

VANGUARD UNIVERSITY



COMMENCEMENT

— 2025 —

THURSDAY, MAY 1 | 9:30AM

MARINERS CHURCH, IRVINE, CA

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



HOWARD BOOKER

Executive Director, In-N-Out Burger Foundation

Howard Booker is a passionate advocate for children and vulnerable populations, dedicating his career to making a lasting impact in the nonprofit sector. Since 2006, he has served with the In-N-Out Burger Foundation, an organization committed to preventing child abuse and neglect by supporting nonprofits that care for children and youth. Now serving as the Foundation's Executive Director, Howard leads with a deep commitment to both the mission and the people behind it.

Before stepping into his leadership role at the Foundation, Howard spent four years in In-N-Out Burger's Customer Service Department and another four years working in the restaurants, giving him a well-rounded understanding of the company's culture and values. With over 25 years at In-N-Out Burger, he has become a respected leader known for his expertise in philanthropy and mission-driven impact.

Howard is also an experienced speaker and educator, having guest lectured at Vanguard University, Concordia University, and multiple California State University campuses. His academic background includes a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Vanguard University and a Bachelor's degree in Business Communications from California State University, Fullerton.

Beyond his professional work, Howard is deeply invested in mentoring and shaping the next generation. He has mentored children and youth for years, with a passion for speaking identity and helping young people discover their purpose. He actively leads a junior high boys' life group and is involved in coaching his sons' sports teams. Howard is a devoted husband to Marissa, his wife of 15 years, and a proud father to Elijah (16) and Marcus (13). He enjoys playing, coaching, and refereeing sports, volunteering in his community and engaging with causes close to his heart. While he considers himself a decent cook and a washed-up athlete, he excels at power napping and has also mastered the fine art of dad jokes. Howard and his family live in Lake Forest, California, where they are active members of Saddleback Church.

STUDENT SPEAKER



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SPEAKER

AMBERLY R. GOURLAY

Born in Palmer, Alaska and raised in Durban, South Africa, Amberly is curious about the world and seeks to adventure with God in exploring it. With a major in History and Political Science and minors in Theology and Public Policy, Amberly hopes to further her studies in International Affairs after graduation. Vanguard has played a key role in revealing God's plans for her. In her sophomore year, Amberly was a College Corps Fellow where she served at Voice of Refugees. Through her encounter with people forced to flee their home and find refuge, God revealed His heart for the foreigner to her and simultaneously invited her to partner with Him in caring for the foreigner. In her junior year she served as a College Corps intern where she mentored several students as they served their local communities which gave her the opportunity to learn about a variety of students in a deeper way. Moreover, she was a Resident Assistant in Newport Hall where she built friendships with her residents. With such access to a variety of students and her mentoring experience in both roles, she was inspired to run for Student Body President in hopes of serving the student body on a larger scale. She is grateful God opened the door for her to serve Vanguard as Student Body President. Just as God revealed to her that, like the prophet Isaiah, all He needs is her yes, so she hopes to encourage students. "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8).

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

LIVE COVERAGE OF COMMENCEMENT IS AVAILABLE AT [VANGUARD.EDU/LIVE](https://vanguard.edu/live)

COMMENCEMENT 2025

PRESIDING

MICHAEL J. BEALS, PHD (BA '81, MA '89)
PRESIDENT

GRAND MARSHAL

APRIL WESTBROOK, PHD (MA '97)
PROFESSOR OF OLD TESTAMENT, SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

PRELUDE MUSIC

VANGUARD UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE
KENNETH R. FOERCH, DMA, DIRECTOR

PROCESSIONAL*

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE SIR EDWARD ELGAR
ARR. MARK WILLIAMS

VANGUARD UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

WELCOME

MICHAEL J. BEALS, PHD
PRESIDENT

INVOCATION*

THE REVEREND RICHARD M. GUERRA (BA '78, MA '89)
SUPERINTENDENT, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NETWORK OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

GREETING

THE REVEREND DOUG GREEN, DMIN
*FOUNDING PASTOR, NORTH HILLS CHURCH
CHAIR, VANGUARD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES*

