIUE Statement on Diversity reflects the University's commitment to recognizing and valuing the contributions of the breadth of humankind. This statement, adopted in April 2013, replaces an earlier version and is considered an expansion of the SIUE value of inclusion.

All societies and peoples have contributed to the rich mix of contemporary humanity. In order to achieve domestic and international peace, social justice and the development of full human potential, we must build on this diversity and inclusion.

- Southern Illinois University Edwardsville nurtures an open, respectful and welcoming climate that facilitates learning and work. Each member of the University is responsible for contributing to such a campus environment.
- Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is committed to education that explores the historic significance of diversity in order to understand the present and to better enable our community to engage the future.
- Integral to this commitment, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville strives for a student body and a workforce that is diverse, inclusive and equitable.

ACADEMICS AT SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

College of Arts and Sciences

Kevin Leonard, Dean

Central to SIUE's exceptional and comprehensive education, the College of Arts and Sciences offers degree programs in the natural sciences, humanities, arts, social sciences and communications. The College touches the lives of all SIUE students, helping them explore diverse ideas and experiences, while learning to think and live as fulfilled, productive members of the global community. Study abroad, service-learning, internships and other experiential learning opportunities better prepare SIUE students not only to succeed in our region's workplaces, but also to become valuable leaders who make important contributions to our communities.

School of Business

Timothy Schoenecker, Dean

The School of Business is among an elite five percent of business schools worldwide that have earned the prestigious seal of approval from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International. The accounting program holds specialized accreditation by the AACSB. Only two percent of business schools worldwide are AACSB-accredited in both business and accounting. Each year, students find internships, cooperative education opportunities and employment with major corporations such as Bayer, The Boeing Company, Edward Jones, Emerson, Enterprise, Nestlé Purina and World Wide Technology, as well as scores of small- and medium-sized businesses. Graduates are highly prepared to begin productive careers in the fields of computer information systems, economics, entrepreneurship, finance, business administration, human resource management, international business, management, marketing and accounting.

School of Education, Health and Human Behavior

Robin Hughes, Dean

School of Education, Health and Human Behavior graduates can choose from a variety of career paths in education, applied health and behavioral sciences. Through rewarding partnerships with regional agencies and public school districts, students learn through hands-on experience in their fields of interest. The School's commitment to experiential learning and community outreach is demonstrated through its clinics and the activities of its student organizations. Visit us on YouTube and Twitter to learn more about our students' successes.

School of Engineering

Cem Karacal, Dean

The School of Engineering offers eight undergraduate and five graduate programs, as well as two collaborative PhD programs with SIUC, making it one of the most comprehensive and largest engineering schools in the region. The School prepares students to meet the growing needs in our region and nation for more engineers, computer scientists and construction managers. The engineering, information technology and construction companies in the Metropolitan St. Louis area provide exciting, challenging and high income jobs, internships and cooperative opportunities to our students. More than 60 percent of our graduates have taken positions in the St. Louis Metro area. Students are not only educated in the classroom and laboratory, but also through undergraduate research projects and student organizations that participate in collegiate contests, such as the formula race car, solar car, mini Baja, robotics, steel bridge, concrete canoe and many more.

ACADEMICS AT SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

School of Nursing

Laura Bernaix, Dean

The School of Nursing offers an excellent learning environment, which prepares students for careers as professional nurses. The School partners with hundreds of healthcare agencies in Central and Southern Illinois and the St. Louis region to provide students with quality clinical practicum sites. Students also practice required nursing skills in the School's Simulated Learning Center to promote critical thinking and safe care before encountering patients in actual clinical settings. Graduate programs include master's degrees in healthcare and nursing administration, and nurse educator; a post-master's doctor of nursing practice (DNP) degree; and a post-baccalaureate DNP with specializations in nurse anesthesia, family nurse practitioner, and psychiatric mental health.

School of Pharmacy

Mark Luer, Dean

The School of Pharmacy, the only pharmacy program in southern Illinois, offers a professional program leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) and Master of Science in pharmaceutical sciences. Established in 2005, the School graduated its first class in May 2009 and is fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education. Our graduates enter a wide variety of professional settings, including community pharmacies, hospitals, the pharmaceutical industry and academia. SIUE pharmacy students work alongside other health professionals. This team approach allows healthcare professionals to optimize drug therapy and offer the highest quality of patient care.

