

2023

Graduate Commencement and Hooding Ceremony

DECEMBER 8, 2023





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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD

President, Creighton University



Dear Creighton University Graduate,

On behalf of the Creighton University community, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to you – as a member of the Class of 2023 – on this momentous occasion that we share in the company of family, friends, and supporters.

Commencement is a joyous celebration — a culmination of your hard work and dedication as you have reached the dawn of infinite opportunities in your life. Through challenges both personal and professional, and against the backdrop of worldwide conflict and change, you have not only shown persistence, but perseverance. All the effort you have put in up to this point is yours to cherish as you close one chapter and turn the page to discover something entirely new.

I encourage you to take a moment during this exhilarating time in your life to reflect on the transformative journey you have undertaken, and how you have deepened your understanding of yourself, those around you, and the world. You are prepared to make meaningful contributions to your profession and the communities you will join and serve. I have faith that you will be a leader who helps others thrive and who exhibits a restlessness and thirst for justice and equality for all.

Know, too, that you are not alone on this journey. You join a Creighton alumni family that is nearly 80,000 strong and stretches across the globe. May you take from your experiences the best of what a Jesuit, Catholic education offers — inquiry, imagination, and inspiration. You are a changemaker and that means you do not wait for the world to come to you, you go forth with a mission to make it better.

Enjoy this milestone day in your life, and may God bless you and your families.

Sincerely,

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD



Order of Exercises

PROCESSION

MACE BEARER

Mary Ann Danielson, PhD
*Faculty President, Professor,
Communication Studies*

DEAN'S WELCOME

A. Barron Breland, DM
Dean, Graduate School

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Wendy Eaton, MM
*Instructor, Department of
Fine and Performing Arts*

INVOCATION

Cynthia M. Schmiersal, EdD
Vice President, Mission and Ministry

PROVOST'S MESSAGE

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost

BOARD AUTHORIZATION

Presented by
Board of Trustees Member

DEGREE CONFERRAL STATEMENT

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EARNED DEGREES

Names read by

A. Barron Breland, DM
Dean, Graduate School

College of Arts and Sciences

Bridget M. Keegan, PhD, Dean

School of Medicine

Jason C. Bartz, PhD
Associate Dean, Academic and Faculty Affairs

School of Dentistry

Jillian A. Wallen, BDS, MS, Dean

School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

Amy Friedman Wilson, PharmD, Dean

Heider College of Business

Anthony R. Hendrickson, PhD, Dean

College of Nursing

Mary Kunes-Connell, PhD, RN, Co-Interim Dean

College of Professional and Continuing Education

Gayla M. Stoner, PhD, Dean

Hooding of graduates will be conducted
by faculty from the individual programs.

TURNING OF THE TASSEL

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost

STAGE PARTY, FACULTY, AND GRADUATE RECESSIONAL



College of Arts and Sciences

MASTER OF ARTS

Mary Wervey Fuhrman
Erie, Pennsylvania
Ministry

Eugene Aigbohhaode Inobeme
Mararaba, Nigeria
Christian Spirituality

Gladysce O. Janky
Sun City, Arizona
Christian Spirituality

Paula Elizabeth McCabe
Falls Church, Virginia
Ministry

Jean Baptiste Mvukiyeh
Pennsauken, New Jersey
Christian Spirituality

Hong Bich Thi Nguyen
Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam
Christian Spirituality

Carol Olson
Lafayette, Louisiana
Christian Spirituality

Rafael Jason Perez
Brooklyn, New York
Christian Spirituality

Hang Pham
St. Louis, Missouri
Christian Spirituality

Lori A. Stevens
Overland Park, Kansas
Christian Spirituality

Michael Van Vranken
Shreveport, Louisiana
Christian Spirituality

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Colleen Margaret Halpin
Omaha, Nebraska
Secondary Teaching

Jamie Nicole Haynes
Omaha, Nebraska
Elementary Teaching

Andrew Robert McMahon
Omaha, Nebraska
Secondary Teaching

Elizabeth Ann Walsh
Omaha, Nebraska
Elementary Teaching

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Hephzibah Blessing Akinleye
Ibadan, India
Physics

