

# ONTARIO TECH UNIVERSITY

SPRING CONVOCATION 2024



FACULTY OF SCIENCE



# CONVOCATION CEREMONY

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

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Ontario Tech University, Oshawa, Ontario  
Thursday, June 6, 2024





**CONGRATULATIONS  
GRADUATES!**





TODAY WE CELEBRATE  
OUR STUDENTS—THEIR  
SUCCESS AT ONTARIO  
TECH, AS WELL AS THE  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
THEY WILL ACHIEVE IN  
THE FUTURE.

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**We can all take great pride in this moment.**

After all, each of us—family and friends, professors, academic advisors, members of the board—have helped to ensure the academic success of our students. We're proud of our students and we know they're well-equipped to meet the challenges of today and the future.

Following the ceremony, please join us for a reception located at Shawenjigewining Hall.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Congratulations Class of 2024!

After years of hard work and dedication, you have reached this proud moment in your lives. It brings me great joy to see you on this special day, surrounded by your classmates, family and friends who have supported you throughout your journey.



**...YOUR UNIVERSITY FAMILY WILL CONTINUE TO BE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU IN THE YEARS AHEAD AS YOU ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS.**

During your time at Ontario Tech, you've acquired knowledge and honed skills that have prepared you to make a meaningful impact in your chosen field. The degree you receive today symbolizes your academic achievement, as well as your adaptability and readiness to face challenges in a world of rapid technological change.

This academic year, we commemorated a significant milestone in our university's history: acknowledging the first 20 years of our dedication to excellence in education, research, and community engagement. We've got a great story to tell, and I am honoured that you've been an integral part of it.

As you venture forth with new challenges, I encourage you to stay true to your purpose and continue to strive for excellence. An exciting future filled with limitless possibilities awaits, and your university family looks forward to continuing to support you.

On behalf of the Ontario Tech community, I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes as you enter this next phase.

Sincerely,  
Mitch Frazer  
Chancellor

## 2023-2024 Members of the Board of Governors

Mitch Frazer, Chancellor

Laura Elliott, Chair

Maria Saros, Vice-Chair

Lynne Zucker, Vice-Chair

Steven Murphy, President and Vice-Chancellor

Eric Agius

Ahmad Barari

Carla Carmichael

Frank Carnevale

Matthew Mackenzie

Dale MacMillan

Lisa McBride

Michael Rencheck

Hannah Scott

Gaurav Singh

Kim Slade

Dwight Thompson

Michael Watterworth

Emily Whetung



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

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Class of 2024, today we celebrate the culmination of your years of dedication, perseverance, and hard work. As you stand on the threshold of a new beginning, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to each one of you.



**WE ARE HONOURED TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU AS YOU JOIN OUR ONTARIO TECH ALUMNI COMMUNITY...**

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Your journey at Ontario Tech University has been marked by moments of triumph, growth, and discovery. You have acquired knowledge and skills, and formed lifelong friendships and memories. Remember that the experiences and lessons learned here will serve as your compass, guiding you through the challenges and successes that lie ahead.

As members of the Ontario Tech alumni community, you hold degrees that represent the values of innovation, integrity and social responsibility that define our university. Whether you choose to pursue further studies, embark on a professional career, or engage in meaningful volunteer work, I have every confidence you will continue to make us proud.

On behalf of the Ontario Tech community, congratulations on reaching this significant milestone in your academic journey. May you continue to soar to new heights and be recognized as the change-makers you are.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Steven Murphy  
President and Vice-Chancellor







## MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

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As we gather on your special graduation day to celebrate your remarkable achievements, I'm filled with immense pride for each of you. Together with our faculty and staff, I extend my heartfelt congratulations.

Dedication, vision and tenacity have marked your journey up to this moment. From the countless hours studying and spent in classrooms and labs, to the collaborative efforts you've put into your innovative projects and research, your commitment to your studies has been truly inspiring. You've also contributed to the vibrant and inclusive spirit of our campus community. Be assured that all aspects of your university experience will set you apart and serve you well throughout your career.

In this next chapter of your lives as Ontario Tech alumni, remember you will always be a Ridgeback! We'd love for you to keep in touch with us. Your wins, big or small, are inspiring for future students. Always remember that we'll be here to support you whenever needed.

Congratulations once again on reaching this milestone. Best wishes for a bright and successful future!



**WE ARE HONOURED TO STAND ALONGSIDE  
YOU ON THIS JOYOUS OCCASION AND  
REFLECT ON YOUR DEDICATION, VISION  
AND TENACITY...**

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Sincerely,  
Dr. Lori A. Livingston  
Provost and Vice-President, Academic





## OUR MOTTO

# COGITANDO ET AGENDO DUCEMUS

By thinking and doing,  
we shall lead.

