

HONORS CONVOCATION CEREMONY

MAY 11, 2022



VaughnCollege
of aeronautics and technology

CONVOCATION SPEAKER

JAMES HENDON

James Hendon is the commissioner of the New York City Department of Veterans' Services. Previously, Hendon served as director of the New York University's Veterans Future Lab, a small business incubator for practicing and aspiring entrepreneurs who are US military veterans or veterans' spouses.

A veteran entrepreneur himself, James was also the chief executive officer of the Energy Economic Development Corporation, an organization that helps communities and small businesses take advantage of energy-related advancements.

Prior to that, Hendon served as the chief operating officer for BlocPower, a Department of Energy sponsored company that helps nonprofits, small businesses and faith centers perform energy efficiency retrofits.

Before entering the civilian workforce, Hendon spent seven years in the US Army as an active duty infantry officer where he deployed as a mortar platoon leader and battalion public affairs officer to Iraq, worked as an admissions officer for West Point and served as the senior advisor to the Afghan Border Police in Afghanistan.

Hendon is a 2002 graduate of West Point, a 2012 graduate of Harvard Kennedy School and Columbia Business School and a 2015 graduate of the Earth Institute's Conservation and Environmental Sustainability program.

AWARDS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AWARD

This award is presented to the baccalaureate graduate with the highest overall cumulative grade point average who also has demonstrated a high level of service to the Vaughn community. Minimum grade point average for this award is 3.50.

FOUNDERS AWARDS

These awards are presented to graduates from each associate degree program who have attained the highest cumulative grade point average in their programs while demonstrating the professional and civic values that exemplify the mission of Vaughn College. Minimum grade point average for this award is 3.50.

CASEY S. JONES AWARDS

These awards are presented to graduates from each baccalaureate degree program who have attained the highest cumulative grade point average in their programs while demonstrating the professional and civic values that exemplify the mission of Vaughn College. Minimum grade point average for this award is 3.50.

PRESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

This award honors and recognizes students who have represented the College and enhanced external relationships with College partners while maintaining a minimum grade point average of 3.50.

ENGINEERING INNOVATION AWARD

This award is presented to a graduate who was an active participant in professional development or competition while at Vaughn College and who published or presented a paper on a new and innovative idea at a technical conference. This award seeks to honor students who have investigated innovative research projects in engineering.

BESSIE COLEMAN AWARD

This award is presented to an outstanding female graduate who has attained the highest cumulative grade point average while demonstrating the professional and civic values that exemplify the mission of Vaughn College. Minimum grade point average for this award is 3.50.

AWARDS

SERVICE AWARD

Certificates are presented to graduates, selected by the office of student affairs, for outstanding work in club activities and other special service to Vaughn College.

SENIOR ATHLETE AWARD

This award is given to Vaughn College senior student-athletes who have either completed their competitive eligibility, or will be graduating in 2022, and have contributed significantly to the success of their teams.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S AWARD

Presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to the athletic program. This individual also exemplifies being a team player through performance, leadership and involvement. This award is not limited to varsity student-athletes and is given at the discretion of the athletic director.

HONOR CORDS

Graduates who have completed their degrees with academic honors are attired with gold, silver or bronze cords.

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Presented to graduates who have completed the Leadership Academy program and have had the opportunity to supplement their curricular knowledge with experiential teamwork and leadership initiatives.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESS

Presented to graduates who have completed the National Society of Leadership and Success and have had the opportunity to supplement their curricular knowledge with experiential teamwork and leadership initiatives.

VETERAN RECOGNITION

Graduates who served our country in the military service will receive red, white, and blue cords to honor their service.

HONORS CONVOCATION CEREMONY

Welcome

*Dr. Paul LaVergne
Vice President,
Academic Affairs*

Greetings from the President

*Dr. Sharon B. DeVivo
President*

Convocation Address

*Mr. James Hendon
Commissioner,
New York City Department
of Veteran Services*

Student Speaker

Ms. Alexa Rae Cruz

MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

*Dr. Peter Canellis
Associate Professor*

Airport Management Program

Founders Award presented to Manuel Adrianzen
Casey S. Jones Awards presented to Rose Nguyen
and Enderson Rondon

Airport/Airline Management Program

Founders Award presented to Katelyn Beharry

AVIATION DEPARTMENT

*Dr. George Tracy
Professor*

Aircraft Operations Program

Founders Award presented to Kaustubh Chitnis
Casey S. Jones Award presented to Alister Lockiby

Aeronautical Sciences Program

Casey S. Jones Award presented to Rashid Ahmed

Aviation Maintenance Management Program

Casey S. Jones Award presented to Yijie Fang

AVIATION TRAINING INSTITUTE

*Mr. Domenic Proscia
Vice President of Training*

Associate in Occupational Studies Program

*Founders Awards presented to Simon Ng
and Savitree Satdeo*

ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

*Dr. Hossein Rahemi
Chair*

Electrical Engineering Program

Casey S. Jones Award presented to Tika Tamang

Electronic Engineering Technology Avionics Program

Casey S. Jones Award presented to Ashley Nunez

Electronic Engineering Technology General Electronics Program

Casey S. Jones Award presented to Deven Noel-Quashie

Mechanical Engineering Program

Casey S. Jones Award presented to Bryan Gordillo

Mechanical Engineering Technology, Aeronautical Option Program

Casey S. Jones Award presented to Abdullah Khan

Mechatronic Engineering Program

Casey S. Jones Award presented to Wiktorina Harkot

Engineering Innovation Award

Presented to Misael Marquez

The Board of Trustees Award

Presented to Wole Barnarde

*Mr. Peter Vaughn
Board of Trustees Chair*

Bessie Coleman Award

Presented to Alexa Rae Cruz

President DeVivo

Service Awards

Presented to Rashid Ahmed, Bryan Arias, Nicholas Bentancur, Boyuan Chen, Johann Cole, Patrick Silva Da Cruz, Zachary Fall, Kevin Ferrara, Ilona Giraldo, Mohammed Khan, Armand Ortiz, Sukhtej Singh Bassi, Jolie Slatton

*Ms. Elaine T. White
Assistant Vice President,
Student Affairs*

Presidential Excellence Awards

Presented to Wiktorija Harkot, Sadia Harun, Misael Marquez, Ashley Nunez, Sibin Samuel

President DeVivo

Senior Athlete Award

Presented to Alexa Rae Cruz and Louis Roche

Ms. White

Athletic Director's Award

Presented to Alexa Rae Cruz

Leadership Academy Recognition

Presented to Wole Barnarde, Patrick Silva Da Cruz, Johann Cole, Kevin Ferrara, Jolie Slatton

National Society of Leadership and Success Recognition

Presented to Kevin Ferrara, Ilona Giraldo, Mohammed Khan, Narindra Maharaj, Ankit Mistry, Ashley Nunez, Armand Ortiz, Jared Rakowicz, Kelian Rodriguez, Savitree Satdeo, Robert Tocco

Presentation of Honor Cords

Presented to Students Graduating with Academic Honors

Dr. LaVergne

Presentation of Veteran Tassels

Presented to Students Graduating with Veteran Status

Ms. White

Congratulations to all of our graduates.

Graduates, please join us in the Hangar for commencement rehearsal after the ceremony.