



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

College of Science

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

# 2023 Winter Convocation

Friday, December 15, 2023

2:00 PM

Centennial Hall

# Program

## **Procession**

### **Welcome**

**Carmala Garziona, Ph.D.**

Dean, College of Science

**Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D.**

Associate Dean, Undergraduate Student Success

### **Keynote Address**

**Thomas Fleming, Ph.D.**

Professor of Practice

Astronomer, Steward Observatory

### **Presentation of Graduates**

**Rebecca Gomez, Ph.D.**

Associate Dean, Undergraduate Student Success

### **Outstanding Senior Address**

**Kristen Saban**

BS Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

## Program

**Dr. Thomas A. Fleming** received his A.B. in Physics from Cornell University in 1982 and his Ph.D. in Astronomy from the University of Arizona in 1988. After spending four years on the science team for the ROSAT X-ray telescope at Max-Planck-Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics in Garching (near Munich), Germany, he returned to the University of Arizona in 1993, where he is now an Astronomer and Professor of Practice. Dr. Fleming has served on several peer review and users committees for NASA, mostly in the field of X-ray astronomy. Since 1999, he has been responsible for public outreach and coordination of the astronomy general education program at Steward Observatory. In particular, he serves as organizer and host of the Steward Observatory Public Evening Lecture Series, which started in 1922. Dr. Fleming is a past recipient of the University of Arizona Provost's General Education Teaching Award and the Excellence in Academic Advising Award. He has appeared in the "Naked Science" TV series on the National Geographic Channel and in the PBS documentary "Declining by Degrees: Higher Education at Risk."

**Kristen Saban** is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology and minors in French and Sustainable Built Environments, all the while completing 3 NASA center internships, her most recent at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida from which she flew in for commencement! During her undergrad, Kristen completed 6 research projects, including two with Dr. John Wiens in the department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, three with NASA, and one with Dr. Matt Goode in the School of Natural Resources & the Environment. This produced two published first-authored peer-reviewed papers, a third in the publication pipeline, and several others under development. Kristen also presents her research regularly to other scientists at scientific conferences. To add to this truly outstanding record of scholarship, Kristen dedicates her time to student support at the Think Tank Writing Center to support her fellow Wildcats in achieving success. Kristen plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Evolutionary Biology and become a professor to continue her scientific research and to teach and mentor the next generation of scientists!

# Welcome

## College of Science Graduates:

On behalf of the University of Arizona College of Science, I would like to congratulate the graduates of 2023! It is an incredible accomplishment to complete a degree in the sciences. We, in the College of Science, are proud of your achievements. This graduating class faced more than two years of disruptions during the Covid-19 pandemic, which highlights your strength and resilience in the face of challenging situations. Your curiosity, engagement in research activities, and dedication to our groups and organizations have helped advance the College of Science. We are grateful for the legacy that you've helped us create.

I hope that you will continue to thrive and remain adaptable and resilient in your life pursuits. With the many challenges and opportunities that face our global society, this is a critical time to pursue science, and we encourage you to seize this opportunity to explore, discover, and share your knowledge. We live in a complex world, and increasingly find that breakthroughs and novel solutions occur at the frontiers between disciplines where diverse mindsets and approaches can be brought to bear on important problems.

No matter what path you pursue, I'd like to challenge you to continue asking questions, to listen, and to learn from new people and new experiences. It's through collaborative engagement and pushing the boundaries of our comfort zone that we often find the most thrilling discoveries about the world and ourselves. As you are about to graduate, I encourage you to keep being students; never stop learning. Continue to explore and to discover!



Dr. Carmala Garzione  
Dean, College of Science  
Professor of Geosciences

# Winter 2023 Awards

## **Outstanding Senior Awards**

This award is given in recognition of academic excellence, independent research, and community involvement.