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## ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

**Processional**

**Indigenous Honour Song**

**National Anthem**

**Opening of Convocation**

Dr. Lori A. Livingston,  
Provost and Vice-President, Academic

**Chancellor's Address**

Mr. Mitch Frazer, Chancellor

**President's Address**

Dr. Steven Murphy, President and  
Vice-Chancellor

**Conferral of Degrees**

Mr. Mitch Frazer, Chancellor

**Closing of Convocation**

Dr. Lori A. Livingston,  
Provost and Vice-President, Academic

**Recessional**

**Reception**

## CEREMONY NOTES

As a courtesy, audience members are asked to remain in their seat throughout the convocation ceremony and until the Academic Procession has left the ceremony. The audience should rise, if they are able, for the Processional, the Honour Song, the National Anthem and the Recessional. Please silence electronic devices for the duration of the ceremony. Guests wishing to take photos during the ceremony are asked to do so from their seat. A professional photographer will photograph each graduate and provide a complimentary proof following the ceremony.



View and share the convocation ceremony webcast with friends and family using this QR code.

If you need first-aid assistance, please visit the Campus Emergency Response Team (CERT).

A lost and found station is located at the Campus Recreation and Wellness Centre Registration Desk.









Thursday, June 6, 2024

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY,  
APPLIED BIOSCIENCE**

Ifrodet Georgees

Thesis title: Advancing and expanding siRNA and saRNA therapeutics applications through chemical modifications

Lin Saleem

Thesis title: Effects of dietary fiber components and gut microbiota products on the immune system: a focus on grape pomace as a novel source of fermentable substrates and bioactives

Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award

Sierra Varley

Thesis title: Identification and characterization novel of cystine-loop ligand-gated chloride channels from *Dirofilaria immitis*: pharmacological analysis and novel compound screening

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY,  
COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Ulya Sabeel

Thesis title: DL-based Defense Against Polymorphic Network Attacks

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY,  
MODELLING AND  
COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE**

Nicholas Faulkner

Thesis title: Equivariant Kolmogorov-Arnold-Moser Theory

**MASTER OF SCIENCE,  
APPLIED BIOSCIENCE**

Rhys Darrin Arthur Bartlett

Kaitlyn Emily Horton

Bailey Ann Taylor Kennedy

Almira Khan

Makenzie Carlos Mateus

Jennifer Susan Nichols

Outstanding Master's Thesis Award

Kylee Kendra Marie

Ronnenberg

**MASTER OF SCIENCE,  
COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Melika Abdollahi

Tamilselvan Balasuntharam

Nicholas Evan George

Rabideau Bode

Marco Antonio Martinez Cano

Matthew King Chan

Fatemeh Dehghani

Roya Dehghani

Gabrielle Yolande Nyree

Hollaender

Chirag Yogesh Karia

Ali Hassan Karwani

Adeliz Clair Keith

Bill Ming Ko

Stacey Alison Koornneef

Colin Kevin James Orian

Stevie Cheryl Francesca

Sansalone

Stephen Bruce Saunders

Negin Tabaraki

Carolina Padilla Velasco

**MASTER OF SCIENCE,  
MATERIALS SCIENCE**

Stephen Thomas Winter Kerr

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), APPLIED  
AND INDUSTRIAL  
MATHEMATICS**

