



117th Annual
Commencement
Ceremony

Saturday, May 9th, 2026

Harper-McNeeley Auditorium

Myles Center for the Arts

Elkins, West Virginia

117th Annual
Commencement Ceremony
President Chris A. Wood, Presiding

Prelude Ms. Donna B. Huffman
Assistant Professor of Music

*Processional Ms. Huffman

*Invocation Dr. Franklin Tanner Capps
Benfield-Vick Chaplain

*The National Anthem Led by the Davis & Elkins College Concert Choir
Olivia Insani Perske, Director

*Response Led by the Davis & Elkins College Concert Choir

*O let us learn, where'er we meet
True wisdom is with reverence crowned.
And science walks with humble feet
To seek the God that faith has found.*

Welcome and Remarks President Chris A. Wood

Trustee Commendation David Cutlip '77
Chair, Board of Trustees

Presentation of Crystal Mace Award President Wood

James S. McDonnell III

Introduction of Speaker President Wood

Commencement Remarks Dr. Shane Berg
Senior Vice President, HR and Administration
General Dynamics

Grow, Little Tree, Music by Andrea Ramsey Davis & Elkins College Concert Choir

Conferring of Honorary Degrees Dr. Mike Mattison
Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

David Howard Morrison '79, Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa

Joyce Butler McKee Allen, Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa

****The audience will please stand, if able.***

Conferring of Special Honors Dr. Mattison

Recognition of and Remarks by the Salutatorian

Recognition of Freeman J. Daniels Academic Achievement Award and Remarks by the Valedictorian

Conferring of Degrees

Words of Congratulations Wendy J. Morgan '12
Director of Alumni Engagement and Support

Light of Grace, Music by Andy Beck Davis & Elkins College Concert Choir

Closing Remarks President Wood

*Benediction Dr. Capps

*Alma Mater Led by the Davis & Elkins College Concert Choir

*Standing on the lofty summit, o'er the river's wave,
See our dear old Alma Mater, like a watchman brave.
Swell the chorus, every loyal one, true and truer be,
Hail to thee our Alma Mater, dear old D&E.*

*High her walls and towers are lifted, piercing toward the blue,
While the future onward beckons, fairer than our view.
Swell the chorus, every loyal one, true and truer be,
Hail to thee our Alma Mater, dear old D&E.*

Transferring of the Mace Sidney Ann Megna, Class of 2026
Kade Von Melton, Class of 2029

*Recessional Ms. Huffman

Faculty Marshals Dr. Brian W. Moudry and Dr. Jennifer S. Riggelman

Please remain *standing in place* at the end of the Commencement Ceremony as the Faculty and Graduates recess to the Myles Plaza.

The recessional will be streamed into the auditorium.



