



WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY®

COMMENCEMENT IN SEATTLE

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023



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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Graduates,

On behalf of all of us at WGU, I want to congratulate you and recognize all of the hard work that has led to today. Only you know the many sacrifices you made to complete your degree. This is your moment to pause and reflect on this significant accomplishment—and celebrate this life-changing milestone!

It has been our privilege to be on this journey alongside you, and we share in your excitement and pride. Your degree has the potential to change your life and make a real difference to your family and community. As you join the ranks of more than 325,000 WGU graduates, we hope you will stay in touch through the Alumni Association.

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

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink that reads "Scott D. Pulsipher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Scott D. Pulsipher, President
Western Governors University

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Jen Mueller

Trainer, Speaker, Sports Broadcaster

A 22-year sports broadcasting veteran, Jen Mueller is in her 15th season as the Seattle Seahawks sideline radio reporter. She is also an Emmy award-winning producer and is part of the Seattle Mariners television broadcast team on ROOT SPORTS. Jen was the 2022 recipient of the Keith Jackson Media Excellence Award presented by the Seattle Sports Commission.

In addition to her work on the sidelines, Jen is established as a business communication expert. Through her company, Talk Sporty to Me, she provides a unique twist on business communication based on her time in locker rooms and expertise in one-on-one conversations. She is also the author of three books and the executive producer of her own cooking show.

