CLASS OF 2016

Presiding ................................................................. Astrida Orle Tantillo
DEAN

Processional ............................................................... Wind Ensemble
JOSE OLIVER RIOJAS, DIRECTOR
Platform Party and Faculty of the College

National Anthem ........................................................... Audience led by Mary Gale Tan
WORDS ON PAGE 44

Opening Remarks ......................................................... Astrida Orle Tantillo

Greetings from the Board of Trustees ............................... Ramón Cepeda
MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Welcome from the University of Illinois ............................ Timothy Killeen
PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Greetings from the University of Illinois at Chicago ............. Michael D. Amiridis
CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

Conferral of Honorary Degree ........................................ Timothy Killeen
Cheryl R. Ganz
DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

Commencement Address ................................................ Sheryl Underwood
HOST OF CBS’S DAYTIME EMMY AWARD–NOMINATED SHOW, THE TALK, AND CELEBRATED COMEDIAN, ACTRESS, BUSINESS OWNER, AND PHILANTHROPIST

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Timothy Killeen .......................................................... President of the University of Illinois
Karen J. Colley ............................................................ Dean of the Graduate College
Astrida Orle Tantillo ...................................................... Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Recognition of Student Honors ....................................... Astrida Orle Tantillo

Presentation of the Silver Circle Awards ............................ Susan Poser
PROVOST AND VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Concluding Remarks .................................................... Astrida Orle Tantillo

Recessional

AUDIENCE IS REQUESTED TO REMAIN SEATED UNTIL THE ACADEMIC RECESSION IS COMPLETED.
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS OF THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Astrida Orle Tantillo ................................................. Dean
Dibyen Majumdar ..................................................... Executive Associate Dean
Nikos Varelas .......................................................... Associate Dean for Student Academic Affairs
Henrik Aratyn ............................................................ Associate Dean for Research and Facilities
Marya Schechtman ..................................................... Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Interdisciplinary Programs
Richard Alpern ........................................................... Associate Dean for Financial Operations
Katherine Veach .......................................................... Assistant Dean for Advancement
Brian A. Roessler ........................................................ Executive Assistant Dean for Student Academic Affairs

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COLLEGE

Professor Andreas Feldmann ........................................ Departments of Latin American and Latino Studies and Political Science
Professor Stephen Guggenheim ...................................... Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences
Professor Nick Huggett .................................................. Department of Philosophy
Professor David Marker .................................................. Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science
Professor Miquel Gonzalez-Meler ..................................... Department of Biological Sciences
Professor Andrew Rojecki ............................................... Department of Communication
Professor Susanne Rott ................................................ Departements of Germanic Studies and Linguistics
Professor Julia Vaingurt .................................................. Department of Slavic and Baltic Languages and Literatures
Professor David Wirtshafter ........................................... Department of Psychology

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS

African American Studies ........................................... Jane Rhodes, Head
Anthropology .......................................................... John D. Monaghan, Head
Biological Sciences ..................................................... Janet Richmond, Head
Chemistry ............................................................... Luke Hanley, Head
Classics and Mediterranean Studies ................................ Nanno Marinatos, Head
Communication ........................................................ Zizi Papacharissi, Head
Criminology, Law, and Justice ........................................ Lisa Frohmann, Head
Earth and Environmental Sciences .................................. Kathryn Nagy, Head
Economics ............................................................... Steven Rivkin, Head
English ................................................................. Walter Benn Michaels, Head
French and Francophone Studies ................................. Ellen McClure, Head
Gender and Women's Studies ....................................... Jennifer Brier, Director
Germanic Studies ....................................................... Elizabeth Loentz, Head
Hispanic and Italian Studies .......................................................... Luis Lopez, Acting Head
History ................................................................. Margarita Saona, Head (on leave)
Latin American and Latino Studies ............................................. Christopher Boyer, Chair
Learning Sciences ................................................................. Joel Palka, Acting Director
Linguistics ................................................................. Susan Goldman, Co-Director
Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science .......................... Richard Cameron, Acting Head
Philosophy ................................................................. Brooke Shipley, Head
Physics ................................................................. Tony Laden, Chair
Political Science .............................................................. David Hofman, Head
Psychology ............................................................. Evan McKenzie, Head
School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics .............. Michael Ragozzino, Head
Slavic and Baltic Languages and Literatures ................................. Michal Markowski, Head
Sociology ............................................................ Maria Krysan, Head

