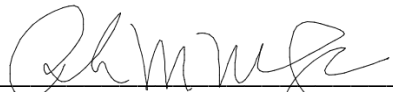


HAMPTON UNIVERSITY
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23668

CEREMONIAL OCCASIONS

May 2, 2024

TO: Administrators
Faculty
Staff
Graduates

FROM: 

Dr. Richard M. Mason II
University Grand Marshal

RE: Commencement Ceremony – May 12, 2024

As we approach our high celebration of academic achievement and the marking of yet another milestone in the history of Hampton University, “Our Home by the Sea,” the following information provides instructions and schematic drawings for Commencement 2024. There will be one ceremony this year for the entire University which will be held in the Hampton University Convocation Center.

TIME TO ASSEMBLE

All participants are to assemble on the visitors’ side inside Armstrong Stadium by **8:30 a.m.** on May 12, 2024. Please refer to the attached diagram.

COMMENCEMENT EXPECTATIONS AT HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

The Commencement Ceremony at Hampton University is a festive celebration conducted with seriousness, dignity and pride. The focus of this celebration is to ensure the Commencement Ceremony at Hampton University is the best representation of a fitting conclusion to this phase of your education. As a consequence of the dignified nature of the ceremony, students, faculty, families and guests are expected to maintain a measure of decorum consistent with the occasion.

Further, appropriate academic regalia and accessories should complement the robe. Caps are worn with the tips in a horizontal position, not tilted. Students in academic regalia must wear auxiliary clothing that is in harmony with the black robe. Women: black dresses of appropriate length, black shoes, skin tone or dark stockings, no pants, or jeans. Men: white collared shirts with ties, black shoes, black dress slacks, and no jeans. Students that self-identify as trans or non-binary: please aim for your polished, professional look that is true to who you are. Attire may include the following: black suits with shirt or blouse, long black trousers with shirt or blouse, black dress, skirt with shirt or blouse, and neckties. Academic regalia should be worn with limited jewelry. Large earrings, bangles, chains, pins, and other pieces are inappropriate and will not be allowed. **Do not bring purses with you to the procession. Anyone failing to meet these guidelines (carrying flowers or wearing sorority or fraternity Kente cloth stoles, attachments, corsages, ribbons, scarves, etc. with academic attire) will be escorted from the procession.**

No cellphones are permitted during the processional nor recessional portions of the Commencement Ceremony. This applies to Armstrong Stadium and the Convocation Center. During the ceremony, all cell phones must be put on silent.

PROCESSIONAL

1. The Procession will begin promptly at **9:30 a.m. on May 12, 2024**. Graduation Candidates will move down the route and march from Armstrong Stadium and form a corridor through which the Presidential Party, Administrators, Faculty, Staff, the Emeritus and 50 Year Class will walk to the Convocation Center. Then, the Candidates will close the corridor and proceed to seats in the Convocation Center.
2. Ph.D. Candidates will march with the Graduate College and University College into the Convocation Center and sit in the designated area according to the diagram.

REHEARSAL – MONDAY MAY 6, 2024, 9:00 A.M. & FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024, 9:00 A.M.

The initial rehearsal will be held on **Monday May 6, 2024 in the Convocation Center starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. for students only**. Please arrive early and find a seat. In addition, please bring your **cap and hood** with you to rehearsal.

A subsequent rehearsal will be held on **Friday, May 10, 2024**. Participants should report to the visitors' side Armstrong Stadium no later than **9:00 a.m. with caps and hoods**. Participants will assemble by departments in designated sections. Rehearsal will end by 12:00 noon. **Students are not to leave before rehearsal has ended**. Undergraduate students, who are unable to participate in rehearsal, but plan to participate in the ceremony, should report to the School Dean immediately upon their arrival at Armstrong Field on Sunday, May 12, 2024, by 8:30 a.m. in order to be correctly placed in the processional. ***IF INCLEMENT WEATHER OCCURS, REHEARSAL WILL BE IN THE CONVOCATION CENTER.***

2024 COMMENCEMENT LINEUP – ARMSTRONG STADIUM