Fletcher Denis Ross Albert

Benjamin David Fedoruk ★★

Garrett Cory Navarro

Kawabata ★

Emma Suzanne Monson ★

Joy Saikaly

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), BIOLOGICAL  
SCIENCE**

Omar Afzalzada ★★

Lei Erica Galvan Aguinaldo

Muskaan Ali ★★

Narmeen Ali

Angelina Antony Canicious

Ezzudin Asklany

Mayowa Ewoma Awe ★

Evany Michelle Bernal

Ballesteros ★

Anisa Deepa Bhagwandin

Simran Bhandari

Jalisa Netanya Audrey

Caines ★

Chloe Anastasia Cervini

Zaneb Chaudhry ★★

Christina Alexandra

Coroado ★★

Grettel Maria Crompton

Morales

Rachel Monique De Leon

Iturralde

Taylor Anne Dilnot ★

Madison Brooke Dow

Paula Oluchi Obianuju Duru ★

Asala Osama Elabed

Ahmed Samir Ali Elmeki

Basman Waseem Galo ★

Abdullah Hatiya

Harris Hussain ★★

Noor Hussein

Trisha Johnson Irimpan

Aqsa Jamal

Komalpreet Kaur Jeor ★★

Anumol Joshy

Angela Karimzad ★

Muhammad Osama Khalid

Ayra Nadeem Khan ★

Aysha Azrin Khan

Vibin Magesh ★★

Shayaan Riaz Malik ★

Tyler John Agnel Mamo ★★

Brian Richard Maynard

Sydney Lee McCann

Ajay Deepak Nakhwa ★

Abdul Rahman Niazi

Rilwan Mohamed Nilamudeen

Alyssa Pamplona ★★

Mya Elsa Parr

Aisha Pasha

Adit Patel

Maneesha Aushanie Petta

Yaddehige ★

Kaitlin Joy Prodanovic-Wilcox

Sai Shraddha Rajalingam ★

Roshini Trishni Rampersaud

Pallavi Rastogi

Christine Saleeb ★★

Shabana Salim

Angel Samuel ★★

Sharan Saravanan ★★

Felicia Christine Saunders-

Wallace



Puneet Kaur Sooch  
Kimberly Sudharsan  
Haya Tariq ★  
Gowshicka Thavaruban  
Sujhanan Theivendram  
Mitchell John Theriault

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), BIOLOGICAL  
SCIENCE, CO-OPERATIVE  
EDUCATION**

Brooklyn Elora O'Blenes  
Drashti Indravadan Patel  
Nicholas John Randall Scott  
Vaishnav  
Sriskantharajah ★★

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), CHEMISTRY**

Massimo Luca  
Giammarco ★★  
Kim Thao Huynh  
Kuganesh Ketheesh  
Mariatou Tolo ★

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), CHEMISTRY,  
CO-OPERATIVE  
EDUCATION**

Mathew Sebastian Anthony  
Monaco

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), COMPUTER  
SCIENCE**

Chizurum Shalom Chiemela  
Agomoh  
Japnit Kaur Ahuja ★★  
Governor General's  
Silver Medal  
Faculty Medal  
Aqib Alam  
Mathieu Alexander Alvarez-  
Grekoff ★★  
Nathaniel Bruce Armogan  
Jonah Deodaat Baayen ★★  
Saawi Baloch  
Trung Tin Bien  
Rowan James Birnbaum

Gavin Derek Bosman ★  
Ji Long Alden Chan  
Douglas William Conley ★★  
Evan Hammond Curtis  
Ryan Evan De Sousa  
Dayne Joseph Dellaire  
Michael Joseph DeMelo  
David Alexander Dickson  
Eric Savio D'Souza  
Riley Robert Barry Dunn  
Utsav Dwivedi  
Fahad Fauzan  
Hubert Giang  
Giancarlo Michael Giannetti  
Bridget Diana Carlton Green  
Aparna Hariharan  
Jonathan Andrew Hermans  
Keethen Jayarajan  
Vithusan Jeevaratnam  
Scott William Jenkins  
Christopher William Johnson  
Samuel Hilliard Martens  
Jones ★★  
Vishwaajeeth  
Kamalakkannan ★★  
Ajaane Kanagasabai ★  
Ginthusan Kandasamy  
Dimitrios Kesikiadis  
Tiseagan Ketharasingam  
Ajmain Khan  
Meghna Krishnan  
Christopher Michael Lammers  
Kevin Charles Ng Lau ★  
Jia Yang Lin  
Zong Yuan Ling  
Kaine Jeffrey Makimoto ★  
Abdulwasay Mansoor  
Cameron Ryan Millar  
Umairuddin Mohammed  
Kishore Muralitharan ★  
Supriya Mutharasan ★  
Owais Abdussami Najmi  
Aanisha Newaz

Chioma Okechukwu ★★  
Ebubechukwu Samuel Okeke  
Tanvir Pahwa  
Nicholas Tyler Panait ★★  
Bhargav Nareshbhai Parekh  
Daniel Park ★★  
Jessica Patel ★★  
Mansi Patel ★  
Vrund Patel ★  
Zhi Quan Peng ★  
Alessandro Makoto  
Prativiera ★  
Jesse Prebble  
Lirusan Rajkumar  
Olivia Sabrina Ramos ★  
Anthony Carl Reina  
Curtis Arthur Reynolds ★  
Adyan Reza  
Tristan Ro ★★  
Dane Cathlyn Silva Rosedo  
Eduardo Alejandro San Martin  
Celi  
Jayson Sandhu  
Chaudhry Abdullah Inzamam  
Sarwar  
Baron Konstantin Schitka  
Adam Michael Scott  
Sailesh Sharma  
Amanda Megan Showler ★★  
Lucas Silva Rocha  
Eihab Ali Syed ★★  
Nathaniel Aaron Tai  
Aurie Ryn Wei Yin Tan  
Ricky Tham  
Zi Ling Tian  
Khuong Vinh Khang Tran  
Kenneth Kwan-Chak Tse ★  
Jack Andrew Udeschini  
Calvin Julius Mark Varga  
Jian Bin Wang  
Syed Mekael Wasti ★★  
Zachary Richard Hunter  
Windover  
Matthew Ian Witvoet

