SCHOLARS & LEADERS CEREMONY

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

ORDER OF CEREMONY

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS ..... Dean G. McCurdy, Ph.D.
President and Professor of Arts & Sciences
Volanakis Family Presidential Chair

CAPSTONE, BACCALAUREATE AND PROGRAM RECOGNITION AWARDS

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES ..... Andrew Cahoon, M.S.
Interim Dean for the School of Arts & Sciences
Assistant Professor

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & SOCIAL SCIENCES ..... Randy Hanson, Ph.D.
Dean for the School of Business & Social Sciences
Professor of History

SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES ..... Peter White, Ph.D.
Dean for the School of Nursing & Health Sciences
Professor of Biology

ACADEMIC HONORS

ALPHA CHI AWARD ..... Hilary Williams, MFA
Academic Vice President and Dean of Faculty

ALPHA CHI HONOR SOCIETY ..... Hilary Williams

CHI ALPHA SIGMA HONOR SOCIETY ..... Jen McKillop, M.Ed.
Executive Director of Athletics & Recreation

SIGMA THETA TAU HONOR SOCIETY ..... Peter White

DELTA MU DELTA HONOR SOCIETY ..... Randy Hanson

PSI CHI HONOR SOCIETY ..... Randy Hanson

WESSON HONORS PROGRAM ..... Randy Hanson

STUDENT RECOGNITION AND LEADERSHIP AWARDS

SENIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD ..... Robin Burroughs Davis, J.D.
Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students

GULA GRAVES PLUMMER AWARD ..... Robin Burroughs Davis

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER MEDALLION ..... Robin Burroughs Davis

ANN GULICK AWARD ..... Robin Burroughs Davis

BARBARA JOHNSON STEARNS AWARD ..... Robin Burroughs Davis

GRADUATE AWARD ..... Judeen Cameron Barwood '58, '09

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS ..... Robin Burroughs Davis

SHELDON–PONDER PRIZE ..... Hilary Williams

FACULTY AWARDS

NANCY BEYER OPLER AWARD
FOR EXCELLENCE IN ADVISING ..... Hilary Williams

CLOSING REMARKS ..... Hilary Williams

CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE AWARDS

The Capstone experience is interdisciplinary and differs for each student. In the Capstone, each graduating student demonstrates their learning by effectively communicating that knowledge to others during the Susan Colby Colgate Scholars' Symposium.

BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

Baccalaureate awards are presented to the graduating students in each program selected by the faculty for their engagement and excellence in their major. Recipients must be full-time baccalaureate students and must have completed at least 50% of their credits for graduation while attending Colby-Sawyer.

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

GRAPHIC DESIGN CAPSTONE AWARD – B.A. ..... Olivia Taylor

GRAPHIC DESIGN BACCALAUREATE AWARD – B.A. ..... Olivia Taylor

STUDIO ART CAPSTONE AWARD – B.A. ..... Jackson Musial

STUDIO ART BACCALAUREATE AWARD – B.A. ..... Elena Bronson

STUDIO ART CAPSTONE AWARD – BFA ..... Yume Nakayama

STUDIO ART BACCALAUREATE AWARD – BFA ..... Yume Nakayama

CREATIVE & PROFESSIONAL WRITING CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Abigail Hanney

CREATIVE & PROFESSIONAL WRITING BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Alyssa Godwin

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Peter Gribbin

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Jacklyn Tracy

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Malcolm Cleveland

BIOLOGY CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Brian Mitchell
Alex Gomez-Agudelo

BIOLOGY BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Payton Dugan

GUY FLOYD WILLIAMS SCIENCE AWARD ..... Sophie Nadeau

The Guy Floyd Williams award is presented to a graduating science major who has helped to maintain and perpetuate the ideals of the college during the graduate's years at Colby-Sawyer and who, through appropriate conduct, scholarship and decorum, has exemplified the spirit of the college.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION CAPSTONE AWARD — Company: ROAM
Tucker Cushing, John Davis, Michael McLeer, Karleigh Richard

DR. MARGARET "MARNIE" KURTZ BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... John Davis

