



Class of 2026
**HOODING &
OATH**
Ceremony

Friday, May 1, 2026 | 6:30 pm

Geary Auditorium, Riggleman Hall

— OATH CEREMONY 2026 —

Processional Class of 2026 & Faculty
Dr. Julie Testman, Lead Marshal

Welcome & Invocation Dr. Leah Hall

Expressions from the Class of 2026 Amanda McGlone
President, Class of 2026

Introduction of the Speaker Dr. Kristy Lucas
Dean

Keynote Speaker Dr. Michelle Easton

Presentation of Graduates Mr. Ryan Jenkins

Hooders: Dr. Lindsay Acree, Dr. Chelsey Llayton,
Dr. Beth Todd, Dr. Kristy Lucas

Presentation of Class of 2026 Awards

Outstanding Graduate Student Award Dr. Beth Todd
in Community Pharmacy

Outstanding Graduate Student Award Dr. Chelsey Llayton
in Health-Systems Pharmacy

Viatrix Excellence in Pharmacy Award Dr. Lindsay Acree

United States Public Health Service Excellence Dr. Darius Berry
in Public Health Pharmacy Awards
Lieutenant, USPHS
UCSOP Class of 2023

Charles C. Thomas Phi Lambda Sigma Dr. Mary Euler
& APhA Foundation Scholarship
Professor Emerita, West Virginia University
Vice President, APhA Foundation
Associate Executive Director, Phi Lambda Sigma

Preceptor of the Year Award and Introduction Dr. Lindsay Acree
Executive Director of Experiential Education

Oath of the Pharmacist 2025-2026 Preceptor of the Year

Charge to the Class & Closing Remarks Dr. Kristy Lucas
Dean

Recessional

— CLASS OF 2026 —

Chloe Anderson*
Taylor Ball*
Miranda Birchfield
Logan Bossert
Courtney Brewer
Summa Cum Laude
Brenton Carney
Rani Dabaj*
Allison Given*
Cum Laude
Kayla Harrell*
Isabella Kerby-Ballinger*
Johnathan Kinder
Magna Cum Laude
Jacklin Kousa
Naomi Ledford
Adalberto Lopez Nieves

Megan Lowry
Summa Cum Laude
Morgan Mason
Lindsey McCoy*
Amanda McGlone
Eunseo Oh
Christopher Perez Hernandez
Cum Laude
Abigail Ratliff*
Meghna Reddy
Cum Laude
Jacob Ryan
Abraham Samba
Cassandra Semple Ford
Abdullah Syed
Nathaniel Wheeler

Summa Cum Laude – 3.91 - 4.00

Magna Cum Laude – 3.76 - 3.90

Cum Laude – 3.50 - 3.75

* Also receiving Masters Business Administration degree

— KEYNOTE SPEAKER —



DR. MICHELLE EASTON

Dr. Michelle Easton is a distinguished higher education leader, executive coach, and founder of Custom MADE Consulting, where she guides senior level executives in transforming workplace culture, strengthening cultural relevance, and navigating complex feedback and change conversations. Her work is grounded in decades of experience leading organizations through growth, transition, and innovation.

A New Orleans native, Dr. Easton earned her pharmacy degree from Xavier University of Louisiana, later returning to complete her Doctor of Pharmacy. She then pursued a psychiatric pharmacy residency at the Medical University of South Carolina, an experience that sparked her passion for academic pharmacy and leadership development.

In 2005, she moved to West Virginia to join the newly established University of Charleston School of Pharmacy as an inaugural member of its leadership team. Her strategic insight, collaborative leadership, and commitment to student success led to her appointment as Dean of the School of Pharmacy in 2009, where she served with distinction for nearly ten years. Throughout her tenure, she earned recognition for advancing academic excellence, strengthening organizational culture, and mentoring emerging leaders.

Over the course of her career, Dr. Easton discovered a deep passion for change management, facilitation, and coaching expertise she now brings to executives seeking to lead with clarity, confidence, and purpose. Today, she continues to champion personal and organizational transformation through thoughtful leadership and intentional culture building.

