

*University of North Dakota
School of Law
Commencement*



Class of 2023

*Saturday, May 6, 2023
Grand Forks, North Dakota*

THE ORDER OF EXERCISES

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF LAW COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Saturday, May 6, 2023
Chester Fritz Auditorium
10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Brent Hermans, Pianist

PROCESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance — Sir Edward Elgar
Brent Hermans, Pianist
Please stand during the Processional.

WELCOME

Dean Brian Pappas

GREETINGS FROM THE STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. Casey Ryan

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Professor Grant Christensen

CONFERRING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES

President Andrew P. Armacost

PROCTOR

Pam Shea

FACULTY HOODERS

Professor Julia L. Ernst
Professor Ariana Meyers

REMARKS

President Andrew P. Armacost

CLOSING REMARKS

Dean Brian Pappas

RECESSIONAL

Piano Concerto in F Major No. 19 — Mozart
Brent Hermans, Pianist
*The Audience is requested to remain in place
until the recessional is concluded.*



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER PROFESSOR GRANT CHRISTENSEN

Grant Christensen served as a Professor of Law at the University of North Dakota from 2015 until 2021, and is now on the faculty at Stetson University College of Law. During his last year at UND he was the Civil Procedure professor for this graduating class, teaching Civil Procedure I (the structure of a lawsuit) in the fall and Civil Procedure II (jurisdiction and the Erie doctrine) in the spring. During a first year marked by the rise of COVID-19, Professor Christensen and the graduating class grappled with the challenges of the federal rules (and the problems of inconvenient brothers-in-law and trying to wear sandals in a North Dakota winter). Together they all emerged stronger for the effort.

Professor Christensen is a nationally recognized expert on Federal Indian Law. He has served as a tribal appellate judge for the Standing Rock Sioux and the Fort Peck and Assiniboine Sioux Tribes. He is the co-chair of the ABA Business Law Section's Tribal Litigation Subcommittee and is a peer reviewer for the American Indian Law Review. In these capacities, Professor Christensen has traveled across the country to conduct legal training and speak on issues of national importance in Indian law. His interviews have been featured on NPR's Morning Edition, PBS, U.S. News and World Report, and in publications across the country affiliated with the Associated Press.

Professor Christensen has published extensively in the area of Federal Indian Law, often exploring its intersection with corporate law, criminal law, and civil procedure. He is the co-author of *Reading American Indian Law: Foundational Principles* (Cambridge University Press 2020) (co-authored with Melissa Tatum) and *Introduction to American Indian Studies: Policies, Histories, and Contemporary Issues* (Kendall/Hunt) (co-authored with Sebastian Braun and Birgit Hans). His recent law review scholarship includes pieces in the *California Law Review*, the *Minnesota Law Review*, and (most importantly) a piece published by this graduating class as part of their 2022 Indian Law symposium in the *North Dakota Law Review*.

In 2011 Professor Christensen was a Fulbright Scholar, living in Vilnius, Lithuania courtesy of the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Fulbright program. He speaks very basic Lithuanian and enjoys talking about life in the Baltic States.

Professor Christensen received his B.A. in American Studies and Political Science from the University of Richmond, his J.D. from the Ohio State University College of Law, and his LL.M. in Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy from the University of Arizona. He is a licensed member of the bar in both Minnesota and the courts of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

UND SCHOOL OF LAW CLASS OF 2023



Kirsten Allen

Stevenson Ranch, California
University of California, Santa Barbara
Aviation Law Certificate
Indian & Tribal Law Certificate
December 2022