Mili Bharatbhai Barai
Rajkot, India
Medical Physics

Ashok Bhandari
Lalbandi, Nepal
Medical Physics

Callen Elizabeth Borgstadt
Missouri Valley, Iowa
Educational Specialist Areas

Andrew Joseph Fanning
Hastings, Nebraska
Medical Physics

Sara Maureen Greisch
Omaha, Nebraska
Educational Specialist Areas

Bayode Adeleye Iboronke
Ado Ekiti, Nigeria
Medical Physics

Jacob T. Marasco
Omaha, Nebraska
Medical Physics

Ikenna Emmanuel Odezuligbo
Omaha, Nebraska
Physics

Gregory Michael Reichert
Grand Blanc, Michigan
Educational Leadership

Melanie Schwengler
Lakewood, Colorado
Medical Physics

Pamela Li Tinley
Tucson, Arizona
Educational Leadership

Bobbyrose Widman
Omaha, Nebraska
Educational Specialist Areas

School of Medicine

MASTER OF ARTS

Margaret Mary Brosnahan
Scottsdale, Arizona
Medical Humanities

MASTER OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Meg Marie Adams
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Amenah Awawdeh
Houston, Texas

Jessica M. Buhman
Columbus, Nebraska

Montanna Lee Chrystal
Pine Bluffs, Wyoming

Wendi Clapp
Honolulu, Hawaii

Emily Rae Downs Davie
Springfield, Nebraska

Natalie Danielle Golden
Shawnee, Kansas

Kara Elizabeth Grossman
Clive, Iowa

Cameron Gayle Gueldner
Olathe, Kansas

Nathan Hallman
Bellevue, Nebraska

Cassandra Olivia Heisey
Elkhorn, Nebraska

Ellianne Emmanuelle Jacques
Edina, Minnesota

Rachel Nicole Johnson
Omaha, Nebraska

Taylor May Kenealy
Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota

Francesca Akemi Kranz
Washington, Illinois

Joel Anthony Meyer
Albion, Nebraska

Danielle Catherine Nelson
Omaha, Nebraska

Jacqueline Glen O'Doherty
Lincoln, Nebraska

Hannah Grace Oscarson
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Hannah Marie Pavek
Eagan, Minnesota

Emily Bella Herff Peterson
Hebron, Illinois

Nicholas Franklin Plutowski
Rochester, Minnesota

Brynn Willow Robertson
Omaha, Nebraska

Taylor DeAnn Schendt
Omaha, Nebraska

Madison Ann Scott
Belleville, Kansas

Noah Riley Springer
Cedar Bluffs, Nebraska

Alexander Jacob Stoupa
Omaha, Nebraska

Anna Jane Taylor Read
Fort Dodge, Iowa

Brooklyn Tracy Waller
Maquoketa, Iowa

Sydney Quinn Weber
Borup, Minnesota

Sydney Rae Williams
Hickman, Nebraska

Madeline Pearl Wilson
Trophy Club, Texas

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

John Godoy III
Mission, South Dakota

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Sarah Brandt Knispel
Omaha, Nebraska
Integrative Health and Wellness

Camila Escobar
Medellin, Colombia
Integrative Health and Wellness

Emman Fatima
Pearland, Texas
Bioethics

Michelle Salvador Forgey
University Place, Washington
Integrative Health and Wellness

Holly A. Gardner
Liverpool, New York
Integrative Health and Wellness

Julia Loren Karlin
Robbinsville, New Jersey
Integrative Health and Wellness

Laurie Nicole McBride
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Integrative Health and Wellness

Arianna Christiane McDonald
Royse City, Texas
Bioethics

Melinda S. Nelson
Omaha, Nebraska
Integrative Health and Wellness

Karla Ann Saffer
Wray, Colorado
Integrative Health and Wellness

Kimberlie A. Sauer
Omaha, Nebraska
Integrative Health and Wellness

Erin Katherine Scrivner
Kennard, Nebraska
Bioethics

Ivie Ruth Sprenger
Omaha, Nebraska
Bioethics

Jennifer Tripodi
Richmond, Virginia
Integrative Health and Wellness

Megan C. Van Gulick
Highlands Ranch, Colorado
Bioethics

Heider College of Business

MASTER OF ACCOUNTING

Deiá Tika McGuire
Houston, Texas

Jessica Rose Robinson
Bennington, Nebraska

Grace Alexandra Shehan
Omaha, Nebraska



MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Chandrakumaran Anchalia
Grand Island, Nebraska