Davis & Elkins College • Class of 2026

Emily Elizabeth Adams

Buckhannon, WV
BA - Art

Konnor Lee Allison

Chester, WV
BS - Physical Education

Emma Wilson Andrews

Altavista, VA
BS - Exercise Science

Sidney Linn Apanowicz

Fairmont, WV
BA - English, Theatre

Alena Rose Armstrong

Belle, WV
*BA - Psychology and Human Services,
Criminology*

David Alexander Bailey

Elkins, WV
BS - Accounting, Management

Lauryn Alexis Baker

Morgantown, WV
BS - Nursing

Arika Faye Barbe

Beverly, WV
BS - Nursing

Angela Grace Barnette

Flatwoods, WV
BS - Nursing

Nicholas Morgan Barrickman

Dailey, WV
BS - Nursing

Megan Michaela Bauer

Wadsworth, IL
BS - Management

Jaden Bryce Bender

Philippi, WV
BS - Biology

Mason Aubrey Brenneman

Accident, MD
BA - Criminology, Management

Grace Johanna Bronkella

Greenwood, IN
*BA - Psychology and Human Services,
Criminology*

Brittany Hope Broschart

Coalton, WV
BS - Accounting, Management

Michael Shae Brown

Lewisburg, WV
BS - Nursing

Filippo Buffo

Verona, Italy
BS - Accounting, Finance

Melanie Caldwell

Junior, WV
*AS - Business
BA - Hospitality and Tourism
Management*

Joao Vitor De Miranda

Campinas, Brazil
BS - Sport Management

Devon Wade Channell

Beverly, WV
BS - Accounting

Lindsay Renae Clendenen

Buckeye, WV
AS - Nursing

Kristin Nicole Coleman

Parsons, WV
BA - Psychology and Human Services

Olivia Haven Cook

Foster, WV
BS - Environmental Science

Eric Cooke

Frankford, WV
BS - Nursing

Taylor Jo-Lynn Cooper

Bruceston Mills, WV
BS - Marketing, Management

Allison Renee Cuellar

Stafford, VA
*AS - Business
BS - Sport Management*

Jordan Michel Ryan Delorme

Ottawa, Canada
BS - Sport Management

Tra-Bi Diakite Demery Adams

Fort Leonard Wood, MO
BA - Psychology and Human Services

Alexander Joseph Dickinson

Elkins, WV
AS - Nursing

Angela R. Dimitro

Elkins, WV
BS - Nursing

Madeline Leigh Edicola

Sandston, VA
BA - Art

Emma Kathryn Engle

Martinsburg, WV
BS - Environmental Science, English

Isaac Thomas Ferguson

Barboursville, WV
AS - Nursing

Willow Grace Ferguson

Wolfcreek, WV
BS - Environmental Science, English

Maria Julieta Fernandez

Funes, Argentina
BA - Interdisciplinary Studies

Trinity Grace Fleming

Temecula, CA
BA - Psychology and Human Services

Deylana Joulei Forrest

Groveland, FL
BS - Accounting, Management

Jared Scott Foster

Martinsburg, WV
BS - Sport Management

Alexia Ryann Fredell

Sebastian, FL
BA - Psychology and Human Services

Devon Concepcion Garcia

Beavercreek, OH
BS - Exercise Science

Cooper Ray Gibson

Huntington, WV
BS - Accounting, Management

The Commencement program is not an official record of degrees awarded.

