

March 17, 2009

To Candidates for the Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at the 159<sup>th</sup> Annual Commencement:

On behalf of The College, I would like to invite you to participate in your Commencement, the University's one hundred fifty-ninth, on Sunday morning, May 17, 2009.

The College Commencement, a colorful and memorable event, will be held outdoors on the festively decorated Eastman Quadrangle of the River Campus, rain or shine. Only the prediction of a dangerous storm or cold temperatures will force us to cancel the ceremony. Should this happen, degrees will be awarded at the regularly scheduled diploma ceremonies.

The College Commencement ceremony honors the Bachelor's and Master's graduates of The College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering. This May 17 event begins with a musical prelude at 8:30 a.m. followed by the formal ceremony at 9:00 a.m. This event should conclude at approximately 10:20 a.m. **The following is some pertinent information regarding this year's Commencement:**

- There will be a candidate briefing on Friday, May 15 at 12:00 Noon in Strong Auditorium. All graduation candidates are encouraged to attend this rehearsal.
- Individual diplomas are presented at the diploma ceremonies of the department, school, or special degree program where your academic work has been concentrated.
- Students with double majors will receive a diploma at one departmental ceremony and only a diploma cover at the other departmental ceremony. They should let the University Registrar know, via e-mail ([katie.kovar@rochester.edu](mailto:katie.kovar@rochester.edu)), at which ceremony they wish to receive the actual diploma. Candidates for double degrees will find their diplomas in their respective departments of both concentrations.
- The Graduation Week brochure, which will be included in your information packet in April, will list the place and time of your diploma ceremony as well as the festivities on the days preceding Commencement.
- A number of celebrations are being planned for Senior Week including: Six Flags Darien Lake, Finger Lakes Wine Tour, Red Wings Baseball Game, Senior Ball and much more!
- The "Graduation Fair" will be held on April 3, 2009 at the University of Rochester River Campus Bookstore. Graduation-related vendors will be on-site to help answer questions and supply materials from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The last page of this letter lists the locations where students can purchase their required academic attire.
- Commencement 2009 will feature a recently instituted Awards Ceremony. The event will be held on Saturday, May 16 at 4:00 p.m. in Hoyt Auditorium. A variety of student life and academic awards will be given during this ceremony. In addition, the Singer Prize for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching will be given to the high school teachers of four of our graduating seniors. There will be a reception in Hoyt Plaza immediately following the Awards Ceremony.
- Limited seating is available in a Reserved Area for guests with disabilities. Please visit our Web site at [www.rochester.edu/Commencement](http://www.rochester.edu/Commencement) for specific ticket information. **The deadline to request special seating tickets is Friday, April 3; reserved seating cannot be guaranteed after this date. Reserved special seating tickets will be mailed to your CPU box during the week of May 4-8.**
- Wheelchair rentals are available from several local outlets. The following two companies rent wheelchairs on a daily/weekly basis:

Monroe Wheelchair	Upstate Home Care
3340 Monroe Avenue	200 Air Park Drive
585-385-3920 or 888-546-8595	585-328-2050
<a href="http://www.monroewheelchair.com">www.monroewheelchair.com</a>	

If you have any questions, you are encouraged to communicate with the student representatives on the Commencement Committee. The Student Representatives on the River Campus Senior Class Council are:

Mike Shea: [msha3@mail.rochester.edu](mailto:msha3@mail.rochester.edu)

Mike Furlani: [mfurlani@mail.rochester.edu](mailto:mfurlani@mail.rochester.edu)

## **Other University Commencement Ceremony Schedules:**

### School of Nursing Commencement

Degrees conferred for Bachelor's and Master's candidates from the School of Nursing  
Friday, May 15, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.  
Eastman Theatre

### School of Medicine and Dentistry Commencement

Degrees conferred for M.D. candidates from the School of Medicine and Dentistry  
Friday, May 15, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.  
Eastman Theatre

### Doctoral Degree Commencement

Degrees conferred for Ph.D., Ed.D., D.M.A., and D.N.P. candidates from The College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering, ESM, SMD, Warner School, SON, and Simon School  
Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.  
Eastman Theatre

### School of Medicine and Dentistry Master's Degree Commencement

Degrees conferred for M.A., M.P.H., and M.S. candidates from the School of Medicine and Dentistry  
Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.  
Kilbourn Hall

### Margaret Warner Graduate School of Education and Human Development Commencement

Degrees conferred for Master's candidates from the Warner School  
Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.  
Strong Auditorium

### Eastman School of Music Commencement

Degrees conferred for Bachelor's and Master's candidates from the Eastman School  
Sunday, May 17, 2009 at 11:15 a.m.  
Eastman Theatre

### William E. Simon Graduate School of Business Administration Commencement

Degrees conferred for M.B.A., E.M.B.A, and M.S. candidates from the Simon School  
Sunday, June 14, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.  
Eastman Theatre

If you need additional information, please contact the Conference and Events Office at 275-4111 or access the Commencement Web site at [www.rochester.edu/commencement](http://www.rochester.edu/commencement) for frequently asked questions and information.

We look forward to sharing in the excitement of this celebration of your success.

Cordially,

Richard Feldman  
Dean of the College