Graduate School

Jerry Weinberg, Dean

The National Science Foundation lists SIUE among the top five doctoral/professional institutions in the U.S. in terms of research and development expenditures. The SIUE Graduate School offers more than 100 areas of study with master's, post-baccalaureate certificates and doctoral degrees in a variety of disciplines. Students prepare for the challenges of their professions in a rich, intellectual learning environment emphasizing research and practice.

School of Dental Medicine

Bruce Rotter, Dean

The Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine is proud of its established tradition of graduating highly prepared general practitioners of dental medicine. Since 1972, the School has continued to carry out its mission to improve the oral health of southern Illinois and the region through education, patient care, scholarship and service. Through the care provided at the University's main clinic in Alton and the community clinics in East St. Louis and Edwardsville, as well as through its community outreach programs, the School serves as a vital oral healthcare provider for residents of southern and central Illinois, and the St. Louis metropolitan region.

Library and Information Services

Lis Pankl, Dean

Library and Information Services provides information resources and technology for teaching, learning and scholarship. Information resources are available in all formats with a strong preference given to digital collections, which are heavily accessed by users. Lovejoy Library is a member of CARLI (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois) which provides SIUE users full access to the holdings of the 130 CARLI libraries that share a catalog of millions of item records. Along with access to OCLC's WorldCat, with more than two billion items held by participating libraries, Lovejoy Library opens the world to SIUE users. Library resources are available through social media, its mobile website, 3D scanning and printing, and traditional methods. As in all successful 21st century academic libraries, library faculty are subject specialists who provide information literacy and technology instruction. They assist SIUE faculty in identifying and selecting open access materials, publishing research locally, and curating collections in our institutional repository, known as SPARK.

HISTORY OF ACADEMIC REGALIA

The pageantry of the academic procession is used for many of the formal and significant events at SIUE.

Inherited from the medieval universities of the 11th and 12th centuries when woolen gowns and hoods were worn by scholars for warmth in unheated quarters, the wearing of academic vestments and the procession were not adopted throughout the United States until the late 19th century.

Academic life in the Middle Ages began first in the church, then in the guilds. The teaching guild was the guild of the master of arts, where the bachelor was the apprentice of the master and the dress was the outward sign of privilege and responsibility, designed to distinguish the wearer from the merchants and other townsmen.

Principal features of academic dress are the gown, cap and hood. Both Cambridge and Oxford Universities, since the 15th century, have made academic dress a matter of university control, even to its minor details, and have repeatedly published revised regulations. American universities agreed on a definite system in 1894. In 1932, the American Council on Education presented a revised code which, for the most part, governs the style of academic dress today.

The cap worn almost universally in academic processions is the Oxford cap, better known as the mortarboard. From poetry we learn that the cap of scholarship was

square to symbolize a book. A different style, called the Cambridge cap, resembles a large beret.

The use of a dark hood in academic processions is thought to have arisen from the clerical practice of wearing a cap or mantle in religious processions during the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities arose from cathedral schools.

Traditionally, gowns are also black. In recent years, however, a number of universities have adopted other hues which signify the school's traditional colors, such as crimson for Harvard, blue for Yale.

The bachelor's gown is a yoked, closed-front garment with long, pointed sleeves. The master's has long, closed sleeves slit just above the elbow, permitting the forearms to protrude. The doctor's has full, bell-shaped sleeves and is trimmed with velvet panels down the front, and three velvet bars on each sleeve. The color of the panels and sleeves varies to indicate the doctoral field.

The academic hoods, worn around the neck and down the back of the gown, are lined with the official colors of the college or university conferring the degree. The binding or edging of the hood usually represents the subject of the degree.

