



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



EMMANUEL COLLEGE
OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY IN
THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION OF EMMANUEL COLLEGE GRADUATES

Thursday, May 15, 2025
3 p.m.

Isabel Bader Theatre, Victoria University



TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we gather, we acknowledge and respect this sacred land on which Victoria University operates. It has been a site of human activity for thousands of years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca and the Mississaugas of the Credit.

The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishnawbe nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

Today, Toronto is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are encouraged to continually strengthen our relationships among all living beings and with this land.

In conformity with the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement among the Toronto School of Theology, the Federated Universities and Colleges as its member institutions, and the University of Toronto, candidates for the degrees of Master of Pastoral Studies, Master of Psychospiritual Studies, Master of Sacred Music, Master of Theological Studies, Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Theological Studies, Master of Theology, Doctor of Ministry and Doctor of Philosophy in Theological Studies and for the Certificate in Theological Studies and Certificate in Theology and Interreligious Engagement have been approved by the Toronto School of Theology, Victoria University and the University of Toronto.

By the authority vested in him by the Senate of Victoria University, the Chancellor will confer a conjoint degree or certificate upon each candidate.

The Chancellor of Victoria University,
Mr. Nick Saul, CM, Vic 9T0, will preside.



THE ORDER

PROCESSIONAL

Pianist – J. Taylor Sullivan Vic 9T2
Chaconne in F+ - G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The audience is asked to rise as the procession enters the theatre.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PRAYER

Jonathan Hamilton-Diabo, June Callwood Professor in Social Justice, Teaching Stream, Victoria University

SMUDGING CEREMONY

Jonathan Hamilton-Diabo

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

Dr. Rhonda N. McEwen, President and Vice-Chancellor, Victoria University

INTRODUCTION OF HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Professor Nazila Isgandarova, Teaching Stream in Islamic Spiritual Care, Emmanuel College

CONFERRING OF THE HONORARY DEGREE

Chancellor Saul

ADDRESS

Dr. Hanny Assaf Hassan, CM

GREETINGS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Professor Dwayne Benjamin, Vice-Provost,
Strategic Enrolment Management, University of Toronto



PRINCIPAL'S STATEMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

The Rev. Dr. HyeRan Kim-Cragg, Emm OT6, Principal,
Emmanuel College

PRESENTATION OF THE SANFORD GOLD MEDAL

Fraser William Elsdon, Vic OT7

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR TESTAMURS, CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

Chancellor Saul will confer the certificates and degrees.

BENEDICTION / CLOSING PRAYERS

The Rev. Dr. Japhet Ndhlovu, Executive Minister
Church in Mission, United Church of Canada
Sayyid Muhammad Rizvi, Imam, Jaffari Community Centre
Bhante Saranapala, The Urban Buddhist Monk

CLOSING REMARKS

Chancellor Saul

O CANADA

O Canada!

Our home and native land!

True patriot love in all of us command.

With glowing hearts we see thee rise,

The True North strong and free!

From far and wide,

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

God keep our land glorious and free!

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

RECESSIONAL

Toccata Gaelica

H.A. Stamm



HONORARY DEGREE

DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

Hanny Assaf Hassan, CM, is an engineer who spent most of his career with Dillon Consulting, Inc., of London, Ont., serving as director and partner of the firm before retiring in 2002. He then established and managed Alef Consulting, an independent consulting engineering practice in London, providing project management services, until 2022.

Mr. Hassan obtained a Bachelor of Engineering Science degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1964, and a Master of Engineering degree from Dalhousie University in 1972.

Mr. Hassan was named to the Order of Canada in 2011 for his community work and contributions to promoting understanding between cultures and religions. He was made an honorary fellow at the University of St. Michael's College at U of T for his work in advancing Catholic-Muslim relations. He received an Honorary Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, from the University of Western Ontario in 2023. Western's Alumni Association also gave him its highest award, the Dr. Ivan Smith Award, in 2019 for significant and sustained contributions to the Alumni Association, the University of Western Ontario and society in general.

Mr. Hassan has been involved in interfaith and community service work for 60 years. He supported many organizations in their efforts to bring people of different religions and cultures together, so that they may better understand each other and to remove the conditions that lead to poverty, violence against women and xenophobia.

