

# Winter Commencement



*Saturday, December Seventeenth  
Two Thousand and Sixteen*



## Viterbo University

### Identity

*Founded and sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration,  
Viterbo is a Catholic, Franciscan University in the liberal arts tradition.*

### Mission

*The Viterbo University community prepares students  
for faithful service and ethical leadership.*



## **Prayer of St. Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.  
Where there is injury, pardon.  
Where there is doubt, faith.  
Where there is despair, hope.  
Where there is darkness, light.  
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
To be consoled as to console.  
To be understood as to understand.  
To be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.



# Program

## PROCESSIONAL

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Glena Temple, Ph.D., President-elect

### INVOCATION

Debra Randall Anderson, Admission Counselor  
Adult, Graduate, and International Admissions

### WELCOME

Richard B. Artman, Ph.D., President

### STUDENT ADDRESS

Christopher Pasquale '16

### MUSICAL SELECTION

*Go Tell It On the Mountain*

Arranged by Stacey V. Gibbs

9th Street Singers

Brett Robison, director

### PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DIPLOMAS

Thomas Knothe, J.D., Dean  
College of Business and Leadership

### AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS

Richard B. Artman  
Kent Handel, B.S., Chair, Board of Trustees  
Liza A. Ware, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Psychology, Chair, Faculty Council

**CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Richard B. Artman

**CONGRATULATORY REMARKS**

Kent Handel

**ALUMNI WELCOME**

Kathleen Duerwachter '10, Director, Alumni Relations

**PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS**

Juan Jimenez '01, '06, President, Alumni Board

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Jan Eriksen, Faculty Emeritus  
Richard B. Artman, President Emeritus

**ALMA MATER**

**BENEDICTION**

Fr. Conrad Targonski, OFM, University Chaplain

**RECESSIONAL**

*As a courtesy to the graduates, all guests are requested to remain in their seats during the ceremony and during the recessional until all graduates and faculty have left the main theatre.*



## Commencement Marshals

Jennifer Hedrick-Erickson  
Tina Johns

Debra Murray  
Laura Nettles, FSPA



## Commencement Committee

Emilio Alvarez  
Annie Baumann  
Rebecca Byrnes  
Maureen Cooney  
Kathleen Duerwachter  
Jane Eddy  
Jack Hamilton  
Christine Hardie  
Jennifer Hedrick-Erickson  
Laurie Kessler  
Chad Kolbe

Jackie Kuennen  
Jessie Latten  
Dorothy Lenard  
Nancy Oelke  
Jodi Reider  
Kori Salaski  
Sheila Severson  
Tiffany Smith  
Mark Tollefsen  
Steve Wenger



## Acknowledgements

### 9th Street Singers

Brett Robison, director  
Aubrie Jacobsen, accompanist

#### **Soprano**

Lydia Mackie  
Claire Olson  
Deana Schmidt  
Leah Wons

#### **Alto**

Maria Fuller  
Aubrie Jacobsen  
Megan Mellenthien  
Carly Ziegler

#### **Tenor**

Aaryn Jones  
Joseph Madary  
Andrew Wegner  
Luke Wodzak

#### **Bass**

Paul Capparelli  
Hunter Evenson  
Joe Lange  
Dylan Woodman

### Student Ushers

Viterbo University Alumni Association  
Viterbo University Bookstore  
Viterbo University Instructional and Information Technology Department  
Viterbo University Faculty and Staff Assisting Today  
Viterbo University Office of the Registrar



## **The University Seal**

Using symbols and words, the university seal reveals the rich history of Viterbo based on mission and purpose. The original seal, which has twice been slightly modified, was created in the early 1960s by Imogene Thiele, FSPA, a member of the art department.

Designed according to the science of heraldry, the shield located in the center of the seal contains a wealth of information. Clockwise from upper right: the cross symbolizes Christian identity; the wavy lines portray the Black, La Crosse, and Mississippi Rivers, which join forces in La Crosse to provide Viterbo with its unique geographic location; the torch of learning symbolizes the chief function of the university; the rose honors St. Rose of Viterbo, the patron saint of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, the founders of Viterbo.

