

*University of Missouri School of Law*

# HOODING CEREMONY

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*2 p.m.*

*Saturday, May 17, 2025*

**JESSE AUDITORIUM  
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI**



**School of Law**  
University of Missouri

# Program

## **Opening Remarks**

Dean Paul Litton

## **Introductions**

Dean Paul Litton

Matthew Martens, Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor, University of Missouri

Gretchen Myers, '84

Benjamin Trachtenberg, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

JR Swanegan, Assistant Dean for Enrollment Management & Financial Aid

Jenifer McGarr, Assistant Dean for Career Development & Student Services

Faculty of the School of Law

## **Speaker**

Gretchen Myers, '84

## **Hooding Ceremony**

### **Reader**

Assistant Dean JR Swanegan

### **LL.M. Hooders**

Professor Paul Ladehoff

Judge Girardo Pico, LL.M. '00

### **J.D. Hooders**

Associate Dean Benjamin Trachtenberg

Professor Ryan Snyder

Professor Danielle Dodd

## **Conferring of Degrees**

Matthew Martens, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

## **Closing Remarks**

Dean Paul Litton

## **LL.M. - Master of Laws in Dispute Resolution**

Sunil Aggarwal\*  
Felicia A.D. Gyamfi Ashley  
Ariana Emilia Cabrera  
Jeffrey Damian Carroll  
Michael James Conklin\*  
Adanna Kemba Cudjoe\*  
Yarubith Carolina Escobar Bastidas  
Zeina Joumaa  
Michele Annette Montour-Kumm\*  
Chhayheng Lim  
Faith Mpho Maphutha  
Joaquín Moreno  
María Concepcion Palacios La Manna  
Peter Warren Singer  
Luis Felipe Sorondo

## **J.D. - Juris Doctor**

Hope Adamson  
Anika Karina Andersen  
Brittany Archer  
Clayton Thomas Arnold  
James Augustus  
Alyssa Hope Bacon  
Xitong (Helen) Bai  
Dana S. Bal  
Gabriel Cannon Barnes  
Nathan James Beaver  
Magdee Besharat  
Mackenzie Blodgett  
McKayla Savannah Bogda  
Emily Elizabeth Bomball  
Clara Rose Brand  
Georgia Lillian Bronson  
Noriel Eduardo Buenano  
Matthew Daniel Bukovac  
Jonathan Burge\*  
Caitlyn Carrigan

Zachary Chaney  
Emma Kay Chedwick  
Stephanie Nicole Chisum  
Gracie Williams Clevenger  
Hunter Michael Clouse  
Gabrielle Stephanie Cone  
Kenna Jae Cornelius\*  
Karen Nash Crouch  
Ray L. Cunneen  
Brianna M. Daniels  
Ethan Schmidt Deimeke  
Chase Robert Dembowski  
Cody Daniel Deterding  
Christa Dowil\*  
Sarah Kay Dowler  
Brian Daniel Dresner  
Justin Thomas Dussold  
Heather Dyreng  
Hannah Eastland  
Elizabeth Anne Eastlund  
Margaret Edgar  
Rachel Marie Elliott  
Jessica Ventura Esguerra  
Adam Ezzelgot  
Eloria Ruth Fedynich  
Ryan Francis Gallagher  
Amaris Grace Garber  
Rachel Lynn Gardner  
Werthen Grace Gass  
Hallie Harrison Gibbs, III  
Jeffrey Morgen Giesmann  
Zayne Alexander Glatz  
Pablo Haddock  
Grant Rush Hahn  
Abbey Marie Hammack  
Kaia Harris  
Matthew Craig Hellmann  
Izaac Herebia  
Annaleigh Thiessen Hobbs  
Drew Hoffman  
Eric Stephen Humphrey  
Tasneem Huq  
Crosbie K. Jarrett