He played an important role in launching a Muslim focus of the Master of Pastoral Studies program at Emmanuel College. He was director of the Canadian Dawn Foundation that gave Emmanuel College the seed money for the program as well as a Muslim prayer room and ablution facilities. He is the longest-serving member of the college's Muslim Advisory Committee.

Mr. Hassan will be presented by Professor Nazila Isgandarova, Teaching Stream in Islamic Spiritual Care, Emmanuel College, and hooded by Mr. Keith Thomas, Chair of the Board of Regents.



PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EMMANUEL COLLEGE TESTAMURS

These persons are declared to be qualified for the ordered ministry of The United Church of Canada.

Professor Néstor Medina, Acting MDiv Program Director, will present the following candidates:

Matthew Alexander Coulthard*

Fraser William Elsdon

Rowena Siobhan Hetherington-Wilson

Mark Kenneth Pleasance-Sturman

** This candidate has previously obtained a Master of Divinity degree and has now successfully complied with church requirements for ordination.*



Professor Swee Hong Lim, Acting Vice Principal, will present the following certificate and basic degree candidates.

THE CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGY AND INTERRELIGIOUS ENGAGEMENT

Leslie Amador

THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF PASTORAL STUDIES or MASTER OF PSYCHOSPIRITUAL STUDIES

Professor Nazila Isgandarova, Teaching Stream in Islamic Spiritual Care, will hood each candidate.

James Mark Aitchison*
Humza Mohammed Ali*
Leslie Amador*
Justin Appler*
Andrea Blackler*
Stephen Denys Blackmore*
Edna Elizabeth Bovas*
Michael Burt*
Sarit Cantor
Valene Cardoso*
Jacqueline Ho-Wah Chan*
Anum Hashmi*
Alicia Marie Hogan*
Roberta Jean Jarvis Howey
Aysenur Ince*
Michèle Andrea Irwin*
Kacy Tsen-Li Lin*
Charmaine Guek Cheng Mak
Cynthia Cin-yuk Or*
Ema Rado*
Sinead Loretta Maria Sullivan-Paul
Grace Mary Anne Terrett*
Lauren Alexandra Vandervoort*
Julia Wyncoll*

**These students completed the Certificate in Spiritual Care and Psychotherapy as part of their degree.*



THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF DIVINITY

Professor Néstor Medina, Acting MDiv Program Director, will hood each candidate:

Fraser William Elsdon
Rowena Siobhan Hetherington-Wilson
Emily Christine Leonard
Mark Kenneth Pleasance-Sturman

Professor Thomas Reynolds, Graduate Degree Director, will present the following graduate degree candidates and a member of the supervisory committee will hood:

THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS

Amna Dadabhoy
Yosep Hong

THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF THEOLOGY

Jordan David Alexander Balint
Timothy Allen Schmucker

THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Deborah Elaine Foster
The Voices of Those Who Stayed the Course: Learning from the Life-Long Elderly Members of The United Church of Canada
Supervisor: Professor Michelle Voss

Laurie Ann Jane Stevenson
Listening to the Experience of Families with Loved Ones with Mental Illness in the United Church of Canada to Counter Stigma and Create More Hospitable Faith Communities
Supervisor: Professor Pamela McCarroll



THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Sanghyun Choo

Interdependent Homiletics

Supervisor: Professor HyeRan Kim-Cragg

Miriam Mara Elizabeth Spies

A Crip Incarnational Model of Ministry

Co-Supervisors: Professors Pamela McCarroll and

Thomas Reynolds

Wing Yi Wong

*Preaching Disturbing Ghosts in the Pulpit: The Use of Haunto-
Postcolonial Preaching Model for the Wounded Hearers*

Supervisor: Professor HyeRan Kim-Cragg

Hyejung Yum

*Planetary Peace: A Postcolonial Mennonite Peace Theology in
Multicultural Contexts*

Supervisor: Professor Thomas Reynolds



The Ph.D. degree in Theology is conferred by the University of St. Michael's College. The following students of Emmanuel College received their graduate degree on Nov. 9, 2024:

THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Ren Ito

Searching for Subjectivity: Articulating Asianness in U.S. and Canadian Racial Politics and Theology
Supervisor: Professor Thomas Reynolds

Jeffrey Alan Nowers

Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Geist of Hegel: An Interpretation of Bonhoeffer's Sanctorum Communio
Supervisor: Professor Thomas Reynolds