Bryce Catherine Ashby

Louisville, Kentucky
University of Louisville



Dustin A. Berg

Bemidji, Minnesota
University of North Carolina Greensboro

Brooke Lynn Bergeron

Crookston, Minnesota
Minnesota State University Moorhead



Tori Beyer

Fredericksburg, Iowa
University of Iowa
December 2022

Orrin J. Burch

Mandan, North Dakota
University of Mary
December 2022



Isabel E. Carter

Las Vegas, Nevada
University of Nevada, Reno



Kenneth Clayton Christie

Kamuela, Hawaii
Bemidji State University



Matthew A. Costello

Graceville, Minnesota
Minnesota State University Moorhead



Zachariah Lloyd Deitz

Buffalo, North Dakota
North Dakota State University

Meggan Joann Crosby

International Falls, Minnesota
University of North Dakota



Austin Eggl

Minot, North Dakota
Presentation College

Mariah L. Duchesne

Miami, Florida
University of North Dakota



Idalis D. Figueroa

Las Vegas, Nevada
University of Nevada, Reno

Jackson Elmquist

Sauk Rapids, Minnesota
North Dakota State University





Haley Finch

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Manitoba

Patrick Eliase Fylling

Fargo, North Dakota
North Dakota State University
December 2022



Zachary Greenberg

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Minnesota Crookston

Ashley Haneke

Canton, South Dakota
University of South Dakota



Dixie R. Holland

Grand Forks, North Dakota
University of North Dakota
Aviation Law Certificate

Alexia Lynn Jamieson

Fargo, North Dakota
University of North Dakota
December 2022



Ashkan Jelodar

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Manitoba

Lourdes Jimenez

Chicago, Illinois
University of Illinois Chicago
December 2022





Tyler B. Johnson

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Winnipeg



Alexis R. King

Nevis, Minnesota
Marquette University
December 2022



Tanner James Langley

Warwick, North Dakota
North Dakota State University



Samantha Leitold

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Manitoba
December 2022

Raymond M. Johnson

Saint Clair, Minnesota
University of Minnesota



Colin Kearney

Staunton, Virginia
Virginia Military Institute



Alexis Olek Knaeble

Fargo, North Dakota
Concordia College, Moorhead
December 2022



Ethan J. Leingang

Bismarck, North Dakota
University of North Dakota





Brittney M. Lewis

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Winnipeg
December 2022



Victoria Ly

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Manitoba



Melissa Lyke

Denver, Colorado
University of Denver
December 2022



Logan Jay Meyer

Wahpeton, North Dakota
University of North Dakota
December 2022



Gavin William Mindt

Bismarck, North Dakota
North Dakota State University



Martin Murry Moore

Great Falls, Montana
Concordia College, Moorhead



John Nelson

Chickasha, Oklahoma
Oklahoma State University
Indian & Tribal Law Certificate



Anna Nistler

Grand Forks, North Dakota
University of North Dakota
Master of Business Administration





Alivia A. Olson

Keene, North Dakota
University of North Dakota
December 2022



Imade Wesley Omonuwah

Benin City, Edo, Nigeria
Minnesota State University Moorhead
December 2022



Casey Alan Orvedal

Fargo, North Dakota
University of North Dakota

Areli Y. Ortiz

Sierra Vista, Arizona
University of Arizona



Keaton Victor Ostir

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Manitoba
December 2022



Kayla Anne Peterson

Bismarck, North Dakota
Minot State University
December 2022



Edi Planincic

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Manitoba



Collin P. Poolman

Bismarck, North Dakota
University of Denver





Lauren M. Romero

Albuquerque, New Mexico
University of New Mexico
December 2022



Elizabeth Rotherham

Drake, North Dakota
Chadron State College



Muriel Ernestine Rott

Burnsville, Minnesota
University of North Dakota

Kaydin Schmitt

Hazen, North Dakota
Bemidji State University
Indian & Tribal Law Certificate



Liora P. Shiffman

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Manitoba

Vanessa Sigette

Grand Forks, North Dakota
University of North Dakota



Chloe S. Sims

Minneapolis, Minnesota
Augsburg College

Jade Taylor Solvason

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
University of Winnipeg
Indian & Tribal Law Certificate
December 2022





Andrew Mark Thompson

Grand Forks, North Dakota
University of Miami

Charles Lynn Steinberger

Kenmare, North Dakota
North Dakota State University
December 2022



McKenzie K. Thompson

Karlstad, Minnesota
University of North Dakota

Woodrow P. Wagaman Jr.

