



# WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY®

*Summer Virtual Commencement*



SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 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 want to congratulate you and welcome you to our commencement celebration. 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 245,000 WGU graduates, we hope you will stay in touch through the Alumni Network.

Again, thank you for joining us today. We are so 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*



## **Carmen Kingston**

*RGM Vice President, Sam's Club  
Operations Northeast Region*

Carmen Kingston was born in northern Mexico and came to the U.S. at the age of 18 with her lifesavings and goal to achieve her dreams, including becoming an American citizen.

After working in the cotton fields of Oklahoma for a few years, Carmen achieved her dream of becoming a citizen and eventually joined Walmart.

Carmen has had responsibility for Sam's Club Operations in Mexico and led the operations and corporate office in Puerto Rico.

In her 25 years with Walmart, Inc., Carmen has received many accolades and recognition, including the Sam M. Walton Award of Excellence, the highest award given to Walmart and Sam's Club associates. She is an advocate for diversity and inclusion efforts and serves as the executive sponsor for Sam's Club LatinX Associate Resource Group.

She was named to the Expansion magazine's list of "100 Most Powerful Women in Business" for three consecutive years.

Carmen lives with her husband, Stephen, in Bentonville, Arkansas, where she currently oversees the Sam's Club Operations for the Northeast Region. Carmen is a mom of 3 children and recently celebrated the birth of her first grandson, Israel.

# *Ceremony Program*

## OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Dr. Sarah DeMark**

*Vice Provost, Workforce Intelligence & Credential Integrity*

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

**Stephanie Hester, Creede, CO**

*B.A. Elementary Education*

## WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

**Scott D. Pulsipher**

*President, Western Governors University*

## GRADUATE SPEAKERS

**Pixley E. Rickman, Silver Spring, MD**

*B.S. Network Operations and Security*

**Laura Wilson, White Bluff, TN**

*M.Ed Learning and Technology*

## COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

**Carmen Kingston**

*RGM Vice President, Sam's Club Operations Northeast Region*

PLEASE NOTE: THERE ARE TWO BROADCASTS  
FOR THIS CEREMONY

**Visit: [wgu.edu/virtual](http://wgu.edu/virtual) to select the correct ceremony  
MASTER'S or BACHELOR'S**

*Both broadcasts will be available to view following the live ceremony*

## CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

**Debbie Fowler**

*Senior Vice President, Student Success*

## CLOSING REMARKS

**Scott D. Pulsipher**

# Conferral of Degrees

## MASTER'S DEGREES

### College of Business (~9 minutes)

M.S. Accounting  
M.S. Management and Leadership  
Master of Business Administration  
MBA, Healthcare Management  
MBA, IT Management

### College of Health Professions

(~8 minutes)  
M.S. Nursing - Education  
M.S. Nursing - Leadership and Management  
M.S. Nursing - Nursing Informatics  
Master of Health Leadership

### College of Information Technology

(~2 minutes)  
M.S. Cybersecurity and Information Assurance  
M.S. Data Analytics  
M.S. Information Technology Management

### Teachers College (~8 minutes)

M.A. Educational Studies  
M.A. English Language Learning  
M.A. Mathematics Education  
M.A. Mathematics Education - Middle Grades  
M.A. Mathematics Education - Secondary  
M.A. Science Education - Middle Grades  
M.A. Science Education, Biological Science - Secondary  
M.A. Science Education, Earth Science - Secondary  
M.A. Science Education, Physics - Secondary  
M.A. Teaching, Elementary Education  
M.A. Teaching, English Education - Secondary  
M.A. Teaching, Mathematics Education - Middle Grades  
M.A. Teaching, Mathematics Education - Secondary  
M.A. Teaching, Science Education - Secondary  
M.Ed. Instructional Design  
M.Ed. Learning and Technology  
M.S. Curriculum and Instruction  
M.S. Educational Leadership  
M.S. Secondary Educational Leadership  
M.S. Special Education  
M.Ed. Learning and Technology

## BACHELOR'S DEGREES

### College of Business (~12 minutes)

B.S. Accounting  
B.S. Business - Healthcare Management  
B.S. Business - Human Resource Management  
B.S. Business - Information Technology Management  
B.S. Business Administration - Accounting  
B.S. Business Administration - Healthcare Management  
B.S. Business Administration - Human Resource Management  
B.S. Business Administration - Information Technology Management  
B.S. Business Administration - Management  
B.S. Business Administration - Marketing  
B.S. Business Management  
B.S. Marketing Management

### College of Health Professions

(~7 minutes)  
B.S. Health Information Management  
B.S. Health Services Coordination  
B.S. Nursing

### College of Information Technology

(~4 minutes)  
B.S. Cloud and Systems Administration  
B.S. Cloud Computing  
B.S. Computer Science  
B.S. Cybersecurity and Information Assurance  
B.S. Data Management/Data Analytics  
B.S. Information Technology  
B.S. IT - Networks Administration Emphasis  
B.S. Network Operations and Security  
B.S. Software Development

### Teachers College (~9 minutes)

B.A. Educational Studies  
B.A. Educational Studies - Elementary Education  
B.A. Educational Studies - Secondary Biological Science  
B.A. Educational Studies - Secondary Mathematics  
B.A. Educational Studies - Special and Elementary Education  
B.A. Educational Studies - Special Education Mild to Moderate Exceptionalities  
B.A. Elementary Education  
B.A. Interdisciplinary Studies  
B.A. Mathematics  
B.A. Science - Geo  
B.A. Science - Physics  
B.A. Special Education  
B.A. Special Education - Mild to Moderate  
B.A. Special Education and Elementary Education  
B.S. Mathematics Education - Secondary  
B.S. Science Education - Middle Grades  
B.S. Science Education - Secondary Biological Science  
Post-baccalaureate, Elementary Education

# *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*

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President and CEO Emeritus, Intermountain Healthcare

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Client Relations, Deloitte Services, LP*

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*Professor of Management Practice &  
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of Work Project,  
Harvard University*

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*Director, Policy & Public Sector, ESRI  
Governor, State of Wyoming  
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*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 245,000 strong!

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

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

## GET SOCIAL

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



**WGU**  | ALUMNI

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.