Applied Communication Studies - Silver Gray

Art, Letters, Humanities - White

Business, Accountancy, Commerce - Drab

Criminal Justice Studies - Ivory

Dental Medicine - Lavender

Economics - Copper

Education - Light Blue

Engineering - Orange

Fine Arts - Brown

Interdisciplinary - White

Journalism - Crimson

Music - Pink

Nursing - Apricot

Pharmacy - Olive Green

Philosophy - Dark Blue

Public Administration - Peacock

Science - Golden Yellow

Social Science, Social Work - Citron

COMMENCEMENT AT SIUE

Mace

The SIUE ceremonial mace was created in 1981 by the late Michael E. Mason. He earned both a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Fine Arts from SIUE and served as curator of the University Museum. At that time, the president of SIUE (the position now called chancellor) Earl Lazerson instituted traditional, formal regalia for use on significant ceremonial occasions. In 2005, Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift restored the tradition of the mace at all commencement and other academic ceremonies. A stand was subsequently constructed and, in recognition of the values of the University, engraved brass plaques were added to the ceremonial mace with the words Citizenship, Excellence, Inclusion, Integrity and Wisdom.

International Flags

The flags flown at commencement represent the home nations of all SIUE students. Nearly 400 international students from 58 nations currently attend SIUE. International students contribute to the University's diverse learning environment by sharing their unique culture and introducing new perspectives to SIUE.

Chancellor's Medallion

The Chancellor's Chain of Office is a symbol of the guidance and inspiration of current University leadership building on the achievements of the past. It is a reminder of our accomplishments, as well as the challenges and opportunities to come. The medallion of the chain has the mark of the University surrounded in laurels, a time-honored symbol of education. The chain bears Chancellor Pembroke's name and the names of past leaders of SIUE.

Beautifully situated on 2,660 acres, SIUE offers easy access to professional and cultural opportunities in Metropolitan St. Louis, located just 25 miles from campus.



ACADEMIC AND OTHER RECOGNITION

Honors Recognition

Candidates graduating with honors are noted in the program and their accomplishments are characterized by the color of the academic cord worn with their regalia.

*	=	cum laude (with honors – 3.50 to 3.74)	Red cord
**	=	magna cum laude (high honors – 3.75 to 3.89)	Gold cord
***	=	summa cum laude (highest honors – 3.90 or higher)	White cord
H	=	Honors Scholars	

Other Academic Recognition

Students who are members of specific academic honorary organizations noted below are wearing cords, stoles or medallions as indicated:

- Golden Key International Honor Society – Blue and gold cords
- Honors Scholars – Medallion on red ribbon
- Johnetta Haley Scholars Academy – Red and white stole
- Meridian Scholars – Medallion on red ribbon
- Phi Eta Sigma, Freshman Honor Society – Gold stole with black letters
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society – Medallion on blue ribbon
- SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society – Gold and blue stoles (Graduate) White and blue stoles (Undergraduate)
- Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society – Royal blue and gold cords

College of Arts and Sciences

- Alpha Kappa Delta, Sociology Honor Society – Teal cords
- Gamma Theta Upsilon, The Honor Society in Geography – Gold stole and blue, gold and brown cords
- Lambda Pi Eta, Communication Studies Honor Society – Red and white cords
- Phi Alpha Theta, The Honor Society in History – Madonna red and light blue cords
- Pi Alpha Alpha, Public Administration Honor Society – Blue and gold cords
- Pi Mu Epsilon, Mathematics National Honor Society – Violet, gold and lavender cords
- Pi Sigma Alpha, The National Political Science Honor Society – Red, white and black cords
- Sigma Tau Delta, International Honor Society for English – Red and black cords
- STELLAR Students – Silver and red zipper pulls/medallions

School of Business

- Beta Alpha Psi, Honor Society for Accounting – Red and black cords
- Beta Gamma Sigma, Honor Society for Business Majors – Royal blue and gold medallions

School of Dental Medicine

- Omicron Kappa Upsilon, The Dental Honor Society – Gold medallion on lavender ribbon

School of Education, Health and Human Behavior

- Chi Sigma Alpha, The International Student Affairs Honor Society – Maroon and gold cords
- Eta Sigma Gamma, The Health Education Honor Society – Two color green and gold cords
- Kappa Delta Pi, The International Honor Society in Education – Violet and jade green cords
- Psi Chi, The International Honor Society of Psychology – Platinum and dark blue cords

School of Engineering

- Chi Epsilon, Civil Engineering Honor Society – Two white and one purple cords
- Eta Kappa Nu, International Honor Society for Electrical Engineering – Medallion on blue and red ribbon
- Pi Tau Sigma, International Honor Society for Mechanical Engineers – White stole and murrey and azure cords
- Sigma Lambda Chi, International Construction Honor Society – White stole and green and yellow cords