Davis & Elkins College • Class of 2026

Victoria Jo Gill

Moundsville, WV

BS - Nursing

Emma Cefaratti Gioia

Vacaville, CA

BA - Political Science, History

Carson Clay Gorby

Paden City, WV

BS - Sport Management

Jillian Elizabeth Griffin

Wheeling, WV

BA - Psychology and Human Services

Jacob Lee Hamrick

Elkins, WV

BA - Criminology

Savanna Grace Hardman

Martinsburg, WV

BA - English

Brianna Elaine Harper

Elkins, WV

BS - Biology

Zelia Ann Hatcher

Ohiopyle, PA

BS - Sustainability Studies

Alyssa Marie Haynes

Pataskala, OH

BS - Biology

Axel Jean Patrice Hedreux

Remes, France

BA - Political Science

Ella Grace Hesson

Parkersburg, WV

BS - Nursing

Lisa Jane Hinchman

Buckhannon, WV

BS - Nursing

Bryce Matthew Hines

Old Fields, WV

AA - Criminal Justice

BA - Psychology and Human Services

Jacklyn Marie Howell

Coalton, WV

BA - Criminology, History

Alaina Lea Huff

Rachel, WV

BS - Nursing

Connor Robert Hyde

Canonsburg, PA

BA - Elementary Education

Chinedu Karl Ikem

Woodbridge, VA

BA - Criminology

Grace Erica Janas

Pittsburgh, PA

BA - Psychology and Human Services

Xzavier Joseph Jankowiak

Detroit, MI

BS - Sport Management

Emelia Susan Johnson

Minneapolis, MN

BS - Sport Management

Faith Patricia Johnson

Buckhannon, WV

AS - Nursing

Alexa Lynne Karsel

Longmont, CO

BS - Nursing

Justin Gerhard Kearney

Front Royal, VA

AA - Hospitality and Tourism

Management

BS - Sport Management

Tiffany Desiree King

Volga, WV

BS - Nursing

Saylor Lynn Kneeland

Frederick, MD

BA - Educational Studies

Paul Felix Langkopf

Melle, Germany

BS - Sport Management

Lorraine Elizabeth Lanham

Huttonsville, WV

AS - Nursing

Kaitlyn Elizabeth Lantz

Buckhannon, WV

AS - Nursing

Erin Laubscher

Cape Town, South Africa

BA - Psychology and Human Services

Phoebe S. Layne

Clay, WV

AS - Business

BA - Psychology and Human Services

Meagan Brooke Lewis

Elkins, WV

BS - Nursing

Addison Gabrielle London

Lawrence, KS

BS - Nursing

Christopher Taylor Lucas

Carrollton, GA

BS - Exercise Science

Courtney Faith Luikart

Liberty, WV

BS - Exercise Science

Daphne Camille McCann

Lodi, CA

BS - Exercise Science

Alisha Dawn McCauley

Montrose, WV

BS - Nursing

Tyler Aaron McCune

Richwood, WV

BS - Outdoor Recreation Management

Jolie Isabelle McGaughan

Longview, WA

BS - Management

Sidney Ann Megna

Fairmont, WV

BA - Political Science, English

Alyson Elizabeth Miller

Elkview, WV

BS - Accounting

Frédérique Morin

Quebec, Canada

BS - Management

Taylor Vail Mudd

Sheridan, WY

AS - Business

BA - Hospitality and Tourism Management

Davis & Elkins College • Class of 2026

Jack William Murphy

Shawnee Mission, KS
BS - Management

Stephanie Kay Myers

Lewisburg, WV
BS - Nursing

Isabella Marie Nieves

Elkins, WV
BS - Nursing

Victoria Louise Noonan

Albright, WV
BA - Psychology and Human Services

Nnadozie Kelechi Okoroji

Tallahassee, FL
BS - Biology

Melisa Özşar

Antalya, Turkey
*BA - Psychology and Human Services,
Management*

RaShaun Malik Parker

Minneapolis, MN
BS - Finance, Management

Kendall Naym Pellot Carrasquillo

Toa Alta, Puerto Rico
BS - Finance

Anthony Capeloto Pereira

Sao Paulo, Brazil
BS - Management

Justus Maximilian Petersilie

Ratingen, Germany
BS - Exercise Science

Rachel Brooke Petrice

Elkins, WV
AS - Nursing

Autumn Elizabeth Plauger

Beverly, WV
AS - Nursing

Lillyan Marie Plumley

Parsons, WV
BA - Psychology and Human Services

Erin Elizabeth Quint

Elkins, WV
AS - Business

Samuel Antonio Rached

Valencia, Venezuela
BS - Finance, Accounting

Ariana Jaide Janine Rectenwald

Saint Albans, WV
BA - Political Science

Lexi Marie Reger

Elkins, WV
BS - Nursing

Jaela Sterlyn Reid

Jessup, MD
BA - Criminology

Caitlyn Alexandra Rhodes

Harman, WV
AS - Nursing

Walter Lawrence Ridgley

Lebanon, OH
BS - Sustainable Resource Management

Natasha Anyalik Rivero-Deighan

Elkins, WV
BS - Nursing

Morgan Taylor Rogers

Fairmont, WV
BS - Marketing, Communication

Catalina Vanessa Salas Ortega

San Jose, Costa Rica
*BS - Industrial Product Design,
Marketing*

Serena Lynn Scarberry

Derby, KS
BS - Nursing

Jennifer Rose Scheuvront

Clarksburg, WV
AS - Nursing

Nicole Marie Schumacher

Clarksburg, WV
BA - Theatre

Thomas Shaver

Morgantown, WV
BS - Nursing

Bracie Lee Sheets

Marlinton, WV
BA - Elementary Education

Alyssa Christine Shine

Morgantown, WV
BA - Psychology and Human Services

Hannah Brooke Shingler

Sutton, WV
BS - Nursing

Walker Andrew Shirley

Katy, TX
BS - Nursing

Rochelle Nicole Shoulders

Beverly, WV
AS - Nursing

Jordan Joseph Sidney

Falls Church, VA
BS - Environmental Science

Mackenzie Renee Skidmore

Philippi, WV
BS - Nursing

Emily Nicole Smith

Varney, WV
BS - Nursing

Rachel Anna Lee Snedden

Hundred, WV
BS - Outdoor Recreation Management

Emily Nichole Snyder

Junior, WV
AS - Nursing

Tristan Dominic Starks

Irving, TX
BS - Accounting

Colten John Stasny

Elkins, WV
BS - Accounting, Management

Kasey Lea Stemple

Parsons, WV
BS - Nursing

Lillian Josephine Stephens

Bridgeport, WV
BS - Nursing

The Commencement program is not an official record of degrees awarded.