DR. MARGARET "MARNIE" KURTZ MERIT AWARD FOR BUSINESS EXCELLENCE ..... Loralei Wales

SUSAN C. TOBEY '61 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ..... Karleigh Richard

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Shaelagh Foote

CHILD DEVELOPMENT BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Kaitlyn Bacon

CHILD DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION PREP CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Baylee Rock

CHILD DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION PREP BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Kate Cochran

CRIME & LEGAL STUDIES CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Lauren Ardolino

CRIME & LEGAL STUDIES BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Brenna Piller

HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Amelie Hebert

HISTORY & POLITICAL STUDIES CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Richard Kenyon

HISTORY & POLITICAL STUDIES BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Declan Lister

PSYCHOLOGY CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Callie Valeri

PSYCHOLOGY BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Sierra Flint

SOCIOLOGY & HUMAN SERVICES CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Abby L'Etoile, Alexandrea Stevens

SOCIOLOGY & HUMAN SERVICES BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Briana Angelli

SPORT MANAGEMENT CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Janai Cruz, Michael Krouse, Devin Montalvo

SPORT MANAGEMENT BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Eric Deschner

SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

EXERCISE SCIENCE CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Rex Hill, Claire Stroshine

EXERCISE SCIENCE BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Adriana Nadeau

NURSING CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Margeaux Burnham, Morgan Dickey, Matthew Gaudioso, Nicole Geanuracos, Jocelyne Lampron, Hallee Norton

ABSN CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Jacob Dubien, Sarah Frost, Daniel Kardos, Shannon Walsh

GRACE ADELLA SHELDON GRAVES BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Matt Gaudioso

GRACE ADELLA SHELDON GRAVES ABSN BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Daniel Kardos

HEALTH SCIENCE CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Jared Schmitt

HEALTH SCIENCE CAPSTONE AWARD ..... Sophie Nadeau

HEALTH SCIENCE BACCALAUREATE AWARD ..... Sophie Nadeau

ACADEMIC HONORS

ALPHA CHI AWARD

The Alpha Chi Award is given to one or more graduating students who, in the eyes of the members of Alpha Chi, best exemplifies the ideals of the society — truth and character — through work at the college in support of chapter activities.

Sierra Flint

ALPHA CHI NATIONAL COLLEGE HONOR SOCIETY

The Colby-Sawyer College chapter of this national honor society recognizes the academic achievement of juniors and seniors. To be eligible for membership, a student must rank in the top 10% of the junior or senior class and demonstrate the Alpha Chi values of truth and character. Graduates wear honor cords of blue and green and a tassel of gold to denote Latin honors.

Kendal Clark
John Davis
Payton Dugan
Sierra Flint
Michelle Forgione
Johanna Henderson
Macy Lawson
Paige L'Etoile
Molly Macklin
Caitlynn McAllister
Jennifer Miles
Brenna Pillar
Hailey Searles
Mackenzie Scott
Meghan Spaulding
Shannon Walsh

CHI ALPHA SIGMA NATIONAL COLLEGE STUDENT–ATHLETE HONOR SOCIETY

This Honor Society was founded at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, on May 17, 1996, as a student-athlete honor society for the recognition of high academic achievers and varsity sport participants at the intercollegiate level. Chi Alpha Sigma recognizes junior and senior undergraduate student-athletes who participate in a varsity sport, have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, are of good moral character and are endorsed by their head coach.

Lauren Elizabeth Ardolino
Seth Carl
Nicholas David Carrabino
Eric John Deschner
Payton Dugan
Maren Grace Elvidge
Taylor Gaudette
Matthew Christopher Gaudioso
Zsombor Homonnay
Anika Lee Jenkins
Michael Krouse
Kaylee Marie Manzella
Lauren Cassady McKee
Jackson Bruno Musial
Adriana Irene Nadeau
Sophie Marie Nadeau
Jared Schmitt
Callie Valeri

SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OF NURSING

The mission of Sigma Theta Tau International, the Honor Society of Nursing, is advancing world health and celebrating nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership and service. Sigma Theta Tau International's vision is to be the global organization of choice for nursing. Graduates wear lavender and white cords and a tassel of gold to denote Latin honors.

