

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY™

# PRECOMMENCEMENT

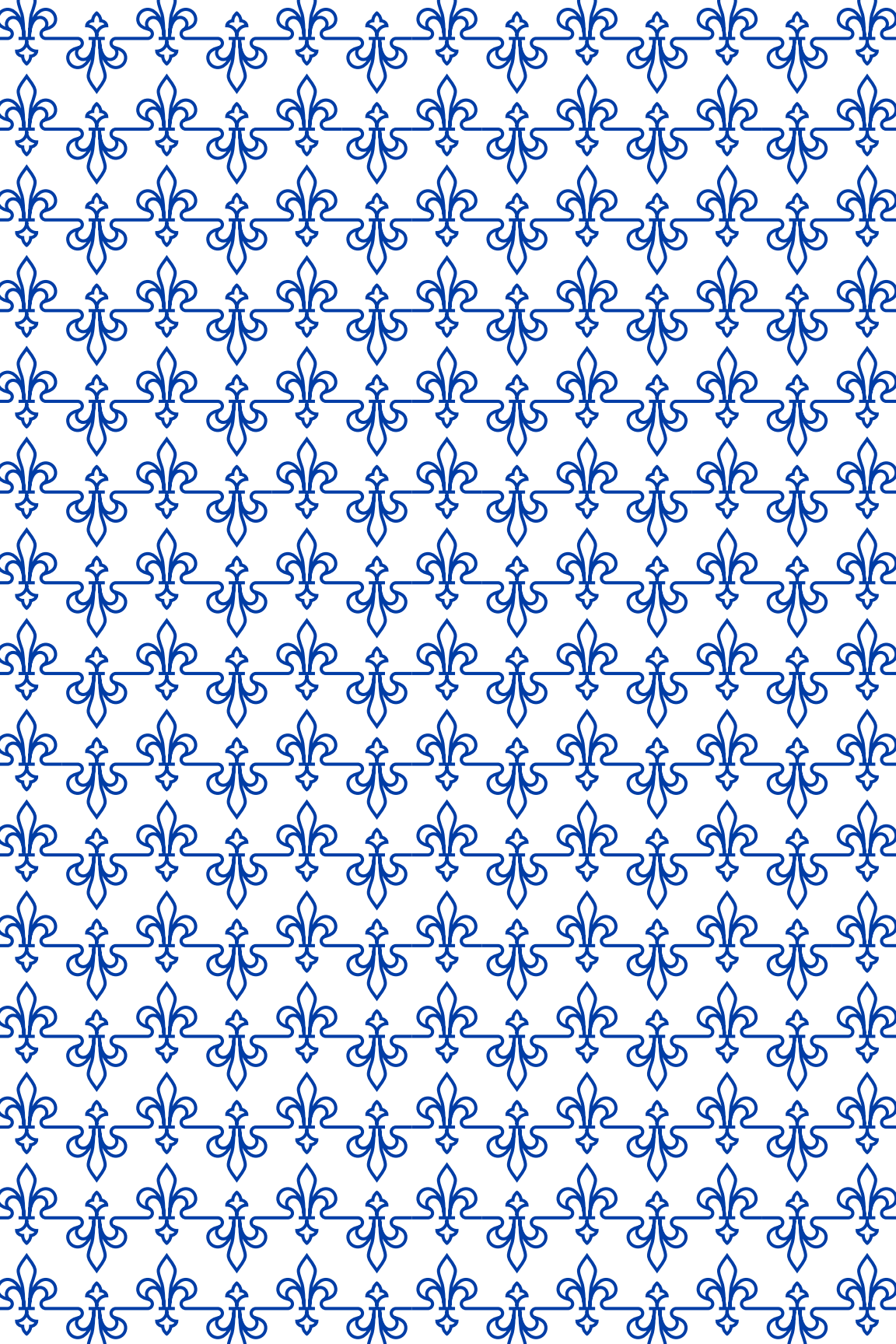
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SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



20  
25

FRIDAY, MAY 16  
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER COLLEGE CHURCH  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI



