UNIQUE YEAR BRINGS SIX COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES TO RECOGNIZE GRADUATES

Though myriad challenges faced members of the Mount Union community since the beginning of 2020, the institution was safely able to hold six commencement ceremonies to recognize the Class of 2020 and Class of 2021.

To cooperate with capacity guidelines from Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and the Responsible Restart Ohio plan, Mount Union was able to host parents and family in the covered stands of Mount Union Stadium to witness their students become alumni. Four of the six ceremonies were held outside in the stadium, with the final two ceremonies held in the Peterson Field House due to inclement weather.

Congratulations to all of the graduates!

See the entire gallery of Commencement Weekend photos on Facebook at facebook.com/UniversityofMountUnion/photos















CUMMINGS '09 NAMED GREAT TEACHER, MITCHELL '21 OUTSTANDING SENIOR FOR 2021

Rachel Cummings '09, instructor and director of athletic training, was named Mount Union's Great Teacher for 2021.

A member of the Mount Union faculty since 2019, Cummings earned a Bachelor of Science degree in athletic training from the institution. She also earned a Master of Arts degree in exercise, leisure, and sport from Kent State University.



A student nominator said, "She truly puts the mental health of students before everything else, making sure that they are not only physically ready for class, but emotionally. She continually checks on students who have graduated. You can feel the passion that she has for teaching and her profession. There is no one more deserving of this award."

The Great Teacher Award, initiated in 1962, is sponsored by the Alumni Association and recognizes excellence in teaching.

Carlee Mitchell '21, a biochemistry and French double major of Alliance, Ohio, was named Mount Union's 2021 Outstanding Senior.

Mitchell has been on the Dean's List for six semesters and is a member of Alpha Mu Gamma, the Honors Program, the Association of International Students, French Club, Gender Equity Matters, Kappa Pi, Student Senate, and UMU Health and Prosperity Club.



She has served as president of the American Chemical Society for two years and also studied abroad in Lyon, France. She was a recipient of the Dr. Donald J. and G.E. Brugger Pre-Med Award, the Mary Frost French Prize, and the Morgan Song Leadership Biochemistry Prize.

Other nominees included Olivia Andrew '21, a psychology major of Brunswick, Ohio, Emily Ina '21, a biology and neuroscience double major of Brunswick, Ohio, and Sarah Turley '21, a biochemistry major of Sagamore Hills, Ohio.

See all award winners at mountunion.edu/honors-convocation

SIRIANNI '03 NAMED HEAD COACH OF THE NFL'S PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Quickly climbing the coaching ranks from his days as defensive backs coach at Mount Union from 2004-2005, Nick Sirianni '03 was recently named head coach of the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles.

Sirianni was most recently offensive coordinator for the Indianapolis Colts for the past three seasons. He is the 21st full-time head coach hired by the Eagles franchise.





MOUNT UNION NAMED A TOP COLLEGE IN OHIO FOR ALUMNI EARNINGS AMONG RECENT GRADUATES

Mount Union was recently announced as one of the 2021 Best Colleges in Ohio for bachelor's degree Salary Score by Optimal's GradReports. The institution was ranked eighth in the state and third in the Northeast Ohio region.

GradReports compared the salaries of more than 4.6 million college graduates to determine Salary Scores for more than 885 college degrees, then used the scores to rank the 2021

Best Colleges at the associate's, bachelor's, and master's levels.

The Salary Score is based on median alumni earnings and median alumni debt in the year after graduating, using data from the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard. The score compares the median alumni salary for a specific program at one school to the median alumni salary for the same program at other schools, allowing prospective students to see which schools offer top earnings for that program.

Alumni of Mount Union's programs in biology, computer science, and mechanical engineering all had salary scores in at least the 75th percentile of the national average.



IN PIRING m i n d s TRANSFORMING LIVES CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The cost of a college education and increasing student debt are top concerns for today's families, and both pose significant obstacles for students seeking undergraduate and graduate degrees.

At the outset of the *Inspiring Minds, Transforming Lives* campaign, scholarship support was the top priority. Now, in the University's fifth and final year of the campaign, Mount Union celebrates the generosity of alumni and friends creating scholarship opportunities for current and future Purple Raiders.

Learn more about the *Inspiring Minds, Transforming Lives* Campaign **mountunion.edu/inspire**



"I was thankful to have received multiple scholarships, from the Trustee Scholarship to the Minority Achievement Award to an Esports Scholarship!"

-Santino Diaz-Palma '22



NEW SCHOLARSHIPS CREATED: 66 FOR A TOTAL OF \$7,600,000 IN NEW SCHOLARSHIP GIFTS FOR STUDENTS

ENDOW A SCHOLARSHIP AND PAVE THE WAY FOR MOUNT UNION'S NEXT 175 YEARS

As the institution celebrates Mount Union's 175th Anniversary and reflects on the scholarship opportunities created throughout the current campaign, the University's work is not yet done. We will continue to work to ensure deserving students of all backgrounds have access to a Mount Union education.

Alumni and friends can help make a future student's dream of attending Mount Union a reality by endowing a scholarship in three easy steps:

1. Determine the gift amount and a payment plan that is comfortable

The minimum gift for an endowed scholarship is \$25,000. This amount can be paid over time. (example: \$5,000/yr for five years)

2. Create a scholarship name and description

There are opportunities for those who want to memorialize a former classmate or family member in the scholarship's name. Donors have the opportunity to memorialize a former classmate or family member in the scholarship's name and description. Criteria for the recipient may include a student's major, class year, or high school alma mater. The options are limitless.

3. Change a student's life

Once the full amount is received, the fund must sit for one year to grow before it is awarded. Every year afterward, the donor will receive a financial report on the scholarship including the scholarship recipient(s) name(s). Endowed scholarships live on in perpetuity to benefit Purple Raiders for generations yet to come.