Jaelen Nathaniel Wright  
Gerhard Matthew Go Yu

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), COMPUTER  
SCIENCE, CO-OPERATIVE  
EDUCATION**

Mariya Anashkina ★  
Jake Justin Andrews ★  
Noshen Nooren Atashe ★  
Samuel Christophe Joseph  
Bazinet ★★  
Moksh Shaunak Bhavsar ★★  
Jack Bayntun Bowman ★  
Michael Francis Cultrera ★  
Ammar Hatiya ★  
Crawford Ka-Sun Tristan  
Heidinger ★  
Luke Jackson  
Justin Johannes  
Katerberg ★★  
Alexie Angie Linardatos  
Luca Francesco Lotito ★★  
Marco Ho Kong Ma  
Cody Willard Malcolm ★★  
Matthew Pak Hay Mui  
Devel Rajeshbhai Panchal ★  
Samuel Alexander Shard ★★  
Matthew Ildefonso Sharp ★★  
Soman Elahi Sheikh  
Ronald Sin  
Brendan Kwan Szeto  
Soumia Umaputhiran ★★  
Alper Tuna Unsal  
Saenthuran Vignarajah  
David Emmanuel Watt ★  
Ting Jian Wu ★  
Taylor Young ★★  
Joshua Zak ★★

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), FORENSIC  
SCIENCE**

Hanin Fadi Aoudi  
Alexa-Maude Beaudin ★  
Isha Bhatia

Samantha Couto Cordeiro  
Matthew Aloysius Foat  
Brandon Michael Giotis ★  
Bethany Ann Heslinga ★★  
Keegan Gary Hirst  
Keegan David Benjamin  
Howden  
Mohd Hamza Nawaz Khan  
Kanika Anil Kumar  
Madeline Claire Lamont  
Isaac Leydl  
Liam Connor Murphy  
Brasane Neelavannan  
Amanda Phan  
Kyra-Mei Pratt ★  
Natalia Annik Robinson ★  
Sajanth Thavarajah  
Francis Turano  
Meaghan Westerik ★★

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), INTEGRATIVE  
NEUROSCIENCE**

Marwa Ahmad Alkhalaf ★  
Kylie Annabeth Carr ★  
Kirushanthini Mayaranjan  
Tulasi Janakkumar Patel ★★  
Carl Matthew Wolter

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
(HONOURS), PHYSICS**

Adam John Callanan ★  
Mohammed Muddassir ★★  
Rahim Nusrat ★  
Lawrence Joseph Ruse  
Adil Riyaz Shivji  
Addison Tyler Tung









## FACULTY MEDALS

Faculty medals are awarded annually by each faculty to the student graduating from an undergraduate program who has achieved the highest cumulative GPA in the courses required for their degree, as approved by the dean of the faculty.

### **FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Alexander Maxwell Keith

Bachelor of Information Technology (Honours),  
Networking and Information Technology Security

### **MITCH AND LESLIE FRAZER FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

Nicole Marie Grozdanis

Bachelor of Education

### **FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE**

Daanyaal Khan Tahir

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours),  
Software Engineering, Co-operative Education

### **FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

Ayodeji John Oluwaseun Olukoya

Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours),  
Medical Laboratory Science

### **FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

Japnit Kaur Ahuja

Bachelor of Science (Honours),  
Computer Science

### **FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES**

Ramesah Mahmood Syed

Bachelor of Arts (Honours),  
Psychology

## DISTINCTIONS

### **With Highest Distinction:**

Undergraduate students who have achieved a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.8 or higher for the courses required for their degree.

**With Distinction:** Undergraduate students who have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.5 to 3.79 for the courses required for their degree.

## OUTSTANDING THESIS AWARDS

Outstanding Thesis Awards recognize a student graduating from a thesis-based master's program and a student from a thesis-based doctoral program whose thesis has made, or is expected to make, a significant contribution to their field of study.

