

College of Arts and Architecture Undergraduate Commencement

Saturday, May 6, 2017

Noon

Eisenhower Auditorium



Congratulations on your impending graduation!

As we make preparations for this year's commencement ceremony in Arts and Architecture to be held on May 6th at noon in Eisenhower Auditorium, we ask that you please stop by the Undergraduate Studies Office (room 104 Borland Building) between **April 19 and May 3, 8:00am to 4:00pm, Monday-Friday**, to complete the following:

- 1 Confirm your seat on the graduation list
- 2 Receive a small gift of a Penn State lapel pin
- 3 Receive the name card you will need for the commencement ceremony (nomenclator and photographer)
- 4 Receive academic honor cord. To determine if you are graduating with distinction, please check the following Registrar's link <http://www.registrar.psu.edu/graduation/distinction.cfm>
To learn more about the honor cords, click here:

<http://news.psu.edu/story/400167/2016/03/28/academics/penn-state-celebrate-graduates-academic-military-success-honor>

- 5 Complete a short graduation survey indicating your post-graduation plans (on a bank of computers set up specifically for this purpose)

We will also be **randomly awarding ten, \$50 Visa gift cards** to students that visit and complete the survey. The purpose of the survey is to let us know if your current intentions are to enter the job market, continue your education, travel, or do something else. By participating, your responses will be included with hundreds of your classmates and will help enhance the experiences of current and future Penn State students. Please know that your personal information will be kept completely confidential.

If you are engaged in student teaching or other approved off-campus coursework that precludes you from coming by in person, we request that you please contact the UG Studies Office by emailing Linda Wheeland (ljw2@psu.edu) to confirm your participation in the ceremony.

We look forward to your making contact and the opportunity to personally congratulate you on this important milestone.

INFORMATION FOR GRADUATES

CEREMONY DETAILS: The ceremony will last approximately 90 minutes.

Preceding the commencement ceremony you are invited to gather with your fellow graduates and families at the Walters Courtyard between the Music and Theatre Building starting at 10:00, to enjoy music and complimentary beverages before the traditional procession to Eisenhower Auditorium at 11:15.

Tickets are not required to attend the gathering or graduation in Eisenhower Auditorium.

10:00 – 11:15 a.m.: Gathering at the Walters Courtyard

11:00 a.m.: Please be in your cap and gown. Student Marshals will carry banners from various units.

11:15 a.m.: Marshals and graduating seniors proceed to Eisenhower Auditorium in an informal procession led by the Penn State Dixieland Combo. Faculty and guests follow in the procession.

11:30 a.m.: The graduates enter the building and go to the appropriate corridor. If you misplace your nomenclator card, a replacement can be obtained in the side corridor of the Eisenhower Auditorium prior to the ceremony.

Guests enter the building and are seated in the auditorium. Seating will be available on a first-come first-served basis. Tickets are not required and there is not a guest limit for the College of Arts & Architecture ceremony. Admittance into the Auditorium will be permitted about 30 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony.

12:00 noon: Graduation ceremony begins. (Approximately 90 minutes in length)

ACADEMIC DRESS: Academic dress or the uniform of one of the U.S. Armed Forces is customary. Students receiving commissions in the armed forces will stand with their classmates when the academic degree is conferred, and also when receiving acknowledgment as a group. Candidates for the baccalaureate and associate degrees should wear the tassel of the cap on the right front edge. Due to the formality of this occasion and safety concerns regarding walking on the steps and stage, please wear appropriate footwear; flip flops, clogs and loose fitting shoes are not recommended. In addition, it is requested that men wear slacks and a dress shirt with tie. For women, slacks with a blouse, or a dress is appropriate. Thank you for your cooperation.

Students may order and purchase their caps, gowns, and personalized announcements from the Penn State Bookstore. You will need to allow at least 2 – 3 weeks for processing printed announcements. If you need assistance, please contact the Penn State Bookstore at 814-863-3589 or 863-2512.

PLEASE NOTE: *Ornamentation representing honorary societies or nationalities is not approved attire for Penn State academic ceremonies. Wearing the Schreyer Honor College medal is welcomed.*

NAME CARD: Name cards will be distributed between April 19 and May 3, 8 am – 4 pm in 104 Borland. We will notify you the details of the name card distribution and how to confirm your graduation via your Penn State email in early April. Please be sure to watch for this important email announcement. When you receive your name card make sure to fill out the back of the card even if you think you won't be interested in purchasing photo's and bring the card to the Commencement Ceremony (please do not fold the card). The card will be collected before you cross the stage. (If you misplace the card, a replacement can be obtained in the side corridor of the Eisenhower Auditorium from a staff member prior to the ceremony).

PHOTOGRAPHS: Photographers from GradImages™ will be at each commencement ceremony to take photographs of students as they individually approach, cross and exit the stage. If you are interested in being contacted by GradImages™, with an offer for a free 5 x 7 and an opportunity to purchase additional photos, please provide your U.S. mailing and email addresses on the reverse side of the name card. GradImages™ will be in touch with you soon after graduation.

