

2025

BABSON COLLEGE

| F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business

MAY 17, 2025



CONVENE



WELCOME

to the seventy-third graduate school
Commencement exercises at Babson College.
The College community is pleased and proud
to share this memorable day with you.

Video of this ceremony will be available at
babson.edu/commencement

“DON'T LOOK FOR SOCIETY TO GIVE YOU
PERMISSION TO BE YOURSELF.”

— ROGER BABSON

WELCOME

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*Jewish Chaplain, The Office of
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Caitlin Capozzi
*Vice President and
Dean of Campus Life*

GREETINGS AND PRESENTATION OF THE THOMAS KENNEDY PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

Robert Pullés MBA'25
Student Speaker

PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR ADDRESS

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Professor of Accounting and Law

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*Assistant Professor of Practice,
Management*

Mary D. Gale
*Associate Professor of Practice,
Entrepreneurship*

Steven R. Gordon
*Professor of Operations and Information
Management*

Sandra Graham
Professor of Arts and Humanities

Robert F. (Bob) Halsey
Professor of Accounting and Law

James M. Hunt
Associate Professor of Management

Brad Johnson
*Assistant Professor of Practice,
Operations and Information
Management*

Kenichi (Ken) Matsuno
Professor of Marketing

Gina O'Connor
Professor of Entrepreneurship

Mark P. Rice
Professor of Entrepreneurship

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Presented by Ariel C. Armony, PhD
Provost and Executive Vice President

Karen Clark Cole

Paula C. Lunder P'86 '90

Peter H. Lunder P'86 '90

CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES

Stephen Spinelli Jr. MBA'92, PhD

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Karen Clark Cole

CONFERRING OF DEGREES IN COURSE

Stephen Spinelli Jr. MBA'92, PhD

Master of Science in Business Analytics

Master of Science in Finance

Master of Business Administration

*Master of Science in Management
with a Concentration in
Entrepreneurial Leadership*

CLOSING REMARKS

Stephen Spinelli Jr. MBA'92, PhD

ABOUT OUR FOUNDER

ROGER WARD BABSON (1919–1921) was a highly successful pioneer in the financial investment business. On September 3, 1919, he opened the Babson Institute with an enrollment of 27 students.

In 1921, Babson named George Coleman (1921–1935) as the second president. That same year, Babson was incorporated under the educational laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a not-for-profit institution.

In 1923, Babson acquired farmland in Wellesley Hills, established an endowment fund, and began to build a campus. By the end of that year, Mustard, Bryant, and Lyon (now Lukšić) halls, and Knight Auditorium were completed. Two years later, the Babson Park Clubhouse and Coleman Hall were finished. To accommodate the rise in student enrollment, the Clubhouse was renamed Park Manor South, and the hotel rooms, originally designed for visiting businessmen, became residence rooms for Babson students.



STEPHEN SPINELLI JR. MBA'92, PHD is the 14th president of Babson College and a lifelong entrepreneur who has spent his career at the intersection of academia, business, and philanthropy. Under his leadership, Babson College was named the No. 2 best college in the United States by *The Wall Street Journal* and has retained its decades-long place atop *U.S. News & World Report's* undergraduate and graduate entrepreneurship rankings.

Spinelli is a long-standing member of the Babson community. He spent 14 years of his career as a member of the College's faculty, as vice provost for entrepreneurship and global management, and as director of The Arthur M. Blank Center for Entrepreneurship.

In 2007, he became president of Philadelphia University, which later merged with Thomas Jefferson University to form the new Jefferson, where he was named chancellor in July 2017.

Prior to arriving at Babson, Spinelli co-founded Jiffy Lube International and was chairman and CEO of the American Oil Change Corporation.

Spinelli earned his PhD in economics from The Management School at the University of London's Imperial College London, his MBA from Babson College, and his BA in economics from McDaniel College.

THE BABSON COLLEGE HONORARY DEGREE AND RECIPIENTS

An honorary degree is the highest accolade a college or university can bestow and usually is awarded during the Commencement ceremony.