### **2024 OUTSTANDING MASTER'S THESIS AWARD RECIPIENT**

Jennifer Susan Nichols

Thesis Title: The identification of novel cys-loop receptor genes in *Dirofilaria immitis*

Master of Science in Applied Bioscience

### **2024 OUTSTANDING DOCTORAL THESIS AWARD RECIPIENT**

Lin Saleem

Thesis Title: Effects of dietary fiber components and gut microbiota products on the immune system: a focus on grape pomace as a novel source of fermentable substrates and bioactives

Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Bioscience



# GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ACADEMIC MEDALS

The Governor General's Academic Medal was first awarded in 1873 by the Earl of Dufferin, and has since become one of the most prestigious awards a student in a Canadian educational institution can receive. The Governor General of Canada continues the tradition of encouraging scholarship across the nation and recognizing outstanding students.

## Gold Medal

The Gold Medal is awarded annually to the student graduating from a graduate-level program who has achieved the highest cumulative grade point average (GPA) in the courses required for the degree, as approved by the Admissions and Scholarship Committee.

## 2024 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENT

**Ahmed Sheir**

Doctor of Philosophy,  
Electrical and Computer Engineering

## Silver Medal

The Silver Medal is awarded annually to the student graduating from an undergraduate program who has achieved the highest cumulative grade point average (GPA) in the courses required for the degree as approved by the Admissions and Scholarship Committee.

## 2024 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SILVER MEDAL RECIPIENT

**Japnit Kaur Ahuja**

Bachelor of Science (Honours),  
Computer Science

# AWARDS FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The university recognizes instructors who have demonstrated excellence in teaching. These awards distinguish those who have significantly enhanced the quality of learning for students through innovation and commitment, by fostering new instructional practices and learning activities, and through engagement in the scholarship of teaching and learning.

## TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

**Thomas McMorrow, PhD**

Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

## EARLY CAREER TEACHING AWARD

**Emilia King, PhD**

Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

## LEARNING RE-IMAGINED AWARD

**Brenda Jacobs, PhD**

Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

## OPENNESS IN EDUCATION AWARD

**Ana Duff, PhD**

Faculty of Business and Information Technology

## TEACHING ASSISTANT EXCELLENCE AWARD

**Hailey Tabbert,**

Faculty of Health Sciences

## TIM MCTIERNAN STUDENT MENTORSHIP AWARD

**Lindsay Malloy, PhD**

Faculty of Social Science and Humanities

## STUDENT CHOICE AWARDS

**Nelson Amaral, PhD**

Faculty of Business and Information Technology

**Atef Mohany, PhD**

Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science

**Brenda Jacobs, PhD**

Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education

**Syed Qadri, MD, PhD**

Faculty of Health Sciences

**Rupinder Brar, PhD**

Faculty of Science

**Logan Ewanation, PhD**

Faculty of Social Science and Humanities



# ABOUT ONTARIO TECH UNIVERSITY: CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Modern and forward-thinking, Ontario Tech University advances the discovery and application of knowledge to accelerate economic growth, regional development and social innovation. Since first opening our doors on September 4, 2003 to a class of 947 students, our vibrant campus is now home to more than 11,000 students and 29,000 alumni who are making a positive impact in a tech-focused world.

We believe it's not only about developing the next tech breakthrough. Understanding and integrating the social and ethical implications of technology are our key differentiator.

We adapt to the ever-changing educational landscape by experimenting with the most effective ways to deliver flexible and dynamic learning, giving more choices to more people. We provide learner-centered educational options by offering a range of credentials, experiential learning opportunities and sparking entrepreneurship activities.

Our students enjoy a stimulating campus life experience that includes hundreds of clubs, cultural and community events, recreational opportunities and a growing varsity athletics program featuring basketball, badminton, curling, dance, golf, hockey, rowing, soccer, and women's lacrosse.

In addition to excellence in teaching, we offer our students experiential learning opportunities through internships, co-ops, practicums, research projects and more. In fact, 85 per cent of upper-year undergraduate students participate in experiential learning.

We collaborate with industry, community, government and academic organizations, bringing them together with our researchers and students to uncover innovative solutions for our partners' most pressing problems. Home to more than 80 specialized research laboratories and facilities, we're committed to attracting passionate and capable scholars to our high-tech campus.