LAS DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS
The Liberal Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor Award was established in 2006 to commend exceptional faculty for their contributions to the LAS and UIC communities, as well as for their significant and sustained intellectual scholarship.

Professor Joel S. Brown .............................................................. Department of Biological Sciences
Professor Lennard J. Davis .......................................................... Departments of English and Disability Studies
Professor Peter Doran ............................................................... Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences
Professor Lawrence Man Hou Ein ................................................ Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science
Professor Henri Gillet ................................................................. Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science
Professor Vladimir Gevorgyan ..................................................... Department of Chemistry
Professor Susan R. Goldman ......................................................... Department of Psychology
Professor Henry Howe ............................................................... Department of Biological Sciences
Professor Nicholas Huggett .......................................................... Department of Philosophy
Professor Brian Kay ................................................................. Department of Biological Sciences
Professor David Marker ............................................................... Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science
Professor James W. Pellegrino ...................................................... Department of Psychology
Professor Barbara Ransby ............................................................ Departments of History, African American Studies, and Gender and Women's Studies
Professor Sally Sedgwick ............................................................. Department of Philosophy
Professor Peter Shalen ............................................................... Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science
Professor Sivalingam Sivananthan ................................................ Department of Physics
LAS FACULTY RECIPIENTS OF THE 2016 SILVER CIRCLE AWARD

John Abbott
Professor in History

Christopher Baker
Professor in Psychology

Marsha Cassidy
Professor in English

Evanglos Kobotis
Professor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science

Alan Molumby
Professor in Biological Sciences

Ronald Pavone
Professor in Psychology


Adrian Barkan
Professor in Physics

Evelyn Behar
Professor in Psychology

Andrew Clarno
Professor in Sociology and African American Studies

Marsha Cassidy
Professor in English

Claire Decoteau
Professor in Sociology

Olga Evdokimov
Professor in Physics

Chiara Fabbian
Professor in Hispanic and Italian Studies

Maja Grgurovic
Professor in Linguistics

Robert Johnston
Professor in History

Robert Klie
Professor in Physics

Lia Yingjie Liu
Professor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science

Robert Paul Malchow
Professor in Biological Sciences

Christine Martin
Professor in Criminology, Law, and Justice

Dousi Meng
Professor in Linguistics

Kara Morgan-Short
Professor in Hispanic and Italian Studies

Michael Muller
Professor in Biological Sciences

Irina Nenciu
Professor in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science

Stellan Ohlsson
Professor in Psychology

Kimberly O'Neil
Professor in English

Nikki Paley-Cox
Professor in English

Julie Peters
Professor in History

Kim Potowski
Professor in Hispanic and Italian Studies
Christina Pugh .............................................. Department of English
Karen Ros .................................................. Department of Classics and Mediterranean Studies
Alison Castro Superfine ................................. Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science
Margarita Saona ........................................ Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies
Kevin Schultz ............................................. Department of History
Mike Stieff .................................................. Department of Chemistry
Inma Taboada ............................................ Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies
Andrew Tillotson ....................................... Department of Physics
Jennifer Wiley ........................................... Department of Psychology
Charitianne Williams .................................. Department of English
Elizabeth D. Weber ...................................... Department of French and Francophone Studies

CEREMONY OFFICIALS
Commencement Marshal ................................. Dibyen Majumdar
Marshal of the Day ...................................... Dennis Judd
Logistics Manager ...................................... Edward Drogos
College Marshals and Banner Carriers .......... Hank Aratyn, Agnes Herget, Brian Roessler, Marya Schechtman, Nikos Varelas

COLLEGE MARSHALS WEAR BLACK AND WHITE CORDS.