SONG OF PRAISE AND ADORATION*

MOVE OF GOD SEU WORSHIP

VANGUARD WORSHIP COLLECTIVE
BODIE KULJIAN (BA '15), WORSHIP DIRECTOR

**THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND*

COMMENCEMENT 2025

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER

MICHAEL D. WILSON, PHD (BA '83)
DEAN, COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SPEAKER

AMBERLY R. GOURLAY
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

SCRIPTURE READING*

ROMANS 5:3-5 (NLT)
STEPHEN (BA '95) AND LAURA (REDIGER BA '98) LARSON
PARENTS OF GRADUATE

SONG OF DEDICATION

WHO ELSE GATEWAY WORSHIP
VANGUARD WORSHIP COLLECTIVE

INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

MICHAEL J. BEALS, PHD
PRESIDENT

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

HOWARD BOOKER (MBA '08)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, IN-N-OUT BURGER FOUNDATION

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

RYAN T. HARTWIG, PHD
PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

CONFERRAL

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

COMMENCEMENT 2025

SONG OF DEDICATION

WHAT A GODSEU WORSHIP

VANGUARD WORSHIP COLLECTIVE

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME

RAMON MIRAMONTES, EDD (BA '91)

PARENT OF GRADUATE

CLOSING REMARKS

MICHAEL J. BEALS, PHD

PRESIDENT

BENEDICTION*

LOREN HICKS, (MA '08)

PARENT OF GRADUATE

RECESSIONAL*

WORDJEFF JARVIS

VANGUARD UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

NOTE: PLEASE REMAIN IN YOUR SEATS UNTIL THE RECESSIONAL HAS LEFT THE WORSHIP CENTER.

WE ENCOURAGE ALL PARTICIPANTS AND GUESTS TO REFRAIN FROM ENGAGING IN BEHAVIOR THAT DISRUPTS THE CEREMONY OR PREVENTS ANYONE IN ATTENDANCE FROM HEARING EACH GRADUATE'S NAME OR SEEING EACH GRADUATE WALK ACROSS THE STAGE.

LIVE COVERAGE OF COMMENCEMENT IS AVAILABLE AT VANGUARD.EDU/LIVE

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

HONORS

Provisional honors are noted in this program for graduating undergraduates who have completed at least 36 credits at Vanguard University and have met one of the grade point average requirements as of the end of the fall 2024 semester:

**cum laude (with honor) 3.50-3.69*

***magna cum laude (with high honor) 3.70-3.89*

****summa cum laude (with highest honor, signified by gold cords) 3.90-4.00*

†active military service and veterans

⌘ Vanguard University Honors Program

Δ Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP)

Four-year Bachelor's Degree plus teacher credentialing coursework

TEAL CORDS are worn by members of Alpha Kappa Delta, International Honor Society of Sociology.

RED & GREEN CORDS are worn by members of Beta Beta Beta, Biological Honor Society.

RED & WHITE CORDS are worn by members of Lambda Pi Eta, National Communication Honor Society.

RED & BLUE CORDS are worn by members of Phi Alpha Theta, International Honor Society of History.

BLACK & GOLD CORDS are worn by members of Phi Epsilon Kappa, Honors Fraternity of Kinesiology.

GOLD CORDS are worn by members of Pi Lambda Theta, a division of Phi Delta Kappa International Honor Society of Education.

RED CORDS WITH WHITE MEDALLIONS are worn by members of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society.

HONORS

PLATINUM & BLUE CORDS are worn by members of the Psi Chi, International Honor Society of Psychology.

NAVY CORDS are worn by members of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA).

GREEN & GOLD CORDS are worn by members of Sigma Beta Delta, International Honor Society of Business.

RED & BLACK CORDS are worn by members of Sigma Tau Delta, National Honor Society of English.

PURPLE & WHITE CORDS are worn by members of Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society of Nursing.

RED, WHITE & BLUE CORDS are worn by graduates in all branches of the United States military. This is a service recognition and we are grateful for their service to our country.

