SPRING 2021 GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT
MAY 10, 2021

YOUR WINGS ALREADY EXIST.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FLY.
TO OUR GRADUATES

The day you have anticipated for so long has arrived – a day you dreamed of, planned for and worked toward. You have earned this day of honor and celebration, especially after a turbulent period none of us expected.

With all you have learned to prepare you for your career, you have also mastered lessons in living through challenge and sacrifice. Even from a distance, you were there for those who needed to lean on your strength. And family, friends and faculty were strong for you, encouraging you with grace and goodwill.

You have inspired more pride and earned more respect than you realize. The 2021 Graduating Class would have been memorable even without the challenges created by the world-wide pandemic.

We look forward to seeing you continue to thrive professionally and personally. We have witnessed the “proof of principle” in your accomplishments and contributions. Go Eagles!

P. Barry Butler, Ph.D.
President

Lon D. Moeller, J.D.
Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost
Dear Graduate,

Congratulations. The faculty and staff of Embry-Riddle join you, your family and your friends in celebrating your graduation. You worked hard to realize this dream and we applaud the achievements, great and small, that this day represents.

We hope you leave us with confidence that you are prepared to pursue a life of purpose and contribution. In earning your degree, you have already made impressive progress toward a future of accomplishment and fulfillment.

On behalf of your professors, mentors and those who supported you along the way, I thank you for the opportunity to help you discover and develop your talents. Your passion and persistence inspired us. We have the satisfaction of knowing that we will soon recognize you not just as alumni but as leaders in aviation and aerospace. In you, our reputation remains in very good hands.

Embry-Riddle will always honor you as a Forever Eagle. We wish you every success, personally and professionally.

Fly high,

P. Barry Butler, Ph.D.
President
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Ahmed Abdelghany, Ph.D.
Professor of Operations Management
Associate Dean for Research

Dr. Ahmed Abdelghany is a professor of operations management and associate dean for research in the David O'Maley College of Business, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach Campus. He has been with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University since January 2006. Prior to his academic career, Dr. Abdelghany worked within the information services division of United Airlines, Chicago. Dr. Abdelghany has a doctorate degree from the University of Texas at Austin in Civil Engineering, Transportation Systems (2001).


Dr. Abdelghany participates in several research and consulting projects on commercial airlines, Next Generation Air Transportation Systems (NextGen) and simulation of complex transportation systems in the U.S. and overseas.
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<td><strong>Marisa D. Aguiar</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stephen Peter Cronin</strong></td>
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<td>Dissertation Title: Development of a Safety Performance Decision-Making Tool for Flight Training Organizations</td>
<td>Dissertation Title: Thruster Communication for Subsurface Environments; Turning Waste Noise into Useful Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dissertation Committee Chair: Carolina Anderson, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Dissertation Committee Chair: Brian Butka, Ph.D.</td>
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<td><strong>David A. Carroll</strong></td>
<td><strong>Shuteng Niu</strong></td>
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<td>Dissertation Committee Chair: Dothang Truong, Ph.D.</td>
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<td><strong>David Thirtyacre</strong></td>
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<td>Dissertation Title: Materials Characterization of Composite Laminates by Non-Destructive Techniques</td>
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<td>Dissertation Committee Chair: David Cross, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Dissertation Committee Chair: Fady F. Barsoum, Ph.D.</td>
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While we can’t all be together, we can still be social. Stay connected through our social media channels.

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Nilesh Balkrishna Sawant
### STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

The Student Government Association (SGA) strives to enhance the excellence of student life by providing quality service and promoting the general welfare of the student body. The SGA identifies student concerns and ensures active representation of these interests on the Board of Trustees and within the University. SGA is divided into three branches — the SGA Executive Branch, the SGA Legislative Branch, and the SGA Judicial Branch and three divisions — WIKD 102.5 FM, Touch-N-Go Productions, and the Avion Newspaper.