Beyond the shield, the word “knowledge” is retained from a very early Viterbo motto taken from the Bible: “Teach me goodness, discipline and knowledge” (Ps. 118:66). Later “faith” and “service” were added to complete the virtues to be embodied in a liberal arts education.

The final elements contain basic information specific to Viterbo’s location, in La Crosse, Wis., where the mission of Viterbo University began in 1890. Two small tau crosses are to be found in the outermost ring, proclaiming the Franciscan heritage of Viterbo. The tau was the standard cross in the days of St. Francis, and it is formed by the Greek letter “T.”

With its rich symbolism, the university seal is a constant reminder of Viterbo’s past as well as a guide to the future for all who are here today.

## **The San Damiano Cross**

In lieu of the university mace, which is often the traditional symbol used by institutions of higher learning, the San Damiano Cross has come to represent Viterbo.

The San Damiano Cross is the sacred symbol before which Francis of Assisi prayed and heard God’s commission to “rebuild the church.” This icon was painted sometime shortly after the first millennium, at a time when the authentic humanity of Jesus was becoming more appreciated in the faith life of the people. In the early centuries of the Christian communities, the divinity and royal priesthood of Jesus was emphasized. The San Damiano Cross pictures the luminous figure of the resurrected Christ radiating out from a dark and deathlike background. He presides over an all inclusive cloud of witnesses: companions and friends, souls who have gone before him, and heavenly spirits. All of these figures have the hand of God pictured over them in a blessing. The crucifix is a distinctive art piece used by those who practice a Franciscan spirituality.

The San Damiano Cross is a symbol of the Franciscan heritage and identity of Viterbo. It attempts to stress the promise by God of a future that will respond to human hope. It affirms the continuity between the exercise of human freedom in this world and the final state of things. It draws all into the reality of God’s life. The San Damiano Cross offers a true and contemporary symbol for Franciscan higher education.

# Academic Regalia

The academic dress worn today for ceremonial occasions originated in the universities of the Middle Ages when classrooms were unheated and the academic gown and hood kept scholars warm. It became a distinctive symbol of academic pursuit, setting the academic apart from the non-academic, hence the phrase “gown versus town.”

The gown was standardized in the United States in 1894 when the American Intercollegiate Commission determined that all robes would be black. The master’s robe is distinguishable by long, closed sleeves; the doctor’s gown by a facing of black velvet from the hem to the neck and back, with three velvet bands around each sleeve above the elbow.

The traditional hood, also black, displays significant colors. The lining represents the colors of the university granting the wearer’s highest degree. The color of the hood facing signifies the individual’s academic discipline or school of study.

Although there has been much innovation in gown and cap design in recent years, the standard colors representing the various academic disciplines have remained the same: white (arts and letters), purple (law), scarlet (theology), dark blue (philosophy), yellow (science), brown (fine arts), pink (music), copper (economics), lemon (library science), light brown (business), light blue (education), citron yellow (social work), and apricot (nursing).

# Flags

The colored flags displayed on stage represent the academic disciplines offered by Viterbo University. The international flags also displayed on the stage today represent the home countries from which candidates for graduation have come. The displaying of flags is intended to show Viterbo University’s commitment and respect for a diverse community.

# Viterbo Alma Mater

Words and music by Joyce Grill

Vi - ter - bo, dear old Al - ma Ma - ter, we sing our praise to you, Vi -  
Vi - ter - bo, dear old Al - ma Ma - ter, your light shows us the way, The

ter - bo, dear old Al - ma Ma - ter, thru the years we will be true. With  
torch, the rose, the cross still help to guide us ev - 'ry day. With

grate - ful thanks we will re - call the warmth, the joy that graced your halls, Vi -  
grate - ful thanks we will re - call the warmth, the joy that graced your halls, Vi -

ter - bo, dear old Al - ma Ma - ter, we sing our praise to you.  
ter - bo, dear old Al - ma Ma - ter, your light shows us the way.

# Candidates for Graduation

The following candidates have or will meet the requirements for their degrees and have been recommended for graduation by the faculty.

## DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Toni Eileen Wissestad  
Sparta, WI

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

### Associate of Arts

Sara E. Steiger  
Chaseburg, WI

Bergetta B. Tower  
De Soto, WI

### Associate of Science

Holly D. Ford  
La Crosse, WI

## BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

### Bachelor of Arts

Amy Jo Addy  
Plymouth, WI  
*Spanish*

Rachel Joal Fries  
Sparta, WI  
*English*

Lindsey Napierala  
Edgar, WI  
*Spanish*

Benedict Michael Ritscher  
Obermichelbach, Germany  
*History*

Eileen Celeste Wynos  
La Crosse, WI  
*Spanish*

### Bachelor of Business Administration

Dana Lee Boehmke  
Sussex, WI  
*Management and Leadership*

Ashley Lynn Bush  
Pardeeville, WI  
*Business Administration*

Donald D. Byrum  
Porterville, CA  
*Organizational Management*

Peng Chen  
TaiZhou, China  
*Business Administration*

Erin Theresa Coughlin  
La Crescent, MN  
*Health Care Management/  
Organizational Management*

Jennifer Anne Day  
Waupun, WI  
*Management and Leadership*

Peter Joseph Drummond  
Racine, WI  
*Marketing*

Martina Evenson  
Volgfeld, Germany  
*Accounting*

Sarah L. Garvin  
Sparta, WI  
*Accounting*

Sarah Marie Gibson  
White Salmon, WA  
*Accounting*

Andrew S. Helland  
La Crescent, MN  
*Management and Leadership*

Meredith Kae Knower  
Galesville, WI  
*Organizational Management*

Amanda Lucille Kohlmeier  
Caledonia, MN  
*Organizational Management*

Jingwen Kong  
Shanghai, China  
*Business Administration*

Taylor Jae Lee  
Onalaska, WI  
*Marketing*

Jane M. Mathison  
La Crescent, MN  
*Organizational Management*

Letivvica D. Mauer  
East Moline, IL  
*Health Care Management*

Kathryn Ann Mormann  
La Crosse, WI  
*Business Administration*

Rebecca Murphy  
La Crosse, WI  
*Health Care Management*

Ronald Lee Olson II  
Holmen, WI  
*Management Information Systems*

Stacie Marie Sanborn  
DeSoto, WI  
*Accounting*

Ryan J. Semlar  
La Crosse, WI  
*Management Information Systems*

Russ E. Snediker  
Kenosha, WI  
*Management Information Systems*

Shyla M. Stedman  
Viola, WI  
*Management Information Systems*

Rachel Lynn Sterling  
Mindoro, WI  
*Health Care Management*

Ashley Elizabeth Vogel  
Westby, WI  
*Management and Leadership*

Yuanbo Wang  
Daqing, China  
*Business Administration*

Nathan Dean Wiste  
Spring Grove, MN  
*Accounting/Sport Management and  
Leadership*

Jiahang Xie  
Linyi, Shandong, China  
*Business Administration*

**Continued on next page**



Zhenfeng Yan  
TaiZhou, China  
*Business Administration*

Zhuoqi Yu  
Taizhou, China  
*Business Administration*

### **Bachelor of Fine Arts**

Ava Ruth Bush  
Sussex, WI  
*Music Theatre*

Daniel Ryan Hayes  
Port Orange, FL  
*Studio Art*

### **Bachelor of Liberal Studies**

Dennis Gaylord Brown  
La Crosse, WI

Marie E. Gulsvig  
Farmington, MN

Salina Taylor Jelen  
La Crosse, WI

Jessica Marie Lawrence  
Fort Atkinson, WI

Sara Jane Wisniewski  
Nashotah, WI

### **Bachelor of Music**

Megan E. Mellenthien  
Milwaukee, WI  
*Music Performance*

Isaac Sterling Pulchinski  
Wausau, WI  
*Music Education*

### **Bachelor of Science**

Emma Renee Akemann  
Rosemount, MN  
*American Chemical Society Accredited  
Chemistry*