— OATH OF A PHARMACIST —

“I promise to devote myself to a lifetime of service to others through the profession of pharmacy. In fulfilling this vow:

- *I will consider the welfare of humanity and relief of suffering my primary concerns.*
- *I will promote inclusion and belonging, respect differences in all individuals, and address health disparities to advance health equity for all people.*
- *I will apply my knowledge, experience, and skills to the best of my ability to assure optimal outcomes for all patients.*
- *I will respect and protect all personal and health information entrusted to me.*
- *I will accept the responsibility to improve my professional knowledge, expertise, and self-awareness.*
- *I will hold myself and my colleagues to the highest principles of our profession’s moral, ethical and legal conduct.*
- *I will embrace and advocate changes that improve patient care.*
- *I will utilize my knowledge, skills, experiences, and values to prepare the next generation of pharmacists.*

I take these vows voluntarily with the full realization of the responsibility with which I am entrusted by the public.”

The revised Oath was adopted by the AACP Board of Directors and the APhA Board of Trustees August 2025.

History of Hooding Ceremony and Academic Regalia

The pageantry of commencement has its roots in medieval times, dating to the early tradition of Europe’s first universities. In 1895, the United States set for its universities a uniform academic costume code which is reflected in most regalia worn today.

The colorful hood is a special part of academic regalia and denotes scholarly and professional achievements. Academic hoods may be worn by those receiving the bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degrees, however they differ in length and velvet trim width according to degree awarded. The doctoral hood is the longest of the three with the inner lining denoting the institution awarding the degree. The outer velvet trim five inches in width denotes the academic discipline. University of Charleston Doctor of Pharmacy graduate hoods therefore bear an inner lining of maroon and gold with the velvet trim of olive green for pharmacy.

Gowns represent the levels of academic degrees. The doctoral gown worn by most of the faculty and doctoral candidates is faced with velvet panels from the neck to the ankles, fitted with bell-shaped sleeves crossed by three velvet bars. Although the color of the gown in the US is generally black, several universities have their own distinctive colors.

The cap allows for the greatest individual expression. Worn by most is the traditional mortarboard, however velvet tams reserved for the doctoral degree are also commonly seen. The bachelor’s and master’s tassel match the color of the discipline. A tassel of gold thread is reserved for the doctoral cap however, the discipline color may also adorn the cap.

— FACULTY & STAFF —

Kristy Lucas, PharmD,
Dean

Julie Testman, PharmD,
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Lindsay Acree, PharmD,
Executive Director of Experiential Education

Chelsey Llayton, PharmD

Beth Todd, PharmD

Rebecca Newman

Erica Paxton

Shationya Ralph

Special thanks to the following for their generosity and support
of the Hooding and Oath Ceremony

Dr. Darius Berry

Dr. Mary Euler

Dr. Leah Hall

Mr. Ryan Jenkins

Ms. Erica Paxton

Ms. Shationya Ralph

University Audiovisual

University Communications

Viatrix Pharmaceuticals

Oath Ceremony Volunteers

Photography

Bruce Heflin

www.mypicturesnow.com

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As we gather to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2026, we pause to express our deepest gratitude to the many individuals and partners who have supported the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy throughout its history. Since opening in 2006 and graduating our first class of Doctors of Pharmacy in 2010, this program has had the privilege of educating and launching 980 exceptional pharmacists into practice. Each graduate represents a lasting contribution to patient care, health systems, and communities across the nation.

This moment is both celebratory and reflective. The Class of 2026 marks the final graduating class of UCSOP. While the closing of the program is undeniably bittersweet, the legacy created over two decades is enduring and powerful. That legacy lives on through every graduate who applies their knowledge, compassion, and professionalism to improve the health of others each day.

We extend sincere appreciation to our current and historical faculty, staff, preceptors, alumni, clinical partners, university leadership, and families who have invested their time, expertise, and unparalleled support in the success of our students. Your commitment helped build a program defined by excellence, mentorship, and meaningful impact. The memories made, the lives touched, and the pharmacists trained will continue to resonate far beyond these walls. For that, we are profoundly grateful.



University of Charleston Mission

The mission of the University of Charleston is to educate each student for a life of productive work, enlightened living, and community involvement.

School of Pharmacy Mission

The mission of the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy is to prepare pharmacy leaders committed to a life of positive impact on the community through advocacy, education, scholarship and innovation, providing the highest level of culturally sensitive interprofessional patient care, with an emphasis on underserved populations.

— COMMENCEMENT —

Saturday, May 2, 2026 | 1 p.m.

Russell & Martha Wehrle Innovation Center, University of Charleston