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  - Student Court Chief Justice
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  - Managing Editor, Avion
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  - Podcast Administrator, The WIKD 102.5 FM
- **Chirag Mehrotra**
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  - Senator, College of Aviation
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  - Student Court Associate Justice
- **Shannon O’Connor**
  - Program Director, The WIKD 102.5 FM
- **Kent Stephen Picklesimer**
  - Promotions Coordinator, The WIKD 102.5 FM

### DELTA MU DELTA

Delta Mu Delta is a national honor society that recognizes the achievements of both undergraduate and graduate students in the business administration program.

- **John Robert Brooks**
- **Rodrigo Henrique Perri Falarini**

### KAPPA MU EPSILON

Kappa Mu Epsilon is a specialized honor society in Mathematics. The chapters’ members are selected from students of mathematics and other closely related fields who have maintained standards of scholarship, have professional merit and have attained academic distinction.

- **Wanjiku Chebet Kanjumba**

###OMICRON DELTA KAPPA

Omicron Delta Kappa is a 100-year-old national leadership honor society that has initiated more than 300,000 members since its founding. The Society recognizes not only academic achievement but also campus leadership across the five phases of campus life: Scholarship; Athletics; Campus or Community Service, Social or Religious Activities, and Campus Government; Journalism, Speech and the Mass Media; and Creative and Performing Arts.

- **Wanjiku Chebet Kanjumba**

### PHI BETA DELTA

Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars was established as an organization in 1987 with 38 chartered chapters. It is the first national honor society dedicated to recognizing scholarly achievement in international education. The goals of Phi Beta Delta are to recognize the scholarly achievement of international students and scholars, who have studied abroad and faculty and staff who are involved in international activities; to serve as a vehicle for the development of academic-based international programming; to provide a network on each campus of faculty, staff, and students involved in international endeavors; and, to extend this network to thousands of members in chapters throughout the world.

- **Alizeh Jafri**
- **Wanjiku Chebet Kanjumba**

### PSI CHI

Psichi, the National Honor Society in Psychology, promotes excellence in scholarship and advancement of the service of psychology.

- **Jessica T. James**
- **Shivani J. Patel**
- **Diana Perera**

### SIGMA GAMMA TAU

Sigma Gamma Tau, the national honor society for aerospace engineering, recognizes outstanding academic achievement through its membership.

- **Ken Shishino**
- **Wanjiku Chebet Kanjumba**

### TAU BETA PI

Tau Beta Pi is the only engineering honor society representing the entire engineering profession. Tau Beta Pi promotes integrity and excellence in engineering and recognizes those who have conferred honor on their university by distinguished scholarship and exemplary character as engineering students or by their attainments as engineering alumni.

- **Julian Jesse**
- **Wanjiku Chebet Kanjumba**
- **Alora Mary Mazarakis**
- **Anish Prasad**
- **Erika Jade Shellenberger**
- **Ken Shishino**
The attire worn by the graduates, faculty, and officers of the university for Commencement exercises has historic roots in the distant medieval past. Dressed in cap and gown, graduates and professors form part of a long tradition, which dates back to Paris, Bologna, Oxford and Cambridge.

The precise origins of the several parts of the academic garb are not easy to discover. However, since medieval students enjoyed the status of clerics during their university years, one may assume that their attire found its inspiration in the clerical dress of medieval times. The gown seems to be an adaptation of the robe of the friar or priest; the hood resembles the monk’s or friar’s coif; and the mortarboard cap may have evolved from the skulksaps that were needed to protect against the drafts of medieval classrooms.

Academic attire began to appear on campuses in the United States in the late 1890s. Since that time, its use has become universal for University functions, and its pattern is highly uniform.

THE GOWN

The bachelor’s gown is a yoked, closed-front garment, with long, pointed sleeves; the master’s gown has full, bell-shaped sleeves. Only the doctor’s gown is trimmed — with velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on each sleeve. Black is also proper for the color of the gown; however, some universities have adopted distinctive colors for these gowns, and the wearer has the option of wearing his/her school color or black.