Master's Ceremony Program

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Lucas Kavlie

Vice Provost

ANTHEM SINGER

Aleyna Herley, Kent, WA

M.A. Teaching–Elementary Education

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Tonya Drake

Regional Vice President, Northwest

GRADUATE SPEAKERS

Francesca Capozzi, Redmond, WA

M.S. Data Analytics

David Cinderella, Sammamish, WA

Master of Business Administration

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Jen Mueller

Trainer, Speaker, Sports Broadcaster

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Dr. Sarah DeMark

Interim Provost

College of Business

Michael O. Leavitt School of Health

College of Information Technology

School of Education

CLOSING REMARKS

Scott D. Pulsipher

President

Bachelor's Ceremony Program

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Lucas Kavlie

Vice Provost

ANTHEM SINGER

Erin Darby, Lake Stevens, WA

B.S. Nursing

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Tonya Drake

Regional Vice President, Northwest

GRADUATE SPEAKERS

Lacey Junell, Tacoma, WA

B.A. Elementary Education

Thomas Fairchild, Everett, WA

B.S. Mathematics Education

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Jen Mueller

Trainer, Speaker, Sports Broadcaster

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Dr. Sarah DeMark

Interim Provost

College of Business

Michael O. Leavitt School of Health

College of Information Technology

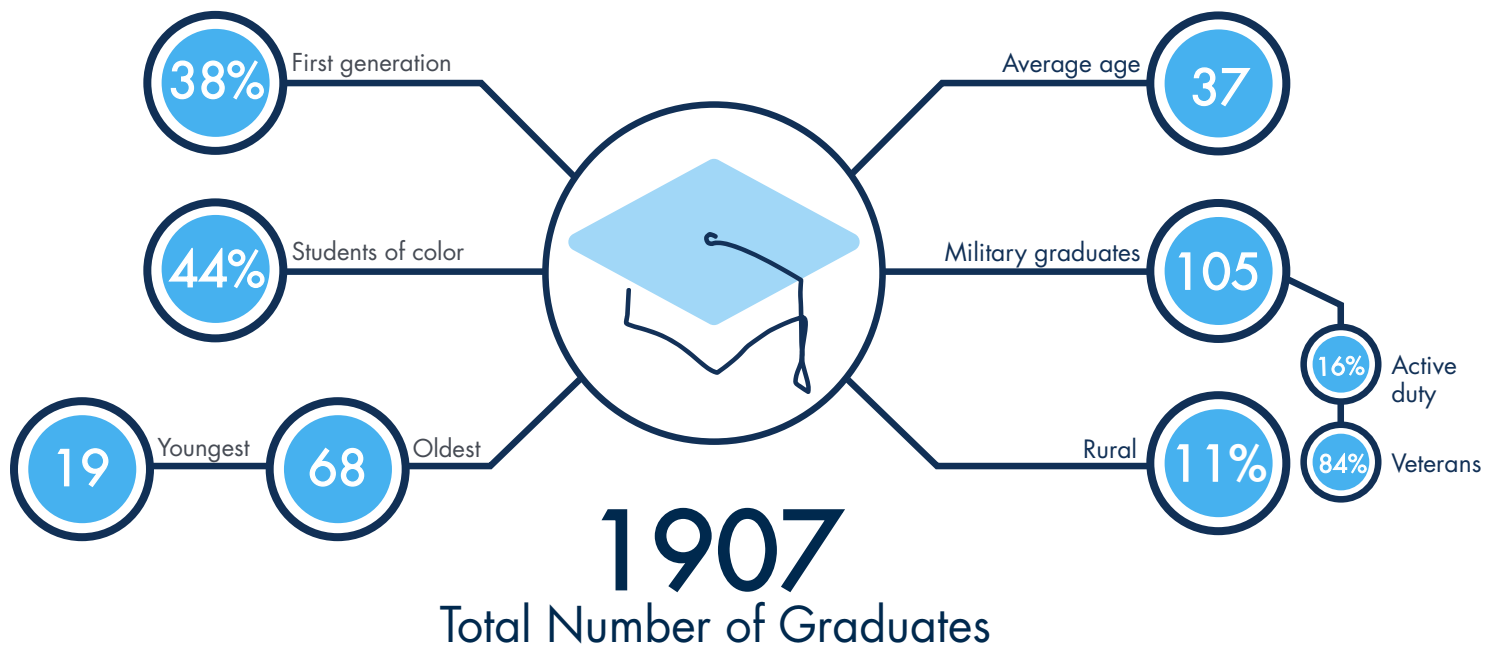
School of Education

CLOSING REMARKS

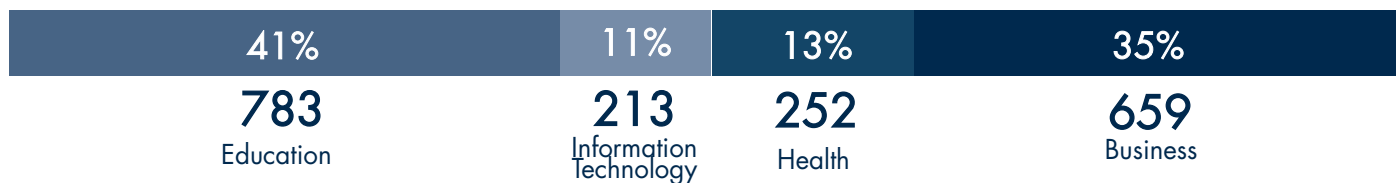
Scott D. Pulsipher

President

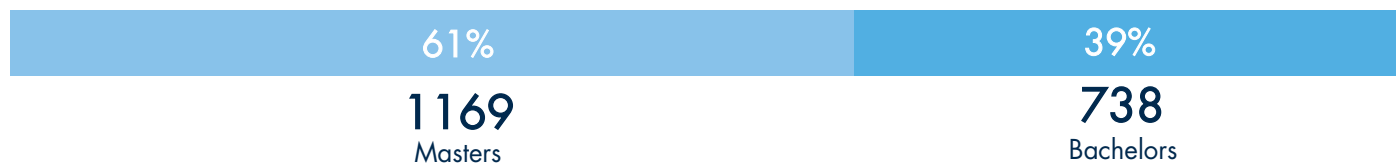
2023 COMMENCEMENT IN SEATTLE GRADUATING CLASS PROFILE



Degree distribution by college:



Degree type:



55%
Percentage of graduates
from Washington

3,300
Furthest distance traveled
(from Miami Springs, FL)

46
Number of states represented
(including U.S. territories)

MEMBER GOVERNORS

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt, Chairman Emeritus

Governor, Utah 1993–2003

Alaska

The Honorable
Michael J. Dunleavy

Indiana

The Honorable
Eric Holcomb

Oregon

The Honorable
Tina Kotek

Arizona

The Honorable
Katie Hobbs

Montana

The Honorable
Greg Gianforte

South Dakota

The Honorable
Kristi Noem

California

The Honorable
Gavin Newsom

Nebraska

The Honorable
Jim Pillen

Texas

The Honorable
Greg Abbott

Colorado

The Honorable
Jared Polis

Nevada

The Honorable
Joe Lombardo

Utah

The Honorable
Spencer Cox

Guam

The Honorable
Lou Leon Guerrero

New Mexico

The Honorable
Michelle Lujan Grisham

Washington

The Honorable
Jay R. Inslee

Hawaii

The Honorable
Josh Green, M.D.

North Dakota

The Honorable
Doug Burgum

Wyoming

The Honorable
Mark Gordon

Idaho

The Honorable
Brad Little

Oklahoma

The Honorable
Kevin Stitt

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OneTen

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Higher Education, Deloitte

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Professor of Management Practice
and Co-Director of the Managing
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Harvard Business School

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(1995–2003)

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Governor of Massachusetts

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Governor, State of Indiana

Lenny Mendonca

Former Chief Economic and Business
Advisor, State of California

Talia Milgrom-Elcott

Founder of The Starfish Institute,
Co-Founder and Executive Director,
100Kin10

The Honorable

Jared Polis

Governor, State of Colorado

Scott D. Pulsipher

President, Western Governors University

David Simmons

Chairman, CEO,
Simmons Media Group

Dr. Samuel H. Smith

President Emeritus,
Washington State University

Jessie Woolley-Wilson

CEO and President,
DreamBox Learning



CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWLS! YOU DID IT!

Welcome to our growing alumni network,
now more than 325,000 strong.

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

Visit wgu.edu/alumni

GET SOCIAL

Share the excitement.

Use #WGUgrad to tag your commencement posts.



WGU  | ALUMNI