ACADEMIC AND OTHER RECOGNITION

School of Nursing

Dean's Medallion – Medallion on red and black ribbon

Graduate Honors – Red, white and apricot cord

Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society of Nursing – Lavender and white cords

School of Pharmacy

American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists – Light blue cord

College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists – Turquoise and white cords

Phi Lambda Sigma, The National Pharmacy Leadership Society – Kelly green and gold cords

Rho Chi, The Academic Honor Society in Pharmacy – Purple and white cords

Student National Pharmaceutical Association – Black with a little white cords

Students receiving other recognition are noted below:

Order of Omega – Cream stole with gold lettering

Senior Campaign contributors – Red, black and white cords

Student Athletes – Bronze medallion with red and white ribbon

Student Leadership Development Program – Bronze medallion with red ribbon

Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Program Associates – Silver cords

Golden Graduation

Golden Medallion - This medallion honors alumni who have reached the 50th anniversary of their graduation from SIUE and acknowledges their continued dedication and appreciation for their alma mater.



HONORARY DEGREE: LAWRENCE B. HEITZ



Larry Heitz was SIUE's first student to graduate with a master's in business administration from the School of Business. A Golden Graduate from the Class of 1969, he has served as an executive in residence at SIUE for more than 10 years and is currently serving on the SIUE Foundation Campaign Planning Committee. He annually visits with faculty, mentors students and serves as a guest lecturer. He established an annual MBA scholarship in 2010 and endowed the Heitz Faculty Research Award in 2017. He also was a financial contributor to the Cougar Business Resource Center, which opened in 2012. He was inducted into the SIUE Alumni Association Hall of Fame in 2011.

Heitz has held influential positions throughout his career, including engineer at Owens Illinois and program manager with Emerson Electric Aerospace. Starting as a product manager in 1970 at Tubular Steel, Inc., he rose through the ranks during his 18-year tenure to become president and chief executive officer.

In 1988, Heitz began a mergers and acquisitions business, Triac Partners and later Riverside Partners. He acquired more than 10 businesses in the medical and high tech manufacturing areas, and expanded companies in five different countries. He also introduced Eagle Investments in 2002. Heitz has served on the boards of a number of companies and not-for-profit organizations, such as York Industries, Research Biochemicals, EntraCare Medical Devices, Life365 Medical Software, Tumbleweed Center for Youth Development and others.

Heitz's humanitarian and community service efforts are numerous. He has worked with homeless youth in St. Louis and Arizona to create scholarships and housing opportunities, as well as directed programs designed to help clients find housing, earn an education and gain employment.

Organizations such as Golf Fore Africa, which focuses on bringing clean drinking water to rural Africa, have benefited from Heitz's consulting. He was able to help the organization quadruple its fundraising efforts. Heitz established The Lawrence Institute in 2016. The organization's mission is to help individuals permanently improve their lives. The institute works primarily with not-for-profit organizations to provide programs offering life skills education, healthcare, and job skill development leading to sustainable long-term, measurable improvements in people's lives. The institute typically focuses on building a leadership team, developing effective strategic plans and creating systems that focus on growth and sustainable results.

Heitz and his wife, Sharon, have provided resources and developed programs for children and adolescents living with AIDS who are being cared for at Phoenix Children's Hospital. The program helps patients learn how to socialize/normalize living with AIDS in today's society by providing a dedicated psychologist and therapist for the patients and their families.

Heitz earned a bachelor's in industrial management, mechanical engineering in 1966 from Purdue University's Krannert School of Management before achieving his MBA at SIUE in 1969.

Past Decade of Doctor of Humane Letters Recipients

2010
Ralph Korte

2014
John Simmons

2017
Frankie Muse Freeman

2011
Clinton Van Zandt

2015
David Werner

2018
Vaughn Vandegrift

2012
Fernando Aguirre

2016
Thelma Mothershed Wair

2019
Earl Lazerson

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD: SHIRLEY PORTWOOD, PhD



Shirley Portwood, PhD, distinguished professor emerita of history, SIUE, is a longtime educator, former Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees member, and an SIUE Golden Graduate from the Class of 1970.