## **College of Science Outstanding Senior - Overall**

**Kristen Saban**

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

## **College of Science Outstanding Senior Award - Departments**

**Caroline Coppinger**

Chemistry & Biochemistry

**Vatsav Sethupathi**

Computer Science

**Kristen Saban**

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

**T. Genevieve Bergin**

Geosciences

**Starlivia Kaska**

Hydrology & Atmospheric Sciences

**Evan LaForge**

Mathematics

**Sofia Ragonese**

Molecular & Cellular Biology

**Evan LaForge**

Physics

**Diana Way**

Psychology

# Winter 2023 List of Graduates

## **Applied Biosciences Professional Science Masters**

Casamassima, Emma\*  
Connick, Heather  
Grubbs, Stephen  
Kopecky, Jan Marco  
Sargent, Elizabeth  
Snyder, Mattie

## **Applied Mathematics Doctor of Philosophy**

Acevedo, Alberto  
Bell, Brian  
McBride, Jared  
Woodward, Michael

## **Astronomy & Astrophysics Masters of Science**

Washington, Jasmin

## **Atmospheric Sciences Masters of Science**

Hu, Tianyi

## **Doctor of Philosophy**

Cassell, William  
Zheng, Xiaojian

## **Biochemistry Bachelors**

Coppinger, Caroline  
Dresler, Julian\*  
Dulam, Satyaarathi  
DD Chemistry  
Hode, Veronica  
Nardo, Margaret\*  
Seekins, Caleb\*  
Torres, Lisandra

## **Doctor of Philosophy**

Cahigas, Genesis  
Lay, Michelle  
Liang, Yan  
Souza Amado de Carvalho,  
Rodolpho  
Werner, Alyssa

## **Bioinformatics Bachelors**

Cassity, Samantha\*  
Yang, Meiven\*

## **Biology Bachelors**

Acedo, Esmeralda  
Aking, Vivek  
Alamu, Olujimi  
Allende, Giovanni  
Anthony, Sofia  
Creevy, John  
Foreman, Destini  
Galindo, April  
Hawsawi, Bashayr Ahmed  
Hernandez, Kimberlee  
Huynh, Catherine  
Ingabire, Divine  
Kelly, Caroline  
DD Political Science  
Koons, Tyler  
Lieberman, Russell\*  
Lovendahl, Jacob  
Madu, Olisaemeka  
Mahmoud, Mohammad  
Maldonado, Stephany  
McGhee, Tanner  
McNamara, Catherine  
Mittelmeier, Margaret  
Munoz, Olga  
Nguyen, Katherine  
Nonweiler, Ryan  
Parikh, Aditi  
Perea, Arianna  
Riberall, Dayce  
Roazen, Maryalee  
DM Ecology & Evolutionary  
Biology  
Roberts, Christavella  
Rodriguez, Damien  
Rogers, Hannah  
Schuchman, Gabrielle  
Skidmore, Cade\*  
Smith, Ava  
Suzuki, Yuji  
Taner, Brooks  
Tepper, Krystal  
Tucker, Sarah

Vasquez Campos,  
Dominique  
Weaver, Autumn

## **Chemistry Bachelors**

Bond, Carissa\*  
Chen, Yuming  
Davis, Meghan  
Huynh, Jennifer  
Korallus, Matthew  
Romero, Rances  
Scangarello, Guy\*  
Stebner, Zach  
Stuart, Samuel

## **Masters of Science**

Compton, Avery  
Zhu, Tingyi\*

## **Doctor of Philosophy**

Amarakoon, Amarakoon  
Appuhamilage Thilini  
Bao, Jianhua  
Blackburn, Thomas  
Chakraborti, Ananya  
Cornejo, Natasha  
Das, Rajeswari  
Doole, Fathima  
Feng, Beverly  
Gibson, Arthur  
Goodman, Hannah  
Habensus, Iva  
Herman, Tyler  
Hossain, Md Mubarak  
Kananka Hewage, Kushani  
Surangika  
Nanayakkara,  
Nanayakkarakawasan Pallage  
Olikagu, Chisom  
Peiris, Edirisinghe  
Arachchige Dineshi  
Schofield, Kevin  
Singh, Ambesh  
Sung, Yu-Shien  
Timofeyenko, Yegor  
Tyler, Sarah