MEDALLIONS are worn by members of the Vanguard University Honors Program.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGY

Genivee Eloisa Alvarez Sanchez
Diego Christoph Avina
Aiden Ryder Brose
Rachel Annice Chambers*
Vanessa Edwards**
Genesis Esperanza Flores Rodriguez*
Josias Abisai Flores
Marissa Victoria Gurrola
Isaiah Adam Hernandez
Ysabella Gabrielle Hernandez*** ̎
Caroline Itzel Hire
Kayla M. Howard
Anthony Minh Kennen
Tilda Lorelle Khair
Celeste Mireya Kiernan**
Jenna Lee Gumayagay Lasao**
Abigail Faith McCarthy
Deliany Moreno-Coutino
Brooke Kamamalu Nagamine-Lee
Melanie Kristine Nazarian*
Aidan Flores Nguyen*
Eric A. Pascor**
Eliana Claire Pettijohn**
Madison Skye Poff*
Marina Rae Rose
Damian Alexander Ruiz
Monsserath Esther Salazar
Dulce G. Serna
Henry Lambert Verfurth*

BIOTECHNOLOGY

Kailey Rachele Friesen**

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Elaisha Hanna Ramirez Seco**

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Katie Ann Alexander***
Gavin Jeremy Bonds**
Luke Lee Dallas Luttrell**
Emilie Devine Nannenga***
Rylee Joy Orr**
Walker David Smith***
Jocelyn Velazquez**
Claire Williams*** ̎

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY/ POLITICAL SCIENCE

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Valeria Nicole Aguilar-Cardoza
Zoe Lanice Arriana Barba
Payton Reese Darm
Alexander Sodapop Felix
David Paul Garcia*** ̎
Amberly Ruth Gourlay***
Madalyn Scott Morris***
Kaylee Marie Nelsen* ̎
Guadalupe Palomino
Kelsie Renae Ramirez**
Hayvyn Dior Smith**
Nevaeh Miliani Snow**

DEPARTMENT OF KINESIOLOGY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Zoey Linae Barajas*
Jesus Barreto*
Alister Graciele Borabo*
Cristian Carmona
Madison Peighton Cassell*** ̎
Arleen Liz Castelan
David Gregory Cates*
Jasmine Angelica Cervantes
Olivia Grace Claypool*
Dominic Joshuajacob De'Altonaga
Tyler Wesley Denham*
Aidan Gustov Doherty**
Abigail Duenas
Christopher Joseph Famolaro***
Aaron Garcia
Markus Garcia
Edwin Rene Gonzalez*
Abraham Ryan Hernandez***
Joseph Mathew Hernandez
Natalie Grace Hill**
Colette Patricia Hogan*
Julianna Michelle Holm
Jordin Alexis Holmquist-Wilder
Gabrielle Ruth Ann Hunter
Jonathan Moses Jarquin
Glen Philip Linden
Noah Thomas Madole**
Joseph Paul Marsh**
Reyna Matos
Jessina June Morales*
Sean Tien Nguyen**
Emma Jayden Noble**
Giselle Sarahi Paniagua

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

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Ethan Joseph Paz**
Andrew James Piloto
Jeoselyn Ramirez
Genesis Makanalani Tomiko Rios***
Ariana Monique Rodriguez
Kaden K. Sakai**
Connor Michael Scheumack
Samuel Lucien Seward
Caleb Bryant Seybert**
Alexa Sydney Silva
Sebastian Mathias Sundberg
Micah Alexander Swartz*
Sierra Mao Vang
Brendan Michael Wagner***
Jessica Takeko Yamamoto*
Daniel Luke Yardley**
Valeria Jazmine Yruegas

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

BACHELOR OF ARTS

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Olivia Starre Jimenez***
Afton Tess Siegel

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Carissa Ebony Diaz

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Rentie L. Baker**
Anna Grace Beehler
Joana Elizabeth Bello***
Eryn Rylee Burke**

Jordyn Taylor Burke**
Carrisma Cayanne Calleres
Lizeith Cruz-Pascual*
Brooke Lauren Dalgity***
Benecia Itaty De Loera**
Brittney Delosreyes
AnneRenee Katherine Esparza*
Ally Jo Fisher**
Brianna Lorraine Georgopoulos**
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Uyen Phan*
Jizelle Ariana Rodas**
Luz Elissa San Jose
Phillip Christopher Saucedo**
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Sarah Ann Sheck
Emily E. Visscher*

