

TWENTY SECOND ANNUAL



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
**COMMENCEMENT**

Thursday  
May 16, 2024  
5:00 p.m.  
Alumni Arena  
North Campus

Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD  
*Dean and SUNY Distinguished Professor*

**Associate Deans**

R. Lorraine Collins, PhD  
Gaspar A. Farkas, PhD  
Jo Freudenheim, PhD  
Katia Noyes, PhD  
Heather Orom, PhD  
Michael C. Redfern, MBA, EdM

**Assistant Deans**

Keith Conroy, BS  
Kimberly Krytus, PhD  
Lisa Neff, BA  
Sarahmona Przybyla, PhD  
Jillian Reading, PhD  
Mark Rotella, MBA

**Department Chairs**

Gregory G. Homish, PhD  
David P. Hostler, III, PhD  
Douglas Landsittel, PhD  
Pauline Mendola, PhD  
Sue Ann Sisto, PhD



# Program

## Processional

*Selections from Pomp & Circumstance  
by Edward Elgar*

## Opening Declaration

Sarahmona Przybyla, PhD  
*Assistant Dean, Director of Undergraduate  
Public Health Programs  
Clinical Associate Professor*

## National Anthem

Kristen Braunscheidel, EdM  
*Assistant Director of Graduate Studies,  
Exercise and Nutrition Sciences*

Sarah Krzyzanowicz, MSED  
*Clinical Director, Athletic Training Program  
Clinical Instructor*

Kirkwood Personius, PhD  
*Clinical Associate Professor*

Jennifer L. Temple, PhD  
*Director, Nutrition and Health Research  
Laboratory  
Director, Graduate Programs  
Professor*

## Greetings

Satish K. Tripathi, PhD  
*University President*

## Dean's Address

Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD  
*Dean of the School of Public Health and  
Health Professions  
SUNY Distinguished Professor of  
Epidemiology and Environmental Health*

## Commencement Address

George F. Nicholas, MDiv  
*CEO, Buffalo Center for Health Equity*

## Student Speaker

Sirawar Matin  
*DPT, '24*

## Conferring of Degrees

President Tripathi

## Alumni Welcome

Christine Kemp, MPH  
*Director of Population Health and Quality  
Improvement, BestSelf Behavioral Health*

## Alma Mater

Kira Whitehead  
*Music Theatre, BFA '24*

## Closing Declaration

Professor Przybyla

## Recessional

*Triumphal March from Aida  
by Giuseppe Verdi*

# SUNY Trustee and UB Officials

## Eunice Ashman Lewin

*Member of the State University of New York Board of Trustees*



President and co-founder of Impacto Consulting Associates, Eunice Ashman Lewin joined the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. She helped reinstate the Student Life Committee, which she co-chairs. In

this role, she spearheaded the creation of the Food Insecurity and the Mental Health task forces. Lewin serves on the board's Executive Committee and the committees for academic affairs, communications and external affairs, community colleges, and academic medical centers and hospitals.

A former commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, Lewin was a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and a board member of the Buffalo Urban League and Hispanics United of Buffalo. She is a member of the Hispanic Women's League and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. In 2022, Lewin was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee to honor the mass shooting victims of the May 14 tragedy in East Buffalo.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, she is a champion for STEM education.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the U.S. with her family in 1967. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Marymount Manhattan College and master's degrees in American and Puerto Rican studies, and in educational administration, from UB.

## Jeremy M. Jacobs

*Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council*



Jeremy M. Jacobs was appointed to the UB Council in 1997; in 1998, then-Gov. George Pataki named him chairman. Jacobs is chairman of Delaware North, a global hospitality company with customers in the United

States, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The company's operations include food and retail at airports and sports venues, sports facility ownership and management, operations of parks and major tourist attractions, hotel ownership and management, gaming operations and fine dining.