Davis & Elkins College • Class of 2026

Edward William Stephens-Truman

Portsmouth, England
BS - Finance

Taya Jane Stewart

Blacksville, WV
AA - Criminal Justice

Wesley Tanner Strawderman

Parsons, WV
BA - Mathematics Education

Maximillia Elizabeth Margret Hernandez Sutherland

Dallas, TX
BS - Accounting

Charles Lawrence Taylor

Alexandria, VA
BA - Criminology

Macaden Meadow Taylor

Dunmore, WV
BS - Nursing

Nathaniel Rudich Taylor

Stafford, VA
BS - Physical Education

Rebecca Tellez Herver

Hagerstown, MD
BS - Exercise Science

Jordan Lee Thomas

Morgantown, WV
BA - Educational Studies

Sasha Nicole Tristram

St. Neots, England
BS - Exercise Science

Leanna Faith Trout

Reedsville, WV
BA - English

Takaleb Douglas Turner

Morgantown, WV
BS - Exercise Science

Leonardo Turra

Cellatica, Italy
BS - Finance, Accounting

Lauren Paige Twyman

Vinton, OH
BS - Biology

Ana Lucía Ubalde

Mendoza, Argentina
BA - Communication

Julia Vasconcelos Vieira

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
BS - Accounting, Marketing, Management

Bailey Xi Verkouteren

Berkeley Springs, WV
BA - Criminology

Makenzie Elizabeth Wagoner

Buckhannon, WV
AS - Nursing

Sierra Rose Walesheck

Forest Lake, MN
BA - Psychology and Human Services

Raheem Alesandro Walters

Mandeville, Jamaica
BS - Management

Haden Michael Wamsley

Parsons, WV
BA - Special Education including Autism

Rebekah Warren

Hambleton, WV
BS - Nursing

Victoria May Webster

Hedgesville, WV
BA - Elementary Education, Special Education including Autism

Larissa Jade Wegman

Elkins, WV
AS - Nursing

Gwenyth Opal Wessling

Florence, KY
BS - Sport Management

Catherine Patricia Whalen

Washington, DC
BA - Criminology

Josephine Elizabeth Whorton

Moundsville, WV
BA - Psychology and Human Services, Criminology

Haleigh Ann Wilfong

Mill Creek, WV
AS - Nursing

Kelsi Grace Wilson-Hott

Petersburg, WV
BA - Educational Studies

Kimberly Morgan Winoker

Crystal Lake, IL
BA - Psychology and Human Services, Criminology

Ashley Marie Wolford

Coalton, WV
BS - Nursing

Viktor Pavlov Yanev

Sofia, Bulgaria
BS - Sport Management

Ashlyn Faith Zapach

Albuquerque, NM
BS - Nursing

Special Honors

Salutatorian

The Salutatorian is the graduating senior with the second highest grade point average of his or her graduating class.

Valedictorian

Freeman J. Daniels Academic Achievement Award

The Freeman J. Daniels Academic Achievement Award is a \$500 cash award given each year by the College to the outstanding graduating senior based on academic achievement. The award, established in 1981, is named in honor of the late Freeman J. Daniels, a 1922 Davis & Elkins College graduate. Mr. Daniels was a prominent practicing attorney in New York City where he was a member of the firm of Perkins, Daniels and McCormack for more than 40 years.

Honor Cords

Honor cords worn during the Baccalaureate Service and Commencement designate academic achievements of special merit. The colors specify the nature of the achievements. White, red, and gold cord: Summa Cum Laude or Highest Honors. White and red cord: Magna Cum Laude or High Honors. White cord: Cum Laude or Honors. Red and Gold cord: Honors Program.



