



2025

Commencement

THE PRICE SCHOOL
CEREMONY



USC Price



Congratulations Class of 2025!

Congratulations on your graduation!

Throughout your time with us, you have inspired us at every step along your academic path, just as we hope we have inspired you.

At the Price School, we thrive on the idea that every challenge is an opportunity in disguise. We have every confidence that you will overcome and meet many challenges as you live out the USC Price School's mission to improve the quality of life for people and communities worldwide.

Now, as a proud member of the global Trojan Family alumni network, you will enjoy a lifelong network of support, inspiration, and collaboration.

We are honored to have had you as part of our community, and we look forward to seeing the meaningful changes you will make in the world. Best wishes on your exciting path ahead, and remember, you will always have a place at the USC Price School!

Thank you for choosing to be a part of our community.

For live captions during the show, please scan the QR code or visit the link below



<https://uscprice.page/shrinecaptions>

PROFESSIONAL

FLAG BEARER

Sydnee Yu

DEGREE PROGRAM LEADERS

Doctor of Philosophy in
Public Policy and Management

Virat Agrawal

Doctor of Philosophy in
Urban Planning and Development

Seula Naomi Lee

Doctor of Policy, Planning, and Development

Katherine Cole

Master of International Public Policy
and Management

Jo Chen Lee
Kasymkhan Tazhikhan

Master of Nonprofit Leadership
and Management

Hendrika Ngamput
Corinne Burch

Dollinger Master of Real Estate Development

Andrea Escalante
Jonathan Moftakhar

Master of Urban Planning

Lo Fan O Yang
Caleb Pak

Master of Health Administration

Gianna Marino
Michelle Vardapetyan

Executive Master of Health Administration

Wendy Huang
Serage Eddin Rahima

Master of Public Policy

Elijah Dow
Bailey Shen

Master of Public Administration

Manuel Muñoz
Arailym Kuderbayeva

Bachelor of Science in
Urban Studies and Planning

Clarissa Avalos
Andrew McNeal

Bachelor of Science in Public Policy

Kyle Ching
Stephany Herrera

Bachelor of Science in Real Estate Development

Sophia Lee
Averie Roskwitalski

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Cecilia Elena Rouse

President of The Brookings Institution

Cecilia Elena Rouse, president of The Brookings Institution, is the keynote speaker at the 2025 Commencement ceremony for the USC Price School of Public Policy.

As the ninth president of Brookings, Rouse guides the impactful nonprofit in its mission to find bold, pragmatic policy solutions to societal challenges. Based in Washington, D.C., Brookings conducts in-depth, nonpartisan research on a range of issues including governance, economics, and foreign policy. Its experts deliver actionable policy insights to decision-makers across the public, private, and civic sectors worldwide.

Rouse, a labor economist, made history as the first Black American to become Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers (CEA), an agency within the Executive Office that provides objective economic advice to the U.S. president. Rouse served as CEA Chair from 2021 to 2023 – her third White House tour of duty – before taking the helm at

Brookings, one of the nation's leading think tanks that has been at the forefront of public policy for more than a century.

Appointed by President Biden, Rouse was confirmed as CEA chair with 95 votes in the U.S. Senate. In that role, Rouse advised the president as the U.S. navigated the economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. That was her second tour of duty at the agency, having served as a CEA member from 2009 to 2011. She was also previously a special assistant to the president at the National Economic Council from 1998 to 1999.

Rouse, who earned both her doctoral degree in economics and her bachelor's degree from Harvard University, was dean of the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs from 2012 to 2021. She is Princeton's Katzman-Ernst Professor in Economics and Education and a professor of economics and public affairs.

PROGRAM

Opening Remarks

Julie Kim, Ed.D.

Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

Dean's Remarks

Christopher G. Boone, Ph.D.

Dean and C. Erwin and Ione L. Piper Chair

Professor of Public Policy

Commencement Speaker

Cecilia Elena Rouse, Ph.D.

President, The Brookings Institution

Valedictory Address

Sydnee Yu

Bachelor of Science in Urban Studies and Planning

Graduate Student Address

Elijah Dow

Master of Public Policy

Presentation of Doctoral Candidates and Hooding Ceremony

Presentation of the Class of 2025

Christopher G. Boone, Ph.D.

Due to fire regulations, standing in aisles during the ceremony is not permitted.