Jacobs owns the Boston Bruins and serves as chairman of the National Hockey League's Board of Governors. In 2018, he received the sport's highest honor when he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

An alumnus of UB's School of Management and Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program, Jacobs holds honorary doctorates in humane letters from UB, Canisius College, Niagara University and Johnson & Wales University. In 2015, his family donated \$30 million to advance UB's medical school, which was renamed the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Jacobs has served Western New York for more than four decades with his business expertise and philanthropic leadership, and Delaware North has received multiple awards for social responsibility, community service and environmental stewardship.

A longtime friend and supporter of UB, Jacobs has served as chairman, trustee and director of the UB Foundation, chairman of the President's Board of Visitors and adviser to the School of Management.

## Satish K. Tripathi

*University President*



An internationally distinguished researcher and higher education leader, Satish K. Tripathi, PhD, is the University at Buffalo's 15th president.

Tripathi, who served as UB's provost from 2004-2011, was dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside, from 1997-2004. Previously, he spent 19 years as professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven years as department chair.

In 2024, Tripathi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A fellow of IEEE and AAAS, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences.

Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University (BHU). He holds a master's degree and a doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, as well as master's degrees in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. He has received honorary doctorates from the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University in Canada.

Tripathi is co-chair of the Association of American Universities (AAU) Task Force on Expanding U.S.-India University Partnerships, and he serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers. Previously, he was chair of the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and Internet 2. He also served on the boards of the AAU, the NCAA Division I, the NCAA Board of Governors, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

## **A. Scott Weber**

*Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs*



As provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, A. Scott Weber, PhD, serves as the university's chief academic officer, providing leadership across the academic enterprise including

research, scholarship and creative activities; undergraduate, graduate, professional and international education; faculty development; diversity and inclusion initiatives; and university libraries. Weber is leading the implementation of the university's vision to be recognized among the top 25 public research universities in the nation, focused on building on UB's strengths to achieve new levels of excellence in research, scholarship, education, clinical care and engagement.

A member of UB's faculty since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar and teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. Weber has held progressively responsible administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost and vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and the nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience on campus and promoting overall student wellness.

Weber serves on New York's Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board for Chemical Waste Management. He is a former board member and current advisory committee member of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County.

Weber earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnical Institute and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

## **Allison Brashear**

*Vice President for Health Sciences  
Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine  
and Biomedical Sciences*



Allison Brashear, MD, MBA, a world-renowned neurologist, is reshaping academic medicine at UB. As vice president for health sciences and dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, she promotes

collaboration and integration across health sciences disciplines, while also leading UBMD Physicians' Group as president and CEO.

Brashear's visionary approach drives health care innovation locally and nationally, and she is a passionate advocate for patients. Her impactful research has led to the approval of three botulinum toxin treatments for conditions like post-stroke spasticity. Continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health since 2008, she is a leading expert in ATP1A3-related diseases, a spectrum of rare neurologic disorders.

Prior to UB, Brashear was dean of the University of California, Davis School of Medicine, as well as a professor and the Walter C. Teagle Endowed Chair of Neurology at Wake Forest School of Medicine.

Brashear earned her medical degree and completed her neurology residency at Indiana University School of Medicine. She earned her MBA, focused on health-sector management, at Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

Beyond her professional roles, she is a trustee of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation and immediate past vice chair of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Additionally, her election to the AAMC Council of Deans Administrative Board allows her to shape national strategies that impact the country's medical schools. She is also a board member of the Western New York Women's Foundation.

## **Jean Wactawski-Wende**

*Dean, School of Public Health and Health Professions  
SUNY Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology  
and Environmental Health*



Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD, is dean of the School of Public Health and Health Professions (SPHHP). She leads the school's strategic initiatives, oversees its academic offerings, resources and people, serves as an active member of university's senior leadership team, and represents

the school in the community and the profession. Under Jean's leadership, the school has increased its enrollment and programs, becoming one of the fastest-growing schools of the university.

Before becoming SPHHP dean, Dr. Wactawski-Wende served as UB's vice provost for strategic initiatives and research advancement. She also formerly oversaw the UB Office for Research Advancement, which provides support to faculty pursuing large-scale, multi-investigator, cross-disciplinary research grants of institutional priority.

