

*WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS*

*JOINT SERVICE
COMMISSIONING CEREMONY*

MAY 2026



13 May 2026


Dear Family and Friends,

On behalf of the WPI community I am pleased to welcome you to the Reserve Officers' Training Corps Joint Commissioning Ceremony. This ceremony recognizes the hard work and dedication of these fine young graduates, and accepts them into the ranks of the officers in the United States Army, Air Force and Space Force.

These students have successfully managed college careers that have challenged them academically, as well as prepared them for future military service. They possess the highest levels of excellence, sense of duty, leadership, and devotion to family and nation.

Their successes that we celebrate today mark them as deserving of our every confidence. They are assuming the mantle of leadership in our Armed Forces during a time of global complexity and I am confident that they have developed the skills they'll need to navigate their path ahead. Please join me in wishing them success in their future endeavors as they lead our nation's military in the preservation of freedom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Wang", written in a cursive style.

Grace J. Wang, Ph.D.
President

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Opening Remarks

Arrival of Commissionees

Arrival of Official Party

Presentation of the Colors

National Anthem

Invocation

Introduction

*Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Challas-Gimm
Professor of Military Science*

Commissioning Officer Remarks

*Major General Guillaume Beurpere
Chief of Staff for U.S. Special Operations Command*

Oath of Office

Official Pinning

Presentation of Commissions

Benediction

Retiring of Colors

Departure of Official Party

**AIR FORCE RESERVE OFFICERS’
TRAINING CORPS
DET 340 “GODDARD WING”**

Department of Aerospace Studies

Lt Col Adam Messer, Commander

Maj Ashley Olson, Operations Officer

Capt Justin Baker, Recruiting Officer

SSgt Deandre Tipton, ROTC Training Instructor

Mr. Raymond Verrier, Executive Assistant



**ARMY RESERVE OFFICERS’
TRAINING CORPS
“BAY STATE BATTALION”**

Department of Military Science

LTC Daniel Challas-Gimm, Professor of Military Science

MAJ Tyler Lightfoot, Executive Officer

MAJ Patrick Crews, Operations Officer and Officer in
Charge at UMASS Lowell

MSG Jan-Michael Nattoo, Senior Military Science Instructor

MSG Charles Dougherty, Military Science Instructor

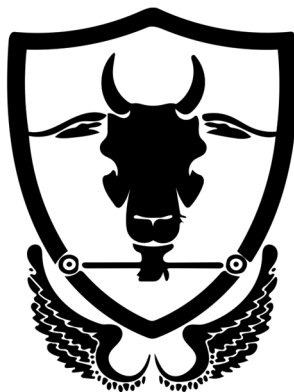
SFC Kyle Schipper, Military Science Instructor

CSM (Ret) Darryl Gill, Enrollment & Scholarship Officer

LTC (Ret) Fedencia Fitch, Human Resources Assistant

Mrs. Sharon Parry, Unit Supply Technician

Mrs. Kim Marie Adams, Executive Assistant



MAJOR GENERAL GUILLAUME BEURPERE
CHIEF OF STAFF FOR
U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND



MG Guillaume “Will” Beurpere assumed the duties of Chief of Staff for US Special Operations Command in July 2024. He most recently served as the Commanding General of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School and Special Operations Center of Excellence at Fort Liberty, North Carolina. Before that, he served as the Deputy Commanding General for Operations at Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

MG Beurpere was commissioned as an infantry officer from Boston College through Army ROTC. He has had the honor of commanding nation’s finest special operators at every level of Special Operations from Special Forces Operational Detachment – Alpha to SF Group and Special Operations Joint Task Force. His command and staff assignments included tours with 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne), 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) and Command of Special Operations Joint Task Force INHERENT RESOLVE. He has deployed in support of multiple named operations.

MG Beurpere’s other assignments include serving as the Deputy Commander of Support for the 4th Infantry Division; Executive Officer to the Commanding General, U.S. Special Operations Command; Deputy Commander, Special Operations Joint Task Force-Iraq; and Military Assistant to the Secretary of the Army.

MG Beurpere holds a bachelor’s degree from Boston College and a master’s degree from Al Akhawayn University in Morocco, where he and his family spent two years through the Olmsted Scholar Program. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, as well as a graduate of the Army War College Fellows Program at the Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore. MG Beurpere has earned several Army, Joint and foreign awards, decorations, and badges over the course of his career.

He and his wife met at Boston College and have been married since 1996. They are blessed with four wonderful children, two of which have also chosen to serve in the Army .

OATH OF OFFICE

"I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.

*To Be Commissioned
Second Lieutenant, United States Air Force:*

Tyler Busack

Yardly, P.A.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Computer Science
Cyber Operations Officer
Keesler AFB, Miss.

*Distinguished Graduate



Claire Desrosiers

Nashua, N.H.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Computer Science
Operations Research Analyst
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

Nathan Chiou

Devens, Mass.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Electrical Engineering
Developmental Engineer
Kirtland AFB, N.M.



Eve Engdahl

Chelmsford, Mass.
Brown University
Mechanical Engineering
Pilot Trainee
Columbus AFB, Miss.

*Distinguished Graduate

Biana Fridberg

Sharon, Mass.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Mechanical Engineering
Operations Research Analyst
Kirtland AFB N.M.