*The university is proud to acknowledge the lands and people of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, which is covered by the Williams Treaties. We are situated on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas, a branch of the greater Anishinaabeg Nation, including Algonquin, Ojibway, Odawa and Pottawatomi.*





# THE UNIVERSITY COAT OF ARMS



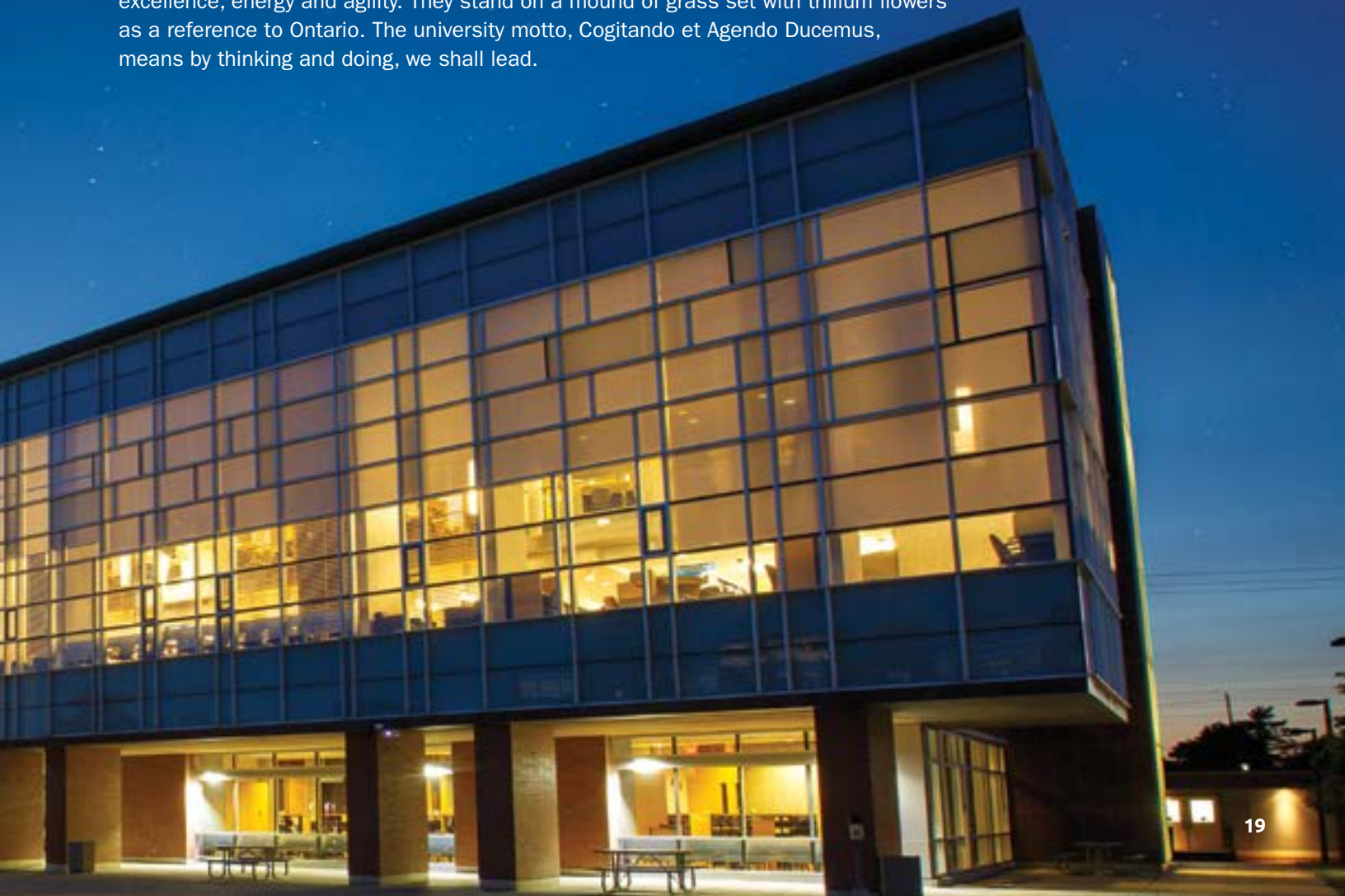
The Coat of Arms was granted to the university on July 15, 2009 by Claire Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada under the authority of the Governor General of Canada. The Coat of Arms offers a graphic representation of important facets of the university, as well as its history, values and achievements.

It highlights the university's ties to the regional, national and worldwide communities from which the university draws its mission and purpose. The university reserves the use of the Coat of Arms for commemorative and ceremonial purposes.

The Coat of Arms consists of a shield, a crest, supporters and a motto. The shield, at the centre of the arms, contains three elements: an open book, a canoe and a division line.

The open book denotes an institute of higher education. The inverted canoe alludes to intellectual exploration and signifies the university's location in Oshawa, which means portage or carrying place. The division line represents energy, innovation and community.

