



WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY®

Commencement in Las Vegas



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2021



Our Mission

*To change lives for the better by creating pathways
to opportunity.*

Our Promise

*We endeavor to make opportunity work for everyone by
improving quality, access, and outcomes of education
through diverse, innovative programs, systems, and
technologies.*

wgu.edu

Message from the President



Dear Graduates,

On behalf of all of us at WGU, I congratulate you and welcome you to our commencement. We recognize and respect the hard work and sacrifices you have made to complete your degree, and today is your day to celebrate this important milestone in your life.

We share your excitement and pride in this achievement—one that has the potential to make a real difference for you, your family, and even future generations. As you join the ranks of the more than 250,000 WGU graduates, we hope you will stay in touch through the Alumni Network.

Again, thank you for joining us today. We are grateful for the opportunity to share this day with you and your loved ones. Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott D. Pulsipher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Scott D. Pulsipher, President
Western Governors University

Commencement Speaker



John Quiñones

*ABC News Anchor
and Correspondent*

A lifetime of “never taking no for an answer” took John Quiñones from migrant farm work and poverty to more than 30 years at ABC News, the anchor desk at 20/20 and Primetime, and 7 national Emmy® awards for his reporting. Along the way, he broke through barriers, won the highest accolades, and became a role model for many.

Known for connecting with audiences and leaving them uplifted and inspired, Quiñones delivers a powerful message of believing in one’s self, never giving up, and always, always doing the right thing. As host and creator of *What Would You Do?*, the highly-rated, hidden camera ethical dilemma newsmagazine, Quiñones has literally become “the face of doing the right thing”. It’s a role that he has enthusiastically embraced off camera, with a popular book and keynote presentations that challenge both business and general audiences to examine the *What Would You Do?* moments we face every day.

His moving presentations focus on his odds-defying journey, celebrate the life-changing power of education, champion the Latino American Dream, and provide thought-provoking insights into human nature and ethical behavior. This work and his many achievements were recently recognized with honorary doctorate degrees from Davis & Elkins College in West Virginia and Utah Valley University.

Ceremony Program

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Rick Benbow

Regional Vice President

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Brittany Taylor, Inglewood, CA

Master of Business Administration

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Scott D. Pulsipher

President

GRADUATE SPEAKERS

Qu'Teaus Smith, Locust Grove, GA

M.S. Management and Leadership

Kathleen Fowers, Lehi, UT

M.A. Teaching, English Education - Secondary

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

John Quiñones

ABC News Anchor and Correspondent

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Dr. Lucas Kavlie

Vice President of Compliance, Accreditation, and Academic Engagement

College of Business

College of Health Professions

College of Information Technology

Teachers College

CLOSING REMARKS

Scott D. Pulsipher

President

The flower arrangements displayed on stage for today's commencement are placed in memory of those students and graduates who have passed away. Our thoughts are with their families and friends.

Member Governors

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt, Chairman Emeritus
Governor, Utah 1993–2003

Alaska

The Honorable
Michael J. Dunleavy

Arizona

The Honorable
Doug Ducey

California

The Honorable
Gavin Newsom

Colorado

The Honorable
Jared Polis

Guam

The Honorable
Lou Leon Guerrero

Hawaii

The Honorable
David Ige

Idaho

The Honorable
Brad Little

Indiana

The Honorable
Eric Holcomb

Montana

The Honorable
Greg Gianforte

Nebraska

The Honorable
Pete Ricketts

Nevada

The Honorable
Steve Sisolak

New Mexico

The Honorable
Michelle Lujan Grisham

North Dakota

The Honorable
Doug Burgum

Oklahoma

The Honorable
Kevin Stitt

Oregon

The Honorable
Kate Brown

South Dakota

The Honorable
Kristi Noem

Texas

The Honorable
Greg Abbott

Utah

The Honorable
Spencer Cox

Washington

The Honorable
Jay R. Inslee

Wyoming

The Honorable
Mark Gordon

Board of Trustees

Chairman

Dr. Charles Sorenson

President and CEO Emeritus, Intermountain Healthcare

John W. Bluford III

*President, Bluford Healthcare
Leadership Institute*

Cole Clark

*Executive Director, Higher Education
Client Relations, Deloitte Services, LP*

Joseph Fuller

*Professor of Management Practice
& Co-Director of the Managing the
Future of Work Project,
Harvard University*

The Honorable

Jim Geringer

*Director, Policy & Public Sector, ESRI
Governor, State of Wyoming
(1995–2003)*

The Honorable

Eric Holcomb

Governor, State of Indiana

Tammy Johns

CEO, Strategy & Talent

Lenny Mendonca

*Former Chief Economic and Business
Advisor, Governor of California*

Talia Milgrom-Elcott

*Co-Founder and Executive Director,
100Kin10*

The Honorable

Jared Polis

Governor, State of Colorado

Scott D. Pulsipher

President, Western Governors University

David Simmons

President, Simmons Media Group

Dr. Samuel H. Smith

*President Emeritus,
Washington State University*

Jessie Woolley-Wilson

CEO & President, Dreambox Learning

CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWLS! YOU DID IT!

Welcome to our growing alumni network,
now more than 250,000 strong!

Stay connected, network with colleagues, and learn
about the many resources and benefits available to you:

[Visit \[wgu.edu/alumni\]\(https://www.wgu.edu/alumni\)](https://www.wgu.edu/alumni)

GET SOCIAL

Share the excitement!
Use [#WGUgrad](https://twitter.com/WGUgrad) to tag your commencement posts.



WGU  | ALUMNI