Davis & Elkins College Concert Choir

**Graduating Senior*

Olivia Insani Perske, *Director*

Donna Baroudi Huffiman, *Accompanist and Assistant Professor of Music*

Members

Marissa Barajas	Isabell McCormick
Zion Black	Mary Orndorff
Mariah Dodrill	Christopher Osborn
Alyssa Haddix	Rori Riddle
Isreal Holte	Alyssa Shine*
Taylor Lesneck	Leanna Trout*
Marissa Mallow	Catherine Whalen*

Honor Graduates

Bachelor's Degree

Valedictorian

Julia Vasconcelos Vieira, *Bachelor of Science*

Freeman J. Daniels Academic Achievement Award

Julia Vasconcelos Vieira, *Bachelor of Science*

Salutatorian

Daphne Camille McCann, *Bachelor of Science*

Highest Ranking Bachelor of Arts Graduate

Sidney Ann Megna

Highest Ranking Bachelor of Science Graduate

Julia Vasconcelos Vieira



Summa Cum Laude

Alena Armstrong, BA

Lauren Baker, BS

Filippo Buffo, BS

Eric Cooke, BS

Trinity Fleming, BA

Deylana Forrest, BS

Victoria Gill, BS

Jillian Griffin, BA

Courtney Luikart, BS

Daphne McCann, BS

Sidney Megna, BA

Alyson Miller, BS

Stephanie Myers, BS

Melisa Özşar, BA

Jaela Reid, BA

Natasha Rivero-Deighan, BS

Nicole Schumacher, BA

Thomas Shaver, BS

Emily Smith, BS

Edward Stephens-Truman, BS

Wesley Strawderman, BA

Julia Vasconcelos Vieira, BS

Rebekah Warren, BS

Josephine Whorton, BA

Magna Cum Laude

Sidney Apanowicz, BA	Cooper Gibson, BS	Samuel Rached, BS
David Bailey, BS	Emma Gioia, BA	Catalina Salas Ortega, BS
Nicholas Barrickman, BS	Carson Gorby, BS	Serena Scarberry, BS
Olivia Cook, BS	Axel Hedreux, BA	Macaden Taylor, BS
Madeline Edicola, BA	Justus Petersilie, BS	Rebecca Tellez, BS

Cum Laude

Emma Andrews, BS	Jacklyn Howell, BA	Maximillia Sutherland, BS
Jaden Bender, BS	Tiffany King, BS	Charles Taylor, BA
Allison Cuellar, BS	Erin Laubscher, BA	Lauren Twyman, BS
Maria Fernandez, BA	Jack Murphy, BS	Bailey Verkouteren, BA
Jacob Hamrick, BA	Lillyan Plumley, BA	Sierra Walesheck, BA
Savanna Hardman, BA	Bracie Sheets, BA	Victoria Webster, BA
Alyssa Haynes, BS	Rachel Snedden, BS	Ashlyn Zapach, BS



Associate's Degree

Highest Ranking AA and AS Combined

Autumn Elizabeth Plauger

Highest Honors

Alexander Dickinson, AS

Autumn Plauger, AS

Honors

Lindsay Clendenen, AS

Allison Cuellar, AS

Rochelle Shoulders, AS

Commencement Speaker

Dr. Shane Berg joined General Dynamics in January 2022 as senior vice president for planning and development. In February 2024, he was named senior vice president for human resources and administration. He also serves as executive sponsor of the company's Cyber Council.

Before joining General Dynamics, Dr. Berg spent more than 16 years at Princeton Theological Seminary. He served on the faculty from 2005 to 2013. In 2014, he joined the seminary's senior leadership team, and in 2016, he was named executive vice president.

A native of Jamestown, North Dakota,

Dr. Berg earned his bachelor's degree from University of Jamestown, a master's degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a doctorate from Yale University. He serves on the board of his alma mater, the University of Jamestown, and is a commissioner at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery.

He is married to Corrie, a Christian educator in the Presbyterian Church, and they have three sons, Anders, Mathias, and Soren.