Dakota Aspen Anderson
Westerville, Ohio

Grace Elizabeth Behr
Brandon, Florida

Denise Marie Bilbow
Baldwinsville, New York

Andrew James Boschee
Omaha, Nebraska

Kenneth Bottoms
Parker, Colorado

Megan Michelle Corey
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Kaitlin Jeanette Cox
Austin, Texas

Jack Daniel Doody
Omaha, Nebraska

Brady Hale Draheim
Cumberland, Rhode Island

Kelly Jane Gonda
Superior, Colorado

Evan Joseph Hughes ♦
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Daiva Marija Jarasius
Westminster, Colorado

Daniel Lloyd Jewett
Gretna, Nebraska

Matthew Craig Johnson
Medford, Oregon

Leasa M. Jones
New Prague, Minnesota

Chance Joseph Kabes
Chicago, Illinois

Elizabeth Jayne Kiscaden
Rochester, Minnesota

Arsen Mezheritskiy
San Francisco, California

Jeremiah Lester Mikell
Gainesville, Florida

Luke Addison Mitchell
Atlanta, Georgia

Kyle D. Owen
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska

Alfie G. Pope
London, United Kingdom

Nicole Powell
Denver, Colorado

Emma Kristin Protsik
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Ruben Dario Pulido
Omaha, Nebraska

Jennifer Rasmussen
Burlington Junction, Missouri

Olivia Rae Redden
Omaha, Nebraska

Tyler Reddington
Aledo, Texas

Erin Jean Redmond
Clovis, California

Jeffrey M. Reynolds
Papillion, Nebraska

Tyler James Shovlin
Harrisburg, Nebraska

Todd M. Sinclair
Monterey, California

MASTER OF FINANCE

Daniel Jackson Johnson
Columbus, Georgia

Sequoia Erminie Lake
St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands

MASTER OF FINANCIAL PLANNING AND FINANCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Josephine Ann Otto
Alliance, Nebraska

MASTER OF INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Carter Thomas Balentine
Kansas City, Missouri

Landon James Brandt
Hawley, Minnesota

Duane Deshawn Green
Lincoln, Nebraska

Evan Joseph Hughes ♦
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Anthony James Noonan
Orland Park, Illinois

Matthew E. Sherbondy
Cumming, Georgia

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Oscar Alvarez
Mexico City, Mexico
Business Intelligence and Analytics

Logan William Bell
Omaha, Nebraska
Business Intelligence and Analytics

Mariena A. Busey
Omaha, Nebraska
Analytics

Emma E. Carpender
Denver, Colorado
Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

Samantha Marie Deenihan
Stamford, Connecticut
Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

Elizabeth Jean Hilpipre
Omaha, Nebraska
Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

Leanne E. Kendall
Lakeville, Massachusetts
Analytics

Alejandro Pablo Maillet Tapias
Alleroed, Denmark
Business Intelligence and Analytics

Dustin Robert Mass
Ralston, Nebraska
Business Intelligence and Analytics

Mason P. Roscizewski
Lincoln, Nebraska
Business Intelligence and Analytics

Rachael Olivia Saunders
North Liberty, Iowa
Analytics

Peter Daniel Spychalla
Cross Plains, Wisconsin
Business Intelligence and Analytics

Kathryn Christine Sutko Twit
Omaha, Nebraska
Negotiation and Conflict Resolution

Brenda Carole Swenson
Omaha, Nebraska
Analytics

DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Austin Ballor
Saginaw, Michigan
The funny thing about leadership

Emma Elizabeth Cole
Union Springs, Alabama
The relation between data structure and ethical blindness in management accounting related decisions

Daniel John Kusaila
Canton, Connecticut
The information asymmetry with SME tax disclosures: Should they stay, or should they go?

Melissa Anne Ling
Kansas City, Missouri
See something, say nothing? How an auditor's moral judgments influence detected fraud reporting

Brian Michael O'Neill
Garden City, New York
The effects of cognitive and affective organizational identification and personality on job satisfaction and organizational commitment