KAREN CLARK COLE

Co-founder and former CEO of Blink UX

Karen Clark Cole is an accomplished entrepreneur and the co-founder and former CEO of Blink UX, the first user experience company in the United States. Over the course of 24 years, Clark Cole grew Blink into a global leader in user experience research, design, and development with an array of clients, including Amazon, Apple, Disney, NASA, Google, Starbucks, and Microsoft.

As Blink's CEO, she led and negotiated six strategic acquisitions of smaller firms across the country before leading Blink's acquisition by the global public company Mphasis Corporation in 2021.

Clark Cole is the founder and executive director of Girls Can Do and Heaven on Earth Animal Retirement Sanctuary. She also serves as the chair of the board of governors for St. Margaret's School, a K-12 all-girls school in Canada, and is a council member on the National Women's Business Council. She frequently advises and invests in women-founded businesses and speaks on user-centered leadership and creating a culture of innovation.



PETER H. LUNDER P'86 '90 AND PAULA C. LUNDER P'86 '90

Peter H. Lunder P'86 '90 and Paula C. Lunder P'86 '90 are longtime supporters of Babson College, former trustees, and the parents of two Babson alumni. Peter Lunder is the retired co-chairman, president, and CEO of Dexter Shoe Company. He is the chairman of The Lunder Foundation, a family foundation established in 1988, and is commissioner emeritus of the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Paula Lunder is a director of The Lunder Foundation. She has volunteered with numerous organizations over the past 45 years, including the Beth Israel Synagogue, The Waterville Boys and Girls Club, The Kennebec Valley Mental Health Organization, the Maine Holocaust Center for Human Rights, and the Maine Public Broadcasting committee, among others.

The Lunders have long been generous donors to the College, supporting financial aid with the Lunder Endowed Scholarship, athletics with the naming of the Lunder Performance Center, and facilities with the naming of the Lunder Admission Center.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ANALYTICS

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THE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

The hood is the most distinctive feature of the academic costume. The shape of the bachelor's and master's hoods is similar, but the length varies. The hood lining is the official color or colors of the institution. The Babson hood, for example, is forest green with a single white chevron. The hood is edged in velvet of two, three, or five inches in width for the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, respectively. The edging should be in a color distinctive of the subject to which the degree pertains. Among the most common trims are: tan for business administration; white for arts, letters, and humanities; golden yellow for science; and light blue for education.

In today's ceremony, some graduates are wearing cords, tassels, medallions, stoles, and cloths that represent specific designations.

Below are those related to academic honors:

GOLD CORD = *VALEDICTORIAN*

GOLD TASSEL = *SUMMA CUM LAUDE*

WHITE TASSEL = *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*

RED TASSEL = *CUM LAUDE*

Today's Commencement also features flags of the world. These flags represent the homelands of the Babson undergraduate and graduate students. With students from more than 80 countries, and faculty members involved in research, training, and development around the world, Babson's international presence is evident and we are proud to honor it with this display.

THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES!

Immediately following the ceremony, please join us
for a reception in Park Manor quad.

*Bring a smile and join us for photo opportunities
across campus at these locations:*

REYNOLDS CAMPUS CENTER

Woody Car

BABSON GLOBE

Photo Opportunity

PARK MANOR QUAD

2025 Marquee Letters

F. W. OLIN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS FRONT ENTRANCE

2025 Marquee Letters with 360° Photo Booth

TOMASSO STAIRS

Photo Booth

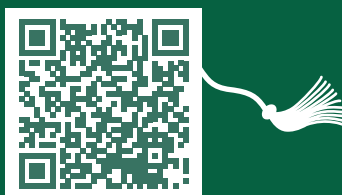
Be sure to tag **@babsoncollege** on Instagram
so we can celebrate **#Babson2025**

CONGRATULATIONS!

**You're now part of a dynamic network
of over 46,000 Babson alumni.**

WHAT MAKES BABSON ALUMNI STAND APART IS HOW WE STAND TOGETHER.

As #OneBabson we live out the adage "Our network is our net worth." It's in our DNA and core to help each other create value in the world. Once a Beaver, always a Beaver.



Welcome, Class of 2025

Your Babson alumni network is ready and eager to help support all of your "next chapters." We have your back by providing you access to exclusive resources and benefits, designed specifically for you, every step of the way.