Christopher Wells

Bimaadiziwin (To Live Well) as a Zhaaganaash (White Christian Englishman) in Canada: A Decolonial Theological Engagement with Anishinaabae Nanaboozho Trickster Discourse
Supervisor: Professor Thomas Reynolds



BASIC DEGREE SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES ~ 2024-2025

GENERAL PROFICIENCY AWARDS

The Emmanuel College General Proficiency Scholarship

TEN COURSES: Hannah Athanasiadis, Melina Rose Bondy, Heather Eileen Bruce, Stephen G. Hurley, Joanna April James, Michael Adam Latz, Kristin Anna MacQueen, Elizabeth Ann Valliant, Xinyu Zhang

TWENTY COURSES: James Mark Aitchison, Andrea Blackler, John David Brooks, Christopher Robert Hawke, Alicia Marie Hogan, Michèle Andrea Irwin, Erik Daniel Mohr, Ema Rado, Lauren Alexandra Vandervoort

THIRTY COURSES: Fraser William Elsdon

The John W. Billes In-Course Scholarship

TEN COURSES: Hannah Athanasiadis, Elizabeth Ann Valliant

TWENTY COURSES: Christopher Robert Hawke

The Billes Theological Support In-Course Scholarship

TEN COURSES: Heather Eileen Bruce, Stephen G. Hurley, Joanna April James, Kristin Anna MacQueen

TWENTY COURSES: John David Brooks

The Abernathy Award

John David Brooks, Christopher Robert Hawke

The Edith Anning Scholarship

TEN COURSES: Hannah Athanasiadis

TWENTY COURSES: Christopher Robert Hawke

The Lorenz M. Ashton Scholarship

Elizabeth Ann Valliant

The Rowan Douglas Binning Scholarship

Lance Montgomery Wright



The Evelyn Clark Memorial Entrance Scholarship

Yoonjoo Shin

The Alfred Gandier Scholarship

Lance Montgomery Wright

The Gordon Hamilton Award

John David Brooks, Christopher Robert Hawke

The Evan Francis Kerruish Scholarship

Hannah Athanasiadis

The BoJeong and Okja Kim Award

Asal Bagherian

The Coral and Bill Martin Award

Jeanne McRorie DesCamp Fries

The Percy Price Memorial Prize in Books

Fraser William Elsdon

The James Forbes Seunarine Memorial Scholarship

Samatar Mohamoud Ali, Samra Babar, Ahmed Urar Mohamed

The W.E. Smith Scholarship

Fraser William Elsdon

The George Soutar Memorial Scholarship

Fraser William Elsdon

The Olive Sparling Memorial Scholarship

Hannah Athanasiadis, Christopher Robert Hawke

The Robert G. Trimble Scholarship

Christopher Robert Hawke, Elizabeth Chyvonne Pancer



IN BASIC COURSES

The Elizabeth Bell Scholarship in Old Testament

Stephen G. Hurley, Varoot Phasuthadol

The Susie A. Chown Memorial Scholarship in Biblical Hebrew

Christopher Robert Hawke

The Cousland Scholarship in Church History

Heather Eileen Bruce, Juno Zavitz

The Principal and Mrs. Richard Davidson Memorial Scholarship in Public Worship

Stephen G. Hurley

The Scholarship in Introductory Greek

Christine Elizabeth Leblanc

The Toronto Korean United Church Scholarship in Christian Ethics

Juno Zavitz

The Martha Lautenschläger Trotter Scholarship in New Testament

Heather Eileen Bruce, Marie Theresa Joan Roco, Lance Montgomery Wright

The Margaret Campbell Livingston Scholarship in Pastoral Theology and Public Worship

Rowena Siobhan Hetherington-Wilson

The Albert Wallace Scholarship in Homiletics

Stephen G. Hurley

The Wallbridge Scholarship in New Testament

Stephen G. Hurley, Yoonjoo Shin

The W.J. Watt Memorial Scholarship in Christian Education

Yoonjoo Shin

The Jean Preston Yoshioka Memorial Scholarship in Systematic Theology

Varoot Phasuthadol



IN ELECTIVE WORK

Upon the Completion of 10 and 20 Courses

The Dempster and Gordon Scholarship in the Philosophy of Religion

Erik Daniel Mohr

The Sakina Degani and Sarah Stationwala Memorial Scholarship

Khulood Agha Khan

The T.B. McDormand Trust Fund Award in Christian Education

Fraser William Elsdon

The John Smith Memorial Scholarship in Systematic Theology

Erik Daniel Mohr

The Charles Wesley Webb Scholarship in New Testament

John David Brooks

The Joseph Henry Wells Scholarship ('06 Victoria College)