Hanover, Pennsylvania
Southern Virginia University



Gabrielle CarolMarie Wolf

Mandan, North Dakota
North Dakota State University



Keaton D. Zaback

Minot, North Dakota
University of North Dakota



ACADEMIC PAGEANTRY

The pageantry of American colleges and universities, including such ceremonies as commencement, has been inherited from the medieval universities of the 11th and 12th centuries. Academic life as it is known today began in the Middle Ages, first in the church and then in the guilds. The teaching guild was the Guild of the Master of Arts, in which the Bachelor was the apprentice of the Master and the dress was the outward sign of privilege and responsibility.

The ceremony you will witness today will be less formal than would have been the case even a few decades ago. Still, many traditions have been continued.

To maintain continuity with the past, University of North Dakota faculty, the stage officials and the degree candidates will wear academic dress.

Principal features of academic garb are the gown, cap and hood. Early it became necessary for universities to set rules to preserve the dignity and meaning of academic dress. Since the 15th century, both Cambridge and Oxford have made academic dress a matter of university control even to its minor details, and have repeatedly published revised regulations. American universities agreed on a definite system in 1895.

ACADEMIC DRESS

THE GOWN

The flowing gown comes from the 12th century. While it originally may have been worn as protection against the chill of unheated buildings, it has today become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it covers any trappings of rank or social standing underneath. It is black for all degrees, with pointed sleeves for the bachelor's degree recipient, long closed sleeves with a slit at the arm or wrist for the master's degree, or full bell double sleeves for the doctoral degree. Bachelor's and master's degree gowns have no trimming. For the doctoral degree, the gown is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves.

THE CAP

Under Roman law, a slave that had been set free received the privilege of wearing a cap. The academic cap is a sign of freedom of scholarship, and of the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Ancient poetry records the cap of scholarship as square to

symbolize the book. The color of the tassel denotes the academic discipline. At the University of North Dakota, the tassel color associated with the School of Law is purple. For undergraduate students, the tassels hang on the right side of the cap until they receive their degrees, at which time the tassel is moved to the left. For master's and doctoral students, the tassel hangs on the left side of the cap and is not moved.

THE HOOD

The hood is trimmed with one or more chevrons of a secondary color on the ground of the primary color of the college. The color of the facing of the hood denotes the discipline represented by the degree; the color of the lining designates the university or college which granted the degree. The official colors of the University of North Dakota, selected by the student body in preparation for the institution's first commencement in 1889, are the pink and green of the prairie rose.

CEREMONIAL OBJECTS

THE MACE

The mace was initially modeled after a 12th century implement of war. In earlier days, the mace, or heavy staff, was borne by or carried before a magistrate or other dignitary as an ensign of authority. A mace is placed as the symbol of royal authority on the treasury table in the British House of Commons at the opening of each session and is removed at its close. In the U.S. House of Representatives, it is a rather plain staff mounted in a marble pedestal at the right hand side of the Speaker. The mace of the University of North Dakota symbolizes the authority to carry out its mission, especially the granting of degrees. Made from the oak of the University's first building, "Old Main," the mace is carried by a marshal during academic processions and is placed at a prominent spot on the stage during commencement.

THE MEDALLION

A medallion or seal of office, worn by the head of an educational institution, is a practice that dates back to the Middle Ages. In those times, a seal was used to mark documents as official. Possession of the seal was so

important that it was usually worn around the neck for safekeeping. The wearing of the seal eventually became a symbol of authority. One side of the medallion worn by the president bears an engraving of the University's official seal and the names of all former presidents are included on the chain of office.

THE CHARTER

The University of North Dakota was founded six years before North Dakota became a state. The original, handwritten charter, enacted in 1883 by the Dakota Territorial Assembly, is preserved in UND's archives. One facsimile is displayed in the President's Office and another is used at commencements and other special occasions.

THE UNIVERSITY FLAG

The University flag features the UND flame logo set on a white background. The flag is used at ceremonial events and is carried by the honorary faculty flag marshal to lead the commencement procession. The flag is displayed on the stage during the commencement ceremony along with the mace and charter.