She earned a bachelor's in history and a master's in history with a specialization in Russian history from SIUE in '70 and '73. She earned an additional master's and a doctorate in history with an emphasis in African American women, American women and modern Russia from Washington University in St. Louis.

Her teaching career began as an instructor of history in 1972 at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park. She joined SIUE in 1980 where she taught African American history, American women's history, social history, cultural history, basic U.S. Constitution and many other courses. Along with her passion for teaching, Portwood loved engaging and helping students.

"I encouraged students to come in and talk to me, even if they were not having problems or did not have any specific questions," she said. "Sometimes, we would sit and have tea or coffee. I realized that if students could make a connection with just one person, it could make a difference with them staying in school. I wanted to be there to champion them."

An accomplished and prolific writer, researcher and storyteller, Portwood wrote "Tell Us a Story: An African American Family in the Heartland" at the request of her grandchildren. After the book was published in 2000, she incorporated it into her curriculum.

Her dedication to education and SIUE involved a host of commitments, including serving on various committees, advisory boards and panels. Portwood retired from SIUE as a full professor in 2007 and continued to teach as a professor emerita until 2010. She served on the SIU Board of Trustees from 2013 through 2019.

Portwood has received numerous accolades and awards, including:

- 2019 SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame, Graduate School
- National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, Harvard University
- Sojourner Truth Award, Chicago Public Library
- Friends of Morris Library Delta Award, SIUC
- Women of Distinction Award, Women's Christian Association
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award, SIUE
- University Teaching Excellence Award, SIUE

Past Distinguished Service Award Recipients

2010
Charles Tosovsky

2013
Mary and Jerry Kane

2016
Camille Emig-Hill

2019
William R. Haine

2011
Dolores Rohrkaste

2014
Dixie Engelman

2017
Johnetta Randolph Haley

2012
Paige St. John

2015
Kay Werner

2018
Gyo Obata



2021  SIUE

Golden
GRADUATES



50th Reunion





THE COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

Friday, May 7, 2021, 1 p.m.

Randall G. Pembroke, Chancellor of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, presiding

National Anthem: “The Star-Spangled Banner” Lyrics by Francis Scott Key

Led by Michael Hawkins, Musical Theater Student, College of Arts and Sciences

Music by the Meridian Brass Quintet

Welcoming Remarks

P. Denise Cobb, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Honorary Degree Recognition

Lawrence Heitz, Doctor of Humane Letters

Distinguished Service Award Recognition

Shirley Portwood, Distinguished Professor Emerita

Remarks from the Chancellor

Randall G. Pembroke, Chancellor

Remarks from the President

Dan Mahony, President, SIU System

Recognition of Golden Graduates

Eileen Martindale, President, SIUE Alumni Association

Closing Remarks

P. Denise Cobb, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Alma Mater: “Hail SIUE” by George Mellott

Led by Michael Hawkins, Musical Theater Student, College of Arts and Sciences

Music by the Meridian Brass Quintet



GOLDEN GRADUATION

Eileen Martindale, SIUE Alumni Association President

GOLDEN GRADUATES*

SIUE's Golden Graduation celebrates our alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. Since its inception in 2017, this annual reunion gives our alumni the opportunity to reconnect with their classmates while celebrating their time on campus and their commitment to SIUE. This year's Golden Graduation Reunion is being held virtually to allow graduates to safely mingle with their classmates, share campus stories and see how campus has changed over the past 50 years. Golden Graduates will also take part in a special virtual commencement ceremony with the SIUE Classes of 2020 and 2021.

