

Pacific Rim Christian University

# **EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT**

Spring 2019



Friday, the Seventeenth of May  
Two Thousand and Nineteen  
Kawaiaha'o Church  
Honolulu, HI

Pacific Rim Christian University welcomes you to its  
Eighteenth Annual Spring Commencement!

## *Nā Kahu A'o*

The academic life at Pacific Rim Christian University honors and embraces the diversity of approaches to learning in a multicultural world. Our faculty is called the Nā Kahu A'o, which in the Hawaiian language means “Shepherds of Wisdom” or “Guides of Knowledge.” We build on our distinct cultural value that teaching and learning occur in relational and mentoring circles as we seek the highest levels of practice and scholarship. With over forty core members that comprise our Nā Kahu A'o, we endeavor to provide the most inspiring instructors who specifically teach in their areas of expertise, knowledge, and gifts.

## *Academic Regalia*

The history of the academic cap and gown dates back to the twelfth century when scholars began to organize themselves into guilds, the predecessors of modern universities. Gowns were dark and billowing to hide ink stains and to retain warmth. Scholars wore hoods, which would be used as carrying pouches or as head coverings in inclement weather.

Today, the cut of the gown represents the scholarly rank attained: gowns with open sleeves for bachelor degrees, gowns with closed sleeves for master degrees, and gowns with bell-shaped sleeves and velvet panels and bars for doctoral degrees. Most gowns are black. However, other colors are sometimes worn to represent institutional colors. Modern hoods drape down the back of the gown and are worn by holders of advanced degrees; the colors represent the discipline and institution. The flat mortarboard cap is a modern representation of a stocking cap, which was designed to hold a small book on the head.

In addition to the gold stole, which signifies graduation with distinction, some disciplines recognize recipients by having them don colored honor cords, sashes or other regalia upon graduation.

# *Hawai'i Pono'i*

State Anthem

Written by King David Kalakaua  
& Henry Berger

Hawai'i Pono'i  
Nānā i kou mō'i  
Ka lani ali'i  
Ke Ali'i Makua lani ē,  
Kamehameha ē,  
Na kāua e pale  
Me ka ihe

# *Ke Mele Ho'omaika'i*

Doxology

Ho'onani i ka Makua Mau  
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,*  
Ke Keiki me ka 'Uhane nō  
*Praise Him all creatures here below,*  
Ke Akua Mau, ho'omaika'i pū  
*Praise Him above ye heavenly host,*  
Kō kēia ao, kō kēlā ao.  
*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*  
'Āmene  
Amen

# Program

*Dr. Kent Keith, President  
Dr. Steven Hostetter, Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Presiding*

Call to Kupuna and President, Vice President, Registrar, and Faculty

Processional of Nā Kahu A’o.....Kaniela Puahi, Alaka’i Pu

\*Processional – “Pomp and Circumstance” .....Buddy Nalua’i

\*State Anthem & \*Doxology.....Joshua Choy, Esther Erfan, & Tiffany Garza

\*College Scripture – Isaiah 43:4-7.....Selena-Romana Aina, Junior Student

Welcome.....Dr. Kent Keith, President

\*Invocation.....Vicki Lepick

Video.....“PacRim is...”

Song – “Highest Praise”.....Linda Martin, Senior Student

Awards.....Dr. Mike Dugal & Karen Clarke

Commencement Address.....Kahu Kiha Pimental, Church Health Coach  
& Associate District Supervisor, Pacific Southwest District of Foursquare Churches

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....Tiffany Garza,  
Dr. Rick Stinton, & Dr. Martha Stinton

Conferring of Degrees.....Dr. Kent Keith,  
Dr. Steven Hostetter, & Melodie Alvarez

Passing of the Paddle.....Ayana Gordon to Nora Cunning  
Senior Student to Junior Student

Blessing of the Class.....Dr. Mike Palompo

Benediction.....Dr. Michael Halcomb  
John Robles, Shofar

\*Recessional – “Ode to Joy”.....Buddy Nalua’i

**\*AUDIENCE, PLEASE STAND**

*NOTE: You are welcome to applaud graduates – but applause only, please. Out of respect for the church, refrain from other congratulatory expressions. Please allow the graduates to exit the sanctuary first. You may greet the graduates outside the sanctuary.*

# 2019 Candidates for Graduation

## Associate of Arts

Burkhardt Aitavale	Biblical Studies
Michael J. Alonzo	Bible & Christian Ministry
Kylie Brooke Kamakaokalani Burgher	Bible & Worship Arts
Lukas A. Diaz	Bible & Christian Ministry
Denise M. Dugal <sup>o</sup>	Bible & Worship Arts
Rhiannon Sanoë Olakeakua Fukui	Bible & Christian Ministry
Nicole Christine Giosi	Bible & Worship Arts
Kenneth Laioha Keawe	Bible & Worship Arts
Craig Yoshio Nunez	Biblical Studies