College of Nursing MASTER OF SCIENCE

Tyler Drew Brown
Granbury, Texas
Emergency Medical Service

Jeffrey Tyler Key
Nicholasville, Kentucky
Emergency Medical Service

Peter Ulrich Kowalski
Port Washington, New York
Emergency Medical Service

Brant Aaron Miller
Oakland, Iowa
Emergency Medical Service

Andrew Thomas Modrall
McKenney, Virginia
Emergency Medical Service

Chad Malcolm Nelson
Marcus, Iowa
Emergency Medical Service

Eric Steven Pagnano
Chatfield, Minnesota
Emergency Medical Service

Aaron Michael Peth
Council Bluffs, Iowa
Emergency Medical Service

Blair Lyle Phipps
Pleasant Hill, Iowa
Emergency Medical Service

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Jourdan Ashley Clum
High Springs, Florida
Nurse Practitioner - Pediatric Primary and Acute Care
Promoting healthy lifestyles in pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia patients and survivors through education: A quality improvement project

Melissa Anne DeCelles
with honors
Denver, Colorado
Nurse Practitioner - Family
Screening for peripheral arterial disease in primary care nursing using QuantaFlo: A quality improvement project

Stephanie Jean Koger
Ankeny, Iowa
Nurse Practitioner - Family
Utilizing the Marburg Heart Score for early recognition of chest pain in an urgent care clinic: A quality improvement project

College of Professional and Continuing Education

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Trisha Renae Bergren
Clarinda, Iowa
Organizational Leadership

Felicia D. Dailey
Omaha, Nebraska
Organizational Leadership



Adam Alan Dytrych
Gretna, Nebraska
Organizational Leadership

Catherine Mary Grosdidier
Eudora, Kansas
Organizational Leadership

Lisa L. Johnson
Sumner, Washington
Interdisciplinary Leadership

Joshua D. Karsten
Lyme, Connecticut
Interdisciplinary Leadership

Lauren Elizabeth Miltenberger
Omaha, Nebraska
Organizational Leadership

Azure Von Rooths
Aldie, Virginia
Interdisciplinary Leadership

Brian Patrick Schaeffer
Spokane, Washington
Interdisciplinary Leadership

Hubert L. Stephens
Providence Forge, Virginia
Interdisciplinary Leadership

Terri Williams
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Interdisciplinary Leadership

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Lisa Lorraine Arfaa
Alexandria, Virginia
An appreciative inquiry approach
to female senior enlisted army
veterans' cultivation of resilience

Holly Ann Bonfig-Becker
Coralville, Iowa
Radiation sciences students'
perceptions of the clinical
learning environment: A
phenomenological study

Elizabeth A. Campione
Downers Grove, Illinois
Preadmission and noncognitive
factors predicting first-year
student academic success in
a private, entry-level Doctor of
Physical Therapy program

Nicole Francine Creamer
Omaha, Nebraska
Knowledge sharing experiences
among middle management leaders:
A phenomenological study

Carey Eugene Deeds
Lincoln, Nebraska
Nursing instructors' perceptions
of teaching online during
the Covid-19 pandemic

Theresa Lynn Fleck
St. Louis, Missouri
To forgive or not to forgive: A
comparative and correlational study
of dispositional forgiveness in the
nonprofit and for-profit sectors

David Andrew Gifford
Hutchinson, Minnesota
Authentic leadership, interpersonal
trust, and psychological
capital: A quantitative study of
employees in higher education

Laurie L. Grove Kerns
Ames, Iowa
How did Covid-19 influence women's
participation in the labor force?

Kelsey Annette Haswell
Plattsmouth, Nebraska
Best practices in cardiovascular
healthcare clearance: A
qualitative case study

Javier Enrique Inclán
Arlington, Virginia
Millennial Federal employees
teleworking full-time during Covid-19
and the effect on job satisfaction

Kristina Marie Brandon Keefner
Omaha, Nebraska
Building collaborative care through
the formation of organizational
partnerships and interprofessional
education in clinical learning
environments: A case study

Jessica Duncan Kennedy
Matthews
Valley, Nebraska
Awarded posthumously

Molly Paige Loesche
Omaha, Nebraska
Are the staff alright? A quantitative
study of the experiences of
student-facing staff at Jesuit
colleges and universities

Jerome Jay Martinez Jr.
Von Ormy, Texas
Motivating factors for Hispanic
American volunteers: A
phenomenological study of non-
profit environmental advocacy
organizations in southern California

Jessica Jean McAndrew
Chicago, Illinois
Entrepreneurial leadership in a
midwestern mission-driven company:
A qualitative intrinsic case study

Jeremy Joseph Moore
Elkhorn, Nebraska
High school students sense
of belonging: Why do some
students have a higher sense
of belonging than others?