## ORDER OF EVENTS

### ACADEMIC PROCESSION

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES

**Wendy DuCassé, D.S.W., LCSW**

*Director, Field Education*

*Assistant Clinical Professor, Social Work*

### INVOCATION

**Benjamin Smyth, Ph.D., M.S.W.**

*Director, Co-Curricular and Service-Learning Programs*

*Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business*

### WELCOME

**Noelle E. Fearn, Ph.D.**

*Dean, School of Social Work*

*Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice*

### GUEST SPEAKER

**Hon. Margaret Donnelly, J.D., M.S.W.**

### STUDENT AWARDS AND LEADERSHIP

**Brandy Maynard, Ph.D., M.S.W.**

*Associate Dean of Academic Affairs*

*Professor, Social Work*

## Presentation of the Graduates

**Danni Young, M.B.A.**

*Director, Graduate Recruitment and Admissions*

### CANDIDATES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREE

### CANDIDATES FOR MASTER'S DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

### CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR'S DEGREES

### DEAN'S FINAL PRESENTATION

**Noelle E. Fearn, Ph.D.**

*Dean, School of Social Work*

*Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice*

### BENEDICTION

**Benjamin Smyth, Ph.D., M.S.W.**

*Director, Co-Curricular and Service-Learning Programs*

*Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business*

### ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Graduates,

On behalf of the Saint Louis University School of Social Work faculty and staff, I'd like to congratulate you on your great accomplishment! We are proud of all that you have accomplished during your time here and we wish you the best of luck in this next phase of your life.

Your commitment to understanding and addressing complex societal issues, advocating for social justice, and enhancing the well-being of individuals, families, and communities is truly commendable. The skills, knowledge, and experiences you have gained during your time at Saint Louis University will serve as a strong foundation for your future endeavors.

May your career be filled with meaningful experiences, personal growth, and success. Know that you are part of a supportive and thriving community of alumni who are making a difference in diverse fields and settings across the globe.

You will always be a Billiken, and we are grateful for the legacy you are leaving behind. We encourage you to stay connected to Saint Louis University by joining the Alumni Association and give back by supporting our programs and scholarships for future generations.

Once again, congratulations on this remarkable achievement, and best wishes for a bright and fulfilling future! The entire School of Social Work community is proud of you, and we cannot wait to see all that you will accomplish after graduation.

Congratulations!



**Noelle E. Fearn, Ph.D.**  
*Dean, School of Social Work*  
*Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice*

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Saint Louis University's School of Social Work provides students with an academic journey rooted in cutting-edge research, lived experiences, and servant leadership fortified by our holistic focus on humanity. Built upon an unwavering commitment to human, social, and environmental justice, the school is a leader in integrating preparation, education, and practice with faculty members who make substantial contributions to our respective professions. The school – a dynamic community of learning with excellence in teaching, research, and servant leadership – remains passionately dedicated to our mission: preparing students for professional practice with a commitment to social justice and the empowerment of vulnerable and oppressed populations. We currently rank in the top 13% of all Schools of Social Work in the nation.

Established in 1930, SLU's School of Social Work has evolved tremendously over the past nine plus decades and now offers academic and professional degrees at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels in three distinct yet critically interrelated disciplines: applied behavior analysis (ABA), criminology and criminal justice (CCJ), and social work (SWRK). We also offer graduate certificates in both applied behavior analysis (post-master's) and gerontology (post-bachelor's). Our academic offerings have advanced to respond to expanded societal need and demand for well-trained, highly skilled, and justice-focused professionals and practitioners in our fields. Our online graduate programs in social work and applied behavior analysis illustrate our collective commitment to remove geographic and other barriers to higher education and training for tomorrow's social workers, behavior analysts, and criminal justice professionals.