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS

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COMPUTER SCIENCE

Joshua Daniel Rosales
Isaiah Solorzano

ENGINEERING PHYSICS

Evan Hernandez*
Adrian Neptali Martinez**
Levi Rudy Mireles

MATHEMATICS

Frederick Buckson
Michael Joseph-Agazio
Gugliotta**
Steven Joshua Muise

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

BACHELOR OF ARTS

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Maria Guadalupe Arellano
Leilany Ayala
Alize Marie Bañuelos*
Stephanie Baten-Quiche**
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Hodiah Ashlay Bright***
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Crishon Cir-Charles Carter**
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Xhymena Deniz De La Fuente***
Alexis Cathryn Drenning*
Isabella Grace Ekizian***
Summer Rose Fischlowitz***
Gillian Grace Fitzpatrick
Austin Sharkey Fortenberry
Hannah Jane Fowler**
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Veronica Gutierrez
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Inez Marie Jaime
Delvis Jimenez ***
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Samantha Rochelle Koehn
Olivia Maye Laddaga
Kiersen E. Landes ** 
Rachel Lydia Lim **
Manasseh Kipp Loft **
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Hannah Caprise Maes ***
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Justin Tyler-Ray Martin
Daiana Moreno
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Grace Love Sergeani **
Mary K. Tadres
Jorgearath Tames
Veronique Kristyn Triffitt ***
Bethany Maria Urrabazo **
Isabel Stephanie Venegas
Shanell Anahi Villatoro Izaguirre

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

BACHELOR OF ARTS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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Chester Seth Kanginan *
Christian Richard Eugene Katnik

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Ana Ruth Broadhead *
Liliana Catalan
Cooper Thomas Clark
Kevin Cruz †
Viviana Aracely Davalos ***
Jacqueline Rae Majors **
Emily Grace Pickering
Alexandra Marie Reyes **
Heidi Beth Romero
Sidney Isabella Schumm ***

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

BACHELOR OF ARTS

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Gregory Forrest Dodd
Nathan William Gall ** 
Leilani Nicole Munck **

PATTY ARVIELO SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

BACHELOR OF ARTS


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Itsel Garnica-Velasco***
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Maria Fernanda Palacios
Rachel Christine Provence
Danial Paul Sadat**
Christopher Sanchez*
Matthew John Wilkes
Gabriel Martinez Zamudio**

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Tyler James Glynn*

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Lauren Elisabeth Henshall**
Jena Kay Howard***
Alexis Marie Jimenez
Kaylee Ruth Jones**
Takara Lee A. Kiesel***
Kolboth Kong
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Nathaniel Lopez
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Valeria Medrano
Brayden Michael Metz**
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Esmeralda Najera
Andrea Ortiz*
Amanda Marie Raya**
Abigail Brooklyn Reed
Aaron Joseph Rogers*
Hunter D. Romiti
Areli Elizabeth Salazar
Alain Samperio Venegas
Owen Burdette Schreiner*
Brogan Riley Scott*
Lanie Johana Segura**
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Vanessa Marie Van Deusen***
Ariana Marlisse Vasquez**
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Kegan James Wentz

Brianna Nicole Williams*** 
Gabriel Martinez Zamudio**

MARKETING

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Evalin Kaye Lohrer**
Brooke Mackenzie Owens
Jimmy Perez Cortez
Nathan Robert Verhoef*

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS

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Delaney A. Barnes*
Izaiah Ryan Bocanegra
Christopher Reese Butterfield
Trevor James Chadwick
Christopher Trevon Chiles
Blair Alexis-Kaye Dodge*
Yulisa Melinda Gunther
Jordan Christine Hahn**
Hailey Rae Hanson
Isiah Michael Hernandez**
Ashlee Morgan Hildeman
Peter Theodore Kosearas** †
Claire Elizabeth Mills*** 
Ella G. Musselman**
Audrey Rebecca Norton***
Jason Oliveira*
Sailor Jane Rodgers**
Michael Romario Salazar
Aidan Fulton Scott
Jasmine Scott
Zoe Juliana Smith
Colin Parker Squyres*
Shyla Shiroma Tigilau*
Lisette Valenzuela***

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF LIBERAL STUDIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