Wang, Yu-Cheng

Zachritz, Sara

**Computer Science  
Bachelors**

Ahmad, Rasheed\*

Al-Farabi, Muhtasim  
DM Mathematics

Beccarelli, Michael

Bell, Nicholas

Berryman, Kathryn

Bhat, Kaushal\*  
DD Management Information  
Systems

Bhatnagar, Harshvardhan\*

Brixen, Bennett\*

Buell, Alexander\*

Cabrera, Ryan\*

Covey, Jackson

DeVries, Dexter

Do, Nam

Eichenberg, Jonathon

El, Allen\*

Elmaghraby, Zyad

Enos, Dyllon

Everitte, Thomas

Fu, Zongtao

Funakoshiya, Ryu

Gagum, Audrey

Garcia, Paris

Garcia, Valeria\*

Genova, Luke

Ghosh, Ishaan

Gin, Melanie

Gonzalez, Francisco

Hall, Brandon

Herzog, Megan\*  
DM Statistics & Data Science

Hicks, Sydney

Ioane, Kapua\*  
DD Information, Science, &  
Technology

Jacobson, Yosef\*  
DM Game Design & Development

Jenkins, Gregory

Jeppson, Seth

Johnson, Colin  
DM Creative Writing

Kim, William

Kodirjanov, Saidbek

Kroeger, Logan  
DD French

Longmire, Jarrett

Lucero, Nathan

Mana, Klaus

Mariani, Mason

McLain, David

Mekhail, Adam

Milchew, Kristina  
DM Linguistics

Millbrooks, Kamron

Mitchell, Brennan

Montierth, Jared

Mullen, Lindsey

Nix, Annabeth\*

Nixon, Katherine

O'Brien, Christopher

Pandey, Naman

Pellerito, Louis

Price, Hayden\*

Rizzo, Ryan

Rousseau, Sydney\*

Sethupathi, Vatsav

Sigda, April  
DM Mathematics

Speed, Duke

Stafford, Kate\*

Teku, Nathan\*

Tseng, Chu Xuan

Vu, Brian

Ying, Jasmine

**Masters of Science**

Hong, Yang\*

Panda, Aniket\*

Pinto, Aayush

Shibu, Caleb

Zhang, Shanrui

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Liang, Zhengzhong

Neth, Brandon\*

**Ecology & Evolutionary  
Biology**

**Bachelors**

Coffey, Reed\*

Deconcini, Michael

Fleischman, Eric

Lund, Caeleigh

Saban, Kristen\*

Shah, Angelica\*

Smith, Stephanie

**Masters of Science**

Ko, Hongseok

Love, David

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Chenard, Kathryn

Zeng, Yichao

**Economic Geology  
Professional Science  
Masters**

Huggler, Sadie

**Environmental Hydrology  
& Water Resources**

**Bachelors**

Kaska, Starlivia

Schlottman, Jason

**Genetics**

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Karimi, Esmat

Kerimoglu, Baris

Kindelay, Selina

Quirk, Grace

**Geosciences**

**Bachelors**

Albarrak, Hussain

Alghamdi, Amer

Almutawa, Ali

Alolaiw, Fatimah

Alqahtani, Talal Mohammed

Alruwayi, Abdullah

Alsulaiman, Hussain

Alzayer, Ahmed

Bergin, Taylor

Dominguez, Teckla\*

Duberek, Gianna\*

McDonough, Eleanor\*

McKenley, Hayley

Rasmussen, Aaron

Sabor, Faisal

Singer, Matthew\*

Zadro-Young, Norina

**Masters of Science**

Ascencio, Porfirio  
 Ericksen, Boe  
 Iqbal, Omer

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Reeher, Lauren

**Hydrology****Masters of Science**

Haugen, Hannah  
 Mitchell, Benjamin  
 Murray, David  
 Portillo, Dalia Flor  
 Wessner, David

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Groenendyk, Derek

Ji, Lin

Saleem, Hassan

Wu, Runjian

**Hydrology & Atmospheric Sciences****Bachelors**

Cook, Dallin  
 Switzer, Jeffrey

**Mathematics****Bachelors**

Bulau, Marc  
 Carley, Ross  
 Chen, Han  
 Chen, Junzhe  
 Gupta, Aparna\*  
 Norton, Patrick  
 Stallman, Sarah  
 Torres, Steven  
 Worden, Christopher

