



FINAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMENCEMENT 2006

GRADUATE SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY, May 10

2:00 p.m. Black Graduates Recognition Ceremony Rehearsal. Ingram Auditorium, Blair School of Music.

9:00 p.m. THE PARTY with Kool & the Gang. Peabody Mall. For more information, visit www.vanderbilt.edu/theparty.

THURSDAY, May 11

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Students may pick up caps, gowns, tassels and hoods in the Recreation Room at Branscomb Quadrangle by presenting their order confirmation between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m. Anyone presenting the order confirmation may pick up your regalia for you. If you have misplaced your confirmation present your Vanderbilt ID and be prepared to state the name of your degree (i.e., M.A., M.S., or Ph.D.) Out-of-town students who arrive in Nashville just before the exercises can obtain regalia between 7:30 and 8:15 a.m. on Friday, May 12. Regalia are not available on Alumni Lawn.

NOTE: Faculty whose regalia has been ordered by the School of Medicine should pick up regalia as instructed by that school.

7:00 p.m. Black Graduates Recognition Ceremony at Ingram Auditorium, Blair School of Music. Reception following.

FRIDAY, May 12, COMMENCEMENT DAY

8:40 a.m. Students and faculty report to assembly area to line up for the Commencement Procession. Graduate School degree candidates will be given additional detailed instructions for the Graduate School Ceremony when they line up for the Main Ceremony. The processions are for degree candidates only. Family and friends must use the guest seating areas. The Graduate School will assemble in the following place (promptness in lining up is imperative):

Graduate School (candidates for the M.A., M.S., M.A.T., M.L.A.S., M.Eng. and Ph.D. degrees). Line up according to degree to be conferred in a double file, although not in alphabetical order, beginning on the walk at the corner of Tolman Hall and extending down the sidewalk between McGill Hall and West Side Row. (see **DARK BLUE LINE** on the degree candidates chart available at www.vanderbilt.edu/commencement). The assembly area will be indicated by **DARK BLUE** designating signs. Those faculty who

will be attending the Graduate School diploma-awarding ceremony line up behind the dean and in front of the candidates.

GUESTS should be seated on Alumni Lawn before 8:30 a.m. to see the procession. Programs, water and hand fans will be available on the outside perimeter of Alumni Lawn. Please pick these up before being seated.

9:00 a.m. The Procession of Candidates enters Alumni Lawn to seating reserved for candidates and faculty as guided by Faculty Marshals.

After students are seated and at the trumpet signal the Academic Processions (which consist of the Chair of the Senate carrying the mace, the Chancellor, Trustees, officers of administration and the faculty who will remain on Alumni Lawn for the undergraduate diploma-awarding ceremony) will move toward the platform.

10:15 a.m. Recession of graduate and professional degree recipients and their faculties and guests as instructed by the Chair of the Faculty Senate from the platform. These groups will depart as led by a marshal.

Women normally wear their caps throughout the exercises; men should remove theirs for the Invocation. Hoods are worn by all except those receiving Bachelor degrees.

Graduate School Hooding and Diploma-Awarding Ceremony and Reception

Library Lawn

Degree recipients should line up alphabetically according to degree behind designating signs placed on the sidewalks beside the statue of Harold Stirling Vanderbilt (located at the rear of Library Lawn) immediately following the Main Ceremony on Alumni Lawn for procession into the seating area.

Faculty line up in the same location behind the designated sign. Marshals will be on hand to assist.

After the ceremony there will be a reception for graduates and their guests on Library Lawn.

1:00 p.m. Informal luncheon hosted by the Provost, the Vice-Chancellor for Health Affairs and the University Marshal for **faculty** participating in the graduation exercises. Atrium, Buttrick Hall.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: In the event of inclement weather the ceremony will be held in Memorial Gymnasium. If in doubt, call the Vanderbilt telephone operator (322-7311). In Memorial Gymnasium there will be no procession for candidates. Graduate and professional degree candidates should enter through the south lobby and sit in the west end zone. Graduate School degree candidates will sit in section 3L. Watch for guiding signs. Marshals will also be on hand to give assistance. Those faculty who will be attending graduate-professional diploma-awarding ceremonies must sit with the appropriate group in the west end zone.

KEEP THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR REFERENCE

RETURNING REGALIA

Student regalia must be returned immediately after Commencement Exercises. Returning the regalia is done simply and quickly by checking it in at the Recreation Room in Branscomb Quad following Commencement Exercises. Delay in returning your regalia will make you liable for the payment of an extra fee. Master's candidates may keep the cap and tassel as a souvenir. The gold doctoral tassels are rented, not purchased, and must be returned attached to the cap.

Faculty pick up and return regalia as instructed by the office of the dean that ordered it.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

A strong tradition of Commencement, both at Vanderbilt University and at universities in general, is the wearing of uniform academic regalia. The uniformity of regalia, inconsistent only by reason of the particular degree being conferred and by distinctions for individual honors achieved, e.g., founder's medals and class marshal's ribbons, symbolizes that each graduate has fulfilled the same requirements for that degree.

In keeping with this tradition, candidates for degrees are encouraged not to wear adornments. For some, however, a particular adornment may have special meaning and the wearing of that adornment may add to the significance of Commencement for that candidate and perhaps his or her family. Any adornments that are worn should be of modest proportions, generally in keeping with the traditions of Commencement, consistent with the interests of others in maintaining the traditions of Commencement, and will reflect a sincere and personal commitment to the values symbolized by the adornment.

Participation in Commencement Exercises: Degree candidates must have completed successfully all curriculum requirements and have passed all prescribed examinations by the published deadlines to be allowed to participate in the ceremony.

Participating students should plan to attend the central ceremony, and the Graduate School hooding and diploma-awarding ceremony as well. Guests and participants will be expected to remain at the respective ceremonies until the conclusion. Much depends on the courtesy and cooperation of all who attend.

Students unable to participate in the graduation ceremony will receive their diplomas by mail.

NOTE: A student completing degree requirements in August or December 2006 will be invited to participate in Commencement in May 2007.