Erik Daniel Mohr

Upon the Completion of 20 and/or 30 Courses

The Abernathy Scholarship in Christian Ethics

Erik Daniel Mohr

The T.B. Kilpatrick Scholarship in Systematic Theology

Fraser William Elsdon

The Reverend Clarke Franklin Logan Award in Systematic Theology

Christopher Robert Hawke, Erik Daniel Mohr

The Charles Plaskett Scholarship for Pastoral Theology

Andrea Blackler, Ema Rado

The Glenn Wilkins Memorial Scholarship in Church History

Mark Kenneth Pleasance-Sturman



For Overall Standing Upon the Completion of 30 Courses

The Ruby Mills Allen Scholarship in Pastoral Theology

Rowena Siobhan Hetherington-Wilson

The John Dow Scholarship in New Testament

Fraser William Elsdon, Mark Kenneth Pleasance-Sturman

The Frederick W. and Ida B. Langford Memorial Scholarship in Christian Education

Liberty Leonard

The Elizabeth and Seth Mathers Scholarship in Systematic Theology

Fraser William Elsdon

The Gertrude and Dawson Matheson Scholarship in Homiletics

Rowena Siobhan Hetherington-Wilson

The Elizabeth Webb Scholarship in Old Testament and New Testament Literature

Fraser William Elsdon

The William Robert Young Scholarship in Church History

Fraser William Elsdon, Rowena Siobhan Hetherington-Wilson

Those at Any Stage of the Program

The Rev. Jack Breckenridge Memorial Scholarship in Chaplaincy

Kacy Tsen-Li Lin, Nabiha Madda

The Mary and Kenneth Cousland Scholarship in Canadian Church History or Church Music

Christine Marie Hanson

The Dr. Noble Benjamin Hall Drew Award in Liturgy or Church Worship

Seung Hwan Bang

The Dr. Heinz Guenther Memorial Scholarship in Bible

Lester Vega



The Wayne C. Vance Scholarship for New Testament Greek
Christine Elizabeth Leblanc

The Wayne C. Vance Scholarship for Sacred Music
Christine Marie Hanson, Maura Teresa McGroarty

**The Deanna Lee Wilson Award in Women's Studies or Ministry
with Youth or Children**
Michelle Shenaz Kermalli, Yoonjoo Shin

IN SPECIAL AWARDS

The C.J.L. Bates Award
Catherine Bergs, Karen Chandler

The Alfred Fernes Binnington Award
Rowena Siobhan Hetherington-Wilson

The Cedar Spring United Church Scholarship
Jayden Terryn Jesse Jones, Kelly Dawn Moores

**The Class of 1926 Scholarship in Canadian Church History,
Researching 1920s and 1930s**
Fraser William Elsdon

The Anna Cranston Memorial Award
Mac Aidan MacDonald

The Sylvia Dunstan Award in Liturgics
Andrew Thomas McKechnie

The Doris Jean Dyke Scholarship in the Arts
Erik Daniel Mohr

The Michael Fawcett Prize in Public Speaking
Michelle Shenaz Kermalli

The Reverend Frank P. Fidler Memorial Award
Hafsa Ibrahim Abdulsamed, Carly Martha Jazbec, Yashmeen
Nakhuda, Lucian Timofte



The Venerable Zhi Hai Scholarship

Jacqueline Ho-Wah Chan, Cynthia Cin-yuk Or

The Terry Head Scholarship in Sacred Music

Christine Marie Hanson, Maura Teresa McGroarty

The Jaffari Community Centre Scholarship

Samatar Mohamoud Ali, Abeer Anees, Ahmed Urur Mohamed, Madeeha Shahbaz

The Douglas and Ethel Lapp Scholarship

Xinyu Zhang

The Very Rev. Dr. Sang Chul Lee Memorial Scholarship

Yoonjoo Shin

The Garth and Joyce Legge Award in Global and Contextual Theological Study

Xiangyu Zhang, Xinyu Zhang

The Hugh Matheson Memorial Scholarship in the Study of Church History of Church Architecture or Church Music or Liturgics