Though black velvet is proper trimming for all doctor gowns, the color of the panels and sleeve bars is often varied, in order to indicate the faculty that granted the wearer’s degree:

- Dark Blue for Philosophy
- Light Blue for Education
- White for Arts and Letters
- Gold-Yellow for Science
- Orange for Engineering
- Purple for Law
- Brown for Management

THE HOOD

The hood at first seems to have been worn over the head and was attached to the gown. When the skullcap was introduced, the hood was retained but detached and worn much as it is today. Each degree (bachelor, master, doctor) has a special hood, which varies in length. The doctor’s also varies in pattern.

The color or colors with which the hood is lined are those of the college or university, which granted the wearer’s degree — for example, Emory-Riddle Aeronautical University, is known by the gold chevron on the field of royal blue. The colored velvet binding or edging of the hood, in different widths for the bachelor, master, and doctor, is the key to the faculty granting the degree. The colors follows the same scheme indicated above for the panels of the doctor’s gown.

The particular field of graduate study is indicated by the color of the satin binding:

- Gold for Human Factors and Systems
- Lemon for Engineering Physics
- Silver for Aeronautics
- Drab Brown for Business Administration, Business Administration in Aviation Management, Aviation Finance, and Project Management

THE CAP

The mortarboard has become the universally accepted style in colleges and universities of the United States. Many European institutions still retain distinctive forms of academic headdress.

The doctor, following graduation, has the right to wear a gold tassel on the mortarboard; black, however, is perfectly proper. The practice of varying the color of the tassel on the others has gained acceptance:

- White for Arts
- Gold-Yellow for Science
- Dark Blue for Philosophy
- Light Blue for Education
- Drab Brown for Commerce
- Red for Technology
- Purple for Law
- Orange for Engineering

NOTES ON ACADEMIC REGALIA

- Orange for Engineering
- Red for Technology
- Drab Brown for Education
- Light Blue for Arts and Letters
- Dark Blue for Philosophy
- Gold-Yellow for Science
- White for Arts and Letters
- Brown for Management

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- Greg Cagle: Director, Honor Program
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- Col. Jason Patla, Ph.D.: Director, Undergraduate Advising
- Col. Jason Patla, Ph.D.: Director, Undergraduate Research
- Col. Jason Patla, Ph.D.: Executive Director, Gaetz Aerospace Institute

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Shafagh Jafeer
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All Yellagh Tamjani
Yi Zhao
Congratulations, Graduates!

On behalf of the Office of Alumni Engagement, we welcome you to the Embry-Riddle alumni family. This day of celebration is all about you and your accomplishments. You are now among more than 140,000 fellow alumni located around the globe, forever united through your shared passion and experiences at Embry-Riddle.

We know that you will soar to new heights as leaders in your industries, careers, communities and countries. As you progress in your careers, we will provide you with services and programs to enhance your alumni experience and support your professional development.

Please wear your Embry-Riddle pin with pride, as it is a symbol of your alma mater. We encourage you to stay connected by updating your profile at alumni-erau.edu and sharing your achievements. The information you share may be highlighted in eagleNEWS, our monthly alumni newsletter, or Lift, our alumni magazine.

When you have the opportunity, visit any of your campuses; attend alumni networking events and homecomings; and always help your fellow Eagles when they need employment, mentorship, guidance and support.

Congratulations and remember, you are Forever an Eagle!

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Office of Alumni Engagement
alumni-erau.edu | alumni@erau.edu | +1 386.226.6919

ALMA MATER

Verse 1:
Eagles gather near, we lift our voices loud and clear
Soaring high, oh Alma Mater,
Threads of blue and gold
United we soar, in vast open skies
Embry-Riddle, we hail thee, great memories we'll hold.

Verse 2:
Singing thy praise, remembering the days
Coast to coast, around the world, our bond forever true
Embracing our dreams, with pride far and wide
Embry-Riddle, we hail thee, great memories we'll hold.

Refrain:
So here's to you old ERAU
Alma Mater true,
We pledge in love and harmony
Our loyalty to you.
FOREVER AN EAGLE