An internationally recognized epidemiologist who focuses on understanding factors that influence women's health, she has spent over 30 years conducting research on, among others, risk factors and prevention of cancer, osteoporosis and periodontal disease in postmenopausal women. She is principal investigator of UB's Women's Health Initiative (WHI) Center and leads the WHI Northeast Regional Center. WHI is a National Institute of Health-funded, multi-center study involving randomized clinical trials and an observational longitudinal study examining the major factors influencing morbidity and mortality in older women.

Dr. Wactawski-Wende was promoted to the rank of SUNY Distinguished Professor in 2015. In 2020, she received the UB President's Medal, which recognizes "outstanding scholarly or artistic achievements, humanitarian acts, contributions of time or treasure, exemplary leadership or any other major contribution to the development of the University at Buffalo and the quality of life in the UB community."

## Guest Speaker

### **George F. Nicholas, MDiv**

*CEO, Buffalo Center for Health Equity*



Pastor George Nicholas, MDiv, is the senior pastor of Lincoln Memorial United Methodist in Buffalo. He has been recognized by the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist for his work on urban ministries. Pastor Nicholas is an advocate for social justice and community revitalization. He has a particular passion for public health. As a result, he is a founding member of the African-American Health Equity Task Force, which birthed the Buffalo Center for Health Equity where he is the board chair and chief executive. As a recognition for his work in public health, Pastor

Nicholas was awarded in 2022 with the Bernard J. Tyson Health Equity Award from the Joint Commission, an independent, not-for-profit organization and the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.

Pastor Nicholas serves on multiple committees including the executive committee of the Board of Population Health Collaborative, HEALTHeLINK board of directors, board of directors of the Bills Foundation, and the Advisory Committee for New York's Master Plan for Aging.

Pastor Nicholas holds an undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University and graduate degrees from University at Buffalo and Colgate Rochester Divinity School.

Pastor Nicholas is married to Daun Nicholas, and they have five children: Kristin, Desmond, George Jr., Joel and Caleb.

## Chancellor's Award

*This award acknowledges students for outstanding achievements that have demonstrated the integration of SUNY excellence within many aspects of their lives in areas such as academics; leadership; campus involvement; community service; diversity, equity, inclusion and justice; or the arts.*



Hannah Crittenden of Kenmore, New York, graduates with a Masters and Bachelors in Occupational Therapy. Crittenden is a University Honors College Scholar. She has been an Orientation Leader, Student Engagement Ambassador, Alternative Break Trip Team Leader, first-generation student peer mentor and teaching assistant for an OT graduate class. She is a member and president of the national honor society for OT students, Pi Theta Epsilon, Tau chapter, and a member of the national scholastic honor society for allied health professions, Alpha Eta. She has facilitated research in breast cancer patients' survivors and the relationship between occupational engagement, QOL, self-efficacy and psychological distress.



Jeremy Nguyen of Buffalo, New York, graduates with a Master of Public Health with a concentration in epidemiology. Nguyen currently serves as the president of the Epidemiology and Environmental Health Graduate Student Association and as a teaching assistant for two undergraduate classes. He conducts research with the UB Maternal and Child Health Laboratory, contributing to the study of bean consumption on maternal and child health outcomes. His passion for improving the health of the Buffalo community can be demonstrated through his regular volunteering for the Buffalo General Medical Center, Lighthouse Free Medical Clinic, and Seneca-Babcock Food Pantry.



Samiha Islam of Rochester, New York, graduates with a BA in health & human services and statistics. Islam is recognized as the University at Buffalo's second Harry S. Truman Scholar and first Public Policy and International Affairs Fellow. She has conducted workshops for thousands across Western New York on interfaith and multiracial coalition building, published research on non-carceral approaches to preventing hate crimes as a Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress Fellow, and helped secure \$150,000 in grants for prison re-entry services. Samiha has also served as a diversity advocate, leading campus dialogues on privilege, politics, and social justice.