Kendal Clark
Emma Grovesteen
Johanna Henderson
Daniel Kardos
Macy Lawson
Jordyn McElroy
Hallee Norton
Brianna Smith
Meghan Spaulding
Shannon Walsh

DELTA MU DELTA HONOR SOCIETY

The Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in business, founded in 1913, recognizes and encourages the academic excellence of business students enrolled in select business programs. Graduating students wear a gold and purple honor cord at Commencement and a tassel of gold to denote Latin honors.

Seth Carl
Nicholas Carrabino

PSI CHI HONOR SOCIETY

This international honor society in psychology encourages, stimulates and maintains excellence in scholarship and advances psychology science. Members must rank in the top 35% of their class, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and have a minimum GPA of 3.2 in psychology courses. They must have completed at least three college semesters and nine credits of psychology courses and be enrolled in a program of study with strong psychological content. Graduates wear platinum and dark blue cords and a tassel of gold to denote Latin honors.

Nicholas Coy
Morgan Dickey
Sierra Flint
Allison Gachi
Anika Jenkins
Maria Jose Espinosa Lopez
Macy Lawson
Abby L'Etoile
Paige L'Etoile
Caitlynn McAllister
Grace Perreault
Benjamin Post
Jared Schmitt
Callie Valeri

WESSON HONORS PROGRAM

The Wesson Honors Program is designed to provide highly motivated students with an optional intensive experience in the liberal arts. On completion of honors courses and a Capstone, graduating students receive an honors certificate, a blue and white honors cord and a tassel of gold to denote honors. The designation Wesson Honors Program is added to their diplomas and transcripts.

Lauren Ardolino
Jean Santana Declet
Johanna Henderson
Zsombor Homonnay
Julia Huckins
Molly Macklin
Bianca Pires

STUDENT RECOGNITION AND LEADERSHIP AWARDS

SENIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD ..... Eric Deschner

This award is presented each year to a graduate who has shown leadership in the college's cocurricular life. The recipient is nominated by faculty and staff.

GULA GRAVES PLUMMER AWARD ..... Payton Dugan

This award is granted to the student or students who have distinguished themselves through the exercise of spiritual and/or moral leadership in the college community, or through academic work informed by their religious commitments.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER MEDALLION ..... Sophie Pedro

This award is presented each year to a graduating senior who is chosen for their inspirational speech about the college's values and learning outcomes.

ANN GULICK AWARD ..... Abdalla Faiad

Established in memory of Ann Gulick '54 by her classmates, this award is presented to the sophomore who best exemplifies, through voluntary service, the qualities of reliability, loyalty and unselfishness. The recipient of this award is chosen by a vote of the sophomore class.

BARBARA JOHNSON STEARNS AWARD ..... Grayson Rowell

Established in honor of a member of the class of 1932, this award honors a student who has demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication to the college community.

GRADUATE AWARD ..... Claire Stroshine

The graduate award is presented each spring to the graduating class member whose character and influence most constructively affected most junior class members. The recipient of this award is chosen by the junior class.

SENIOR CLASS STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Student Government Association officers and senators represent the best interests of the Colby-Sawyer College student body. Sashes of gold are worn at Commencement by graduates who are student government association officers.

Eric Deschner, Vice President
Bryan Fernandez, Secretary
Carly Bernard, Senator
Jean Santana Declet, Senator
Matthew Gaudioso, Senator
Emma Mullen, Senator
Adriana Nadeau, Senator
Tobias Patterson, Senator

SHELDON–PONDER PRIZE

Established by former trustee Eleanor Bernert Sheldon '40 and former president Dr. Anne Ponder, the Sheldon-Ponder prize is awarded to a Colby-Sawyer College senior who has been admitted to a master's or doctoral degree program in the humanities or social sciences. This prize provides significant financial support for the first two years of graduate study.

Caitlynn McAllister
Yume Nakayama

FACULTY AWARD

NANCY BEYER OPLER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ADVISING

This award recognizes a faculty member who is accessible to advisees, makes a meaningful connection with advisees, supports advisees in academic and professional planning and facilitates advisees' adjustment to the community.

Bianca Fortier
Assistant Professor, School of Nursing & Health Sciences



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