



**COMMENCEMENT IN NEW YORK**

APRIL 25, 2026



## OUR MISSION

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

## OUR PROMISE

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We provide strong returns on students' educational investments through a deep connection to workforce needs, respected and relevant credentials, eliminating unnecessary costs, and generous financial assistance and transfer policies.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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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 435,000 graduates and counting, we hope you will stay in touch through the Alumni Association.

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 fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

*Scott D. Pulsipher, President  
Western Governors University*

# MORNING HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

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## **Jay Timmons**

*President and CEO, National Association of Manufacturers*

Jay Timmons is president and CEO of the National Association of Manufacturers, the largest manufacturing association in the United States and the most influential voice for the 13 million men and women who make things in America.

One of the longest-serving trade association CEOs in the country, Jay is a trusted leader among business and political circles alike—widely recognized for helping manufacturers achieve the policy wins that have shaped the American economy over the past decade. Under his leadership, the NAM has doubled in size and delivered landmark victories, including historic tax reform, regulatory modernization, landmark investment in infrastructure and reshaped the perception of manufacturing and manufacturing careers in the U.S.

Jay has also built the NAM into a full-scale platform for the industry, expanding legal advocacy, strengthening its voice in the courts and the public square, and advancing workforce programs that are now national models. As chair of the Manufacturing Institute, he has led efforts to close the skills gap and connect more Americans with careers in modern manufacturing.

Jay's leadership is grounded in the NAM's founding values: free enterprise, competitiveness, individual liberty and equal opportunity.

# AFTERNOON HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

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## **Deborah Quazzo**

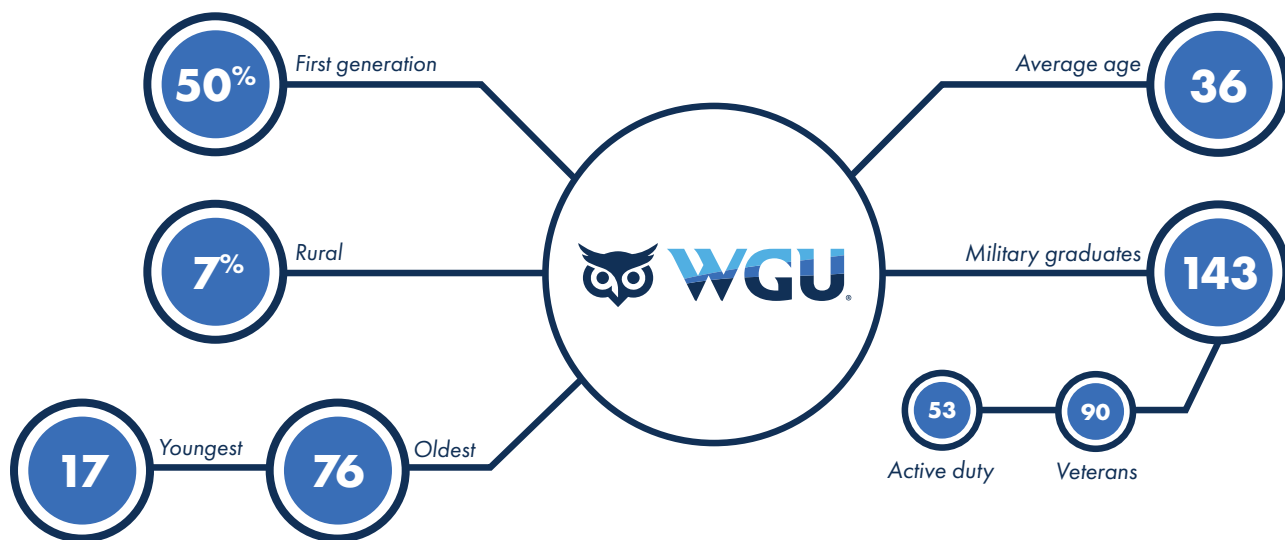
*Managing Partner, GSV Ventures*

*Co-founder, ASU+SGV Summit*

Deborah Quazzo is the Managing Partner of GSV Ventures, a venture fund investing in education and workforce skills technologies that are disrupting the \$7 trillion global sector. The fund invests globally - primarily in the US and India. Ms. Quazzo has been named to Insider's list of top 100 seed investors three times. In addition, she is co-founder of the ASU+GSV Summit, the preeminent gathering of leaders in education and workforce skilling. Now in its 17th year, the ASU+GSV Summit celebrates innovations and innovators, and attracts over 7,000 leaders from "PreK to Gray" education and workforce skills.

Ms. Quazzo serves on the boards of Ascend Learning, Degreed, Dreamscape Learn, Ellucian, Kyron Learning, Turnitin and Uplimit. She is a member of the board of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company. She serves on the GEMS Global Schools Prize Council and The Dean's Leadership Council Advisory Committee at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Deborah graduated cum laude with a BA in history from Princeton University in 1982 and an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1987. She and her husband Stephen live in Chicago and have three children and three grandchildren.