Wu, Hongyu

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Banks, Robert  
 Harris, Thomas  
 Knak, Rachel

Ledesma Granados, Jorge

Loomis, Alexandre

Sidbury, Lee

**Molecular & Cellular Biology****Bachelors**

Almazan, Yazmin  
 Burback, Connor\*

Chance, Charlotte

Desai, Anushka

Drayna, Riley  
 DM Ecology & Evolutionary  
 Biology

Evans, Leslie

Haghiri, Saba\*

Hanover, Nicole

Limanek, Dylan

Martinez, Jade

Penaherrera, Emily

Ragonese, Sofia

Ravindran, Ritika\*

Shapleigh, Leah  
 DM Family Studies & Human  
 Development

Urtiz, Mia

Valenzuela, Carissa

Valenzuela, Juan  
 DD Russian

**Master of Science**

Ngu, Emily

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Bielski, Nicholas

Carey, Sara\*

Cecil, Jacob

Espejo-christenson, Luis

Frisbey, Austin

Honey, Saxon

Miller, Matthew

Weaver, Savannah

**Neuroscience****Masters of Science**

Krumm, Michelle

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Schmit, Matthew\*

**Neuroscience & Cognitive Science****Bachelors**

Bonk, Catherine

Burns, Teresa

Canty, A'mour\*

Char Roman, Amanda

Chaidez, Xavier\*

Chiquete, Victor

Dickenson, Laura

Goldfine, Matthew\*

Gonzalez, Andrea

Humphries, Jes-Heric\*

Johnson, Faith\*

Johnson, Kristos

Jones, Aaliyah

Kawache, Suemayeh

LeCocq, Monique

Lopez, Hannah

Miranda, Natalia  
 DD Spanish

Myers, Alice

Paley, Erin

Pearce, Nicole

Pereira, Ivan

Rebeck, Jason

Rios, Fatima

Stih, Nikolai

Symonds, Jake

Thomas, Kari\*

Yelifari, Katherine

Zakayo, Sylvia\*

**Physics****Bachelors**

Herling, Nathan

LaForge, Evan\*  
 DM Mathematics

**Masters of Science**

Higgins, Alexandre

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Garcia Mar, Rafael Antonio

Ibrahim, Essa

Khanal, Pravin

Spotnitz, Matthew

Steinmetz, Andrew

Yang, Cheng Tao

**Planetary Sciences****Doctor of Philosophy**

Brown, Zarah

Chen, Xiaohang

**Psychological Science****Bachelors**

Avila, Bernadette

Bracamonte, Adriana

Bridges, Cameron

Brodkin, Isaac\*

Duffield, Ashley

Jouault, Angelina\*

Kumar, Aanvi\*



Larger, Matthew  
Lopez, Nicole  
Moya, Devyn  
Oliveira, Larissa  
Olson, Ethan  
Ortiz, Monserrat  
Radler-Havatone, Morgan  
Randolph, Sarah  
Ritter, Noa M  
Scribner, Catherine  
Soliman, Sofia  
DD Italian  
Stevenson, Miyah  
Thomas, Sidney-Michael  
Townsend, Raymond  
Wason, Joshua\*  
Way, Diana  
Wilson, Jonathan  
Wilson, Noelle\*  
Zhang, Zhenlong

## **Psychology**

### **Bachelors**

Aguirre, Gabriella  
AlHarbi, Hamed  
Allen, Asia  
Altevers, Michael  
Anderson, Dymond  
Anway, Preston\*  
Armenta, Steven  
Arnold, Lauren  
DD Care, Health, & Society  
Arrizon, Anna  
DM Sociology  
Barnett, Elizabeth  
Battistelli, Jessica  
Baumgartner, Breanne  
Borenstein, Paige  
Bracamontes Vargas,  
Carlos  
Bratland, McKenna  
Brill, Jack  
Bronson, Haley  
Bruggeman, Allie  
Brumback, Meredith  
Buhler, Kevin  
Butler, Olivia  
DM Law