## Bachelor of Arts

Candace A.**	Theology
Juan Alexander Baker Jr.	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Robin Marie Bridge*	Theology
Nathaniel Pu'uwaihaokila Moepono Brown	Bible & Creative Arts
James Cleveland Jr.*	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Keegan Thomas Drummond**	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Ayana Marie Gordon	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Michele Lea Gorman**	Bible & Christian Ministry
James William Griffin*	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Kenyatta Victoria Hines	Bible & Christian Ministry
Keanianoelani Midori Kannady**	Theology
Johnathon Michael Kiriakos	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Whitney Lynn Maglangit	Bible & Christian Ministry
Seiya Joshua Majima*	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Linda Adelle Martin*	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Julia Marie Mora***	Bible & Christian Ministry



# *Candidates for Graduation* **2019 Candidates for Graduation**

## Bachelor of Arts (cont.)

Marie Patrice Ogi*	Bible & Christian Ministry
Elijah Isaiah Pierick***	Bible & Christian Ministry
Joseph Michael Pierre***	Theology
Sheila “KP” Rodgers	Theology
Jesse Mariano Tagura***	Bible & Pastoral Ministry
Ryan Noel Parker Tenney	Bible & Creative Arts
David Toshiro Tetsutani***	Theology
Orsolya Végh***	Bible & Pastoral Ministry

## Master of Arts

Brenda Lynn Basham	Christian Ministry
Lorena Halligan+	Christian Ministry
John Ross Ganigan Robles+	Christian Ministry
Mitchell James Royer	Christian Ministry

## Master of Divinity

Reinalyn J. Mayamaya-Terrado

◦ Highest Honors	*** Summa Cum Laude
* Cum Laude	+ With Distinction
** Magna Cum Laude	

### Michael “JJ” Alonzo

I want to take the time to thank PacRim for all the blessings you have given me on my journey to fulfill God’s will upon my life. Without the amazing professors and people within this school I wouldn’t have the knowledge of who God is, how God works and what I am capable of doing within God’s Kingdom. So I want to say thank so much for the opportunities you have provided for me to make it this far within my Pastoral Degree. However the journey within Pac Rim is not over yet. By May next year I will be graduating with my BA in a Pastoral Degree and am excited to see what God has planned for my life. Until then, see you next year.

### Candace A.

I thank God for allowing me to attend PacRim University. I want to thank my loving husband for support & encouraging me to see God’s plan through. Thanks to Karen Clarke who encouraged me. As Martin Luther King once said “Take the first step in faith. You don’t have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.”

### Brenda Basham

I would like to thank God for allowing certain events to happen in my life that led me to pursue this path. I’d like to thank my parents for always supporting every one of my crazy decisions in life. I’d like to thank all the people who I have come in contact with during my stay at Pacific Rim Christian University. I have made some amazing friendships that I am so grateful for. I would also like to thank all the professors here at Pacific Rim Christian University for helping me to grow in my faith and understanding of God and His Word. I would specifically like to thank Dr. Steve Hostetter for helping me with student related issues as well as his encouraging words and advice. I would like to thank James McElmurry for always being around to help answer all my questions. I’d like to thank Karen Clarke for all of her support throughout my graduate journey. I’d like to give a special thanks to two specific students, Nicole Giosi and Rhiannon Fukui, for putting up with me in the dorms, ha ha—I love you guys! To Rhiannon Fukui, thank you for sitting down with me that one, specific night to pray with me (and so much other stuff). To Nicole Giosi, thank you for always opening up your heart and friendship to me... and always being honest! Thank you to all my professors for your genuine passion in what you do, and in having the patience to answer all of their students’ questions!

**Robin Bridge**

I walked into PacRim apprehensive, as I tried to complete my degree before, but God sent Dr. Steve Hostetter, Dr. Kent Keith, Garret Chang, and countless other staff and amazing teachers to fulfill my heart's desire of finally completing my bachelor's degree. My heart is full, and my spirit has been forever changed! THANK YOU!!! Hebrews 10:24.

**Nathaniel Brown**

Thank you to all of my friends and family who helped me along the way.

**Kylie Burgher**

I thank God for bringing certain people in my life through PacRim that have supported me, motivated me, kept me sane and adopted me into a second family.

**James Cleveland**

First and foremost, I want to thank my Heavenly Father for giving me the opportunity to come to a fine school like Pacific Rim Christian University. I also want to thank my wonderful family Shelley, Kodey, and Khloey for supporting me during my 4 ½ years of college. I couldn't have gotten through it without the strength of God. Even when I wanted to give up, God let me know that I could do it.

