

WESTERN GOVERNORS UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT IN LAS VEGAS

APRIL 26, 2025



OUR MISSION

To change lives for the better by creating pathways to opportunity.

OUR PROMISE

We provide strong returns on students' educational investments through a deep connection to workforce needs, respected and relevant credentials, eliminating unnecessary costs, and generous financial assistance and transfer policies.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear graduates,

On behalf of all of us at WGU, I want to congratulate you on this incredible achievement. Your hard work, perseverance, and dedication have led you to this moment, and only you fully understand the sacrifices it took to reach this milestone.

It has been an honor to support you on this journey. Your degree represents not only a life-changing opportunity for you but also the potential to make a meaningful impact on the lives of others. As you join a proud network of more than 380,000 WGU graduates, we encourage you to stay connected through the Alumni Association.

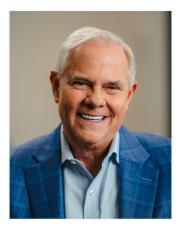
Thank you for letting us share this moment with you and your loved ones. We are proud of all you've achieved and excited for the opportunities ahead. Congratulations!

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Scott D. Pulsipher, President Western Governors University

<u>wgu.edu</u>

HONORARY DEGREE LEAVITT SCHOOL OF HEALTH & SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



David Simmons

Owner, Simmons Capital

With a distinguished 40-year career spanning media, communications, and travel management, David Simmons has built and led transformative organizations that have reshaped their industries. Currently, he oversees his private investment firm, leveraging his expertise to drive strategic growth and innovation.

David served for 18 years on the Western Governors University Board of Trustees (2006–2024), where he played a key role in advancing the institution's mission of accessible, high-quality education. He is also the co-chairman of M-Plus Global Events, a premier travel management company.

Previously, as CEO of Simmons Media Group, he expanded the company's influence in radio broadcasting and outdoor advertising, and as chairman and CEO of Keystone Communications, he led its evolution into a global satellite communications firm. David has been recognized for his entrepreneurial success in helping build these organizations into nationally prominent leaders in their respective industries.

David's impact extends beyond business into economic development and education. He earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Utah and an MBA from Harvard Business School. He served for nearly two decades on the board of trustees of Westminster University and was chairman of the Utah State Board of Business and Economic Development, the Utah Sports Commission, Discovery Gateway Children's Museum, the Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the Olene Walker Institute of Public Policy at Weber State University.

Residing in Salt Lake City with his wife, Melinda, and their five children, David has a love for American history and international perspectives.

<u>wgu.edu</u>

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY & SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



Antonio Romayor Jr.

Chief Operations Officer at the Imperial County Office of Education

Antonio Romayor, Jr. is the Chief Operations Officer at the Imperial County Office of Education, where he oversees Technology, Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations. A proud first-generation high school and college graduate, Antonio has earned two degrees from WGU a B.S. in Information Technology Management in 2019 and an M.Ed. in Learning and Technology in 2020. In 2022, he was honored as a Distinguished Graduate by WGU. None of which would be possible without the loving support of his wife Yolanda and two energetic and intelligent boys, Samuel and Emmanuel. Antonio enjoys working on cars, woodworking, cooking, and spending time outdoors with friends and family. Antonio loves finding new challenges – which include learning to play guitar and golf.