Tara L. Allert  
Mosinee, WI  
*Substance Abuse Counseling*

Julie Anne Brownell  
Algonquin, IL  
*Broad Field Social Studies Education*

Sara Buschman  
Madison, WI  
*Professional Studies*

Margaret Irene Demaine  
Rochester, MN  
*Philosophy*

Sydney R. Eckert  
Farmington, MN  
*Psychology*

Ryan Richard Frank  
Caledonia, MN  
*Psychology*

Sarah Marie Gibson  
White Salmon, WA  
*Criminal Justice*

Jonathan Stuart Grana  
Downey, CA  
*Organizational Communication*

Bryce H. Kuenzli  
Bryant, WI  
*Psychology*

Elizabeth Noel Lawrence  
Cottage Grove, MN  
*Biochemistry*

Mercedes Rose Nelson  
Rochester, MN  
*Biopsychology*

Andrea K. Oylo  
Owatonna, MN  
*Psychology*

Christopher James Pasquale  
Anchorage, AK  
*Environmental Biology*

Jordan Jeffrey Penn  
Wausau, WI  
*Mathematics*

Kayla Marie Pruno  
Amery, WI  
*Psychology*

Allison Marie Purvis  
Viroqua, WI  
*Psychology*

Angel Esteban Ramos  
Huntington Park, CA  
*Criminal Justice*

Benedict Michael Ritscher  
Obermichelbach, Germany  
*Mathematics*

Shawn Tyler Skogen  
Dodgeville, WI  
*Psychology*

Xavier Smart  
Port Saint Lucie, FL  
*Psychology*

Jacob M. Straus  
Waunakee, WI  
*Visual Communication*

Mark Strazzeri  
Porter Ranch, CA  
*Sport Science and Leadership*

Aaron Tyler Wagner  
Eau Claire, WI  
*Mathematics*

Jessica Morgan Wilson  
Chaseburg, WI  
*Criminal Justice*

Becky Jo Woods  
Eau Claire, WI  
*Integrated Studies*

### **Bachelor of Science in Education**

Megan Marie Anderson  
Sparta, WI  
*Educational Studies*

Anne Elizabeth Griffin  
Coon Valley, WI  
*Elementary Education*

Whitney L. Hanson  
Cashton, WI  
*Elementary Education*

Jessica Marie Hundt  
Holmen, WI  
*Elementary Education*

Emily Jean Schams  
La Crosse, WI  
*Elementary Education*

Brooke I. Simon  
Owatonna, MN  
*Elementary Education*

Kate Elizabeth Willadsen  
Cochrane, WI  
*Elementary Education*

## **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

Johanna Clara Ayers  
La Crosse, WI

Megan E. Barbian  
La Crosse, WI

Teryl Canada  
Janesville, WI

Michele Dickson  
Waukon, IA

Noelle Mary Hebgen  
Highland, WI

Lynda Sue Higgins  
Madison, WI

Samantha J. Hoffman  
New Lisbon, WI

Nyakim Ker Hoth  
Madison, WI

Erica C. Jones  
Eau Claire, WI

Delphine Shiri Kohyen  
Shishong-Kumbo, Cameroon

Kristi Lynn Larson  
Madison, WI

Tara Sue Mawbey  
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Sarah E. Mulich  
Fort Atkinson, WI