**Keegan Drummond**

I'd like to thank my wife Tehya Drummond, my parents, my brother, Ian McKnight, Dr. Keith, Dr. Halcomb, Dr. Palompo, Michael Ward, Ken Humphries, Dr. Furushima, Johnathon Kiriakos, Jesse Tagura, Will Guzman, and Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Denise Dugal**

Thank you ABBA Father!! As I sit here pondering the many reasons I am grateful, I am flooded with appreciation and respect for the many people who have devoted their time and their person to my educational journey and personal growth. I received encouragement, as well as assistance, from my parents, Mike and Lynette Dugal, my friends, the many AMAZING teachers, my advisers, and the student body. Pacific Rim Christian University is such a blessing! Most of all, the Lord Jesus Christ, who strengthened me, and continued to fill me with zeal during this trek, and continues even now for what comes next. God is good...ALL the time! (and ALL the time... you know the rest!!) With much gratitude, Denise Dugal



**Rhiannon Fukui**

Thank you to the people and close friends that have shaped me, encouraged me and prayed with me to get to where I am with God. May we all continue to look towards His will and work in the goodness of faith. Yessah blessah Voyagers.

**Nicole Giosi**

I would like to thank the PacRim faculty and staff for giving me the opportunity to learn more about Jesus. I'm also grateful to my mom for pushing me to pursue an education when I felt I was not good enough. I am so thankful for the friends that I've made here and the things we have experienced together.

**Ayana Gordon**

Thank you PacRim for the space you have created for me to grow into the person God has called me to be. I appreciate the intentionality all my professors had in pouring into us the sources of knowledge needed for us to discover the truth of the Word independently. I am forever grateful for all the efforts of this school to create a quality experience in my education.

**Michele Gorman**

Thank you God for pursuing me and giving me the opportunity to know you better through classes and relationships experienced at PRCU. Loving appreciation to my husband Rod, sons Adam Toby Seth and Ethan who have sacrificially supported me through my studies, and my dear friends and FPC family who have encouraged and supported me on this journey – ‘you raise me up to more than I can be.’

**James Griffin**

I would like to thank God for bringing me to this school and this community. I want to thank my fiancé and my family for supporting me through school. I would like to thank my friends from this school for making classes fun and for being alongside me through our four-year journey. And lastly, I would like to thank the staff of PacRim for helping mold me into a better man and a better servant of God.

**Lorena Halligan**

“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26). Thank you Abba, we finished strong! I want to thank my husband Liam, my Mother Carmen, Father Jaime, Brother Carlos, my Parents Linda and Bob, for believing in me and allowing me to be who I am and who I am meant to be in God’s Kingdom.

### **Kenyatta Hines**

First, I would like to thank God who's the head of my life for his relentless love, grace and mercy. I'd like to thank my family and friends for their continued prayers and encouragement. Thank you, Pacific Rim, for an authentic opportunity to learn more about the Word of God. Lastly, thank you to the United States Navy for providing me with opportunity to further my education to become a Naval Chaplain.

### **Keanianinoelani Kannady**

Thank you Jesus for orchestrating PacRim in being part of my testimony along with relentlessly pursuing me. So grateful for God's love and guidance throughout this journey. Not only has PacRim stretched me, but also built and grown my faith in an exponential way. I want to thank all my teachers, staff, classmates and friends for the outpour of wisdom and knowledge that has taught me how to pursue God. There are many people He has placed on this journey with me, I am grateful for each and every one of you. Special mahalo to my kane Channon for all your love and support while walking besides me through another mile marker, you are the greatest gift! Mahalo to my parents and sisters for always being my biggest fans – your support means the world to me. Ke Akua pu kakou.

### **Kenneth Keawe**

Pacific Rim Christian University staff, professors and instructors, who have gracefully embraced their intimate reflection, love and compassion for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, broadening my knowledge and wisdom from the Holy Bible, which will guide and equip me to preach His great Word to everyone I meet, amen. Blessings, love, aloha, alofa and mahalo!

### **Johnathon Kiriakos**

I'd like to thank my family, friends, and church (New Hope Oahu) for their support during this journey! It has been a wild ride from 2015 till now, and it has been a privilege to learn and grow here at Pacific Rim Christian University. I'm excited to see what God has in store for both the graduates and PacRim! God bless!

**Whitney Maglangit**

Thank you for everyone who has contended for me before, through, and until the very end of my journey. I especially want to thank God for His unconditional love and grace through this process. Lastly, thank you to every single person who has walked with me through every single thing I faced in my college years! You all were the ones who helped me get to where I am today through your constant encouragement, prayers, and checking in with me. We did it y'all!

**Seiya Majima**

I want to thank all of you for coming to my graduation! However, I'd like to give a special thanks to all of my 'Ohana from NHO, NHIA, NH Japan, Y+YA, the Buhr Household, my family in Japan, and finally, God, who provided guidance in every step of this journey!

