

April 22, 2008

Dear School of Applied Sciences Graduation Candidate:

May 10th commencement will soon be here, so this letter will provide you with important information you need to know about where you need to be and when and what you need to bring on that day.

Graduation Attire – When you pick up your cap and gown at the bookstore in the Student Union, please be sure that your tassel is gold if you are an undergraduate student. Graduate student tassels will vary depending on the degree program. Undergraduates will wear their tassels on the right and will move them to the left side after walking across the stage to shake hands with the Dean. Graduate students wear their tassels on the left throughout the ceremony. Please be careful to wear shoes that are comfortable and will not damage the artificial turf of the indoor football field. You will deposit your cap and gown at the designated area near the east entrance after the ceremony.

Honor Cords – Students who have met the university requirements for Latin Honors (the GPA from the Fall 2007 semester is used for this purpose) will find the honors listed beneath their names on the enclosed index card. If you are receiving Latin Honors (Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, or Summa Cum Laude), you need to stop by the George Street House sometime the week before graduation to pick up your honor cord. The UM requirements for honors are as follows:

- At least 63 hours completed from the University of Mississippi
- A minimum UM and overall (we have to go with the lower of the two) GPA of :
 - 3.5 for Cum Laude
 - 3.75 for Magna Cum Laude
 - 3.90 for Summa Cum Laude

If you have met the above requirements but do not have honors listed on your enclosed name card, please call our office immediately so that we can print you a new card. **Please do NOT call us, however, unless you meet all of the minimum requirements.**

Parking – On graduation day, you will want to park as close to the Indoor Practice Facility as you can. Even though your first ceremony is in the Grove, it will be much easier for you to get off campus after the Applied Sciences ceremony if you are parked close to the IPF.

Grove Ceremony – We will line up in front of Farley Hall at 8:30 on May 10th. The order of lineup is faculty in front, master's candidates behind the faculty, and bachelor's candidates behind the grad students. You will not be divided by departments for that procession.

S.A.S. Ceremony – As soon as the overall ceremony in the grove ends, you will need to proceed immediately to the Indoor Practice Facility, where the School of Applied Sciences commencement program will begin at promptly 11:00 a.m. **You will not have much time to get lined up before the procession starts, so you need to get over to the IPF and start lining up as soon as possible.** Everyone will need to enter the building from the large entryway at the east side. Graduates will then cross the indoor football field and move to the west side of the field to line up on the track. Immediately locate the sign designating your particular degree and line up within your degree program (does not need to be in alphabetical order).

Name Cards – I have enclosed the card with your information on it that you will hand to the reader when you cross the stage at the Applied Sciences ceremony. **YOU MUST BRING THIS CARD WITH YOU TO GRADUATION. THIS IS NOT ONLY THE CARD THAT TELLS YOU WHAT ORDER TO LINE UP IN BUT IS ALSO THE CARD FROM WHICH THE ANNOUNCER WILL READ YOUR NAME. DO NOT LEAVE THE LINEUP CARD IN YOUR SEAT.** You must take it with you when it is your turn to go across the stage.

Other – The class marshal and banner bearer along with your department secretary will guide your line to your designated area in the seating arrangement. You will be ushered to the stage by the class marshal and Dean's Office staff by rows. When you reach the stage, you will hand your card to the reader (***again, don't leave your card in your seat!***) who will announce your name as you receive your diploma. A photographer will be present to capture the moment. Out of respect for any graduates who have not received their diplomas, you are asked to return to your seat until the end of the program, which should end around 12:30.

A variety of information about graduation, including directions to the IPF, can be found on the School of Applied Sciences web site at http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/applied_sciences.

If you or one of your guests requires any special needs, please contact the Dean's Office in advance at (662) 915-7900. Although we cannot provide wheelchairs, we do have a reserved area designated for wheelchairs.

<p>***NOTE ABOUT DIPLOMAS: Your degree will be posted to your transcript and diplomas will start to be mailed out by the Office of the Registrar in approximately the middle of June for May graduates and approximately the middle of September for August graduates. If you have any holds on your account (other than an Advisor Hold), the Office of the Registrar will not be able to release your transcript or your diploma.</p>
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Best regards,

Terry Blackmarr, Assistant to the Dean