Anna Michelle Morelock
Omaha, Nebraska
Leader experiences of limited
employment terms at U.S.
Army garrisons overseas

Ryan Robert Mueller
Ellison Bay, Wisconsin
Examining employee perceptions
of organizational culture and its
impact on their engagement:
A qualitative case study

Lindsay Roberts
Topeka, Kansas
Safety matters: A study of
psychological safety in a hybrid work
team of a nuclear generating station

Omar Garth Robinson
North Miami Beach, Florida
The impact of employees'
perception of leadership
styles on their motivation: A
phenomenological assessment
in Jamaica's hotel industry

Susan Michiko Shirachi
Hilo, Hawaii
Native Hawaiian identity: A cultural
intersection between curriculum and
students, faculty, and administrators

Justin Jensby Voss
Huntington Beach, California
Incorporating social emotional
learning into the college admission
process: Perspectives of alumni and
current parents at a high achieving
college preparatory school



Traditions of Creighton



Creighton Seal

The Creighton University seal includes elements representing the Creighton family, Creighton's Jesuit tradition and the Omaha Archdiocese.

The gold stripes on the red field, in the upper left-hand quadrant of the shield, come from the family coat of arms of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). The lion rampant comes from the Creighton family coat of arms, and the three seashells on a field of white and red sable come from the Wareham family coat of arms—paying homage to Creighton University's founding families. The design for the shield's final quadrant, in the lower left, comes from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Omaha. The starburst behind the shield comes from the seal of the Society of Jesus.



Ceremonial Mace

In the Middle Ages, the mace was a club used in battle and carried by a bodyguard to defend a person of authority. Over the years, it began to lose its warlike image and became a symbol of peaceful leadership.

At an academic institution, the mace is the symbol of the legal and chartered authority of the leadership to whom the board of trustees has delegated authority. When the ceremonial mace is present, the authority of the University is present. Use of the mace is reserved for occasions of outstanding importance, and it is an honor to bear the mace.

The Creighton University mace was designed and fashioned by Brian K. Besack, operations supervisor of the University's carpenter shop, at the invitation of then president, the Rev. John P. Schlegel, S.J., to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the University.

Using a cherry wood baluster from a long-abandoned staircase in the attic of Creighton Hall, the oldest building on Creighton's campus, Besack designed and fashioned the shaft, head and foot of the mace. Each facet of the nine-sided head displays a bronze, gold-plated medallion bearing the name and founding date of the University's schools and colleges. Its foot is sheathed in gold-plated brass, and cradled in its shaft rests the official seal of the University. At its top, the mace is crowned with a three-dimensional blue and gold medallion symbol of the Society of Jesus.



History of Academic Regalia

The robes, hats and hoods worn by faculty members and graduates as they march into the commencement hall, and even the different colors you see on them, have historical origins and significance. During the Middle Ages, scholars at the earliest English and European universities wore wool or fur garments to stay warm in the drafty, stone buildings that were poorly heated. Most of the scholars were also monks or priests, and as such had the hair shaved from the crowns of their heads in the distinctive clerical tonsure. Most wore cloaks that included a hood that could be pulled up to keep their heads warm. The academic gowns and hoods were adapted from both secular and clerical garments of the time, and the hood was chosen by the early scholars to indicate by color, trim or binding the degree held by the wearer.

The style of academic dress most frequently worn in the United States dates back to colonial times, although it was not formally adopted until near the end of the 19th century, when it was chosen as appropriate attire by the Intercollegiate Commission during a meeting in New York. It has remained the general standard in America since, although some variations occur at individual institutions. In the United States, black is the traditional color for academic gowns, although some institutions allow holders of doctoral degrees to wear robes in the university's colors.

The sleeves of the robes vary, depending on the degree held by the wearer. The bachelor's robe has long, pointed sleeves. The master's robe has sleeves that are oblong and closed at the ends, with slits through which the arms may be extended. The doctoral robe has a full sleeve with a velvet facing on the front and at the neck, and three velvet bars on each sleeve. The velvet may be black or of a color that symbolizes the degree held by the wearer.

The head covering most commonly used in the United States is the square, tasseled "mortarboard." Some American universities, however, use berets, and in other countries a variety of styles of head coverings is worn with academic regalia. The tassel is usually black and is worn over the left front quarter of the mortarboard. Holders of doctoral degrees may wear gold tassels.