Rachel Marie Reeck  
Sparta, WI

Kelly Rideout  
Eau Claire, WI

Lindsay Kristin Rockweiler  
Reedsburg, WI

Anna J. Smugala  
Eau Claire, WI

Sybella Tati Mapiefu  
Maplewood, MN

Lauri L. Theisen  
Holmen, WI

Angela J. Trapani  
Eau Claire, WI

Kelsey Jo Wagner  
Decorah, IA

Kimberly Wetzel  
Fort Atkinson, WI

Katherine Marie Williams  
Eau Claire, WI

## **Master of Arts in Education**

Tammy K. Turner  
Keokuk, IA

## **Master of Arts in Servant Leadership**

Ryan Clark  
Onalaska, WI

Elizabeth Ann Elvekrog  
Madison, WI

## **Master of Business Administration**

Miranda Louise Berg  
DeForest, WI

Louise Campbell  
La Crosse, WI

Nina Rose Damrow  
Tomah, WI

Morgan Davis  
Omaha, NE

Tracy Ann Dayton  
La Crosse, WI

Crystal M. Knoll  
Mindoro, WI

Lucas Sacia  
La Crosse, WI

Neethi Sasidharan  
La Crescent, MN

Mark William Schlunz  
Bartlett, IL

Zachary John Scovell  
West Salem, WI

Samuel Evan Thompson  
La Crosse, WI

Lindsey Ann Walker  
Holmen, WI

Jonathan Michael Ward  
North Freedom, WI

Kriston M. Ward  
Bangor, WI

Amber Elizabeth Wieser  
La Crescent, MN

Brian James Wyland  
Holmen, WI

Jiahui Zhou  
Shanghai, China

## **Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling**

Julia M. Catlin  
La Crescent, MN

Karla K. Dunlap  
Onalaska, WI

Adam David Frei  
Sparta, WI

Timothy W. Hall  
Bettendorf, IA

Jeana Marie LeJeune  
Westby, WI

Justin Scott McKnight  
Reedsville, PA

Alexandra Rose Nehrbass  
Mukwonago, WI

Kristi May Paulsen  
Sparta, WI

Cassandra Lynn Ross  
Hokah, MN

Tracy D. Springer  
Wausau, WI

Jennifer Quinn Walker  
Castleton, Ontario, Canada

Angelica Marie Williams  
Chicago, IL

Angeline Ann Winchel  
La Farge, WI

## Honors

Honor medallions are worn by graduates who have achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or above and will have earned a minimum of 45 letter-graded credits at Viterbo University upon completion of all requirements.

Candidates for graduation wearing the cardinal stoles have completed the Viterbo University Honors Program. The military stoles are being worn by candidates for graduation signifying their service in the United States Armed Forces.

In addition, candidates for graduation may qualify to wear cords signifying contributions or achievements to a university organization or academic honor society. The organizations are represented by the below colors:

- Alpha Kappa Delta (sociology) — teal and silver
- Alpha Phi Sigma (criminal justice) — navy and gold
- Institute of Management Accounts (Accounting) — navy and gold
- National Society of Leadership and Success — black and platinum
- Phi Alpha (social work) — blue and gold
- Pi Lambda Theta (education) — yellow
- Sigma Theta Tau (nursing) — purple
- Student Government Association — cardinal and silver
- Tri-Beta (biology) — red and green
- Veterans of Armed Services — red, white, and blue
- Wisconsin Honorary of Involved Leaders – blue and white



This program includes the names of students who, at the time of printing, have filed an application for degree. The official granting of the degree is made after all graduation requirements have been successfully completed and verified.



## Viterbo University Board of Trustees

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## **Viterbo History**

In 1871, the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration established a flourishing community in La Crosse and began to concentrate on preparing their members to teach in parochial and mission schools throughout the area. This act ultimately led to the founding of what is known today as Viterbo University. Viterbo University is named after the city of Viterbo, Italy, the home of St. Rose of Viterbo. St. Rose of Viterbo is the patron saint of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration.

The sisters' efforts evolved into the St. Rose Normal School, accredited by the state in 1890. Since then, the university has enjoyed a long and rich tradition of excellence. Eventually, the normal school evolved into St. Rose Junior College (1932), Viterbo College (1939), and, finally, Viterbo University (2000).

In 1943, lay women were admitted to Viterbo, and accreditation by the University of Wisconsin occurred in 1952. Two years later, the university earned accreditation by the North Central Association of Schools, the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, and the National Association of Schools of Music Programs. The health sciences were added in the 1960s, and accreditation by the National League for Nursing, American Medical Records Association, and the American Dietetics Association soon followed. In 1967, lay persons were invited to join the Board of Directors, and a baccalaureate nursing program was initiated. In 1970, Viterbo became coeducational. And in 1972, the first male student received a degree.