Esther Andrew Khubyar

The Reverend Robert Whitely Miller Text Book Award

James Victor Gibson, Jayden Terryn Jesse Jones, Mac Aidan MacDonald, Andrew Thomas McKechnie, Julian Munro, Yoonjoo Shin, Lance Montgomery Wright

The Reverend Kam-Yan Ng Award for doing theology and ministry in an Asian/North American-Asian context

Jungwon Hong, Varoot Phasuthadol, Yoonjoo Shin, Tenzin Tsundue

The Kenneth Inkster/Stanley Osborne Memorial Award

Christine Marie Hanson, Maura Teresa McGroarty

The Participation Award

Ebubekir Haspolat, Esther Andrew Khubyar, Tenzin Tsundue

The Howard Pentland Award for Education in a Global Context

Genesis Bovas, Alicia Marie Hogan, Melissa Perez, Xinyu Zhang



The Venerable Dayi Shi Scholarship

Hilda Vafapoor, Timothy Everton Wilson

The Reverend William J.H. Smyth Prize for Stewardship

Emá Rado

The Mrs. F.N.G. Starr Prize for Public Speaking

Michelle Shenaz Kermali

The Thistleton United Church Award

Lance Montgomery Wright

The Toronto Conference United Church Women 40th Anniversary Award

Fraser William Elsdon, Christopher Robert Hawke, Rowena Siobhan Hetherington-Wilson, Mac Aidan MacDonald, Andrew Thomas McKechnie

The Mark G. and Jeffica L. Toulouse Award in Interreligious Studies

Kacy Tsen-Li Lin, Motahareh Sadaat Nabavi Niaki, Alayna Fatima Zaidi

The H.F. Woodsworth Scholarship

Xinyu Zhang

The Wright Award in voice practicum

Tenzin Tsundue

MASTER OF DIVINITY MEDAL

THE SANFORD GOLD MEDAL IN DIVINITY

Fraser William Elsdon



GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS ~ 2025-2026

The Doris Jean Dyke Scholarship in the Arts

Wonjong Lee

The Very Rev. Dr. Sang Chul Lee Memorial Scholarship

Hye Lim Yoon

The Reverend D. Andrew Stirling Prize in Preaching

Reyner Budiman

The Doctoral Admissions Scholarships*

Stephanie Lynn Chandler Burns, Hangyoon Cho, Elizabeth Anne Hogan, Yeolmae Lee

The Doctoral In-Course Scholarships*

Kristen Blair, Reyner Budiman, Marc Darren Colbourne, Amna Dadabhoy, Brigid Maya Douglas, Luna Harlow, Yosep Hong, Sadaf Jamal, Ruth Kause, Scott Keith Kearney, Wonjong Lee, Michael Douglas Mackenzie, Heather Renée Morgan, Sungmin Park, Ana Maria Rodriguez Alfonso, Hye Lim Yoon

**The recipients will serve as Research Fellows during the 2025-2026 academic year.*



These doctoral admissions and in-course scholarships are generously funded by:

The Billes Advanced Degree Fund

The Bloor Lands Scholarship

The Katherine and Murray Corlett Scholarship

The Janet Craig Davidson Graduate Student Assistantship

The Deer Park Scholarship

The Vernon Hope Emory Entrance Scholarship

The Gordon M. Farquharson Scholarship

The William O. Fennell Fellowship in Theology

The John Webster Grant Scholarship

The Reverend Dr. John C. Hoffman *and*

The Reverend Nettie (Wilson) Hoffman Award

The C. Douglas Jay and Ruth Jay Scholarship in Theology

The Gail and John MacNaughton Scholarship in Pastoral
Theology

The Bertram Maura Scholarship

The McKinley Scholarship

The A.J. Mitchell Scholarship

The Walter George Muelder Scholarship

The George C. Pidgeon Scholarship

The St. Andrew's Award

The Merle Irene Williams Award

The Beatrice Wilson Scholarship





CONGRATULATIONS TO
THE VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT &
EMMANUEL COLLEGE GRADUATES
OF 2025!



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



EMMANUEL COLLEGE
OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY IN
THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO