

Brigham Young University

Thursday, April 25, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Marriott Center

Brigham Young University Board of Trustees

President Russell M. Nelson
President Dallin H. Oaks
President Henry B. Eyring
Elder D. Todd Christofferson
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Sister Emily Belle Freeman
Brother Steven J. Lund

Order of the Academic Procession

President
Board of Trustees
Administrative Officers
Official Guests

Commencement Committee

Kris Nelson, Chair
Barry Allred, Cochair
Kevin Wilson, Cochair
Kris Boyle
Jason Brown
Miriam Burton
Rich Christianson
Vika Filimoeatu
Julie Hatchett
Dani Higham
Scott Kavanaugh
Jane Lassetter
Ray Lines
Melinda Maughan
Casey Peterson
Wade Raab
Dallin Rahlf
Joshua Richey
Karen Seely
Aaron Sorenson
Denise Stanton
Coral Taylor
Debbie Tehrani

Significance of the Academic Costume

The significance of the academic costume is determined especially by the sleeves and hoods.

Doctors wear the round bell sleeve; the gown is faced down the front and barred on the sleeves with black velvet or color indicating the degree; the doctor's hood is large. The doctor may choose to wear the gold tassel on the cap.

Masters wear the long, closed sleeve, with a slit near the upper part of the arm; the master's hood is of more moderate size.

Bachelors wear the long or pointed sleeve. The color of the tassel indicates whether the degree is in the field of arts (white), fine arts (brown), music (pink), or science (golden yellow).



Program

Presiding	Elder D. Todd Christofferson Quorum of the Twelve Apostles The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Conducting	C. Shane Reese, President Brigham Young University
Prelude	R. Don Cook, Carillon Neil A. Harmon, Organ BYU Chamber Orchestra
Academic Procession	Color Guard, Presiding Authority, President, Board of Trustees, Administrative Officers, Official Guests, Faculty, and Graduates—from the Smoot Administration Building to the Marriott Center
Presentation of Colors	Air Force and Army ROTC
Welcome	President C. Shane Reese
Invocation	Claire Elizabeth Johnson
President's Greeting	President C. Shane Reese
Conferring of Degrees	President C. Shane Reese and Academic Vice President Justin M. Collings
Induction into the Alumni Association	Hillary Nielsen President, BYU Alumni Association
Expression from Graduate	Macy Rebecca West
Conferring of Honorary Degree	President C. Shane Reese
Remarks	Prof. Dr. Vishwanath D. Karad
Musical Selection "A Child's Prayer" By Janice Kapp Perry Arr. Nathan Hofheins	BYU Chamber Orchestra Nathan Haines, Director
Commencement Address	Elder Gerrit W. Gong
Benediction	Matthew Houh-Yihn Ng
Recessional	Neil A. Harmon, Organ
Postlude	Levi Kelley, Carillon

Commencement Speaker

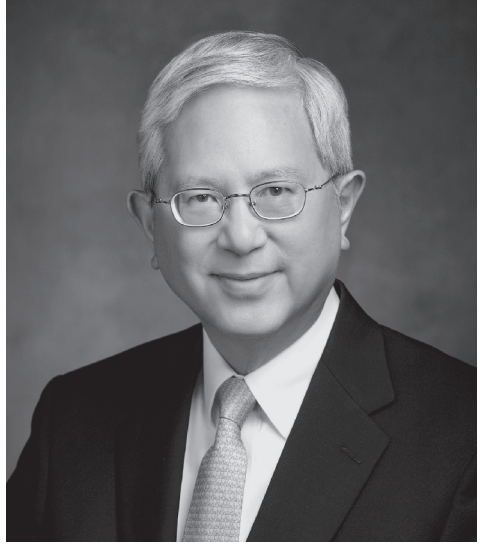
Elder Gerrit W. Gong

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Elder Gerrit W. Gong served as a General Authority Seventy from April 2010 until the time of his call to the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles in 2018. He was named a member of the Presidency of the Seventy in October 2015. From 2011 to 2015, Elder Gong was a member of the Asia Area presidency, headquartered in Hong Kong. He concluded that service as the area president.

In 1985 he served as special assistant to the undersecretary of state at the U.S. State Department and in 1987 as special assistant to the U.S. ambassador in Beijing, China. Beginning in 1989 he served in several positions at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC. He was then assistant to the president for planning and assessment at Brigham Young University until April 2010.

Elder Gong received a bachelor of arts degree in Asian and university studies from Brigham Young



University. He received a master of philosophy degree and a doctorate in international relations from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

He has served in numerous Church callings, including full-time missionary, seminary teacher, bishop, stake mission president, stake president, and Area Seventy.

He and his wife, Susan Lindsay Gong, are the parents of four children and grandparents of four grandchildren.