**Noelle E. Fearn, Ph.D.**  
*Dean, School of Social Work*  
*Professor, Criminology and Criminal Justice*

**Brandy Maynard, Ph.D., M.S.W.**  
*Associate Dean of Academic Affairs*  
*Professor, Social Work*

**Michael Vaughn, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Dean of Research*  
*Director, Social Work Ph.D. Program*

**Dyan McGuire, J.D., Ph.D.**  
*Director, Criminology & Criminal Justice Programs*  
*Associate Professor*

**Heather Lewis, M.S.W., Ed.S., BCBA**  
*Interim Director, Master of Science in*  
*Applied Behavior Analysis Program*  
*Assistant Clinical Professor,*  
*Applied Behavior Analysis*  
*Assistant Field Director, Applied Behavior Analysis*

**Kristi S. Richter, M.S.W., LCSW**  
*Director, Master of Social Work Program*  
*Assistant Clinical Professor, Social Work*

**Vithya Murugan, Ph.D., M.S.W.**  
*Director, Bachelor of Science in*  
*Social Work Program*  
*Associate Professor, Social Work*

**Wendy DuCassé, D.S.W., LCSW**  
*Director, Field Education*  
*Assistant Clinical Professor, Social Work*

## STUDENT AWARDS

### APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS AWARDS

*Outstanding Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis Student of the Year Award*

**Sydney Hoyt**

### CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AWARDS

*Outstanding Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice Graduating Student Award*

**Alexandria Maria DiBrizzi**

*Outstanding Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice Graduating Senior Award*

**Anna Cathleen Skrobis**

### DR. NORMAN WHITE SERVICE IN JUSTICE AWARD

*This award honors Dr. Norman A. White, an associate professor of criminology and criminal justice, who died in 2017. This award has been given with Norm's name to an undergraduate criminology and criminal justice student who, in the judgment of faculty, embodies a similar commitment to service and justice as Norm did.*

**Noa Glover**

### SOCIAL WORK AWARDS

*Outstanding Bachelor of Science in Social Work Practicum Student of the Year Award*

**Katelyn Weber**

*Outstanding Bachelor of Science in Social Work Student Award*

**Grace Clark**

*Outstanding Master of Social Work Practicum Student of the Year Award*

**Katherine M Atkinson**

*Outstanding Master of Social Work Student Award*

**Stacey Meers**

## THE GRADUATES

### Yingying Zhang

*Dissertation title: Gender Disparities in Financial Well-Being and Financial Capability: An Examination Using the National Financial Capability Study*