# Candidates for Degrees

*Subject to the completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon those individuals listed herein who were identified by April 4, 2024, and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Candidates are listed according to actual date of degree conferral (August 2023, February 2024, and June 2024).*

## Latin Honors

Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of the following minimum criteria, Latin honors may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements. To qualify for Latin honors, students must present a minimum of 60 credit hours of UB undergraduate coursework, at least 54 of which must be graded credits (i.e., not satisfactory or unsatisfactory [grades of 'S' or 'U']). The UB GPA must be a minimum of 3.2 (to 3.499) for cum laude, 3.5 (to 3.749) for magna cum laude and 3.75 (to 4.0) for summa cum laude.

To receive the Latin honors designation in the printed 2024 commencement programs, candidates for the June 2024 degree conferral date must qualify based upon their UB cumulative GPA through the Winter 2024 session and total number of UB credit hours projected through the Spring 2024 semester. Standings for Latin honors MAY change once final grades are posted or degrees conferred.

## Alpha Eta

Alpha Eta is a national honor society that recognizes superior academic achievement in the allied health professions.

## Dean's Scholars

The Dean's Scholars program recognizes superior undergraduate students within the School of Public Health and Health Professions for their potential to succeed in graduate study.

## Academic Recognition Items

### The Gold Cord

This cord is awarded to students who are graduating with Latin honors.

### The Grey and Red Stole

This stole was received by students who are University Honors College graduates.

### The Salmon Stole

This stole was awarded to graduating students inducted into the Delta Omega Honorary Society

### The SUNY Chancellor's Medallion

This medallion was presented to recipients of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. They were selected for this award based on their academic excellence and extracurricular involvement.

### The UB Flame of Wisdom Pin

This pin, depicting the flame of wisdom from the university's seal, was received by students who were honored at the UB Celebration of Student Academic Excellence for earning select national, SUNY and UB awards and citations.

## Delta Omega

Delta Omega is a national honor society that recognizes public health excellence and leadership. Gamma Lambda is the University at Buffalo's chapter.

## HRSA Trainees

HRSA trainees are students who completed their program as a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Public Health Trainee grant recipient.

## Pi Theta Epsilon

Pi Theta Epsilon is a national honor society that recognizes superior academic achievement in occupational therapy.

## Legend

Cum laude is denoted by an asterisk (\*)

Magna cum laude is denoted by two asterisks (\*\*)

Summa cum laude is denoted by three asterisks (\*\*\*)

Alpha Eta is denoted by a dagger (†)

Dean's Scholars are denoted by a lambda (λ)

Delta Omega 2024 inductees are denoted by a delta (Δ)

HRSA trainees are denoted by a theta (θ)

Pi Theta Epsilon are denoted by infinity (∞)

## The WNY Prosperity Fellowship Medallion

This medallion was received by graduating WNY Prosperity Fellows.

They were selected for this fellowship based on their commitment and demonstrated potential to positively impact WNY's economic development and sustainability.

## Non-Academic, University-Wide Recognition Items

### The Kente Stole

This stole was received by students who participated in UB's ALANA Celebration of Achievement which historically has honored graduating African, Latino/a, Asian and Native American students.

### The Rainbow Tassel and Lavender Stole

These items were received by students who participated in the Lavender Ceremony, celebrating achievements of graduating students who identify with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer community at UB.

### The Red, White and Blue Cord

This cord is being worn by graduating UB students who are active duty servicemembers, reservists, members of the National Guard, newly commissioned officers or veterans of the United States armed forces.