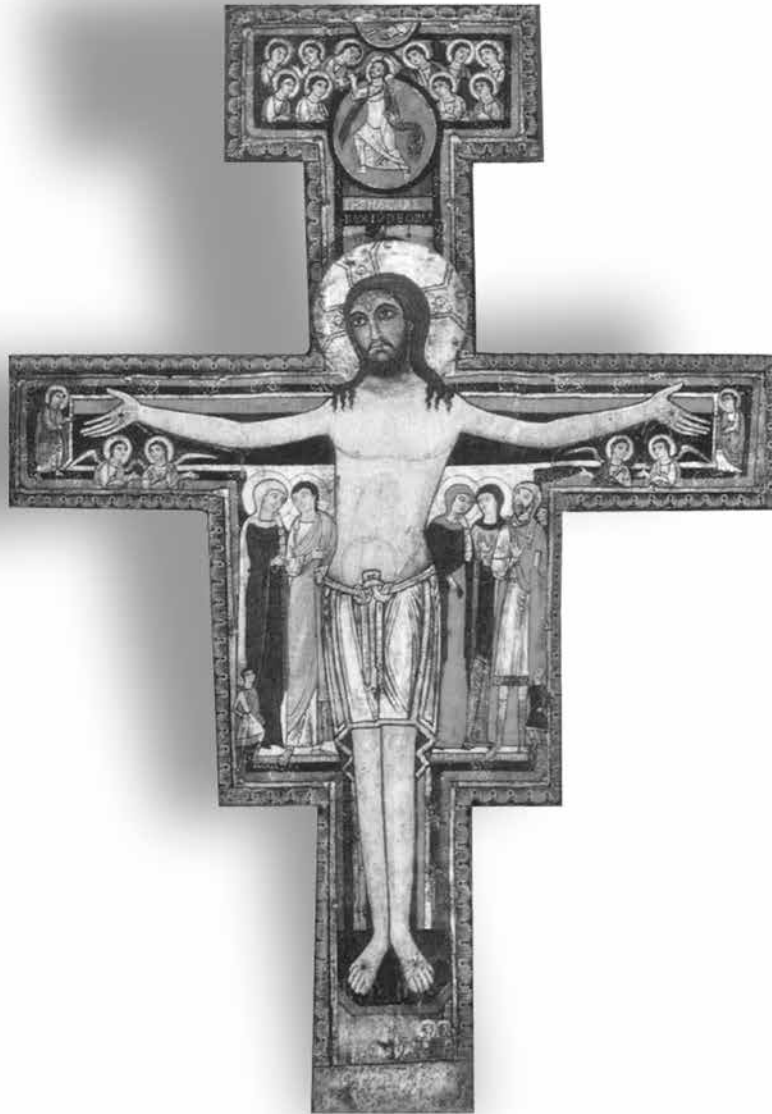
In the '90s, Viterbo expanded its curriculum again, gradually adding over the course of time, five graduate programs beginning with the introduction of a Master of Arts in Education. In 2013, Viterbo achieved another milestone when the university was granted approval to offer a doctorate in nursing practice (DNP). While Viterbo's academic programs were undergoing change, the landscape of the campus was also changing. The 1970s and '80s were decades of growth for Viterbo, as the enrollment climbed and new buildings were dedicated (the Fine Arts Center in 1971, Brophy Center in 1983, and the Student Activities Center in 1987).

During the '90s and well into the new millennium, this expansion continued in an effort to keep pace with growing enrollment and to provide students with the best possible facilities. The D.B. and Marge Reinhart Center for Ethics, Science, and Technology, the Amie L. Mathy Center for Education and Recreation, the School of Nursing Building, and Clare Apartments are the most recent additions to the campus landscape. The university is also in the midst of the renovation of Brophy Center which houses the Dahl School of Business. With the onset of the new century, Viterbo changed its status from that of a college to a university.

Appreciative of its past, confident in the present, and optimistic about the future, Viterbo remains committed to its unique Catholic and Franciscan mission of preparing students for faithful service and ethical leadership.

## **Mission**

The Viterbo University community prepares students for faithful service and ethical leadership.



San Damiano Cross

## Graduate Shout Out Videos

Visit [www.viterbo.edu/alumni](http://www.viterbo.edu/alumni) and watch the *2016 December Shout Out* video from some of the winter graduates. Enjoy watching these video messages on your cell phone or tablet while you wait for the commencement ceremony to begin.

Feel free to share commencement photos, videos, and posts on Viterbo's social media accounts using *#viterboalumni*.