Bachelor of Arts

VIRTUAL GRADUATION CEREMONY

Sunday, May 17, 2020
11:00 AM Eastern
WELCOME

John L. Jackson, Jr., Ph.D.
Walter H. Annenberg Dean
Richard Perry University Professor

WHAT IS A COMM MAJOR?

Special Video Presentation

AWARDS

Presented by Felicity (Litty) Paxton, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies

Hon. Walter H. Annenberg Award
NATHANIEL ROBERT DONNELL MORRIS
Named in honor of Annenberg’s founder, this award recognizes a graduating Communication major who has most strengthened and improved the University of Pennsylvania’s student community through Communication service activities.

C. Nicole Dickerson Award
FAHAD AHMED
Named in memory of former undergraduate advisor C. Nicole Dickerson, this public service award is given to a graduating Communication major who has made a significant contribution to our neighbors in the West Philadelphia community.
Phyllis C. Kaniss Award
HADEEL MARWAN SAAB
Named in memory of former assistant dean Phyllis C. Kaniss, this award is presented to a graduating Communication major who has demonstrated a commitment to civic participation through meaningful action around issues of public concern, including individual actions or actions undertaken through organizations on or off campus.

Michael X. Delli Carpini Award
LILIANNA GURRY
Named for former dean Michael X. Delli Carpini, this award recognizes a graduating Communication major who has completed an outstanding thesis in the Communication and Public Service program on a topic related to public policy or public service.

George Gerbner Award
MAURA SLOAN FAY
Named for former dean George Gerbner, this award recognizes a graduating Communication major whose thesis best demonstrates an original and comprehensive application of research skills as well as a thorough understanding of communication scholarship.

Kathleen Hall Jamieson Award
KAREN YANG AND TIFFANY WANG
Named for former dean Kathleen Hall Jamieson, this award honors the graduating Communication majors with the highest cumulative grade point average in the major.

Charles Morris Price Prize
TIFFANY WANG
This award acknowledges an outstanding graduating Communication major who has most distinguished themselves through a combination of academic excellence, research accomplishments, and/or contributions to Annenberg’s academic objectives.
ALUMNI SPEAKER

Introduced by Toni Denise Walker, Graduating Communication Major

Katie Koeblitz (C’09)

Katie Koeblitz is an independent director and producer with over ten years of experience. She is a champion for women in the entertainment industry and has a passion for telling diverse stories. Her production background includes work on both narrative and documentary feature films. On the documentary side, Katie most recently produced *G-Funk, A More Civil War*, and *The Untitled MMW Documentary*. On the narrative side, Katie co-produced the 2016 film *The Land*, and the 2018 South by Southwest darling *Galveston*, directed by Melanie Laurent and starring Elle Fanning and Ben Foster. Katie also had a hand in the coming-of-age film *The Kings of Summer*, which went on to premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in 2013.

Having turned to directing, Katie has thus far directed branded content and campaign assets for Goop, Milani Cosmetics, Pendry Hotels, and Treehouse Co-Living. Katie directed an upcoming piece for “Two Worlds Connect,” a nonprofit providing housing for formerly trafficked women, which is set to launch this summer.
RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

Names read by Kim Woolf, Ph.D., Academic Advisor and Research Supervisor for Undergraduate Studies

Graduates

FALL 2019
Christina Griffith

Spring 2020
Teagan Madison Aguirre
Fahad Ahmed
Anab Aidid
Elizabeth Babin
Elizabeth Tilghman Balla
Erin Barry
Corey Matthew Berman
Leina Betzer
Ajibola Bodunrin
Kylie Bronchick
Karekin Brooks
Patricia Almacin Cabuso
Jacqueline Marie Callahan
Mikaila Cheeseman
Bevan Cohen
Louis Charles Davis
Dalton Reed DeStefano
Olivia Knight Griffin Diong
Benjamin Dukas
Maria Fagliano
Maura Sloan Fay
Erin Feeney
Samantha Jill Felgoise
Lucy Sarah Ferry
Jesse Robinson Goodale IV

Lilianna Gurry
Cameron Hayes
Kayla He
Lauren Mara Hirschberg
Elena Hoffman
Renata Holmann Munguia
Esther Kim
Lucia Hyesong Kim
Tori Krouse
Alice Ku
Oliver Lane
Raquel Levitt
Brittany Levy
China Llanos
Katherine JoDee Markham
Nathaniel Robert Donnell Morris
McKay Rochelle Norton
Moses Nserekco
Alexys Raye O gorek
Gene Pak
Christopher Paolucci
Giovanna Paz
Sophia Pelosi
Peter Ribeiro
Jamie Roback
CONGRATULATIONS FROM ANNENBERG FACULTY AND STAFF

CLOSING REMARKS

John L. Jackson, Jr., Ph.D.
Walter H. Annenberg Dean
Richard Perry University Professor
University of Pennsylvania Honors

Phi Beta Kappa
FAHAD AHMED
JOSÉ CARRERAS-TARTAK
MAURA SLOAN FAY
TONI DENISE WALKER
TIFFANY WANG
KAREN YANG

Rose Research Award
KAREN YANG

Penn SAS Dean’s Scholar
FAHAD AHMED

2020 Senior Honors Theses

The following students earned at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average and completed a thesis based upon original research to graduate with distinction.

MARIA FAGLIANO
Thesis Advisors: Susan Haas, Eran Ben-Porath
“Title Acquisition Culture in the Young Adult Fiction Book Publishing Industry: A Qualitative Approach from the Perspective of Industry Representatives”

MAURA SLOAN FAY
Thesis Advisors: Kim Woolf, Eran Ben-Porath
SAMANTHA JILL FELGOISE

Thesis Advisors: Elisabetta Ferrari, Eran Ben-Porath
“The Interplay Between Digital and Physical Spaces: Peloton as a Case Study of Community Creation”

HADEEL MARWAN SAAB

Thesis Advisors: Emily Falk, Eran Ben-Porath
“The Influence of Identity Priming on Voter Turnout: An Experimental and Computational Approach”

TIFFANY WANG

Thesis Advisors: Rosemary Clark-Parsons, Kim Woolf
“East Meets West: Evaluating the Impact of American Films on Taiwanese Political Perspectives”

KAREN YANG

Thesis Advisors: Jessa Lingel, Kim Woolf
“Lonely in the Digital Age: The Impact of Emotional Chatbots on Loneliness in College Students”
2020 Communication and Public Service (ComPS) Honors Theses

The following students earned at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average and completed a ComPS thesis based upon original research to graduate with distinction.

ComPS Program Director: David Eisenhower

LILIANNA GURRY

Thesis Advisors: David Eisenhower, Kim Woolf

“Transforming the Media Regime in 47 Volumes: The Pentagon Papers Case and the Rise of Partisan Media”

KAYLA HE

Thesis Advisors: Yphtach Lelkes, Kim Woolf

“Examining the Effects of Chinese and Western News on Perception of the 2019 Hong Kong Protest”

ELENA HOFFMAN

Thesis Advisors: David Eisenhower, Eran Ben-Porath

“A Good Neighbor? Examining Presidential Rhetoric on Wilsonian Foreign Policy in Central America”

MCKAY ROCHELLE NORTON

Thesis Advisors: David Eisenhower, Kim Woolf

“Maladministration, High Crimes, and Misdemeanors: America’s Unending Debate on Presidential Impeachment”