# Doctorate Degrees—PhD, DPT, BS/DPT

## Department of Biostatistics

### Doctor of Philosophy in Biostatistics

#### August 2023

Surui Hou

*“Classification Techniques for Block-Missing Multi-Modality Data”*

Haiyang Sheng

*“Flexible Weighted Nearest Neighbors Classifiers for Transfer Learning and Multi-Label Classification”*

#### June 2024

Jia Wang

*“Selected Statistical Topics in Biomarker Evaluation under Multi-class Classification and Biomarker Identification for Genomic Data”*

## Department of Community Health and Health Behavior

### Doctor of Philosophy in Community Health and Health Behavior

#### August 2023

Maria Keller

*“A Digital, Self-Directed Kidney Transplant Access Intervention Using Animated Video: Three Studies that Inform Intervention Development”*

#### February 2024

Katelyn Rogers

*“Gender Norms and Attitudes in the Sexual Behavior and Values of Tanzanian Young People and African Immigrant Young Women in the United States”*

#### June 2024

Mehreen Arif

*“The Role of Risk-Related Behaviors and Mental Health on Alcohol Use Outcomes among United States Army Reserve and National Guard (USAR/NG) Soldiers”*

Schuyler C. Lawson

*“A Population-Level Examination of Smoking Cessation Apps: An Evaluation of their Relationship to Smoking Cessation Outcomes, Social Support and Racial Differences in Their Utilization”*

## Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health

### Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology

#### June 2024

Yihua Yue Δ

*“Dietary Patterns, the Oral Microbiome and Oral Health Outcomes: The Buffalo OsteoPerio Cohort Study”*

# Doctorate Degrees—PhD, DPT, BS/DPT

## Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

### Doctor of Philosophy in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

#### June 2024

Nathan Bartman

*"Factors Affecting Heat Strain During Simulated Hiking in Wildland Firefighting Garments"*

### Doctor of Philosophy in Nutrition Science

#### August 2023

Adrienne DiBrog

*"Effects of Alpha-7 Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor Agonism on Feeding in Rats"*

## Department of Rehabilitation Science

### Doctor of Philosophy in Rehabilitation Science

#### August 2023

Haley Chizuk

*"Salivary Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor and microRNA During Aerobic Exercise Intervention for Recovery from Acute Sport-Related Concussion"*

## Doctor of Physical Therapy

#### June 2024

Matthew Alexander

Jordan Block †

Bradley Bonner

Valentina Fan

Joshua Gho

Jordan Anthony Green

Gray Hendershot †

Gurjeena Jandu †

Cameron Kirby

Tiffany Mak

Madelyn McNamara

Ashleigh Nicolini

Stephanie A. Perna

Bradley Rybak †

Kaitlyn Smith

Erica Sorrells

David R. Stegemann

Andrew K. Syvertsen †

Rebecca Winnert

Kelvin Yam †

## Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences & Department of Rehabilitation Science

### Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science/Doctor of Physical Therapy

#### June 2024

Connor Black †

Max Braccia \*

Roma Casey \*\*

Brett Csont † \*\*\*

Georgia Dailey

Trevor Earle \*

Joshua Falbo \*\*

Therese Ford \*

Mengmeng Jiang \*\*

Jimmy Kronberg \*

Sirawar Matin

Anastasia Nosova \*\*

Cedrick Pierre-Paul \*

Jocelyn Clara Pond \*

Aaron Jed Presto \*\*

Jake Townsend Pulis \*

Travasia Singletary \*

Darrick Smith \*\*

Emma St. Pierre \*\*

Elliott Szabala \*\*

Haley Walters \*\*\*

Da Fu Wen \*

Kathryn Elizabeth Witkowski \*\*

# Master's Degrees—MA, MS, BS/MS

## Department of Biostatistics

### Master of Arts in Biostatistics

**February 2024**  
Armaan Shojaie

**June 2024**  
Alina Lomozik  
Andrew Schuck  
Shuliang Yu

### Master of Science in Bioinformatics and Biostatistics

**August 2023**  
Soren Przygocki

**February 2024**  
Amanda Bernas  
Jingyun Qian

**June 2024**  
Darrin Frodey

## Department of Community Health and Health Behavior

### Master of Science in Community Health and Health Behavior

**June 2024**  
Serena J. Blackburn  
Cassandre Dauphin

## Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health

### Master of Science in Epidemiology

**August 2023**  
Kaitlin Ange  
Divyanka Mahesh Pawaskar  
Marjorie Thomas

### February 2024

Grace Milton  
Nisha Nair  
Ridham Varsani

### June 2024

Tina Darabnoushtehrani  
Shipra Gandhi  
David Leo Glotzer

## Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

### Master of Science in Athletic Training

### June 2024

Amir Abdelqader  
Peter Borzillieri  
Alyssa Gardner  
Jayden Metade †  
Jordan Miller  
Nicholas J. Olszewski †  
Abigail Seamans  
Celyna Shaw  
Lucian M. St. John  
Nicole Szymczak  
Hailey Westover

### Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition

### June 2024

Peri Adylbekova  
Dillon Benedicto †  
Isabella Chee †  
Hannah Cline  
Mary Cook  
Caroline Ruth Kennedy  
Grace Krizen  
Madison Lee †  
Jiayi Lu  
Kirk Maldiner  
Madison Matheis  
Sofia Perez Yudin  
Meredith Roberts  
Jahnvi Nayankumar Shah

## Master of Science in Exercise Science

### August 2023

Joseph Bachraty  
Caroline Krupa

### February 2024

Hadiqa Arshad  
Ritu Ashim Biswas  
Ishwa Vivekkumar Dave  
Wenjje Liu  
Jianbo Qiao  
Nandini Rathore  
Haniyam Salim Shaikh  
Vishruti Sharma  
Kalindi Thakral  
Fenny Vajani  
Sneh Vyas

### June 2024

Chirag Suresh Chaudhari  
Ruchi Das  
Gayatri Ramasubramanian  
Neeharika Kale  
Riddhi Chandrashekhkar Kate  
Hrishikesh Kulkarni  
Hasmita Paresh Mangtani  
Akshada Manjarekar  
Alexander Rawlings  
Yukta Pradeep Rohra  
Sakshi Sameer Shelar  
Adam Szczupakowski  
Richa Kamlesh Thakkar  
Purva Trivedi  
Jalak Upadhyay

### Master of Science in Nutrition

### June 2024

Pitamber Dhaliwal  
Julianna Morris  
Surya Suresh

### Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science/Master of Science in Athletic Training

### June 2024

Gabriella Giordano \*  
Amy Sternberg † \*\*  
Ryan Jakob Utley

## Department of Rehabilitation Science

### Bachelor of Science/ Master of Science in Occupational Therapy

### June 2024

Prince Ankomahjr  
Morgan Rae Arrowood ∞ \*\*\*  
Isabel Atwood ∞ \*\*  
Patrick Berman  
Maryayumi Caluma \*\*  
Morgan E. Christ \*  
Hannah Ciffa \*\*  
Paula Arcila Colt ∞ † \*\*  
Maria Crane ∞ \*\*  
Hannah Marie Crittenden ∞ † \*\*  
Elena Daigneau ∞ \*\*  
Elizabeth Dennis ∞ \*\*  
Phoebe Federow  
Cheyenne C. Felician ∞ \*\*  
Stephen Formanowicz \*  
Emily Frey † \*\*  
Taylor Rose Giacopelli ∞  
Rachel Goode \*  
Madison Gregorius \*  
Lindsey C. Grochowski \*  
Miranda Jobson \*  
Ciana Kaplan ∞ \*\*  
Sue Kim \*  
Cassandra LeRoy \*\*  
Kevin Liang \*  
Lanxin Lin ∞ \*\*  
Grace Link ∞ † \*\*  
Alyssa Lobb  
Erik Mulcahy \*  
Madison Perrault ∞ \*\*  
Trinity Ruckdaschel ∞ † \*\*  
Jenna Michelle Wackowski ∞ † \*\*  
Isabella Sabatini  
Jessica Scheibel ∞ \*  
Steavie Smeriglio \*  
Allison Nicole Stockwell ∞ \*  
Rachel Vaknine \*  
Joseph Vasi  
Josaphine Gabrino  
Villanueva ∞ † \*\*\*  
Samantha White ∞ † \*\*\*