### CANDIDATES FOR MASTER DEGREES & CERTIFICATES

#### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

**Elizabeth Ann Brunson**

**Evelyn Canelo**

**Jordan Lee Hopkins**

**Madison Delaney Kates**

#### MASTER OF ARTS IN CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**Alexandria Maria DiBrizzi**

**Madison P. Fundis**

**Tyler M. Garcia**

**Cheyenne Heath**

**Katie Hongngoc Luu**

**Sree Sai Teja Sunkari**

**Malaisyah Ameare Vann**

#### MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

**Chloe Marie Amstutz**

**Kali Raye Anderson**

**Karen Andrea Askew**

**Katherine M Atkinson**

**Sarah Barness**

**Brooke Boggs**

**Asher Buckner**

**Samantha Bulechek**

**Lillian Rose Carstens**

**Andrew J.M. Bushnell-Chamness**

**Marissa Renee Caruthers**

**Faith Kamari Chavers**

**Rachel Chernow**

**Brittney Clifton**

**Mackenzie Blair Cohoon**

**Avery Joy Downes**

**Christopher Richard Driscoll**

**Sara Lynn Drost**

**Bayleigh Durham**

**Ehlimana Dzubic**

**Cynthia Marie Enghauser**

**Tierra Iman Flascher**

**Adalena R Francis**

**Caitlin Page Frazee**

**Ainsley N. Freed**

**Grace Gordon**

**Lauren Coombes Handy**

**Samantha A. Harris**

**Taylor Hawkes-Hiltner**

**Audra L. M. Heller**

**Cheyenne Jean Hogue**

**Katie Elizabeth Holtorf**

**Kelley Parks Hower**

**Sydney Hoyt**

**Anna Felicity Hunn**

**Sophie Johnson**

**Khadija Dura Kamara**

**Anna Rose Kappel**

**Alyssa Noel Kendrick**

**Natalie Kauders Kite**

**Emily Anne Maffuccio**

**Katherine Elizabeth Manion**

**Lauren Manion**

**Stacy Dawn Meers**

**Brianna Jude Metellus**

**Madison N Miskovic**

**Jose Manuel Monzon**

**Sheena Yukimi Morita**

**Emma Murphy**

**Marie Ortsiefer**

**Mackenzie G Ostermann**

**Riley Nataki Pascall**

**Rachel Passapera**

**Caitlin Reilly**

**Delaney Erin Rice**

**Lauren Paige Rocco**

**Anna Leoti Sadlo**

**Linda Fawzi Safi**

**Cheyenne Smith**

**Isabel Marie Staskiewicz**

**Briana Taylor**

**Chartina Angelle Thomas**

**Elizabeth Titius**

**Sarah Elizabeth Lee Tracy**

**Destinee D Turner**

**Haley Yarber**

**Jennifer Marie Yeargain**

## THE GRADUATES

### CANDIDATES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREE

#### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SOCIAL WORK

**DeBorah Devonne Ahmed**

*Dissertation title: A Sankofa Approach: A Study of the Role Afrikan-Centered Knowledge and Understanding Has on the Self-Efficacy and Personal Agency of Adult Afrikan Americans*

**Victoria Elizabeth Carter**

*Dissertation title: An Exploratory Study of the Experiences of Black Social Work Doctoral Students in Predominantly White Institutions*

**Kathryn Warkentin Coccia**

*Dissertation title: TokTogether: A Parasocial Approach to Addressing Ageism and Advancing Geriatric Workforce Development Among University Health Students*

**Jacob M Eikenberry**

*Dissertation title: The Role of Peer Providers in the Successful Reentry of Individuals Transitioning From Prison to the Community*

**Ebow Tawiah Nketsiah**

*Dissertation title: Non-pharmacological Interventions for Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease: Exploring the Effectiveness of Cognitive Stimulation Therapy for Dementia in the United States and Hong Kong.*

**Aweke Tadesse**

*Dissertation title: Participation in a Micro-Loan & Micro-Saving Association: A Community-Based Intervention Targeting Quality of Life & Depression in Mozambique*

## THE GRADUATES

### POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE IN INTERPROFESSIONAL GERONTOLOGY

Chloe Marie Amstutz  
Adalena R Francis  
Caitlin Page Frazee  
Ainsley N. Freed  
Anna Rose Kappel  
Stacy Dawn Meers

### POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Callie M Ferguson

### CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

### BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Leonard Albanese III  
Bandar Aldhahri  
Kiara Lynn Andreychak\*\*  
Alexandra Berkley\*\*\*  
Shayne J. Clegg\*  
Hayden H Engel  
Noa Shawn Glover\*\*

Sophie Lee Henkle\*  
Madysen L Johnson  
Josie Salah Keyrouz\*\*\*  
Marissa Victoria Klingeman\*  
Lilly Katherine Lewis\*  
Ángela Majarín Martínez\*\*  
Owen F Minichiello\*  
Hermela Sahele Nebyu  
Marissa Annette Payne  
Zaire M Payton  
Julia Lynn Runions  
Meredith Anne Saba  
Nima Daniel Saboorizadeh  
Mariam M Saleh  
Emily Servin\*\*  
Mary Clare Simon\*\*  
Anna Cathleen Skrobis\*\*\*  
Paityn Marie Upton\*\*  
Alyson E. Vogt  
Courtney Marie Wolf

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK

Faith Christine Abrams  
Emma Bacila\*  
Mary Katherine Baltimore\*  
Jacqueline Maurine Barnes\*\*\*

\*\*\* **summa cum laude**  
(G.P.A. 3.9)  
\*\* **magna cum laude**  
(G.P.A. 3.7)  
\* **cum laude**  
(G.P.A. 3.5)

Latin Honors are based on December 2024 cumulative GPA; final honors are recalculated based on final GPA and are indicated on transcript.

