

Northeastern  
University



CLASS OF 2025

**GRADUATE  
CELEBRATION**

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE  
9 MAY 2025

# PROGRAM

## Welcome

Jeffrey Agar

*Associate Dean, MS Programs and Lifelong Learning*

## Student Address

Kimi Nguyen '25

*Applied Mathematics*

## Dean's Address

Hazel Sive

*Dean, College of Science*

## Recognition of Graduates

Jeffrey Agar

*Associate Dean, MS Programs and Lifelong Learning*

## Student Procession

Mary Jo Ondrechen

*Chief University Cadre Marshal and Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology*

Ana Otero

*University Cadre Marshal and Associate Teaching Professor of Biology*

MarySusan Potts-Santone

*University Cadre Marshal and Teaching Professor of Biology*

## Closing Remarks

Carla Mattos

*Associate Dean, PhD Programs and Graduate Affairs*

# DEAN

## Hazel Sive

Hazel Sive is a research pioneer, award-winning educator and innovator in the higher education space. Sive became dean of the College of Science, and professor of Biology at Northeastern University, Boston in June 2020. For twenty-eight years prior, she was professor of Biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), member of the Whitehead Institute, and associate member of the Broad Institute. A native of South Africa, Sive received the B.Sc. from University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and the Ph.D. from Rockefeller University, New York.

Sive's groundbreaking research focuses on neurodevelopmental disorders, as well as fundamental processes underlying brain and craniofacial development. She is a distinguished educator, a MacVicar Faculty Fellow, MIT's highest teaching accolade and twice winner of the prestigious School of Science Teaching Award. An accomplished leader, Sive was associate dean for the MIT School of Science; founding director of the MIT Jameel World Higher Education Lab; and founding director of the MIT-Africa Initiative. At Northeastern, Sive is chair of the new Africa Global Initiative. Among other accolades, in 2022, Sive was elected a Fellow of the American Association for Advancement of Science.

As Dean of Science at Northeastern University, Sive has promoted excellence through innovation in science research and education, amidst an overarching culture of belonging and respect. She is a collaborative and inclusive leader, with impressive outcomes in all goals proposed. The following threads are part of the College of Science Strategic Plan **CONNECTIONS** to the Future written by all college members under Dean Sive's leadership.

- Build a College Where Everyone Belongs
- Empower Education Across Learning Communities
- Shift the PhD Paradigm
- Connect Solutions to Crucial Research Challenges
- Promote a Successful Faculty
- Construct a Framework for Growth

## STUDENT SPEAKER

Kimi Nguyen

Born and raised in the heart of Boston, Kimi Nguyen attended Boston Public Schools and graduated from the John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science, located behind International Village. She remained close to home for her education, earning both a bachelor's degree in mathematics with a minor in data science and a master's degree in applied mathematics with a concentration in data science through Northeastern's PlusOne program.

As a proud first-generation Asian American Bostonian, Nguyen found both comfort and identity in math. From solving theorems with Mr. Henry after school, to prepping for math competitions with Mr. Francois over Biscoff cookies, to late-night Real Analysis sessions in the math lounge with friends, she discovered not only a passion for mathematics but also a sense of community. She feels incredibly grateful to have found that community at Northeastern—from grabbing tacos with Professor Jekel to making lifelong friends who continuously push and challenge her.

Nguyen began her professional journey as a quantitative intern at Loomis, Sayles & Company and now works full-time as a Custom Income Strategy Associate. Looking ahead, she plans to pursue a PhD in mathematics, hoping to give back to the field that has given her so much.

For Nguyen, every success is shared—rooted in the sacrifices and strength of her mother, grandmother, and sisters. She credits her achievements to the unwavering support of her family, her scholarships, her friends, her incredible professors, and the Northeastern mathematics department. Their encouragement has carried her forward and continues to inspire her.

A person in a graduation gown and cap stands with their back to the camera, looking at a large, dark shadow of a husky dog cast onto a light-colored wall. The scene is dimly lit, with the light source coming from the right, creating long shadows on the floor.

FOREVER A HUSKY

# LIKE **A HUSKY**