

Dear Friends,

It is my distinct pleasure to invite you to one of the most important set of events for our academic year: Commencement. This year's events will be held virtually on **Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

Our schoolwide celebrations will commence on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> with the Ed.D. and Ph.D. Robing Ceremony, the Ed.L.D. Graduation Celebration, and the CAS Cording Ceremony. Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> will begin with the [University-wide Morning Exercises](#) at 10:30 a.m. ET. Our community will then come together for a school-wide Commencement celebration from **12:30-1:30 p.m. ET**, an event that will include speeches from myself and student speaker, Carina Traub, as well as recognition of the recipients of the Intellectual Contribution Awards, Commencement Marshals, Phyllis Strimling Award, and the Morningstar Family Teaching Award. Master's degree program diploma ceremonies will then be held throughout the remainder of the afternoon.

A full schedule of Commencement events can be found [here](#). I encourage you to visit [the Office of Student Affairs' Commencement website](#) for more information. As the date draws nearer, you can also visit [HGSE's Commencement website](#) for coverage of the events. Information on University-wide activities can be found on the [Honoring the Class of 2021 website](#).

I would like to extend my gratitude to the many colleagues who are working to make sure these are outstanding events, including the staff in the Office of Student Affairs and Communications and Marketing, as well as our student volunteers. I look forward to joining together as a community to celebrate the many extraordinary accomplishments of our graduating students.

I hope that you will join us.

Best,  
Bridget

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Bridget Terry Long, Ph.D.  
*Dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education*  
*Saris Professor of Education and Economics*