# Master's Degrees—MPH, BS/MPH

## Master of Public Health

### Department of Biostatistics

#### February 2024

Vijaya Krishnan Muthaiah

### Department of Community Health and Health Behavior

#### August 2023

Dina Al Hashimi  
Briana Gadley-Aaron  
Behzad Kowsari  
Hillary Wu

#### February 2024

Naike Belizaire θ  
Anuoluwa Famotibe  
Austin Glick  
Juliana Goldsmith  
Lanamarie Huynh  
Meghan McCole  
Maryam Sakhaei Manesh  
Ann Jaworski Skonecki  
Sanja Stanar  
Lauren Elizabeth Williams

#### June 2024

Elizabeth Kay Altman  
Evodie Amina θ  
Jordan M. Anthony Δ  
Briyanna Baron  
Ifeoluwaniyo Deborah Dada  
Hugh Dunn III Δ θ  
Divya Suresh Duraisamy  
Trisha Etienne Montesino θ  
Zara Farooq  
Amanda Elizabeth Fries θ  
Naomi Thi Song Freudenheim Frisch  
Catherine Hays  
Leanna Kalinowski Δ θ  
Rosmery N. Landaverde Deras  
Allyson M. Lenz  
Mikayla Logan  
Leah Marsack  
Angela McNeight

Gina Rose Mersereau  
Asma S. Mohammed  
Kelley Moultry  
Crystal Ngo θ  
Emily Oaks  
Victoria Ortiz  
Lindsey Parker  
Leanne Elyssia Plunkett  
Gabrielle Pluta  
McKenzie Quinn  
Kelly Standage θ  
Ashley Wimble  
Sarah Alexis Verwij-Wood  
Kelsey Voelker

### Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health

#### August 2023

Bolaji Anjorin  
John Podvezko

#### February 2024

Asma Aksa  
Peyton T. Bulera  
Mackenzie Felschow θ  
Richard Saba  
Richard Zwolinski

#### June 2024

Alice Adachi-Bartholomay  
Malaïke Addo  
Kyle Altadonna  
Humphrey Brian Banful  
Hannah-Lee Campbell  
Minseon Chung  
Gage Everts  
Nada Fox  
SaMari Precious Diamond Hall θ  
Gabrielle Hastings  
Sarah Johnson  
Hassan Khalid  
Bethany Leach  
Jacob Leach Δ  
Allison Miller  
Aye Moe  
Toni Naccarella

Jeremy Nguyen Δ  
Orian Baldi Painter  
Aishwarya Palaksha  
Vikranth C. Potluri  
Irma Ramusovic  
Htaboe Rar  
Savanna Rae Salter  
Sakshi Shrivastava  
Gagandip Singh  
Trishana Chandra Singh  
Christopher Streeter  
Wenxin Zhang

## Bachelor of Science in Public Health/Master of Public Health

### Department of Community Health and Health Behavior

#### February 2024

Maisha Rahman \*\*\*

#### June 2024

Natalia Hauk \*\*

### Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health

#### February 2024

Alaina Bailey \*\*

#### June 2024

Miriam Rose Lipson \*  
Alexander Palladino \*  
William Santoro  
Olivia C. Strohmeier \*\*

# Baccalaureate Degrees

## Department of Biostatistics

### Bachelor of Arts in Statistics

#### August 2023

Samanvitha Kaashyap  
Dylan Somra

#### February 2024

Jason Chen  
John McGinn  
Cailey Shum \*\*

#### June 2024

Annika Balk \*\*\*  
Shengming Cheng  
Emilie Davis \*\*  
Thomas Giordano \*  
Samiha Islam \*\*\*  
Sahojar Khan \*\*\*  
Liam Meyers \*\*\*  
Spencer Slote \*  
HoYin Tang  
Ryan Taylor  
Trevor Van Loan  
Steven Wang \*  
Yate Zhang \*\*

## Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

### Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

#### August 2023

Alexa-Briana Batchateu \*  
Isabella Battaglia  
Peter Caputo \*  
Abigail Dragone  
Clayton Dwyer  
Elizabeth Gomez-Roman  
Bruce Hawkins III  
Christopher Irving  
Zhuheng Jin  
Aarman Jivraj  
Martin Lamar II \*  
Giacomo Lo Re  
Nicholas Lukashin  
Adrianna Merlino  
KeyLee Napierala  
Denise Nguyen  
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Omar Velasquez

## Department of Rehabilitation Science

### Bachelor of Science in Occupational Science

#### June 2024

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## Bachelor of Science in Public Health

### August 2023

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## A Message from Jean Wactawski-Wende, Dean, School of Public Health and Health Professions

### Dear graduates:

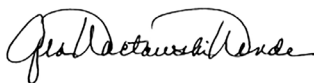
I am very pleased today to watch you, the talented graduates of the School of Public Health and Health Professions, as you cross the stage to recognize your academic achievements and celebrate this important milestone.

The people gathered here to support you—families, friends, partners and fellow students—feel equally proud of your accomplishment. The person you have become is a result of your hard work and the support and belief of these people in your abilities.

This day is the start of what will be a remarkable journey for each of you as you strive to improve health for all people and populations. Indeed, I believe your efforts to address and overcome health inequities will be a meaningful factor in making our communities healthier and stronger.

Please know that everyone in the University at Buffalo and the School of Public Health and Health Professions wishes the best for you as you embark on your future work. Congratulations, and I wish each of you great success!

Warm regards,



Jean Wactawski-Wende, PhD

*Dean and SUNY Distinguished Professor*

## Alumni Letter

### Dear Member of the Class of 2024,

Congratulations! On behalf of the UB Alumni Association, I'm delighted to welcome you to your global network of more than 300,000 alumni. We're proud of all you have accomplished.

As you begin your next chapter, please stay in touch! Your alumni status opens up so many opportunities to stay connected to your alma mater and to fellow alumni.

What does this mean for you in practical terms? It means that career help, through our virtual Connect-a-Bull platform, volunteer opportunities to recruit new students or help current students, and engaging educational and social events are all yours for the taking. To learn more about what's available with your new alumni status, visit [buffalo.edu/alumni](http://buffalo.edu/alumni).

If you have questions about how to stay involved, contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at [ub-alumni@buffalo.edu](mailto:ub-alumni@buffalo.edu).

Remember, this isn't goodbye—it's WELCOME to the UB alumni family. We know you'll always be True Blue and proudly keep your Horns Up, wherever you go and whatever you do.

Go Bulls!



Joseph Stefko, PhD '03, MA '99, BA '97  
President, UB Alumni Association Board of Directors

P.S. Keep your @buffalo email for life simply by logging in through a browser every 90 days.

# UB Alma Mater

*Music by Walter S. Goodale, MD, 1903.  
Lyrics adapted by UB students in 2006  
for contemporary use*

## **Verse 1:**

The pride of our spirit and tradition,  
Our alma mater's truth and name declare.  
Celebrate our history and wisdom,  
O let us all prepare to sing her glory.

## **Refrain:**

To Buffalo all hail to thee,  
Noble and strong it's our university!  
To blue and white pledge loyalty,  
Singing, I will always remember thee!

## **Verse 2:**

We'll ever keep our standards high,  
And sing UB's praises to the sky.  
Receiving the finest education,  
Our knowledge we impart unto the nations.  
*(Repeat refrain)*

## **Verse 3:**

Our friends we've made with ties that bind,  
A union of our spirit, heart, and mind.  
Together we'll continue life's journey,  
O may dear Buffalo forever be.  
*(Repeat refrain)*

## Ceremonial Mace

The ceremonial mace is traditionally carried during the procession by a senior distinguished faculty member as a symbol of authority. The staff is made of dark, polished walnut, topped by three intersecting silver rectangles simulating the emblem of the State University of New York at Buffalo. When not in use for ceremonial purposes, the mace is displayed to visitors in the office of the dean. The mace was designed and constructed by Irwin Franco, jeweler, woodcrafter, and former assistant professor, Department of Occupational Therapy.



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