The hood is the most distinctive feature of American academic dress, which through color and design may indicate the wear's degree and the institution at which that degree was earned. Hoods are lined with the colors of the institution that awards the degree, and may be faced with the color designating the degree awarded. Hoods vary in length. The bachelor's hood is about three feet long, the master's slightly longer and the doctoral version is longer still and is decorated with broad color panels.

Candidates may have the hood ceremoniously placed upon them, as is done at some British universities, or a college/school may 'self-hood' en masse at the appropriate time during the ceremony as has been the practice at Fordham University in the United States. Additionally, the code allows for the wearing of the hood into the commencement ceremony as part of the academic procession, but only if neither of the two procedures above are being employed.

The code also states: "It is quite appropriate for the bachelor's gown to be worn without a hood." Many institutions, particularly larger ones, have therefore dispensed with the bachelor's hood at commencement ceremonies altogether, though a graduate is still entitled to wear one once the degree is conferred. Honorary and/or earned doctoral degrees are very often conferred by the highest academic officer of an institution bestowing the appropriate hood at the podium, regardless of the procedure being followed for other candidates at the ceremony.

Only one hood may be worn at any given time. Trim colors may not be combined or displayed together in any way to attempt to indicate more than one academic field. The regalia indicating the highest degree attained is usually worn, though the code seems to allow for a graduate to revert for some occasion to the entire academic costume (e.g., robe style, trim width, hood length, etc.) of a lesser degree earned. Those who hold multiple degrees of the same level (i.e., more than one master's or doctorate degree) may wear at any given time the regalia, in its entirety, of any one degree earned. The code does not allow for "mixing-and matching." The regalia prescribed by an academic institution and the degree actually awarded by that institution to the wearer (as indicated by trim color, hood length, robe style, etc.) must be consistent. The one exception is for officers of the academic institution who, while wearing a doctoral gown of the university being served, may display one hood from any degree earned from any institution.



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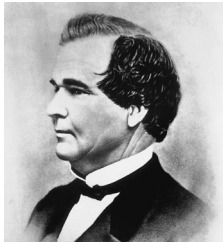
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Vice Provost, Student Success

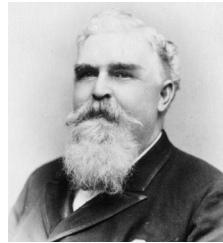
*Creighton alumnus/alumna



Edward Creighton



Mary Lucretia Creighton



John Creighton



Sarah Emily Creighton

History of Creighton University

Edward and Mary Lucretia Creighton, along with Edward's brother, John, settled in Omaha in the 1850s. John married Mary Lucretia's sister, Sarah Emily Wareham, in 1868, and the four are considered the founders of Creighton University. Edward's work with the transcontinental telegraph and freighting, ranching, railroading and banking became a major force in the city's economic development. The two brothers were widely known for their business enterprises, and the two couples were also widely regarded for their philanthropy.

Edward died in 1874, and his widow included \$100,000 in her will to establish Creighton College in memory of her husband. Mary Lucretia died in 1876, and her executors, who included her brother-in-law John, purchased 6.2 acres of land at the northwest corner of what is currently 24th and California streets. The land and additional securities were transferred to Bishop James O'Connor of Omaha, and construction began on the school.

The bishop asked the Jesuits to operate the school and the first president, Roman A. Shaffel, S.J., arrived in Omaha in late 1877; the school opened on Sept. 2, 1878. One priest, two scholastics, a layman and a laywoman formed the faculty. The school began with 120 students ranging in age from 6 to 30. On Aug. 14, 1879, Bishop O'Connor surrendered his trust to the Jesuits, who incorporated "The Creighton University" under Nebraska law. Much of the initial teaching was below the collegiate level; in 1891, Creighton University awarded its first baccalaureate degree.



Edward and Mary Lucretia's generosity is credited with establishing Creighton College, while John and Sarah Emily's philanthropy enlarged it to a five-school university. Today, Creighton University consists of nine schools and colleges:

- College of Arts and Sciences (1878)
- School of Medicine (1892)
- School of Law (1904)
- School of Dentistry (1905)
- School of Pharmacy and Health Professions (1905)
- Heider College of Business (1920)
- Graduate School (1926)
- College of Nursing (1971; four-year bachelor's degree program began in 1958)
- College of Professional and Continuing Education (Established as University College in 1983)




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