Professional photographers will be taking photos of the graduates
as they receive their diplomas.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Doctor of Philosophy

Doctor of Policy, Planning, and Development

John Romley, Ph.D., *Associate Professor and Program Director*

Juliet Ann Musso, Ph.D., *Associate Professor and Vice Dean for Graduate Programs*

Master of International Public Policy and Management

Rym Kaki, Ph.D., *Professor (Teaching) and Program Director*

Department of Public Policy and Management

Master of Nonprofit Leadership and Management

Regina Birdsell, M.S.W., *Program Director*

Department of Public Policy and Management

Dollinger Master of Real Estate Development

Richard K. Green, Ph.D., *Professor and Chair*

Wilbur H. Smith III Department of Real Estate Development

Master of Urban Planning

David Sloane, Ph.D., *Professor and Chair*

Department of Urban Planning and Spatial Analysis

Master of Health Administration

Executive Master of Health Administration

Neeraj Sood, Ph.D., *Professor and Interim Chair*

Department of Health Policy and Management

Master of Public Policy

Mark Phillips, Ph.D., *Professor (Teaching) and Program Director*

Department of Public Policy and Management

Master of Public Administration

Juliet Ann Musso, Ph.D., *Associate Professor and Vice Dean for Graduate Programs*

Dora Kingsley Vertenten, Ph.D., *Professor (Teaching) and Faculty Coordinator*

Department of Public Policy and Management

Bachelor of Science in Urban Studies and Planning

David Sloane, Ph.D., *Professor and Chair*

Department of Urban Planning and Spatial Analysis

Bachelor of Science in Public Policy

Grace Bahng, Ph.D., *Professor (Teaching) and Vice Dean for Undergraduate Programs*

Department of Public Policy and Management

Bachelor of Science in Real Estate Development

Richard K. Green, Ph.D., *Professor and Chair*

Wilbur H. Smith III Department of Real Estate Development

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Virat Agrawal
Jordy Coutin
Jeimee Estrada
Phillip Lee
Keunyoung Eli Lee

Lizhong Liu
Zissis Marmarelis
Jose Scott
Renzhi Shen
Ann Song

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Robert Binder
Alanna Coombes
Kurt Daum
Sue Dexter
James Gross

Jaehyun Ha
Elizabeth Joun
Seula Naomi Lee
David Flores Moctezuma
Bonnie Wang

DOCTOR OF POLICY, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT

Sevan Benlian
Katherine Cole
Diana Dimapidan
Luis Gutierrez
Benjamin Kallin

Matt Lazari
Hossein Pourmand
Candace Teixeira
Jason Townsell

MASTER OF INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Hamdan Alkhyeli
Zhanna Amanova
Marianna Babboni
Ching-Wen Chang
Chia-Jung Chin
Gilang Tanri Desnantia
Kunming Du
Yehya Hamzeh
Yujun Huang
Udaya Bhaskar Jakke
Bojun Jia
Murat Keles
Elmira Khamitova
Abylaikhan Khangeldiyev
Hyuntai Kim

Jo Chen Lee
Jungyong Park
Zhanel Rysbekova
Abdussanat Sharafov
Moyu Su
Dametay Suleimanova
Adilzhan Talgatuly
Moldir Tauipbayeva
Aidos Tolepbergenov
Ruorong Wang
Lishengyi Xiong
Zhiang Yang
Qingxiao Zeng
Yilin Zhang

MASTER OF NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Corinne Burch
Alistair Campbell
Qian Cao
Star Flowers-Salazar
Lorne Benjamin Green
Kinady Lamb

Hendrika Micelyn Amelia Ngamput
David Orellana
Cong Peng
Amie Wills
Journey Wynder
Zhiyi Zheng

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC POLICY DATA SCIENCE

Yifan Feng

DOLLINGER MASTER OF REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

Brandon Adams
Austin Adams
Abriel Chan
Roger Douglas
Andrea Escalante
Steven Gardiner
Alexandria Gordon
Michael Grant
Jacob Harris
Sagiv Hartmayer
Derek Hunter
Jasper Joseph
Bennett Kamps
Ramsey Kassih
Gaelen Kerr-Koppel
Ryan Knowles
Juan Contreras Lopez
William McNulty
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Christopher Wong
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Jared Pierce
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Phillip Tran
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Reezyn Cici Turk
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Jesse Arya Youdai
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