



THE INAUGURATION OF

TERESA ABI-NADER DAHLBERG, PH.D.

11TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

Monday, March 31, 2025

9:30 a.m.



DAVID FALK THEATRE

Tampa, Florida

About
TERESA ABI-NADER DAHLBERG, PH.D.
11TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA



Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg came to the University of Tampa from Texas Christian University, where she served as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

In addition to being TCU's chief academic officer, Dahlberg was also a professor of both computer science and engineering. She has more than 20 years of experience in higher education as a faculty member and an administrator and is known especially as an advocate for student success and innovative academic programs.

Prior to joining TCU in 2019, Dahlberg served as dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science at Syracuse University, where she launched strategic plans focused on research and students' experiences. She also created and led the college fundraising campaign which meaningfully contributed to Syracuse's \$1.5 billion Forever Orange capital campaign.

Before her position at Syracuse, Dahlberg served as chief academic officer and dean of the Albert Nerken School of Engineering at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York City and associate dean of the College of Computing and Informatics at the University of North Carolina Charlotte.

In her academic career, Dahlberg has been the principal investigator for over \$20 million in external funding for projects in the areas of computer education, broadening participation in computing and wireless networking research.

Dahlberg looks to build upon UTampa's already remarkable record of success by elevating UTampa's impact on people and community, increasing UTampa's institutional reputation and bolstering its financial sustainability.

Dahlberg began her professional career with the IBM Corporation in North Carolina. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh and earned both a master's degree and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University, where she is a member of the Alumni Hall of Fame.



INVESTITURE
of the
**ELEVENTH PRESIDENT
OF THE UNIVERSITY**



ORDER OF CEREMONY

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

University of Tampa Faculty Brass Quintet

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INAUGURATION

Dan Huber, Ph.D.

*Professor of Environmental Studies
Lead Faculty Marshal*

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

James W. Eyer Jr.

Chair of the Board of Trustees

REMARKS

Ryan Cragun, Ph.D.

Faculty Senate Chair, Professor of Sociology

Lorraine Hoffberg '98

Senior Accountant

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

University of Tampa Chamber Singers

Abigail King '25

Student Government President

Christina Hurley '88

Alumni Association Board Chair

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Victorio Reyes Asili, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of English and Writing

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U.S. Congress, 14th District of Florida

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Tampa City Council, District 4

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

University of Tampa Chamber Singers

Victor Boschini Jr., Ph.D.

Chancellor, Texas Christian University

**PRESENTATION OF
UNIVERSITY MEDALLION**

James W. Eyer Jr.

Chair of the Board of Trustees

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg, Ph.D.

President

ALMA MATER

FINAL REMARKS

Bella Galperin, Ph.D.

*Dana Professor of
Management and Entrepreneurship
Lead Faculty Marshal*

RECESSIONAL

University of Tampa Faculty Brass Quintet

POSTLUDE

*All attendees are invited to a
luncheon at Sykes Plaza immediately
following the ceremony.*

INAUGURAL PROCESSION

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Chancellor, Texas Christian University

Bill Carlson Jr. '88
Tampa City Council, District 4

Kathy Castor
U.S. Representative, 14th District of Florida

Ryan Cragun, Ph.D.
Faculty Senate Chair, Professor of Sociology

James W. Eyer Jr.
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Bella Galperin, Ph.D.
*Dana Professor of Management and Entrepreneurship
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Dan Huber, Ph.D.
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Christina Hurley '88
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Abigail King '25
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Dean, North Carolina State University

Joseph Urso '92
Stu and Diane Williams Endowed Head Baseball Coach

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President, Wake Forest University

Rebecca White, Ph.D.
*James W. Walter Distinguished Chair of Entrepreneurship
Director, John P. Lowth Entrepreneurship Center*

Ronald L. Vaughn, Ph.D.
*Former President, University of Tampa
Max H. Hollingsworth Endowed Chair of American Enterprise*

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PRESIDENTIAL REGALIA



President Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg, Ph.D., has new regalia for the inauguration ceremony. She has chosen a red robe emblazoned with minarets. The five stripes on the side are called chevrons. Dahlberg has an extra chevron, compared to Ph.D. graduates, as president. President Dahlberg's dark blue hood represents her having a doctoral degree. The flat-looking cap is called a doctoral tam. It symbolizes accomplishment at the highest academic level. The golden tassel symbolizes transition and accomplishment. It shows the wearer has completed their higher education and is moving forward.



The University Chain of Office looks like a medal, and it symbolizes leadership and responsibility at the highest position in the University. It is worn by the president at commencement and all instances requiring academic regalia. Each UTampa president has received a medal engraved with the names and terms of former presidents. President Dahlberg's name and starting year are engraved on her medal—but as of now, no end date is engraved.



The original University of Tampa mace was made by James Bignell of UTampa's industrial arts department at the request of David Delo, Ph.D., UTampa's fifth president. It was wooden, painted black and trimmed with gold. When B.D. Owens, Ph.D., became president of the University in 1971, he wanted a new mace for his inauguration. David Dye, a local artist and an art instructor at Hillsborough Community College, was commissioned for the design and casting. Dye made UTampa's mace javelin-like with a minaret shape on top. The thick head is made

with pure silver over a concrete center. The handle is made of walnut, weighs 15 pounds and measures 43¼ inches. The mace is secured in the Office of the President when not being used for official University functions.

PAST PRESIDENTS



Ronald L. Vaughn, Ph.D.
1995-2024

David G. Ruffer, Ph.D.
1991-1994

Bruce A. Samson
1986-1991

Richard D. Cheshire, Ph.D.
1977-1986

B.D. Owens, Ph.D.
1971-1977

David M. Delo, Ph.D.
1958-1971

Ellwood C. Nance, Ph.D.
1945-1957

James Elliott Mooney, Ed.D.
1940-1944

John Harvey Sherman, Ph.D.
1937-1940

Frederic H. Spaulding, Ph.D.
1931-1936

ALMA MATER



Steadfast and true,
sing we thy praise,
Alma Mater free.
Proud beat our hearts,
and all our days
we'll raise songs to thee.
We'll go forth to love and praise
thee and be ever true.
Hail our glorious Alma Mater,
hail our Tampa U.