*This program does not constitute the official conferring of a degree.*

Melissa Borstelmann  
Matthew Joseph Brody  
Grace Kerry Clark\*\*\*  
Charumati Agnibye Deeljore  
Marquis D. Govan  
Libby Ann Griffin\*  
Samarya C. Hall\*\*  
Elizabeth Armide  
Henderson\*\*\*  
Abigail Isabella Hodges\*\*  
Emma Janette Kidwell\*\*\*  
Nora Ann Kotnik\*\*  
Jacob Byron Earl Lashley\*\*\*  
Caroline F Moscardelli\*\*\*  
Clare Marie Newcomb\*\*\*  
Margaret Ann Niego\*\*\*  
Kaytlyn Olvera  
Bryce Ryan Pattison\*\*  
Hannah Elizabeth Rose  
Frances Christine Sablan\*\*  
Stephanie Sánchez  
Trinity Lane Thomas\*\*  
Elizabeth Rain Waybright  
Katelyn Nicole Weber\*\*\*  
Natalie L Wild\*\*  
Evelyn LaShawne Wright\*

## STUDENT ORGANIZATION LEADERS

Through their hard work and dedication, these students have served in leadership roles for chartered student organizations and disciplinary honor societies within the School of Social Work. Thank you for living out the mission of the School of Social Work through your service and leadership.

### ALPHA PHI SIGMA - (CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE HONOR SOCIETY)

**Mary Clare Simon**  
*President*

**Grace Clark**  
*Vice President*

**Katie Luu**  
*Secretary*

**Anna Skrobis**  
*Treasurer*

**Julia Runions**  
*Historian*

**Emily Servin**  
*Publicity Chair*

### CRIMINOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLUB

**Grace Clark**  
*President*

**Mary Clare Simon**  
*Vice President*

**Alexandra Berkley**  
*Secretary*

**Owen Minichiello**  
*Public Relation, Evens Chair*

### PHI ALPHA - TAU MU CHAPTER (SOCIAL WORK HONOR SOCIETY)

**Sam Hall**  
*President*

### SOCIAL WORK STUDENT ASSOCIATION

**Nora Kotnik**  
*President*

**Grace Clark**  
*Vice President*

**Emma Kidwell**  
*Secretary*

**Carrie Moscardelli**  
*Treasurer*

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# ABOUT SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY



Saint Louis University is one of the oldest and most prestigious Catholic universities in the United States. Founded in 1818, the University is recognized nationally for world-class academics, life-changing research and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Guided by its enduring Jesuit mission, Saint Louis University offers students a highly rigorous and deeply transformative education that empowers them to become bold, confident leaders.

As a nationally recognized leader in research and innovation, SLU is a Research-1 (R1) university, advancing groundbreaking discoveries in St. Louis and around the world.

In 2024, Saint Louis University educated more students than ever before and experienced unprecedented international enrollment: 15,334 students, from all 50 states and 100 countries. SLU's campus in Madrid, Spain, enrolled 1,246 students last fall.

A dedication to values-based education and social justice has earned Saint Louis University widespread acclaim and bolstered its status as a character-building college. SLU offers more than 180 community engagement courses, and 75 percent of SLU students volunteer each year.

SLU is also a catalyst for urban renewal in the heart of a vibrant city. More than \$1.2 billion in housing, retail and business development is underway in Midtown St. Louis, and the University is in the center of the neighborhood's growth.

Inspired by its pioneering spirit, Saint Louis University continues to move forward, committed to serve a higher purpose while seeking the greater good.

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

One of the country's top colleges (The Princeton Review, *The Wall Street Journal* and *U.S. News & World Report* magazine) – and the No. 13 Catholic college in America (Niche)

## RESEARCH

SLU's R1 status places the University in an elite group of U.S. research universities. SLU has increased research expenditures by 104% over the last eight years.