DIPLOMA: Diploma's will be mailed approximately four to six weeks after graduation to the graduates' permanent address or LionPATH student service center diploma mailing address. For more information, visit <http://www.registrar.psu.edu/>

GRADUATING WITH DISTINCTION: All graduating seniors who have earned academic distinction are eligible to receive an academic distinction cord to wear with approved academic dress at commencement ceremonies. Students who are graduating Summa Cum Laude will receive a blue and white cord, students who are graduating Magna Cum Laude will receive a blue cord, and students who are graduating Cum Laude will receive a white cord. Students will receive notification on how to receive their academic distinction cords from their college or campus. Questions regarding academic distinction cords should be directed to the Office of Academic Affairs within your college or campus. Levels are determined by the cumulative GPA at the end of the Fall 2016 session. If students earn a higher level once final grades are received, then adjustments will be made.

To determine if you are graduating with distinction, please check the following Registrar's link <http://www.registrar.psu.edu/graduation/distinction.cfm>



Image: Meagh Cafferty

Academic distinction and military honor cords will be provided to eligible students for spring 2017 commencement ceremonies University-wide.

MILITARY HONOR CORDS: All graduating seniors who are military veterans, currently serving on active duty, in the reserve, or National Guard, or who will be granted a commission obtained through Penn State Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) are eligible to receive a red, white and blue cord to wear with approved academic dress at commencement ceremonies. Those personnel who have already been granted priority registration status are automatically eligible for an honor cord and may visit or contact (814-863-0465) the Office of Veteran's Programs at 325 Boucke Building during normal business hours to receive it. ROTC personnel may pick up their honor cord from their ROTC representative/office. Those personnel who have not been granted priority registration, please visit this website for instructions on required proof of service and where to submit the required documentation: <http://equity.psu.edu/veterans/priorreghonorcord>

TRANSCRIPTS: For ordering transcripts, please visit <http://www.registrar.psu.edu>.

GRADUATES WITH DISABILITIES: Penn State encourages graduates with disabilities to participate in its commencement ceremonies. It is very important that you notify Linda Wheeland, ljw2@psu.edu, 865-9523, if you anticipate needing any type of special accommodation or have questions about accessibility.

INFORMATION FOR GUESTS

GUESTS WITH DISABILITIES: Penn State encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you or your guests anticipate needing any type of special accommodations at the Eisenhower Auditorium or have questions about the physical access provided, please call Lisa McClain Wagner at (814) 865-4727.

LODGING/LOCAL INFORMATION/DIRECTIONS: For a complete listing of overnight accommodations for commencement, area restaurants, and driving

directions and maps, please contact the Central Pennsylvania Convention and Visitor Bureau <http://www.visitpennstate.org>, or call 800-358-5466 or 814-231-1400. The Bureau does not take reservations, but will provide information.

PARKING: Parking is available in the Eisenhower Parking Deck (no charge). Additional parking is available on campus. For directions to the Eisenhower Auditorium, you may visit <http://www.cpa.psu.edu/directions>

Parking and Traffic Advisory for Saturday (May 6, 2017) Commencement Ceremonies at Eisenhower Auditorium

Visitors attending commencement ceremonies at Eisenhower Auditorium on Saturday, May 6 are directed to park at the adjacent Eisenhower Parking Deck, which is located on Eisenhower Road.

General and ADA parking will be available at each level of the Eisenhower Deck, with elevator access located at the south corner.

With heavy traffic expected on the east side of campus throughout the day Saturday due to commencement ceremonies being held at the Bryce Jordan Center, those attending ceremonies at Eisenhower are advised of the following travel recommendations:

- Drivers are urged to avoid the Park Avenue exits from Routes 220 and 322, as well as University Drive, and instead should use the Route 322 Business exits at the south and north ends of Atherton Street to travel to campus.
- From Atherton Street, drivers are encouraged to approach Eisenhower Auditorium from the west side of campus, using Park Avenue or Curtin Road to reach Shortlidge Road or Bigler Road, where vehicles will then travel south to Eisenhower Road to reach Eisenhower Auditorium and the Eisenhower Deck.

Commencement parking for all ceremonies will be available at no charge, courtesy of Penn State Transportation Services.

Click on the [Eisenhower Commencement Google Map](#) to view a map of the ceremony site and parking area. On this map, Eisenhower Auditorium is showing as Center for the Performing Arts at Penn State.

If there are any questions, please contact the University Parking Office by phone at (814) 865-1436 or by email at parking@psu.edu.

QUESTIONS:

Additional information is available on the University's commencement Web site at <http://commencement.psu.edu/> . If you have questions not covered above or on the University's commencement site, please contact Linda Wheeland, ljw2@psu.edu or call 814-865-9523.