DEPARTMENT MARSHALS
African American Studies ................................ Roderick Ferguson
Anthropology ............................................ Anna Roosevelt
Biological Sciences/Biochemistry .................... Kate Warpeha
Chemistry ................................................ Preston T. Snee
Classics and Mediterranean Studies ................ Jennifer Tobin
Communication .......................................... Adrienne Massanari
Criminology, Law, and Justice ......................... Paul Schewe
Earth and Environmental Sciences .................. Max Berkelhammer
Economics .............................................. Evelyn Lehrer
English ..................................................... Jennifer Ashton
French and Francophone Studies ..................... Ellen McClure
Gender and Women’s Studies .......................... Sekile Nzinga-Johnson
Germanic Studies ....................................... Heidi Schlipphacke
Hispanic and Italian Studies ........................... Jennifer Cabrelli
History ..................................................... Rama Mantena
Latin American and Latino Studies .................... Cristián Roa
Linguistics .............................................................. Maja Grgurovic
Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science .................. Jenny Ross
Neuroscience ................................................................ Paul Malchow
Philosophy .................................................................. John Whipple
Physics ....................................................................... Ursula Perez-Salas
Political Science .......................................................... Robert Bruhl
Psychology ..................................................................... Evelyn Behar
Slavic and Baltic Languages and Literatures ......................... Colleen McQuillen
Sociology ...................................................................... Amy Bailey

NAME READERS
Dace Kezbers ............................................................... Language Consultant
Daina Jauntirans ........................................................... Consulting Translator

BOARD OF VISITORS, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
The Board of Visitors supports the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and advises the dean and college officers on various matters to ensure that the college continues to offer students access to the highest quality of education.

Reynaldo Caudillo ........... Los Caudillos International, Inc. Morristown, NJ
Karen Cockrill ............... Snaggle Foot Dog Walks and Pet Care Breckenridge, CO
Charles H. Dangelo ........... Starr Indemnity & Liability Co. New York, NY
Andrew K. Dolan ............ Denver, CO & Palm Desert, CA
Rina Dukor, PhD ............. BioTools, Inc. Jupiter, FL
Cheryl Ganz, PhD .......... USPS Citizen’s Stamp Advisory Committee Winfield, IL
Alex Garza ..................... AGG Consulting, Inc. Chicago, IL
Roger W. Germann, Jr. ...... Shedd Aquarium Chicago, IL
Martin Greene ............... Greene and Letts Chicago, IL
Patricia Hausknost ........ City National Bank Los Angeles, CA
Fruman Jacobson .......... Dentons US, LLP Chicago, IL

Dwayne Johnson-Cochran ... DJC Films, Inc. Los Angeles, CA
Emile Karafiol ............... Chicago, IL
Howard L. Kaufman, MD .... Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ
Richard Massey ............. Richard Massey Foundation New York, NY
MaryAnn McNally ........... ITW Glenview, IL
Richard I. Morimoto ........ Northwestern University Evanston, IL
Suzanne Penn ............... MFS Wealthcare Chicago, IL
John B. Sullivan ............. AON Risk Services of Illinois Chicago, IL
Randa E. Touquan .......... Huntington, NY
Gretchen Winter .......... UIUC College of Business Chicago, IL
Dear 2016 LAS Graduates,

Commencement is a day of great celebration and ceremony because it marks one of life’s most meaningful accomplishments. Today, whether you are graduating from college or receiving an advanced degree, your degree represents the attainment of new knowledge and original thought as well as your ability to challenge yourselves toward a difficult, complex, and rewarding goal. It is a marker of what you have accomplished to date but also a predictor of success in the future. On behalf of the entire community of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you.

