

# 2<sup>ND</sup>

## *Annual Commencement* PROGRAM

### **Welcome from the Holmes Council**

Isatou (Aisha) Secka, Ohio University  
Holmes Scholar Council Vice President

### **Housekeeping & Program Overview**

Nicole Dunn, AACTE  
Director of Program Administration

### **Opening Remarks**

Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy, Ph.D., AACTE  
President & CEO

### **Alumni Commencement Keynote Introduction**

Reyan Warren, University of San Diego  
Holmes Scholar Council President

### **Holmes Alumni Keynote Speaker**

Shanika Hope, Ph.D., Google  
Director of Americas & Knowledge, Skills, and Learning

### **Holmes Scholar Speaker**

Chenchen Lu, Ph.D., Purdue University  
2025-26 Graduating Holmes Scholar

### **Graduate Acknowledgements**

Amanda Wilkerson, Ed.D., University of Central Florida  
National Holmes Program Coordinator

### **National Association of Holmes Scholar Alumni (NAHSA) Remarks**

Lora Bailey, Ph.D. University of the Virgin Islands  
NAHSA President

### **Closing Remarks**

Stacey Edmonson, Ed.D., The Texas A&M University System  
AACTE Board Chair

# Graduates

**Jaminque Adams, Ph.D.**  
University of Georgia

**Ana Borja Armas, Ph.D.**  
Syracuse University

**Eric Barnes, Ph.D.**  
Texas Christian University

**Samira Bashiru, Ph.D.**  
Purdue University  
Special Education & Disability Studies

**Sydney Carroll, Ph.D.**  
University of North Carolina Charlotte

**Esmeralda Cartagena Collazo, Ph.D.**  
Texas Woman's University  
Literacy, Language & Culture

**Natalia Dominguez, Ed.D.**  
Texas Christian University  
Higher Education Administration & Leadership

**Darla Edwards, Ed.D.**  
College of William & Mary  
Education Policy Programming & Planning

**Jessica Fort, Ph.D.**  
Virginia Commonwealth University

**Pablo Gutierrez, Ed.D.**  
California State University San Bernardino  
Education Leadership

**Craig Hall, Ph.D.**  
University of Nevada Las Vegas  
Teacher Education

**Melesa Hall, M.A.**  
Touro University

**Willtresca Heppard-Streeter, Ed.D.**  
Kennesaw State University

**Zutella Holmes, Ph.D.**  
University of North Texas

**Truth Hunter, Ph.D.**  
University of Connecticut  
Higher Education Administration & Leadership

**Feng Jin, M.A.**  
Touro University

**Dallann Johnson, Ph.D.**  
Purdue University

**Nimisha Joshi, Ed.D.**  
University of Northern Iowa  
Education Leadership

**Eden Langston, Ph.D.**  
George Mason University  
Multilingual/Multicultural Education &  
Critical Research Methods

**Luis Legaspi, Ph.D.**  
University of San Diego  
Education Leadership

**Elba Llantín-Cruz, Ed.D.**  
Sacred Heart University

**ChenChen Lu, Ph.D.**  
Purdue University  
Curriculum and Instruction

**Emily Madison, Ed.D.**  
Salisbury University  
Education in Literacy Studies

**Monica Manzur, Ph.D.**  
Texas Christian University

**N'Dyah McCoy, Ph.D.**  
University of Miami

**Reshandia McIntyre, Ed.D.**  
University of Florida

**Michael Miller, Ph.D.**  
Florida Atlantic University  
Education Leadership

**Monique North, Ph.D.**  
University of Nevada Las Vegas  
Curriculum & Instruction

**Nia Page, Ph.D.**  
University of Florida  
Counselor Education

**Ja'Toria Palmer, Ph.D.**  
Indiana University Bloomington

**Paris Pruitt, Ph.D.**  
Penn State University  
Counselor Education

**Liliana Richins, Ph.D.**  
Texas Woman's University  
Higher Education Administration & Leadership

**Amelia Rivera, Ph.D.**  
North Carolina State University  
Teacher Education & Learning Sciences

**Kanika Simmons, Ed.D.**  
Sam Houston State University  
Curriculum & Instruction

**Hemalathaa Kasiviswanath Yuvaraja, Ph.D.**  
Syracuse University  
Instructional Design, Development & Evaluation