Atop the crest a falcon perches with its head facing forward to see the world as it is and to find ways to make a difference. The falcon, a symbol of leadership and persistence, holds a thunderbolt with flames at the top and bottom. Lightning bolts crossed behind the falcon emphasize the importance of technology. Thoroughbred horses flank the shield to reference Windfields Farm, which was located directly north of the university, and famed for breeding champion racehorses. As an official symbol of Canada, the horses also represent excellence, energy and agility. They stand on a mound of grass set with trillium flowers as a reference to Ontario. The university motto, *Cogitando et Agendo Ducemus*, means by thinking and doing, we shall lead.





## THE UNIVERSITY MACE

The mace symbolizes the authority, independence and responsibility of the university as a protector, creator and facilitator of knowledge. It is carried before the President and Vice-Chancellor, and the Chancellor in the Academic Procession and rests on its stand throughout the ceremony.

The mace was unveiled at Convocation in 2007. Designed and crafted by Beth Alber, Associate Dean, Faculty of Design at OCAD University in Toronto, Ontario, it consists of a strong handle of carved cherry wood, an elegant and hardy tree native to southern Ontario. Rings of polished quartz and sodalite, in the university's colours, top the wood. The handle supports a crown of silver in the form of an abstracted flower bud, which is intended to be a reminder of our unending responsibility to nurture, protect and celebrate academic achievement among students, faculty and staff. The surfaces of the petals are etched with the microscopic imprint of a poplar leaf, as a symbol of hope and endurance. The mace is supported by a base of Belmont Rose granite from a quarry in the Kawartha Lakes region, representing the foundation of knowledge and our interdependence with the surrounding community.



# GONFALONS

The gonfalon, a flag that hangs from a crosspiece or frame, originated in the medieval republics of Italy as an ensign of state or office. Universities from around the world have adopted gonfalons and they use them during Convocation ceremonies to symbolize the different academic areas within the university. The eight gonfalons displayed at the university's Convocation ceremonies represent the university and its seven faculties. Gonfalon carriers march at the head of their faculty during the procession, followed by the students who will graduate from each of the faculties during the ceremony.