UNIVERSITY MARSHALS

The Marshals escort the degree candidates and platform personnel during the ceremony. They have been selected from the second- and first-year students on the basis of academic excellence.

GRAND MARSHAL

AnneMarie Studer

CHARTER MARSHAL

Lauren Dub

FLAG MARSHAL

Nicholas Johnson

CANDIDATES MARSHAL

Cassandra Molivigny

FACULTY MARSHAL

Matthew Freier

PLATFORM MARSHAL - REGISTRAR'S ASSISTANT

Jack Blotsky

PLATFORM MARSHALS - HOODERS' ASSISTANTS

Roman Knudsvig
McKoehm Tschider

INSIDE HOSTS

Taylor Prussia
Sarah Schauer

ENTRANCE HOSTS

Evan Leingang
Emily Belbas
Erin Weightman

LOBBY HOSTS

Audrey Skaar
Alexander Rand

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CHESTER FRITZ DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR **KATHRYN R.L. RAND** **Floyd B. Sperry Professor of Law**

Kathryn R.L. Rand is Floyd B. Sperry Professor of Law and co-founder and co-director of the Institute for the Study of Tribal Gaming Law & Policy at UND. She joined the UND faculty in 2000.

Rand and her frequent co-author, collaborator, and fellow Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor Steven Light, are widely regarded as the nation's leading and most prolific academic experts on "Indian gaming," having published three books and dozens of articles on the topic. Their work has examined the law, policy, business and politics of tribal casinos, and has helped to lay the legal foundation for a multi-billion-dollar industry that has significantly improved the economies and quality of life for American Indian communities. Their co-authored books – considered the gold standards in the field and used in university and law school classrooms throughout the U.S. – include "Indian Gaming & Tribal Sovereignty: The Casino Compromise," which was featured on C-SPAN's Book TV. Light and Rand are credited with launching tribal gaming law and policy as an academic area of specialized study.

In 2022, Rand and Light were Inaugural Visiting Professors in the Indian Nations Gaming & Governance Program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where they also were Senior Distinguished Fellows in Tribal Gaming at the International Center for Gaming Regulation.

She is a frequent media commentator for leading news outlets, such as The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Boston Globe, National Public Radio, and Indian Country Today. Together, they have delivered invited lectures at Boston College, University of Manitoba, Stanford, University of Helsinki, University of Macau and numerous law schools.

Rand has testified twice on Indian gaming regulation and oversight before the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in Washington, DC, as well as before the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation. She has shared her expertise with such diverse audiences as the NCAA, industry professionals, and tribal, federal, state, and local leaders and officials.

From 2009 to 2018, Rand served as dean of the UND School of Law and was the first woman to hold that position. She also served as the law school's associate dean for academic affairs and research (2004-09) and interim director of the Northern Plains Indian Law Center (2003-04).

"Without Kathryn's excellent service, our law school would not be the strong and vibrant school it is today. Kathryn's legacy is one of administrative service," said Dean Brian Pappas.

Rand was previously awarded the UND Foundation/McDermott Award for Excellence in Teaching, Research or Creative Activity, and Service in 2007.

She teaches in the areas of constitutional law, civil rights, Indian gaming law, and professional skill development. Rand also has published on academic leadership and diversity and inclusion in legal education. She is an elected member of the American Law Institute and serves as a vice president of the International Masters of Gaming Law.

"There are so many ways to leave a legacy," said Pappas. "Chester Fritz's legacy lives on through his Distinguished Professorships and the students, faculty, staff, and community members these special individuals continue to impact. At UND Law, we are so proud to now include a Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor on our faculty. We are proud that it is Kathryn Rand, whose legacy will only continue to grow."