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Kathleen M. Baltzley**
Jessenia Bonilla
Paige L. Bui**
Phoebe A. Bui*
Alexa Rose Christenson*^Δ
Andrea Faith Connor
Jayne Elizabeth Eldredge***^Δ
Jessica Gonzalez
Jordyn Elizabeth Hamen
Nathalie Cassandra Hernandez
Emily Madeline Hicks***

Liliana Jimenez^Δ
Lauren Nichole Jones*^Δ
Sullivan Kingma***
Krystal Elizabeth Lopez**^Δ
Aleah Rose Matos***^Δ
Zachary Cruz Miramontes*
Adrianna Lynn Natividad**
Keely Mary Grace Paulson***^Δ 
Kate Christine Phillips*
Gabriela Alexa Ramirez**^Δ
Sarah Nadine Ring^Δ
Naira Rojas
Marlene Janet Ruvalcaba*^Δ
Saige Haleh Turney
Sydney Grace Washa***^Δ

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

DEPARTMENT OF UNDERGRADUATE THEOLOGY

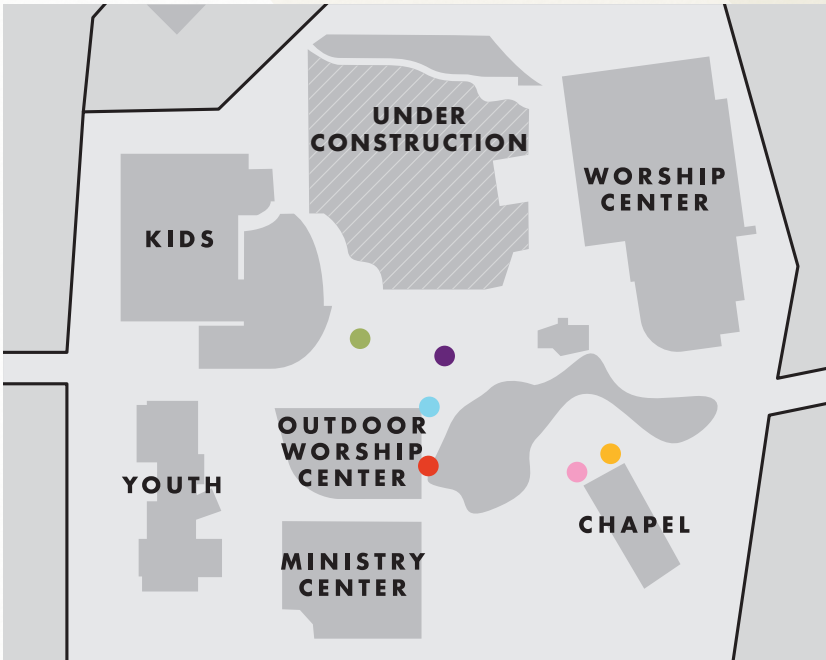
BACHELOR OF ARTS

Faith N. Balbuena**
Angie Cecilia Campos**
Jacob McKinley Hallman
Annie Elizabeth Hopkins***
India James Moors***
Brooklynn Scharer***
Kency Gissele Solorzano*
Axel Vergara

Graduates will be announced in order of academic college/school and department

AFTER THE CEREMONY

Please remain seated until all graduates have exited. Reception areas are arranged for graduates, faculty, family and friends to gather—use the flag colors and map to find your designated location. As the next ceremony is approaching, we kindly ask that you leave the premises by 1:00 PM. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding!



FLAG MAP

LEGEND:

- GREEN** | Criminal Justice, Psychology, Sociology
- PINK** | Communication, English, History/Political Science, Music, Theatre Arts
- LIGHT BLUE** | Biology and Nursing
- RED** | Computer Science, Engineering Physics, Environmental Sciences, Kinesiology, Math
- GOLD** | Accounting, Business Administration, Management, Marketing
- PURPLE** | Integrated Teacher Education Program, Liberal Studies, Theology

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Vanguard University is to pursue knowledge, cultivate character, deepen faith and equip each student for a Spirit-empowered life of Christ-centered leadership and service.

VANGUARD UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Douglas Green, Chair**

*Cindee Heath, Vice-Chair**

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Steve Vinson

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Debora Wondercheck

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†Trustee Emeritus



**VANGUARD
UNIVERSITY**

*** your story matters :**