University of Ontario Institute of Technology



Mitch and Leslie Frazer Faculty of Education



Faculty of Business and Information Technology



Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science



Faculty of Health Sciences

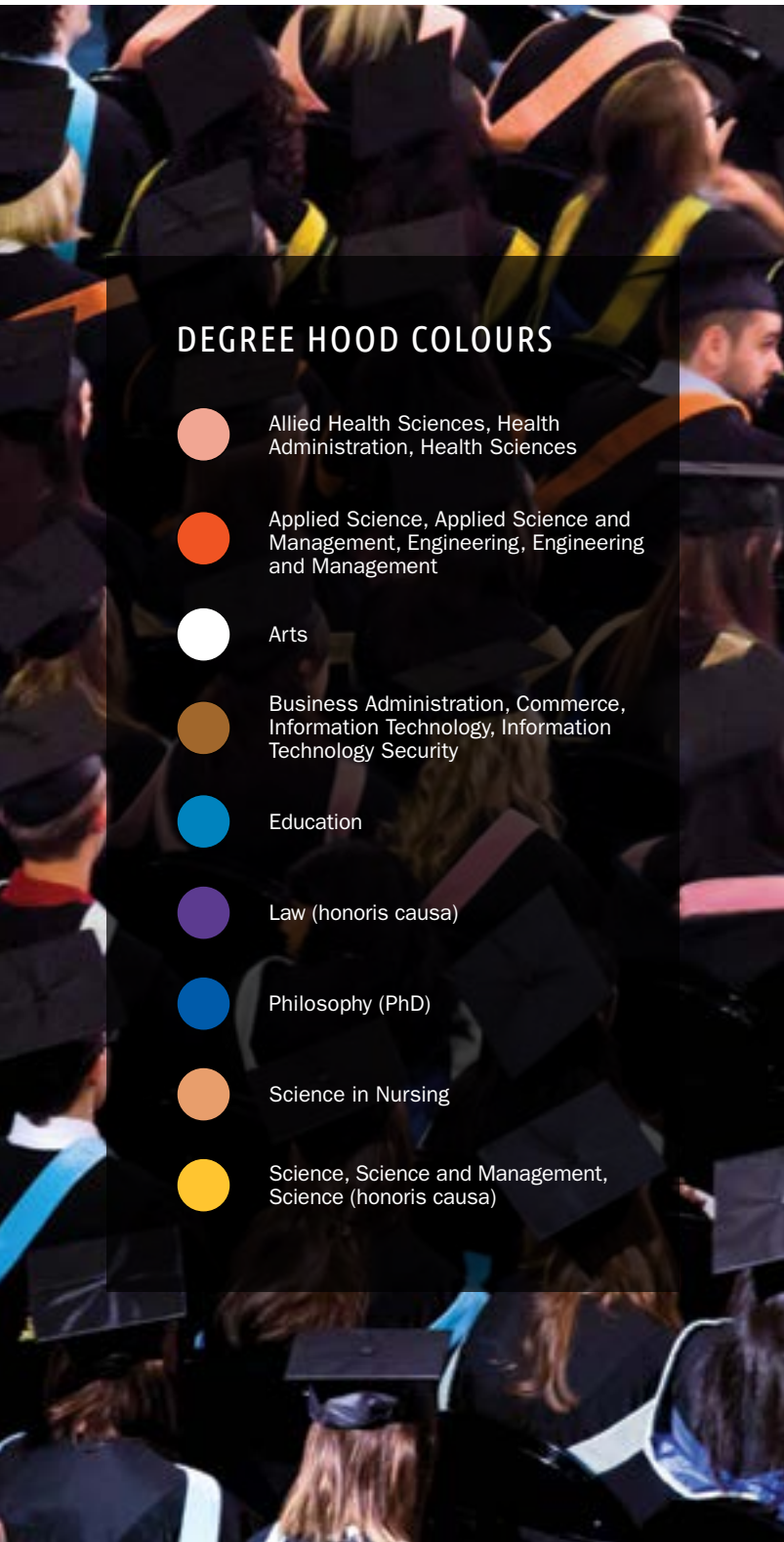


Faculty of Science



Faculty of Social Science and Humanities





## DEGREE HOOD COLOURS

- Allied Health Sciences, Health Administration, Health Sciences
- Applied Science, Applied Science and Management, Engineering, Engineering and Management
- Arts
- Business Administration, Commerce, Information Technology, Information Technology Security
- Education
- Law (honoris causa)
- Philosophy (PhD)
- Science in Nursing
- Science, Science and Management, Science (honoris causa)

## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The colourful academic dress worn in the Convocation ceremony was introduced more than 600 years ago. At the university, all graduates wear a gown, with a cap and hood. The gowns of bachelor's and master's graduates are black. The gowns of doctoral graduates are dark blue and trimmed in light blue. Mortarboards are worn by bachelor's and master's graduates, and velvet bonnets are worn by doctoral graduates. The hoods of bachelor's and master's graduates are black and the hoods of the doctoral graduates are dark blue. All degree hoods have an inside lining of royal blue as the colour of the university. The colour of the velvet trim on the hoods is distinctive of the degree that has been earned by the graduate. Graduate diploma recipients wear a black bachelor's gown.

The Chancellor and President and Vice-Chancellor wear gowns that are distinctive of the positions they hold in the university community. University governors who participate in the Convocation ceremony wear a gown and sash distinctive of the Board of Governors. University officers, faculty and staff who participate in the Convocation ceremony wear the academic dress distinctive of the institution from which they graduated and the degree they received. If the institution's colours are not available, participants will wear a black gown.



# MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Congratulations, class of 2024! You've persevered through lectures, labs, tutorials, and deadlines, and today we celebrate all of your achievements. On behalf of the Alumni Association, welcome to our alumni community! As you embark on this next stage of your lives, we cannot wait to see how you shape the future and become the leaders of tomorrow!

Convocation isn't the end of your relationship with the university; it's only the beginning. We are committed to helping you succeed throughout your life, whether it's through alumni benefits, networking events or career development opportunities. I encourage you to visit our Alumni website ([alumni.ontariotechu.ca](http://alumni.ontariotechu.ca)) and social media channels to learn about everything available to you as an Ontario Tech alumni. From a wide variety of in-person and virtual programs to events and other services, the Alumni Association Council and the Alumni Office are here to help.



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Alumni are the university's greatest ambassadors. You join our network of more than 30,000 graduates across the country and around the world. I hope you will stay connected with our university and your fellow alumni by sharing your experiences and accomplishments, and by participating in alumni events. We are extremely proud of you and cannot wait to hear about everything you accomplish on your next adventure.

Congratulations!



**Kaitlynn Gambier**  
Faculty of Business and  
Information Technology,  
Class of 2013  
Chair,  
Alumni Association Council





For an alternative format of this information, contact [marketing@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:marketing@ontariotechu.ca).

Students included in the program graduated during the Fall and Winter 2024 academic terms. Approved as of May 8, 2024

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