Jacob Gomez

Fitchburg, Mass
Worcester State University
Criminal Justice
Combat Systems Officer
NAS Pensacola

Kaylee Gallagher

Los Altos, C.A.
Brown University
Chemistry
Pre-Medical—General Practice
Physician



Richard Hughes

Clinton N. Y.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Computer Engineering
Combat Systems Officer
NAS Pensacola

Christopher Manxhari

Worcester, Mass
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Aerospace Engineering
Pilot Trainee
Columbus AFB, Miss.



Gabriela Schiller

Orange Mass
Worcester State University
Criminal Justice
Security Forces Officer
Eglin AFB F.L.

Timothy Schiller
Methuen, Mass
Worcester State University
Contracting Officer
Hurlburt Field, F.L.



***To Be Commissioned
Second Lieutenant, United States Army:***

Angelica Andre

Oakland, CA
UMASS Lowell
M.S. Applied Biomedical Science
Quartermaster Corps
MA National Guard



Tristan Beaurpere

Tampa, FL
College of the Holy Cross
International Studies
Infantry
Distinguished Military Graduate

Nicholas Driscoll

Salem, MA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Robotics Engineering
Field Artillery
MA National Guard



Dante Illanes

Stoneham, MA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
B.S., M.S. Mechanical Engineering
Corps of Engineers
RI National Guard
Distinguished Military Graduate

Theodore Joseph

Waterford, CT
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Civil Engineering
Corps of Engineers
Distinguished Military Graduate



William Kiley III

Sanford, ME
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Aerospace Engineering
Corps of Engineers
Distinguished Military Graduate



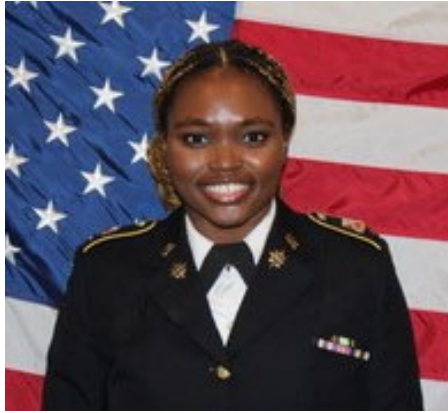
John Lopes

Worcester, MA
UMASS Lowell
Nursing
Nurse Corps



Thomas McGraw

Portsmouth, RI
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Aerospace Engineering
Armor



Ester Mokonchu

Royersford, PA
College of the Holy Cross
Economics
Military Intelligence
MA National Guard

David Nguyen

Braintree, MA
UMASS Lowell
History
Military Police Corps
MA National Guard





Rohan Paranjape

Grafton, MA
UMASS Lowell
Computer Science - Cyber Security
Cyber Corps
MA National Guard

Ian Parish

Lyme, NH
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Mechanical Engineering
Corps of Engineers



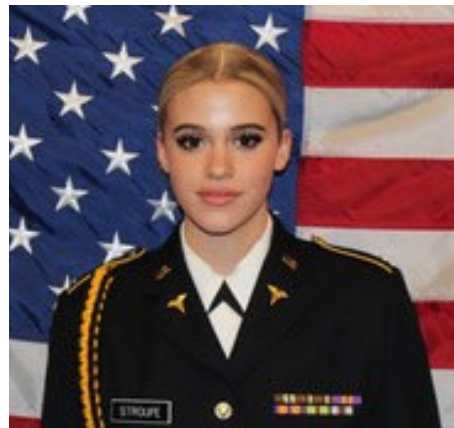


Elias Saunier

Worcester, MA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Financial Technology
Signal Corps

Audrey Stroupe

Leesburg, VA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Biochemistry
Medical Services Corps
Distinguished Military Graduate





John Thompson

Scituate, MA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
B.S. Computer Science
M.S. Cyber Security
Cyber Corps
MA National Guard
Distinguished Military Graduate

Alexander Tomellini

Rehoboth, MA
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Electrical & Computer Engineering
Signal Corps
Reserves
Distinguished Military Graduate





Liam Walsh

Kilkenny, Ireland
Worcester State University
Criminal Justice;
Psychology
Military Police Corps
MA National Guard
Distinguished Military Graduate

Carlos Webster, Jr.

Providence, RI
UMASS Lowell
Criminal Justice
Military Police Corps





Dakota Wellerbrady

West Roxbury, MA

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Computer Science

Cyber Corps



THE AIR FORCE SONG: Wild Blue Yonder

Off we go into the wild blue yonder,
Climbing high into the sun;

Here they come zooming to meet our thunder,
At 'em now, Give 'em the gun! give em the gun!
Down we dive, spouting our flame from under,

Off with one helluva roar!

We live in fame or go down in flame. Hey!

Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!



THE SPACE FORCE SONG: Semper Supra

We're the mighty watchful eye,
Guardians beyond the blue,
The invisible front line,
Warfighters brave and true.
Boldly reaching into space,
There's no limit to our sky.
Standing guard both night and day,
We're the Space Force from on high.



THE ARMY SONG: The Army Goes Rolling Along

March along, sing our song,
With the Army of the free
Count the brave, count the true,
Who have fought to victory
We're the Army and proud of our name,
We're the Army and proudly proclaim:

First to fight for the right,
And to build the Nation's might,
And The Army Goes Rolling Along.
Proud of all we have done,
Fighting 'til the battle's won,
And the Army Goes Rolling Along.

Then it's Hi! Hi! Hey!
The Army's on its way.
Count off the cadence loud and strong!
For where e'er we go,
You will always know,
That The Army Goes Rolling Along.

*Congratulations
to the
Commissioning
Class of 2026*