Cannon, Zade  
Carnine, Carolyn\*  
Castillo Villela, Daniel  
Chapman, Tyson  
Chemas, Sara  
Civetta, Sophia  
DM Spanish  
Clang, Zachary  
Cooper-Blackmore, Rachel\*  
Cox, Campbell  
De La Rosa, Janae  
Donner, Jackson  
Dowdy, Payton  
Drescher, Ellie  
Dunn, Jillian  
Eccles, Luke  
Edgerton, Julia  
Egan, Emma  
Encinas, Tessa\*  
Escher, Riley  
Espinoza Vea, Andrea  
Farish, Sydney  
DM Law  
Fernandes, Juliana  
Figueroa, Gabriella  
Figueroa, Presley  
Fisher, Jamie\*  
DD Care, Health, & Society  
Foreman, Anna  
Fowble, Sydney  
DM Anthropology  
Francis, Reva  
DM Law  
Franzese, Natalie  
Gallagher, Cara  
Gebel, Kristina  
Gelwan, Ana Rose  
Glider, Caitlyn  
Gonzalez Arellano,  
Abraham  
DM Philosophy  
Gonzalez, Alexa  
Gonzalez, Angelina  
Gonzalez, Deanelly  
Good, Tabitha  
Gracia, Diana  
Greenwald, Samantha

Gresh, Abigail  
Griffin, Jacob  
Guerrero, Maria  
Hall, Jordan  
Harding, Kimberly  
Harris, Brooklyn  
Hengst, Noel  
Heon, Rheana  
Herbolich, Olivia  
Hernandez-Estrada, Mayra  
Herrera, Tyler  
Hidder, Olivia  
Higgins, Cassandra\*  
DM Professional & Technical  
Writing  
Hoppers, William  
Huerta, Lydia  
Jeffery, Brittney  
Kabanga, Chelsie\*  
Kasey, Jerome  
DM Law  
Kasper, Mason  
Kellum, Jude  
Kieffer, Owen  
DM German Studies  
King, Karli  
DM Philosophy  
Klein, Lyndsey  
Klussmann, Caroline  
Kracht, Collin  
Laredo, Armando  
DM Philosophy  
Li, Jialing  
DM East Asian Studies  
Little, Malcolm  
DM Music  
Lopez, Lizbeth  
Lopez, Martha  
Lopez, Samantha  
Loucks, Brittany  
Manrique, Valentina  
Marand, Elhom  
Mardian, Carolyn  
Martinez, Evelyn  
Mason, Jacqueline  
Massaglia, Diana  
Mastey, Ashley  
Mastrilli, Olivia

Maxwell, Nicole  
McGuinness, Kaitlyn  
McPherson, Kendall  
Mohammed, Aws  
Molina, Vanessa  
Montes, Janelle  
Monteverde, Katherine  
Moore, Halle  
Morales, Denali  
Morris, Janet  
Morris, Shannon  
Morrison, Sonora  
Neville, Rachel  
Noonan, Shea  
Nordee, Nukette  
Olivas, Ana  
Olszewski, Eric  
Ostergaard, Allyson  
Parkhurst, Nikole  
DD Physiology & Medical Sciences  
Payne, Kathleen  
Perez, Galarena  
Peterson, Autumn  
Polignone, Joshua  
Pollock, Clara  
Ramirez Valdez, Esmeralda  
Ramos, Gabriella  
DM Spanish  
Rankin, Abigail  
Reens, Paityn  
Ren, Yichao  
Rice, Sarah  
Rich, Melissa  
Riley, Waverly  
Rios Holt, Victoria  
Roberts, Hailie  
Rodríguez, Dyani  
Rosenzweig Soto, Laura  
Ruiz Escobar, Karime  
Ruiz, Fatima  
Sanchez, Maleah  
Schield, Lauren  
Sciackitano, Jamie  
Sim, Samuel  
DM East Asian Studies

Smith, Gloria  
Soto, Jocelyn  
Spence, Hunter  
Starzynski, Victoria  
Steed, Stella\*  
DM Creative Writing  
Stevenson, India  
Stewart, Diana  
Stodola, Alexandra  
Stofft, Mary  
Struckmann, Hannah  
Thornock, Patricia  
DM Spanish  
Titone, Lucas  
Torres-Torija, Emily  
Tumbaga, Sasha  
Turner, Joshua  
Ulan, Benjamin  
Valenzuela, Bianca  
Varteressian-Bramed,  
Gabriella  
Vega-Duarte, Jessica  
Vega, Yesetta  
Wahnon, Yonah  
Walton, Jazzell  
Wescott, Katherine  
Whitaker, Destiny  
Wisdom, Sashenka  
Wright, Kayla  
DM Philosophy  
Wu, Zhengkang  
Xu, Wynn timer  
Yaghoubzadeh, Crystal  
Yu, Hongjiang  
DM Economics  
Zakariai, Arezou  
**Doctor of Philosophy**  
Mizell, Jack  
Sundman, Mark  
**Masters of Arts**  
Kim, Kelly  
Nicholas, Taylor  
Teng, Jocelyn  
Xue, Jingming  
Chen, Yu-Chin

**Doctor of Philosophy**  
Raffaelli, Quinten  
**Speech, Language &  
Hearing Sciences**  
**Bachelors**  
Rodenburg, Isabella  
Teran, Karina  
DM Literacy, Learning, &  
Leadership  
**Doctor of Philosophy**  
Wong, Bryan  
**Statistics**  
**Doctor of Philosophy**  
Kim, Ah Young  
Lu, Zhaoying  
Xiong, Rao  
**Statistics & Data Science**  
**Bachelors**  
Brock, Benjamin  
Grabek, Andrew  
Knudson, Karson\*  
DD Electrical & Computer  
Engineering  
Mattox, Kylie  
Prado, Alessandra  
**Masters of Science**  
Kazemi, Mohadeseh  
Smith, James  
DD Teaching, Learning, &  
Sociocultural Study  
**Doctor of Philosophy**  
Ouyang, Wenbo

**DM:** double major earned

**DD:** double degree earned

**TM:** triple major earned

**\*Honors** attained

# The University of Arizona College of Science

## College of Science

**Carmala Garzione**

Dean

**Daniel Apai**

Interim Associate Dean, Research

**Rebecca Gomez**

Associate Dean, Undergraduate  
Student Success

**Jeremiah Hackett**

Associate Dean, Graduate &  
Postdoctoral Affairs

**Brad Story**

Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs

## Department Heads & Directors

**Misha Chertkov**

Applied Math

**Philip Pearthree**

Arizona Geological Survey

**Buell Jannuzi**

Astronomy/Steward Observatory

**Craig Aspinwall**

Chemistry & Biochemistry

**Robert Wilson**

Cognitive Science

**Christian Collberg**

Computer Science, Interim

**Michael Worobey**

Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

**Kellee Campbell**

Flandrau Science Center &  
Planetarium

**Joellen Russell**

Geosciences

**Chris Castro**

Hydrology & Atmospheric  
Sciences, Interim

**David Frank**

Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research

**Joseph Shields**

Large Binocular Telescope  
Observatory

**Mark Barton**

Lowell Institute of Mineral Research

**Doug Ulmer**

Mathematics

**Ryan Gutenkunst**

Molecular & Cellular Biology, Interim

**Konrad Zinsmaier**

Neuroscience

**Shufang Su**

Physics

**Mark Marley**

Planetary Sciences/Lunar &  
Planetary Laboratory

**Lee Ryan**

Psychology

**Misael Cabrera**

School of Mining & Mineral  
Resources

**Mary Alt**

Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences

**Helen Zhang**

Statistics & Data Science GDP

**Konrad E. Zinsmaier**

School of Mind, Brain & Behavior

The University of Arizona sits on the original homelands of indigenous peoples who have stewarded this land since time immemorial. Aligning with the university's core value of a diverse and inclusive community, it is an institutional responsibility to recognize and acknowledge the people, culture and history that make up the Wildcat community. At the institutional level, it is important to be proactive in broadening awareness throughout campus to ensure our students feel represented and valued.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

College of Science

The University of Arizona,  
College of Science  
PO Box 210077  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0077  
520-621-4090

[science.arizona.edu](http://science.arizona.edu)