It is our hope that you will be able to take what you have learned here—whether in the classroom, from your fellow students, or in your experiences beyond the campus—and successfully navigate whatever is to come. The world today is an ever-expanding one, with more global possibilities than ever before. The world is also rapidly changing; the development of a new technology today could dramatically and almost instantly change almost any aspect of our society. Such changes are exhilarating, but they can also be disorienting. Your liberal education from one of the top research universities in the country and from one of the most diverse universities in the country should serve you well in the face of these challenges and opportunities.

As you walk across the commencement stage today, you take with you the foundations of a liberal education: knowledge of scholarly investigation, experimentation, and discourse; the ability to see perspectives other than your own and to respect them even when you cannot agree with them; and perhaps most importantly, a desire to gain more knowledge and fresh perspectives in the years to come. During your time here, you have engaged in the intellectual traditions and debates of your chosen academic fields. It is our sincere pleasure to hand you your well-earned diplomas as you continue to build your own compelling narratives. Today, you are not only graduates of the college, you are also our newest alumni, and we hope to hear from you and look forward to hearing about your accomplishments in the years to come.

It is with great joy that I congratulate you, once again, on today’s graduation. The faculty and staff are so proud to be part of your individual success stories, and we are just as proud to include you as part of our collective LAS success story. We wish you all of the best in your next endeavors.

Astrida Orle Tantillo is dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the largest college at UIC with 22 departments and programs serving over 10,000 students. Dean Tantillo is a faculty member in the Departments of Germanic Studies and History and an internationally renowned Goethe scholar.
HONORARY DEGREE

Cheryl R. Ganz is a distinguished public historian, published academic author, and Smithsonian Institution curator emerita. She retired as chief curator of philately at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, where she acted as lead curator of the William H. Gross Stamp Gallery, the world’s largest postage stamp gallery. Her pioneering vision placed stamps and mail in historical context by using narratives, artifacts, and interactive technology to complement the stamps, establishing new international stamp gallery standards. She currently serves as vice chair on the USPS Citizen’s Stamp Advisory Committee, the committee that selects subjects and approves designs for U.S. postage stamps. Ganz earned a PhD in U.S. history from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her publications include *Pots of Promise: Mexicans and Pottery at Hull House, 1920-40; The 1933 Chicago World’s Fair: A Century of Progress; Delivering Hope: FDR & Stamps of the Great Depression; Fire & Ice: Hindenburg and Titanic; Pacific Exchange: China & U.S. Mail; and Every Stamp Tells a Story: The National Philatelic Collection.*

The University of Illinois at Chicago takes great pride in presenting Cheryl R. Ganz for the conferral of the honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Sheryl Underwood skillfully balances the roles of savvy businesswoman, in-demand entertainer, movie and television actress, radio personality, and philanthropist. As part of the hosting team for *The Talk,* CBS’s Daytime Emmy Award–nominated talk show that examines contemporary events and issues, Ms. Underwood recently received a 2016 People’s Choice Award for “Favorite Daytime TV Hosting Team” and an NAACP Image Award for “Outstanding Talk Series.” As a multimedia entertainer, she has starred in films such as *Bullworth* and *Beauty Shop;* appeared on numerous television shows such as *The Steve Harvey Project,* the *Dr. Phil Show,* *The View,* *CBS This Morning,* and *The Young and the Restless;* and can be heard daily on *Sheryl Underwood Radio.* Ms. Underwood was recently featured in an exclusive article in *PEOPLE* magazine, and her life story was the subject of the TVOne bio-documentary *UNSUNG Hollywood: Sheryl Underwood.* She is owner and chief executive officer of Pack Rat Productions, Inc. and the Pack Rat Foundation for Education and is the 23rd international president of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Described as one of the world’s brightest contemporary humorists, Ms. Underwood is committed to sharing the wisdom and insight she has gained through her service, philanthropy, and excellence in business with generations to come.

Sheryl Underwood is a graduate of the UIC Department of Communication and takes the stage today for a repeat performance, having served as the student speaker in her own LAS Commencement ceremony in 1987.