Special Announcements

American Academic Regalia

American graduation attire reflects medieval European university traditions when faculty and students were considered clergy and dressed accordingly. The cap with tassel comes from a skullcap worn by clergy, while the hood started as headwear that transformed into a degree symbol. Gowns were based on monks' robes, with details showing wearer's level (bachelor, master, doctor). Today, hood colors signify the graduate's field of study. The Davis & Elkins hoods are lined in the College colors which are deep red and white.

The Mace

The Mace is carried by the 2025-26 Student Government Association President Ms. Sidney Megna. The Mace has been used since the Middle Ages in academic and other formal processions to lead dignitaries and symbolize the presidency of the institution. The Davis & Elkins College Mace is fashioned from natural walnut, characterizing the woodlands surrounding the College. The top pewter band bears the Celtic Cross, reflecting the College's Scotch-Irish Presbyterian heritage. A replica of the College Seal completes the design. Arthur Roberts, a custom pewter and glass decorator in Lottsburg, Virginia, designed and crafted the Mace for the College.

Photography

As they cross the stage to receive their diplomas, graduates will be photographed by a professional photographer. All images will be available on the Davis & Elkins College website following Commencement Weekend. To limit distractions, please do not approach the stage to photograph or film the Commencement ceremony.

Candidates for Degree

The Commencement program is not an official record of degrees awarded.

Commencement Coin

During the Baccalaureate Service on May 8, 2026, graduates received their academic hoods and a memento of their time on campus. The Graduating Class Commemorative Coin, now a tradition at D&E, was designed for the class of 2026 by senior Madeline Edicola, and depicts Lake Tolstead, located across from Myles Plaza on campus.



2025-26 Davis & Elkins College Faculty

Susan L. Aloï, Ed.D.

Associate Professor of Business; Chair,
Business & Entrepreneurship Division
West Virginia University

Roshani Asuramana, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry
University of North Texas

Kenneth E. Beezley, M.S.

Instructor of Sustainable Resource
Management
West Virginia University

Colten R. Biro, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of English
St. Louis University

Korey E. Burns, M.F.A.

Assistant Professor of Creative Arts
Stephen F. Austin State University

John K. Busing, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Sport Science
University of Northern Colorado

Jerod M. Caligiuri, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Mathematics
University of Pittsburgh

Melanie H. Campbell, M.B.A.

Associate Professor of Hospitality
Management
Lynn University

Carol A. Carter, Ph.D.

Professor of Business
Louisiana State University

C. Brantley Craig, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Religion & Philosophy
University of Virginia

Mary Ann DeLuca, Ed.D.

Professor of Health & Physical Education;
Chair, Sport Science Department;
West Virginia University

Mark L. Douglas, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Outdoor Recreation
The University of Montana

Ronda S. Engstrom, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Criminology
Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Sarah B. Garrison, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Psychology;
Chair, Social Sciences Division
University of Southern Mississippi

Daria Goncharova, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of English
University of Kentucky

Melanie R. Gribble, M.Ed.

Assistant Professor of Education;
Chair, Education Department
Fairmont State University

Sallie A. Hamrick, M.S.N.

Assistant Professor of Nursing
Western Governors University

Stephanie E. Haynes, Ed.D.

Registrar
West Virginia University

2025-26 Davis & Elkins College Faculty

Rachelle E. Hill, M.S.N.

Assistant Professor of Nursing
Western Governors University

Rebekah R. Hoxie, D.N.P.

Assistant Professor of Nursing
Post University

Donna M. Huffman, M.M.

Assistant Professor of Music
Eastman School of Music

Emma F. Johnson, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Chemistry;
Chair, Chemistry Department
University of Pittsburgh

Andrew C. Jones, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Communication;
Chair, Humanities Division
Louisiana State University

Bryan D. Kozik, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of History
University of Florida

Crystal M. Krause, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Biology &
Environmental Science
Northern Arizona University

Michelle L. Mabry, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology; Chair, Biology &
Environmental Science Department
Washington State University

Lonnie L. Martin, M.F.A.

Assistant Professor of Theatre & Film
American University

Melissa A. McCoy, Ph.D.