Honorary Doctorate of Educational and International Leadership

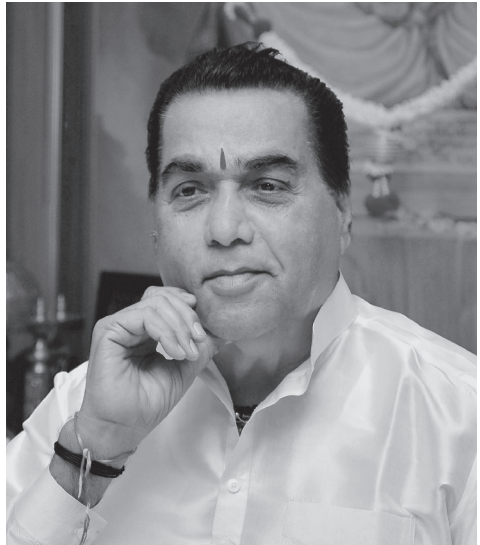
Prof. Dr. Vishwanath D. Karad

Prof. Dr. Vishwanath D. Karad, a renowned and visionary educator, is founder and chief patron of the MIT group of institutions in Pune, India, as well as UNESCO chair holder for human rights, democracy, and peace.

After receiving BE and ME degrees in mechanical engineering at the University of Poona (now Pune), he received a PhD degree in engineering and education from Washington International University in the British Virgin Islands. He taught courses as a professor of mechanical engineering for twenty years and has founded various educational institutes in Maharashtra, the third-largest state in India.

His initial endeavor was the Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT), which soon expanded into multiple institutes and universities in Maharashtra. The World Peace Centre was established as part of MIT in 1996 to emphasize “the importance of value-based universal education in promoting a culture of peace in the global society.”

Vishwanath Karad visited Utah in 2015 to speak in the Parliament of the World’s Religions. During his visit, Dr. Karad was hosted at the headquarters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and at BYU. He was deeply impressed with the BYU Honor Code, the emphasis on value-based education, and the coupling of scientific and spiritual education.



His growing familiarity with the Church and BYU has led Dr. Karad to seek greater collaboration with BYU. In August 2017, he recognized the work of the Church by conferring the Philosopher Saint Shri Dnyaneshwara World Peace Prize on Elder D. Todd Christofferson as Church representative. In 2022, Dr. Karad hosted Elder Christofferson and a Church delegation for the unveiling of a statue of the Prophet Joseph Smith at the World Peace Dome.

Though a devout Hindu himself, Dr. Karad appreciates and respects the scriptures of all faiths, teaches the importance of religion in society generally, and fully believes in and promotes interfaith harmony.

Prof. Dr. Karad has also conceptualized, designed, and created some of the finest monuments that convey the message of interfaith harmony for world peace. The crowning glory is of course the World Peace Dome, which is the epitome of the union of science, spirituality, and philosophy.

College Convocation Schedule

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024

NOON

Honors Hinckley Center Assembly Hall

2:00 P.M.

David M. Kennedy Center
for International Studies Music Building Concert Hall

David O. McKay School of Education Marriott Center

College of Nursing Joseph Smith Building Auditorium

College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences
*Chemistry and Biochemistry, Geological Sciences,
Physics and Astronomy* Wilkinson Student Center Ballroom

Religious Education 321 Maeser Building

4:30 P.M.

College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences
Mathematics, Mathematics Education, Statistics Wilkinson Student Center Ballroom

5:00 P.M.

J. Reuben Clark Law School Music Building Concert Hall

College of Life Sciences Marriott Center

7:00 P.M.

College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences
Computer Science Wilkinson Student Center Ballroom

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024

8:00 A.M.

College of Humanities Marriott Center

9:00 A.M.

College of Fine Arts and Communications
Communications Music Building Concert Hall

10:00 A.M.

Ira A. Fulton College of Engineering
*Civil and Construction Engineering,
Electrical and Computer Engineering* George Albert Smith Fieldhouse

11:00 A.M.

College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences

Marriott Center

NOON

College of Fine Arts and Communications

Dance, Music, Theatre and Media Arts

Music Building Concert Hall

1:00 P.M.

Ira A. Fulton College of Engineering

*Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering,
Manufacturing Engineering, Technology and
Engineering Studies*

George Albert Smith Fieldhouse

2:30 P.M.

Marriott School of Business

*Business Management, Entrepreneurial Management,
Experience Design and Management, Finance,
Global Supply Chain Management, Human Resource
Management, Marketing, Strategic Management,
General Studies—Management Emphasis*

Marriott Center

3:00 P.M.

College of Fine Arts and Communications

Art, Design

Music Building Concert Hall

5:30 P.M.

Marriott School of Business

*MAcc, MBA, EMBA, MISM, MPA, EMPA,
Accounting, Information Systems*

Marriott Center



Scan this code or go to enrollment.byu.edu/registrar/commencement-programs
for a PDF of the April 2024 commencement program.

Use #BYUGrad in your graduation-related posts and photos.