## SERVICE

1.6 million hours of service completed by the SLU community annually

## ENDOWMENT

\$1.9 billion, an increase of 74% over the last decade

## ATHLETICS

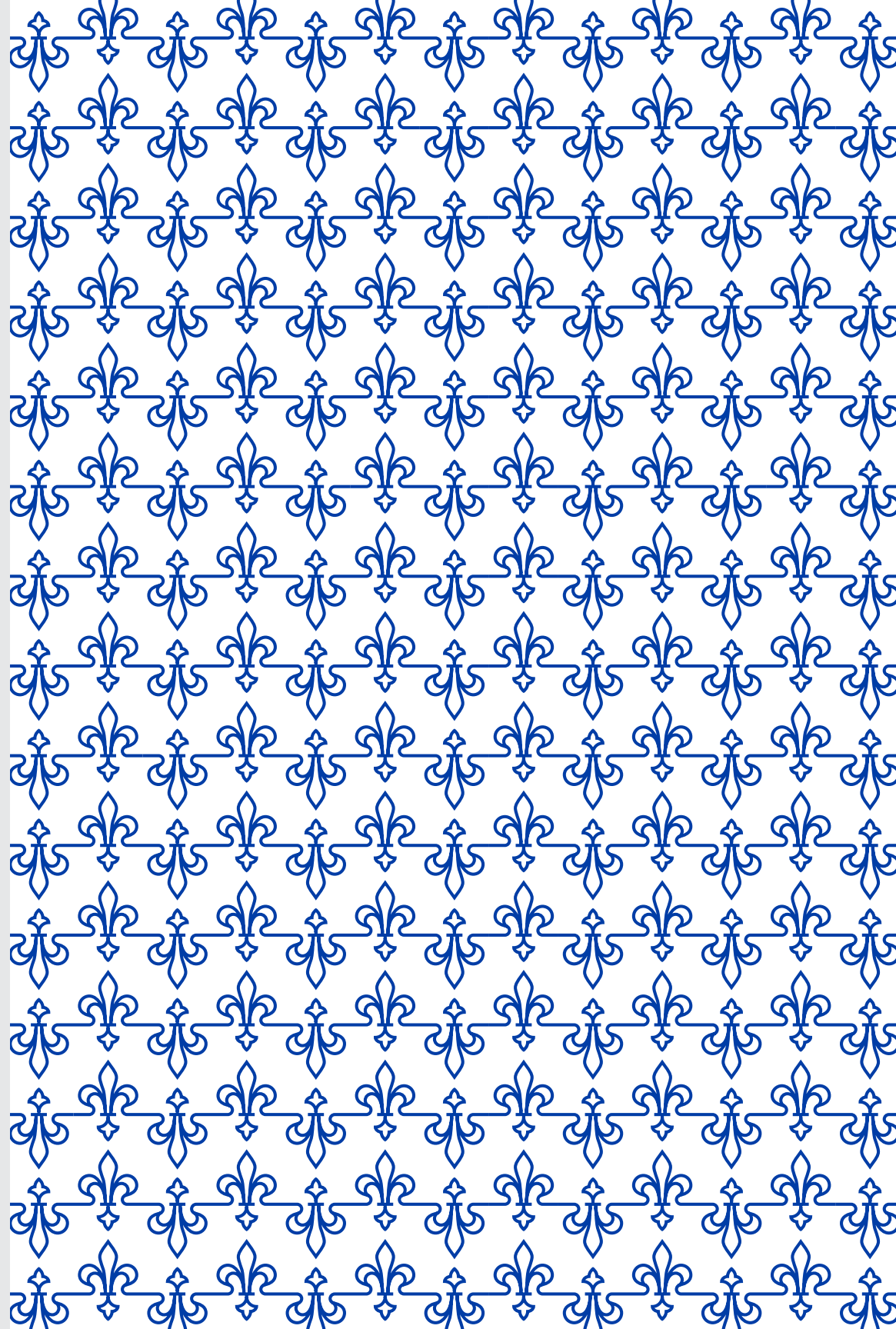
NCAA Division I, Atlantic 10 Conference

## MASCOT

The Billiken, a mythical good-luck figure who represents "things as they ought to be"

## ALUMNI

134,336 alumni in 50 states and 154 countries





SAINT LOUIS  
UNIVERSITY™

— EST. 1818 —