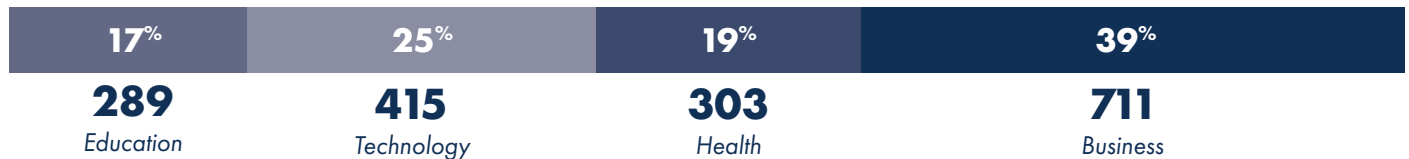
# GRADUATING CLASS PROFILE



## 1,718

Total Number of Graduates

### Degree distribution by college:



### Degree type:



## 18%

Percentage of graduates  
from New York

## 5,004

Furthest distance traveled  
from Ewa Beach, HI

## 48

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

# MORNING CEREMONY

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## OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Dr. K.L. Allen**

*Regional Vice President, Northeast Region*

## ANTHEM SINGER

**Catherine Gilman, Shelton, WA**

*M.Ed. Education Technology & Instructional Design*

## GRADUATE SPEAKERS

**Divine Oshideko, Wylie, TX**

*M.S. IT Management*

**Regina Myer, Rock Hill, SC**

*B.S. Nursing*

## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

**Jay Timmons**

*President and CEO, National Association of Manufacturers*

## CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

**Dr. Courtney Hills McBeth**

*Chief Academic Officer & Provost*

*Leavitt School of Health*

*School of Education*

*School of Technology*

*School of Business*

## CLOSING REMARKS

**Scott D. Pulsipher**

*President*

# AFTERNOON CEREMONY

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## OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Dr. K.L. Allen**

*Regional Vice President, Northeast Region*

## ANTHEM SINGER

**Haniyah Bey, Pleasantville, NJ**

*B.S. IT Management*

## GRADUATE SPEAKERS

**Monica Vargas, Pawtucket, RI**

*M.S. Educational Leadership*

**Shawnette Jones, Pottstown, PA**

*B.S. Business Management*

## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

**Deborah Quazzo**

*Managing Partner, GSV Ventures*

*Co-founder, ASU+SGV Summit*

## CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

**Dr. Courtney Hills McBeth**

*Chief Academic Officer & Provost*

*Leavitt School of Health*

*School of Education*

*School of Technology*

*School of Business*

## CLOSING REMARKS

**Scott D. Pulsipher**

*President*

# MEMBER GOVERNORS

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**The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt, Chairman Emeritus**

*Governor, Utah 1993–2003*

## **Alaska**

*The Honorable  
Michael J. Dunleavy*

## **Indiana**

*The Honorable  
Frank O'Bannon*

## **Oregon**

*The Honorable  
Tina Kotek*

## **Arizona**

*The Honorable  
Katie Hobbs*

## **Montana**

*The Honorable  
Greg Gianforte*

## **South Dakota**

*The Honorable  
Larry Rhoden*

## **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  
Bob Ferguson*

## **Hawaii**

*The Honorable  
Josh Green*

## **North Dakota**

*The Honorable  
Kelly Armstrong*

## **Wyoming**

*The Honorable  
Mark Gordon*

## **Idaho**

*The Honorable  
Brad Little*

## **Oklahoma**

*The Honorable  
Kevin Stitt*

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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## **Joseph B. Fuller, Chair**

*Professor of Management Practice and  
Co-Head of the Managing the Future of Work Project at Harvard Business School*

## **April Chou**

*Managing Director  
Jasper Ridge Partners*

## **Lenny Mendonca**

*Former Chief Economic and Business Advisor  
State of California*

## **Cole Clark**

*Managing Director, Higher Education  
Deloitte*

## **Talia Milgrom-Elcott**

*Founder & Executive Director  
Beyond100K & Starfish Institute*

## **The Honorable Spencer Cox**

*Governor, State of Utah*

## **Laxman Narasimhan**

*Board Member  
Verizon, The Brookings Institution, Just Capital*

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*CEO, Reboot Representation*

## **Eloy Oakley**

*CEO, College Futures Foundation*

## **Dr. Harold Lee Martin, Sr.**

*Chancellor Emeritus  
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical  
State University*

## **The Honorable Jared Polis**

*Governor, State of Colorado*

## **Denis McDonough**

*Principal  
Clarion Strategies  
Scholar-in-Residence  
St. John's University*

## **Scott D. Pulsipher**

*President, Western Governors University*

## **Dr. Ruth Watkins**

*President, Postsecondary Education  
Strada Education Foundation*

# EMERITUS TRUSTEES

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## **The Honorable Jim Geringer**

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

## **David Simmons**

*Chairman & CEO, Simmons Media Group*

## **Dr. Samuel H. Smith**

*President Emeritus,  
Washington State University*



# CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWLS! YOU DID IT!

*Welcome to our growing alumni network,  
now more than 435,000 strong!*

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

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

## GET SOCIAL

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*Share the excitement!*

*Use #WGUgrad to tag your commencement posts.*