**Linda Martin**

What an amazing journey it has been—tears, prayers and physical challenges. God has been so faithful. To my beautiful children; Raymond, Robert, Ruston and Shenna, every day I thank God for entrusting me with the honor of being your mom. Thank you Vanessa Ronsee, my dear friend, for encouraging me to return to my beloved PacRim. Blessings,  
Mama Linda

**Julia Mora**

Thank you, Jesus, for saving and transforming my life! Thank you, Mom and Dad, for your endless love and support! You both mean the world to me! Thank you, to my brothers Robert and Raphael, for all of your love and encouragement. And to all of my friends and family members who have constantly supported me, I am forever grateful!

**Marie Ogi**

Thank you, God, for revealing your faithfulness throughout this journey! Thank you, Mom and Dad, for being so incredibly supportive! Thank you to my brother, Paul, for always being encouraging and hilarious! Lastly, thank you, to my church family for your constant and uplifting support.  
I love and appreciate you all so much!

### John Robles

I want to thank our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for His grace and mercy for this milestone. I never thought this would ever happen, but God knew. Also, much mahalo to my family, friends, classmates, and mentors who encouraged me to push through and finish strong. To God be the glory!

### Sheila "KP" Rodgers

To my forever Battle Buddy, Friend and Notetaker, Mr. Rodgers, we did it Sweetning! Special thanks to the following people; Mom, you've always believed in me, my first PacRim Friend, Christie and my phenomenal younger sisters, Cynthia & Tammie, for the texts, talks, and prayers, Dr. EA Kennedy, for being a gracious friend and mentor, spiritually and academically, Prophetess Calloway, for encouraging me to be a committed student of the Word, Cheryl for reminding me to focus on "myself," my children and my Iron-sharpener, Mary, for encouraging me every step of the way! Aloha Blessings to all who supported me along the way.

### Jesse Tagura

As a freshman in 2014, I was practically a child: I loved Nacho Libre, Napoleon Dynamite, collected incredibly unusual socks, and ate pizza rolls for dinner. It's 2019, and as I graduate today I can proudly say that all of those things remain exactly the same. The only difference is I love Jesus a whole lot more. Shout out to mom and pops, the entire Tagura family, Y+YA Crew, and pretty much everyone out there who loves Chronicles of Narnia. Much love.

### Ryan Tenney

My journey at PacRim has been somewhat unconventional. I started off as a student and then was hired as staff as the PacRim dorm property manager and RA. It has been a huge learning experience for me and one that I am eternally grateful for. I would like to especially thank Craig Pankow for his wisdom and guidance through this season. He has been an anchor point for me through some of the most challenging situations I have had to navigate thus far. Love you Craig!

**Reinalyn Terrado**

To them,  
My little and not-so-little **H**umans:  
    **A**musing you know,  
How we **N**avigated  
    This **K**erfuffle called graduate school.  
  
The yank, the **Y**ak, and the yaup  
    They were **O**n a steady ooze.  
But there was no **U**nrest  
    Just calm,  
    And peace,  
    And souls willing to take the plunge with me.  
**Thank you!**

**David Tetsutani**

I would like to thank the faculty and staff, who shared their life experiences and knowledge to encourage and equip all who chose to entrust PacRim Christian University to further their education and knowledge base. No labor of love is in vain. I pray that the Lord will continually refresh you as you refresh others.

**Orslya Végh**

My greatest thank you goes to my Father, who has been faithful every step of the way. Mom, thank you for giving your everything to see me walk in the call God has for my life. Nati, thank you for always believing in me. My amazing friends, thank you for walking with me through every season. This is just the beginning!

*A special thanks all who have supported and walked with us in our mission to disciple emerging Christian leaders for the kingdom of God!*

*Pacific Rim Christian University reserves the right to photograph/videotape participants and guests at Commencement for purposes of publishing the institution's programs or for any other lawful purpose, including the right to print, publish, broadcast and use as appropriate for public information without additional consideration or compensation. All photographs/videos become the property of PacRim.*



## *Our Mission*

Pacific Rim Christian University, an institution of higher education, exists to disciple emerging Christian leaders by developing their theology, ministry skills, and character in order to win souls, plant fruitful churches, and lead as exemplary ambassadors for Christ in the ministry and marketplace.

### *Isaiah 43:4-7*

"Since you are precious in My sight,  
Since you are honored and I love you,  
I will give other men in your place  
and other peoples in exchange for your life.

"Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
And gather you from the west.

"I will say to the north, 'Give them up! '  
And to the south, 'Do not hold them back. '

Bring My sons from afar  
And My daughters from the ends of the earth,  
Everyone who is called by My name,  
And whom I have created for My glory,  
Whom I have formed, even whom I have made."

**We Are Social.**

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