



IMPORTANT COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION – 2014

Date: May 9, 2014
To: Graduating Seniors and Other Degree Candidates
From: Timothy Kaufman-Osborn, Provost and Dean of the Faculty
Cc: College and Commencement Marshals, Jason Arp, Jennifer Casper, Jon Loney, Michelle Ma, Krista Meyer, Tracy Oberg, Dan Park, Registrar's Office, Security Office

BACCALAUREATE - Saturday, May 24, 2:30 pm, Cordiner Hall

Speakers: Adam Kirtley, Stuart Coordinator of Religious and Spiritual Life;
Louise Fix '14, senior class speaker for Baccalaureate;
Clare Carson, Associate Dean of Students: Academic Support Services;
Keith Farrington, The Laura and Carl Peterson Endowed Chair of Social Sciences;
Musicians: David Fleming' 14 tenor; Phoebe Horvath' 14 piano; Andres Crane' 14 piano;
Katherine Lee' 14 violin; Minseon Song' 14 flute

COMMENCEMENT - Sunday, May 25, 11:00 a.m., Memorial Building South Lawn

Speaker: Sally Jewell, U.S. Secretary of the Interior

All degree candidates are required to attend the Commencement ceremony.

CAPS AND GOWNS

Graduation caps and gowns that have been pre-ordered will be distributed on Friday, May 16, from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the coffee house in front of Whitman College Bookstore. If you have not pre-ordered, you may purchase them on May 16 from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. for cash only: gowns - \$20.00, caps - \$10.00, and tassels - \$10.00.

CLASS PICTURE

On Sunday, May 25, a class picture will be taken prior to the Commencement ceremony. Assemble on Ankeny Field near the Hall of Science promptly at 9:50 am; the picture will be taken at 10 a.m. sharp (wear your cap and gown, with the tassel on the right side of your mortarboard).

PROCESSION

Following the class picture, seniors will move immediately to the sidewalk on the south (Boyer Avenue) side of Maxey Hall, beside Lakum Duckum. You must be at this location no later than 10:15 a.m. There you will pick up your program that indicates your **individual seat number**. **Programs must be picked up by the individual senior and will not be given out to anyone other than the graduate.** The Faculty and Commencement Marshals will line the seniors up in two rows in alphabetical order, with approximately the first half of the alphabet forming the first row and the second half of the alphabet forming the second row.

You will receive an email on Thursday, May 22, telling you if you are graduating summa cum laude, magna cum laude or cum laude. Honor stoles for these graduates may be obtained when you pick up your program.

SEATING

Once you have found your proper place in line it is **most important** that you remain in line and in alphabetical order for the processional and seating. **You must sit in your assigned seat.** Following the Student Marshals' seating instructions, **file into the row as rapidly as possible.** During the conferring of degrees, the President will ask all graduating seniors to stand. After the conferring of degrees you will be asked to be seated.

(OVER)

During the presentation of diplomas, each row of graduates will stand as a unit; upon returning to your row, you may be seated immediately, though this will be a different seat from your original. A professional photographer will take a picture of each senior as his or her diploma is presented. Toward the end of the ceremony, President Bridges will instruct you to **move your tassel from the right side to the left side of your mortarboard. In order to reduce the likelihood of injury, DO NOT throw your mortarboards at the conclusion of the ceremony.**

CLASS BANNER

The 2014 class banner will be available as a limited-edition 11x17 print at the commencement ceremony. Designed by Molly Johanson '14, these prints are only available for pick up, while supplies last, after the ceremony and will not be mailed. Please be sure to stop by the table in the reception area after the ceremony to pick up your print.

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOS

Each graduate will receive proofs of three photo options (portrait pose, diploma pose with the President, Class of 2014 group pose) by mail within 10-14 days after the ceremony. A more complete selection of photographs and options will also be available online. To access these options, go to www.GradPhotoNetwork.com and enter "Whitman College" in the event field, select the desired year, then enter your last name. This service is provided by a third party vendor, Professional Photography by Marty Huie, PO Box 1704, Walla Walla, Wa 99362, (509) 529-5183, grads@bigfoot.com.

GUESTS

Please advise your guests that they will be outdoors, in the sun (we hope). General seating on bleachers and chairs will be available. Your family members may want to bring blankets, hats, umbrellas, water, etc. Commencement will be interpreted in sign language and the front row of the guest seating to the right of the platform will be reserved for the hearing impaired. For those who prefer to be seated inside, the ceremony will be webcast in the Reid Campus Center and Kimball Auditorium, Hunter Conservatory. Self-contained motor homes are welcome to park in any of the campus parking lots for Commencement weekend.

EXTREME WEATHER PLAN

ONLY in extreme weather conditions will Commencement be moved indoors to Cordiner Hall. In the event of extreme weather, defined as conditions which are unsafe, such as severe winds, lightning or hail, as opposed to conditions which are uncomfortable such as rain, heat or cold, the Commencement ceremony will **begin at 12 noon** instead of 11 a.m. The signal for moving the ceremony inside will be the continuous ringing of the College bell at 10:30 a.m. Seniors will meet in the multi-purpose gym in Sherwood Athletics Center to pick up packets from the Registrar, take the senior class photo and line up for the processional. Because of limited seating, each senior will receive two Extreme Weather Plan tickets prior to Commencement in their Campus mailboxes. Parents, families and guests of graduating seniors without Extreme Weather Plan tickets may view the ceremony from the following locations: Last names beginning A-G: Ballroom in Reid Campus Center; Last names beginning H-L: Olin Hall 130; Last names beginning M-S: Maxey Auditorium; Last names beginning T-Z: Harper Joy Theatre.

We are pleased to invite you to participate in all of the regular Commencement weekend activities. You are encouraged to consult the Commencement website: <http://www.whitman.edu/academics/academic-calendar/commencement> for more details on the Commencement schedule, instructions and resources for seniors, and answers to frequently-asked-questions.

Best wishes for a wonderful Commencement weekend!