
CONVOCATION KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Ashish K. Jha,
Co-Founder & CEO BioRadar
Senior Fellow, Harvard Belfer Center
Former White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator



Dr. Ashish K. Jha is a physician, scientist, and one of the nation's most trusted voices on biosecurity and biological threats. He is Co-Founder and CEO of BioRadar, a biointelligence company building the early-warning infrastructure to detect biological threats before they spread, and a Senior Fellow at Harvard's Belfer Center, where he focuses on biosecurity and pandemic preparedness. He previously served as White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator under President Biden, where he expanded access to treatments and vaccines, strengthened national preparedness, and built durable defenses against future biological threats. Among the most highly cited health scholars in the country, with more than 300 scientific publications, he is widely recognized for translating complex science into clear guidance for policymakers and the public.



2026 FALL CONVOCATION

September 17, 2026
Campus Center Ballroom
11 a.m.

Processional

Opening Remarks
Provost Joseph Berger

Recognition of New and Newly Tenured or Promoted Faculty
Provost Joseph Berger

Presentation of the John A. Ryan Award
Presented to: Christopher Nasr, College of Management
Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco

Chancellor's Address
Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco

Keynote Address
Dr. Ashish K. Jha, Co-Founder & CEO BioRadar

New Student Induction
Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco
Vice Chancellor Student Affairs Karen Ferrer-Muñiz

Closing Remarks
Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco

Recessional

Following the Convocation Ceremony, guests are invited to the chancellor's barbecue located on the Campus Center Plaza.

We are pleased to welcome the following new faculty and congratulate those who have achieved tenure or have been promoted, in the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), College of Liberal Arts (CLA), College of Management (CM), College of Science and Mathematics (CSM), Manning College of Nursing and Health Sciences (MCNHS) and School for the Environment (SFE).

New Faculty

Unita Ahdifard	English	CLA
Haider Ali Bhatti	Biology	CSM
Christopher Baker	Biology	CSM
Tyler Baldor	Sociology	CLA
Scott Brooks	Counseling & School Psychology & Sport	CEHD
Jenn Chandler	Performing Arts	CLA
Holly Cronin	Environmental Sciences & Sustainability	SFE
Meng Ding	Computer Science	CSM
Katherine Erbe	Nursing	MCNHS
Boniface Fosu	Environmental Sciences & Sustainability	SFE
David Glancy	Accounting & Finance	CM
Jenni Glaser	Classics & Religious Studies	CLA
Amy Goh	Nursing	MCNHS
Phoebe Grant-Robinson	Leadership in Education	CEHD
Kiet Huynh	Counseling & School Psychology & Sport	CEHD
Dana Johnson	Public Policy & Public Admin.	CLA
David Keating	Mathematics	CSM
Yuko Kuroki Miyauchi	Mathematics	CSM
Yujin Lee	Marketing	CM
Kristin Lees Haggerty	Gerontology	MCNHS
Mariana Lima Becker	Applied Linguistics	CLA
Abigail Link	Nursing	MCNHS
Xiaofeng Liu	Environmental Sciences & Sustainability	SFE
Kelly Nye-Lengerman	Counseling & School Psychology & Sport	CEHD
Jacqueline Pedota	Leadership in Education	CEHD
Pravrutha Raman	Biology	CSM
Sherena Razek	Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies	CLA
Rebecca Roesler	Performing Arts	CLA
Cody Schimming	Physics	CSM
Grant Stanton	History	CLA
Patrick Sylvain	Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies	CLA
Patrice Williams	Urban Planning & Community Development	SFE

Newly Tenured & Promoted to Associate Professor

Devin Atallah	Psychology	CLA
Ozgun Babur	Computer Science	CSM
Hadi Banat	English	CLA
Tashauna Blankenship	Psychology	CLA
Mayra Cadorin Vidal	Biology	CSM
Olga Goulko	Physics	CSM
Azizah Jor'dan	Exercise & Health Sciences	MCNHS
Labib Rouhana	Biology	CSM
Susan Tan	English	CLA

Newly Promoted to Full Professor

Cassandra Alexopoulos	Communication	CLA
Elizabeth Brown	Sociology	CLA
Changmeng Cai	Biology	CSM
Vincent Cannato	History	CLA
Kui Du	Management Science & Information Systems	CM
Elizabeth Dugan	Gerontology	MCNHS
Joel Fish	Mathematics	CSM
Paul Kowert	Political Science	CLA
Xiaohui Liang	Computer Science	CSM
Benyamin Lichtenstein	Management	CM
Sripad Motiram	Economics	CM
Ling Shi	Nursing	MCNHS
Amy Smith	Public Policy & Public Affairs	CLA
Courtenay Sprague	Conflict Resolution, Human Security & Global Governance	CLA
Robert Stevenson	Biology	CSM
Juanita Urban-Rich	School for the Environment	SFE
Olivia Weisser	History	CLA
Heather Zaykowski	Sociology	CLA

Non-Tenure-Track Promotions

Ashley Collins	English	CLA
Caroline Coscia	Political Science	CLA
Steven Cullipher	Chemistry	CSM
Michelle Doucette	Nursing	MCNHS
Justin Drew	School for the Environment	SFE
Mark Earley	English	CLA
Clarissa Eaton	English	CLA
Chris Fung	Anthropology	CLA
Vivian Hatziyannis	Management Science & Information Systems	CM
Vijaya Jyoti	School for the Environment	SFE
Virginia Karlis	English	CLA
Niraj Kumar	Physics	CSM
Diego Mansilla	Latin American & Iberian Studies	CLA
Camille Martinez	Communication	CLA
Barbara McGonagle	Economics	CLA
Adam Mooney	English	CLA
Heminigild Mpundu	Accounting & Finance	CM
Joseph Ramsey	American Studies	CLA
Alejandro Reuss	Labor Resource Center	CLA
Rita Shepard	Anthropology	CLA
Jyoti Sinha	Sociology	CLA
Torna Soro	Computer Science	CSM
Ursula Tafe	Political Science	CLA
Nelson Velez	Management Science & Information Systems	CM