Terry W. Adams 1971	James W. Dorman 1970, 1977	Ralph W. Leavell 1970	Jacqueline R. Settles 1972, 1988
Lester H. Alexander 1971	Roy C. Erkman 1971	Gerald J. Lipchik 1965	Elaine D. Shipcoff 1966, 1983
Nancy A. Alexander 1971	Barbara A. Fleming 1971, 1976	Arthur D. Long 1971	Sheila A. Slaten 1971, 1973
Johnnie M. Ashford 1970, 1974	John M. Goodwin 1970	Lois A. Lynch 1971	Carolyn R. Spencer 1970
Linda K. Aud 1970, 1999	Camilla S. Granger 1971	John R. Mareing 1970	Patricia A. Staton 1971
Steven D. Babcock 1971, 1973	John H. Harris 1967	Gerald T. Maxim 1971	Ric C. Stephenson 1970, 1974, 1977
James A. Baima 1971, 1975	Martha L. Harris 1970, 1971	Robert W. Middleton 1966, 1971	Richard A. Strode 1971
Kenneth R. Blackman 1971	Kermit C. Hellrung 1970	Carolyn J. Mitchell 1971, 1975, 1983	Gerald E. Thomas 1964, 1970
Dolores A. Brooke 1971, 1975	Ruth M. Hunter 1968, 1976	Sylvia I. Mitchell 1970, 1978	James M. Tucker 1970
Juanita O. Brown 1971, 1975	Robert G. James 1971	Sandra Y. Mosley 1971, 1983	Donald W. Ward 1965
Linda C. Brown 1970, 1971	Carolyn J. Johnson 1964, 1972	Bessie B. Peabody 1963, 1967, 1971	Joyce E. Waters 1969
Kenneth N. Bunetic 1971	Janice L. Johnson 1971, 1975	Toni L. Perrin 1971, 1975	Thomas J. Waters 1966, 1969
Gordon D. Bush 1970, 1971	Tommie J. Johnson Randolph 1969, 1973	Carol Perry 1970	Charles J. Weaver 1963
June A. Cotton 1971	Laura M. Jones 1969, 1976	Gerald E. Rains 1971, 1988	Bette J. Welch 1971
Anna G. Croak 1971	Yvonne N. Jordan 1969	Karen L. Rains 1968, 1993	Kathleen A. Wenzel 1971
Thomas L. Croak 1971	Cheryl M. Killion 1970	Karen L. Rehkemper 1971	Michael N. Wenzel 1970
Elizabeth L. Cummins 1971	Helen D. King 1970	Vernon L. Robinson 1968	Michael C. Willett 1970, 1982
Stanley E. Dokmanus 1970	Michael C. Kovarik 1970, 1974	Janet A. Schloemann 1971, 1974	Nola E. Williams 1970

* This list includes graduates registered as of April 12. Congratulations to all Golden Graduates!



CONGRATULATIONS GOLDEN GRADUATES



CONGRATULATIONS, GOLDEN GRADUATES! Thank you for being part of the 2021 Golden Graduation. Your lives have changed since you were a student on SIUE's campus, but your commitment and dedication to the University has remained steadfast and for that we are grateful.

The positive impact that SIUE enjoys in the region and, in increasing measure, across the country, is due to you, our esteemed alumni. You have paved the way and increased the value of an SIUE degree for current and future Cougars. Over the past 64 years, we have graduated more than 115,000 alumni. Today we have alumni in every U.S. state and more than a thousand who live outside of the U.S.

We are sorry that we aren't able to be together in person this year, but we plan to celebrate with you in person very soon.

Congratulations on this very special milestone,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel C. Stack".

Rachel C. Stack
Vice Chancellor for University Advancement
CEO, SIUE Foundation

Our Mission: The SIUE Alumni Association exists to establish, nurture and maintain the relationship between the University and its alumni. With this mission in mind, all graduates of SIUE are automatically members of the SIUE Alumni Association. The SIUE Alumni Association was incorporated in 1972 and is governed by a volunteer board of directors.

For the students, faculty, staff and alumni of
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

HAIL SIUE

With reverence

Words and Music by
George Mellott

Piano

1. A - bove the Mis - sis - sip - pi plain your splendor meets the sky. You give to all a chance to gain; you
2. To col - lege life we bid a - dieu and wend our sep - arate ways, Yet col - lege friends and men - tors too are

Pno.

raise our spir - its high. Hail, all hail S - I - U - E, our grat - i - tude we owe our
With us all our days. Hail, all hail S - I - U - E, our Al - ma Ma - ter true! Let's

Pno.

fount of op - por - tu - ni - ty wher - e're in life we go.
fill our glass - es joy - ful - ly and raise a toast to you.

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2021  SIUE

Golden
GRADUATES



50th Reunion





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SIUE is proud to support responsible use of forest resources.

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