



CLASS OF 2026
COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
MASTER OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026



**California University of
Science and Medicine**



**California University of
Science and Medicine**

MBS CLASS OF 2026 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026 | TWO O'CLOCK PM

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME REMARKS

Zohray Talib, MD | *Executive Vice Dean of Education*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Cassandra Zambrano | *MBS Class of 2026*

ADDRESS TO GRADUATES

Vanessa Orozco, PhD | *MBS Program Director*

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Paul Lyons, MD | *Dean and President, CUSM*

STUDENT RECOGNITION & AWARDS

Linda Connelly, PhD | *Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs*

Ou Zhang, PhD | *MBS Associate Program Director*

STUDENT SPEAKERS

Aman Gautam | *MBS Class of 2026*

Kim Giang | *MBS Class of 2026*

PRESENTATION AND HOODING OF THE CANDIDATES

Paul Lyons, MD | *Dean and President, CUSM*

Vanessa Orozco, PhD | *MBS Program Director*

Ou Zhang, PhD | *Assistant Professor of Medical Education*

CLOSING REMARKS

Zohray Talib, MD | *Executive Vice Dean of Education*

RECESSIONAL

MASTER OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

CLASS OF 2026

Celina Abushawish
Crystal Acosta
Afua Adih
Daniela Akpati
Nayha Alvarez
Emyrose Ancho
Arsheya Anwar
Aiden Aval
Mariam Ayoub
Gregory Barashyan
Carmelo Batoon
Ryan Bermudez
Daniel Beshara
Ani Boodaghian
Daniella Chan
Elliott Chien
Amruth Chilukuri
Kimberly Cood
Moises Felix
Aleeza Firoz
Aman Gautam
Peter Gerges
Kim Giang
Mussa Guzha
Jacanna Hill
Hser Htee
Khadijah Hussain
Jabria Johnson
Ameya Kattela
Aliza Khalid

Mariam Khalil
Muhammad Khan
Shraddha Khanna
Kenny Kim
Evan Longo
Natalie Makkar
Yara Mansour
Cynna McAllister
Nathalie Messih
Lili Navasardyan
Matheu Nazareno
Sevana Nazari
Meghan Nguyen
Nima Noorkhavary
Abril Pacheco
Haig Pakhchanian
Bela Patel
Erik Perez
Ani Petrosyan
Rodrigo Pichardo
Kalize Pittman
Mahrad Reyhani
Robert Rocco
Naoki Tang
Keerthana Toure
Lulu Wang
Adarius West
Selin Zadourian
Cassandra Zambrano

Please Note: The appearance or absence of any name in this program is not an official record of completion or denial of degree requirements. This program is issued as a ceremonial publication. We apologize for any errors or omissions.



LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Congratulations! Today is culmination of your hard work, dedication, focus, and commitment. Today we celebrate your hard work and the remarkable milestone you have achieved.

What you have achieved is remarkable. And yet, none of us are surprised. You came to CUSM already demonstrating intellectual curiosity, resilience, and a deep desire to make a meaningful impact in the health sciences. Those qualities set you apart then, and they define you now.

As master's graduates, you have pushed yourselves to a higher level of scholarship and purpose. You chose a path that demands both rigor and heart, and you met that challenge with determination. You have shown that you are not only capable of mastering complex knowledge, you are ready to lead, to innovate, and to elevate the communities you serve.

My hope is that you carry forward the same curiosity and courage that brought you here. Whether your next steps lead you into leadership, advocacy, research, or clinical care, I am confident that you will continue to learn, to grow, and to put your compassion into action.

On behalf of the entire CUSM community, we are profoundly proud of what you have accomplished. We are honored to have walked alongside you on this part of your journey. Today, we join your families and friends in celebrating not only your achievement, but the promise of the future you are about to shape.

We are proud to call you graduates and alumni of the California University of Science and Medicine.

Paul Lyons, MD

President, California University of Science and Medicine

Dean, CUSM School of Medicine