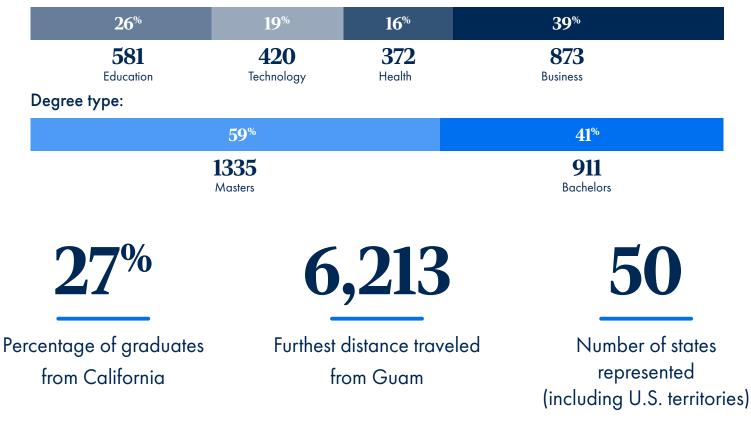
With over 25 years of experience in public education, Antonio has led major regional and state initiatives to expand digital access, design and implement digital systems, including Artificial Intelligence and Distance Learning. He is a California IT in Education Certified Chief Technology Officer, an EIA Certified Chief Innovation Officer and was named the Association of California School Administrators Administrator of the Year for Imperial and San Diego Counties. He currently serves on several boards, including as Past-President for California IT in Education and President of the Imperial Valley Wellness Foundation.

GRADUATING CLASS PROFILE



Total Number of Graduates

Degree distribution by college:



LEAVITT SCHOOL OF HEALTH & SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Welcome and Opening Remarks **Rick Benbow**

Regional Vice President, West Region

Anthem Singer

Judy May Ulloa, Tujunga, CA

M.S. Nursing - Education (BSN to MSN)

Graduate Speakers

Karl Ngoye, Las Cruces, NM

M.S. Healthcare Administration

Treavor Maddux, Yucaipa, CA

B.A. Educational Studies in Secondary Earth Science Education

Honorary Degree Recipient David Simmons

Owner, Simmons Capital

Conferral of Degrees

Dr. Courtney Hills McBeth

Chief Academic Officer and Provost

Leavitt School of Health School of Education

Closing Remarks Scott D. Pulsipher President

SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY & SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Welcome and Opening Remarks Rick Benbow Regional Vice President, West Region

Anthem Singer Chalina Sibley, Stockton, CA B.S. Business Administration, Human Resource Management

> Graduate Speaker Carrie Gilbert, Georgetown, TX B.S. Cybersecurity and Information Assurance

Jade Mathis, Tucson, AZ B.S. Business Administration, Management

Commencement Address Antonio Romayor Jr. Chief Operations Officer at the Imperial County Office of Education

> Conferral of Degrees Dr. Courtney Hills McBeth Chief Academic Officer and Provost

> > School of Technology School of Business

Closing Remarks Scott D. Pulsipher President

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The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt, Chairman Emeritus

Governor, Utah 1993–2003

Alaska The Honorable Michael J. Dunleavy

> **Arizona** The Honorable Katie Hobbs

California The Honorable Gavin Newsom

Colorado The Honorable Jared Polis

Guam The Honorable Lou Leon Guerrero

Hawaii The Honorable Josh Green

Idaho The Honorable Brad Little **Indiana** The Honorable Mike Braun

Montana The Honorable Greg Gianforte

Nebraska The Honorable Jim Pillen

Nevada The Honorable Joe Lombardo

New Mexico The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham

> North Dakota The Honorable Kelly Armstrong

Oklahoma The Honorable Kevin Stitt **Oregon** The Honorable Tina Kotek

South Dakota The Honorable Larry Rhoden

Texas The Honorable Greg Abbott

Utah The Honorable Spencer Cox

Washington The Honorable Bob Ferguson

Wyoming The Honorable Mark Gordon

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Director, Policy & Public Sector, ESRI Former Governor, State of Wyoming (1995–2003)

David Simmons

Chairman & CEO Simmons Media Group

Dr. Samuel H. Smith

President Emeritus, Washington State University

CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWLS! YOU DID IT!

Welcome to our growing alumni network, now more than 380,000 strong!

Stay connected, network with colleagues, and learn about the many resources and benefits available to you:

Vist the Alumni Resources Website

GET SOCIAL

Share the excitement!

Use #WGUgrad to tag your commencement posts.