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Professor of Law



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Administration &
Randy H. Lee
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Assistant Professor of Law



Nikola Datzov
Assistant Professor of Law



Kirsten Dauphinais
Law School Builders of the Profession
Professor of Law



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Lloyd & Ruth Friedman
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Denitsa Mavrova Heinrich
Rodney & Betty Webb
Associate Professor of Law



Margaret Moore Jackson
Kenneth & Frances Swenson
Professor of Law



Blake Klinkner
Assistant Professor of Law



Dan Lewerenz
Assistant Professor of Law



Michael S. McGinniss
Professor of Law &
J. Philip Johnson Faculty Fellow



Ariana Meyers
Assistant Professor of Law



Steven R. Morrison
Professor of Law



Tade Oyewunmi
Assistant Professor of Law



Kathryn R.L. Rand
Floyd B. Sperry Professor of Law &
Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor



Jenny Samarzja
Assistant Professor of Law



Alexandra Sickler
Archie Unterscher
Professor of Law



Paul Traynor
Assistant Professor of Law



Carolyn Williams
Assistant Professor of Law

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Administrative Assistant



Dalton Erickson
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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

SCHOOL OF LAW

Founded in 1899 and steeped in rich tradition, the School of Law is among the oldest degree-granting units of the University of North Dakota. It was the first of UND's professional schools to begin operations. Its first dean was Guy H. Corliss, who had served as the inaugural Chief Justice of the North Dakota Supreme Court.

Despite its meager resources, the law school grew quickly in popularity. The occupation had considerable prestige, and there was much demand for lawyers in the new state. In his history of UND, *University of the Northern Plains*, Louis Geiger observed, "perhaps no other college paid off so quickly in broadening the University's influences in North Dakota."



Since 1911, UND Law has been a member of the Association of American Law Schools. The School of Law was approved in 1923 by the American Bar Association's Section of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar and has been continuously reaccredited since.

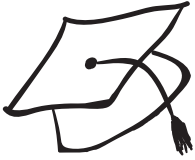
The law school was located in downtown Grand Forks until it was moved to the UND campus during World War I. It shared a building constructed in 1922 on the corner of University Avenue and Centennial Drive with other campus departments for many years. The Law School continued to grow and ultimately took over the entire building, becoming what is known today as the School of Law. In 1973, the law school received its first major addition of a new law library, which was attached to the west side of the 1922 building.

More than 40 years later, in the 2015 fall semester, the UND School of Law took another historic step forward by completing and dedicating a \$14.4 million renovation and building addition. As a result of the project, the educational space improved significantly as additional classrooms were added, featuring a state-of-the-art teaching courtroom, deliberation room and a high-tech "case study" classroom. Additional student study, collaboration and gathering space can be found throughout the addition and the renovated law library. This project has had a dramatic effect on the delivery of the education, and it has enhanced the unique spirit of community among the students.

As the state's only law school, the UND School of Law produces well-rounded legal professionals with the necessary skill set to serve as effective, innovative, and ethical leaders in North Dakota, our region, and our nation. The UND School of Law has a proud tradition of success of its graduates. A sense of pride among our alumni creates a strong alumni network that spreads across the country and around the world.

The UND School of Law Class of 2023

wish to recognize and thank our family members and friends for the support and encouragement they have given us throughout our law school careers. Without that support and understanding, this would not have been possible.



Update now

Use your phone's camera to scan this code to update your info. It will take you less than two minutes.

WELCOME TO THE UND ALUMNI FAMILY!

Congratulations! You're joining more than 150,000 UND alumni living around the globe.

One of the great things about UND is that, while you may embark on future careers, further studies, and new adventures, UND never leaves you.

You are – and always will be – a Fighting Hawk. And as such, you have a place with the UND Alumni Association & Foundation.

Start your alumni journey with us by updating your profile to get exclusive access to programs and events in your area, the UND Alumni Magazine and more.

P.S. We're on social media! Follow us **@UNDalumni** for the latest updates.



UND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
FOUNDATION
LEADERS IN ACTION

This commencement program was printed in May 2023. Student photos by Behl's Photography of Grand Forks, and the law building photos by Chad Ziemendorf, Watford City, North Dakota.

*The University of North Dakota is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
For more information on equal opportunity policies and procedures, see UND.edu*



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