

Northeastern  
University



CLASS OF 2025

**GRADUATE  
CELEBRATION**

KHOURY COLLEGE  
MAY 7, 2025

# PROGRAM

## Presiding

Elizabeth Mynatt

Dean

## Welcome

Benjamin Hescott

Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience

## Dean's Address

Elizabeth Mynatt

Dean

## Student Address

Kushal Shankar

Master of Science in Computer Science

## Graduate Awards Presentation

Benjamin Hescott

Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience

## Khoury Oath

Elizabeth Mynatt, Dean

Benjamin Hescott, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience

## Recognition of Graduates

Benjamin Hescott

Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience

## Closing Remarks

Benjamin Hescott

Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience

# CEREMONY SPEAKERS

## Elizabeth Mynatt, Dean

Elizabeth Mynatt joined Northeastern University in January 2022 after 23 years at the Georgia Institute of Technology, where she most recently served as Regents' and Distinguished Professor in the College of Computing and executive director of the Institute of People and Technology.

Mynatt is an internationally recognized expert in ubiquitous computing and assistive technologies. Her research contributes to ongoing advances in personal health informatics, computer-supported collaborative work, and human-centered computing.

Mynatt is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, recognized for exceptional computing community leadership and for contributions to human-centered computing, with a focus on assistive technologies, wellness, and health. She is also a fellow of the Association of Computing Machinery for contributions to human-centered computing and the development of health information technologies. She was recently elected to the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences for interdisciplinary careers focused on the human within science.

## Benjamin Hescott, Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience

Benjamin Hescott has a passion for making computer science and programming accessible to all. His teaching, mentoring, and broadening participation efforts have been recognized with many awards throughout his career, including the IEEE Computer Society Computer Science and Engineering Undergraduate Teaching Award.

His research interests include computational complexity, approximation algorithms, and computational biology. He and his team are currently exploring new models of experiential learning at Khoury and across the University.

# STUDENT SPEAKER

## Kushal Shankar, Master of Science in Computer Science

Kushal Shankar is graduating with a Master of Science in computer science. He is passionate about building intelligent systems and meaningful communities—and his time at Khoury reflects both.

Kushal completed a co-op at Nvidia in Santa Clara, California, where he worked as a server software engineer. At Northeastern, Kushal became known not only for his technical contributions but also for his active involvement in the student community. He collaborated with student-led initiatives to support career development—offering mentorship, resume reviews, and interview prep to peers. In addition, Kushal found balance and belonging through sports. A dedicated sports fan and active participant in intramural leagues, he played tennis, cricket, and soccer across all semesters.

Kushal values mentorship, community building, and entrepreneurship, and believes in using technology to drive clarity and connection—through both scalable systems and meaningful human interactions. He is especially passionate about uplifting underrepresented voices and empowering others to thrive on their own terms and in their own way.

After graduation, he will return to Nvidia full-time as a server software engineer, continuing his work at the intersection of AI, infrastructure, and innovation.

## STUDENT AWARDS

### Laurel and Scroll 100 Inductee

Laasya Anatha Prasad  
Data Science

Lahari Boni  
Data Science

Anikesh Ganesh Kamath  
Computer Science

Seunghan Lee  
Computer Science

### Khoury College Community Service Award

Yi Zu  
Computer Science

### Khoury College Teaching Award

Kishore Sampath  
Artificial Intelligence

# PROGRAM NOTES

## Khoury College Oath for Computing

Today, I join the ranks of computer scientists worldwide.

I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings.

I will design and build computing systems that enhance the quality of daily life for individuals and for society.

I will protect the dignity of users and others affected by computing systems, respecting the diversity of all cultures and safeguarding against threats to health and safety.

I will respect the privacy and rights of all people and recognize the special role I have in judiciously collecting, storing and using their information, and creating systems that aim to shape their behavior.

I will work for fair wages, honorably guarding my reputation and my colleagues in our work practices while respecting the intellectual contributions of others.

I will improve the public understanding of computing and its consequences.

May I always act to preserve the finest traditions of my field, and may I long experience the joy of inventing the future through my endeavors.

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**