

5-2-2019

## May 2, 2019 - From the President's Desk

Cheryl B. Schrader  
*Wright State University - Main Campus*

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### Repository Citation

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Dear Campus Community,

This week we celebrate our graduates. I am so proud of each and every one of them.

I would also like to recognize our distinguished faculty and dedicated staff who have supported them in so many ways along their journey. You continue to impress me with your commitment to our students' success.

I am pleased to report that the spring class of 2019 includes 2,072 graduates. Wright State University will award 22 associate degrees, 1,457 bachelor's degrees, 592 master's, and 25 doctoral degrees. Once again, we have a diverse group of graduates. They hail from 63 Ohio counties, including 1,913 from Raider Country, the 16 counties anchored by our Dayton and Lake campuses. Graduates come from 27 states and 34 nations.

Commencement is certainly a time to focus on our students' achievements, but it is also a time to imagine the possibilities. I know our graduates will accomplish great things!

I am reminded of Wright State's logo, which depicts one of Orville and Wilbur Wright's first powered flights. While it is a snapshot of the brothers' success, it also was just the beginning of many future successes that would change the world. Just like the Wright brothers, our students have grit and never give up.

During commencement, Wright State will honor one of the Wright brothers' relatives, Amanda Wright Lane, with an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. The great grandniece of Wilbur and Orville Wright, she is an enthusiastic supporter of the university. I can think of no one more deserving. Her passion for Wright State and our mission is evident.

Amanda is a frequent visitor to Wright State's Special Collections and Archives, home to the largest repository of Wright family materials in the world. In fact, she is co-chair of Discover Your Story: The Campaign for the Wright State University Archives Center. As co-chair of Rise. Shine. The Campaign for Wright State University, Amanda played an instrumental role in that campaign, which raised more than \$167.7 million.

Commencement is the highlight of the academic year and there is nothing quite like being surrounded by all of our smiling graduates and their families. It begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 4, in the Wright State Nutter Center. [Tickets are required](#). You can also watch the event online at [wright.edu/streaming](http://wright.edu/streaming). The Lake Campus ceremony is Thursday, May 2, at 5:30 p.m. at Romer's Celina Ballroom.

Warmest regards,

Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.  
*President*

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Posted Thursday, May 2, 2019

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