Professor of Nursing;
Director, ASN Program
West Virginia University

Jamie D. Morgan, J.D.

Instructor of Criminology
Nova Southeastern University

Kimberly D. Morgan, M.A.

Instructor of Psychology
Liberty University

Brian W. Moudry, Ph.D.

Professor of Mathematics & Physics;
Chair, Mathematics & Science Division
University of Nebraska

Aubrey H. Neumann, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Theatre
The Ohio State University

Katherine D. Osborne, Ph.D.

Professor of English;
Chair, English Department
University of Kentucky

Jennifer D. Pippin, M.A.

Assistant Professor of Mathematics
Marshall University

John G. Poffenbarger, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Political Science
West Virginia University

Valerie L. Posey, M.S.N.

Associate Professor of Nursing
West Virginia Wesleyan College

2025-26 Davis & Elkins College Faculty

Jennifer S. Riggleman, Ed.D.

Associate Professor of Sport Science;
Athletic Director
Marshall University

Karen J. Seel, M.S.N.

Professor of Nursing
Liberty University

Katrina M. Sparks, B.S.N.

Instructor of Nursing
Davis & Elkins College

Melissa D. Shockey, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of
Sustainable Resource Management
University of Georgia

Alexandros V. Sivvopoulos, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Economics
University of Mississippi

James H. Smith, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of History;
Chair, History Department
West Virginia University

Lisa D. Smith, M.Acc.

Associate Professor of Accounting
Stetson University

Shawn K. Stover, Ph.D.

Professor of Biology
University of Northern Colorado

Christina H. Swecker, M.S.N.

Professor of Nursing
University of Virginia

Sydney E. Tammmarine, M.F.A.

Assistant Professor of English
Hollins University

Kelsey A. Young, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Sport Science
Concordia University Chicago

AmyJo Wallingford, D.N.P.

Assistant Professor of Nursing
University of Nebraska Medical Center

LaTishia A. Wilson, Ed.S.

Instructor of Education
Regent University

Kevin M. Woodcock, M.F.A.

Associate Professor of Art;
Chair, Creative Arts Division
Louisiana State University

Ashley K. Workman, M.S.A.

Instructor of Education
Salem University

Huixin Wu, D.N.P.

Associate Professor of Nursing;
Chair, Director of Nursing,
Baccalaureate Programs
University of Pittsburgh





Davis & Elkins College bears the names of two early benefactors who worked tirelessly to establish a college of distinction in Elkins: United States Senator Henry Gassaway Davis (1823-1916) and his son-in-law, United States Senator Stephen Benton Elkins (1841-1911). Their leadership in the coal, lumber, and railroad industries in the young state of West Virginia had contributed significantly to the development of Elkins and Randolph County, where they built their summer homes, Graceland and Halliehurst. In their view, an institution of higher learning in their adopted community was critical to the future development of the state and its people. They secured support from the Presbyterian church and community leaders to make this dream a reality.

Classes at the new college opened on September 21, 1904, in an imposing brick building in South Elkins on land donated by Senator Elkins. Later, Senator Elkins' widow, Mrs. Hallie Davis Elkins, donated her home and the bulk of the Elkins estate, Halliehurst Farm, to the College. Liberal Arts Hall and Science Hall (now Charles E. Albert Hall) were constructed on this new site in 1924-1925, and in 1926, the campus was moved to its current location. The College acquired Graceland and a portion of Senator Davis' adjacent estate in 1941.

Since its inception, Davis & Elkins College has remained committed to offering a quality, personalized, undergraduate education, firmly rooted in the liberal arts tradition, but also including pre-professional and professional studies. All programs provide a broad conceptual framework that frees students to think critically and creatively, to continually expand knowledge and understanding, and to apply learning to new and changing situations throughout their lives.

Davis & Elkins College stands as tangible evidence of the vision of its founders, the support of the many people who have nurtured the College through the years, the legacy of those who have learned and taught here during the College's 121-year history, and the ongoing commitments of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Elkins and greater community to the cause of higher education.

Today, Davis & Elkins College extends a warm welcome to its newest alumni and to the many families and friends who will share with them and the College community in this special celebration.