Hank Allen Jenkins  
Joseph F. Kellogg  
Caitlin Rebecca King  
Christian D. Kinghorne  
Timothy Robert Knight  
Annie Kathleen Kreikemeier  
Thomas Riley Langdon  
Mariana Larson  
Kelly Victoria Hooper Leal  
Erika M. LeFauve  
Julianna Chu Leung  
Joseph Ryan Link  
Aubrey Kate Manculich  
Sophia Caroine Marcolla  
Abigail Jean Martin  
Margaret Mary Anne McAuliff  
Kennedy Leslie McGhee  
Seriah Eun Young Joo McQueen  
Christian A. Melhado  
Kylie Laura Meyerkord\*  
Zachary Thomas Mikuls  
Sarah Michelle Milcarek  
Katherine L. Miles  
Avery Carnell Moore  
Meghan Reese Morris  
Clark Thomas Moseley  
Brett Bernadette Newberry  
Jessie Louise O'Brien  
Halle Ellen Ann Oerly  
Juliana Payne  
Jennifer A. Perry  
William Stewart Alexander Rodman  
Hannah Elizabeth Rodriguez  
Anderson Michael Rogers  
Zachary Robert Roling  
Mary Claire Rose  
Griffin Roster  
Grace Nichole Rowden  
Ozoda Saburi  
Emily Anne Samisch  
Luke Lawrence Sanders  
Wolfgang Alexander Schaefer  
Adam Clay Schexnayder

Cameron Shields  
Austin Siener  
Grayson Smith  
Michael Isaac Smith  
Sarah Kathleen Stack  
Luke Ian Stange  
Jack Stanley  
Matthew Carl Swords  
Taylor Kay Todd  
Alaina Marie Valdes  
Makayla V. Watson  
Alexandra Grace Widick  
Christian Parker Witte  
Conner Joseph Wolfe  
Jacob Harvey Wood  
Madison Chanel Young  
Thomas W. Young  
Erin Rose Zimmerman

\* Summer 2025 Graduate

## Speaker



**Gretchen Myers** is one of Mizzou Law's most accomplished alumni and is regularly recognized as one of the nation's top trial attorneys. Myers, a native Missourian, double majored in political science and economics at the University of Missouri before graduating with her J.D. from Mizzou Law in 1984.

Gretchen held a judicial clerkship in the Federal District Court before practicing at a renowned personal injury firm in St. Louis. She opened her own practice in 1999.

Her many awards include the Lon O. Hocker Award, given to only three outstanding young trial attorneys in Missouri, the Award of Honor, for the outstanding trial attorney whose lifetime of service to the profession and community inspires others, and Missouri Lawyers Media Power 30 List of PI attorneys, whose leadership in the community is pervasive and recognition within the bar is undeniable.

Among her many leadership positions, Myers was the first woman elected President of the Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys, President-Elect of the national organization, APITLA, and appointed to MAI, the state's civil jury instructions committee.

Myers is a fellow in the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, recognized as the most prestigious organization of trial lawyers in the world, limited to 500 Fellows. She is a frequent lecturer throughout the country.

# History of the Regalia

In 1932 the American Council on Education (ACE) authorized the appointment of a committee “to determine whether revision and completion of the academic code adopted by the conference of the colleges and universities in 1895 is desirable at this time, and, if so, to draft a revised code and present a plan for submitting the code to the consideration of the institutional members of the Council.” The committee reviewed the situation and approved a code for academic costumes that has been in effect since that year.

Doctoral robes are typically black. In general, doctoral gowns are similar to the gowns worn by bachelor’s graduates, with the addition of three velvet bands on the sleeves and velvet facing running down the front of the gown. The Code calls for the gown trim to be either black or the color designated for the field of study in which the doctorate was earned. The robes have full sleeves, instead of the bell sleeves of the bachelor’s gown.

The Code calls for the outside shell of the hood to remain black. The shell material of the hood matches the robe, and for the color to be black regardless of the color of the robe being worn. The interior lining - generally silk - displays the colors of the institution from which the wearer received the degree, in a pattern prescribed by it (usually, if more than one color is used, chevrons or equal divisions). The opening of the hood is trimmed in velvet or velveteen. In most American colleges and universities, the color of the velvet hood trimming is distinctive of the academic field for which law is purple.