



Dear Graduate Student:

A mandatory commencement rehearsal is scheduled for Friday, May 15, at 1:30 p.m. in the main gym in the Timken Building. It is helpful for the majority of graduates to attend this rehearsal to understand the line-up and processional process, which ultimately makes Saturday run smoother. Due to your schedule, we understand that you may not be able to attend rehearsal. Below are a few points to be aware of:

1. The most important part of rehearsal is learning where and how to line up so that you get your diploma cover and not someone else's. The list of graduates and walkers changes almost every day during the last weeks leading up to Commencement. We don't go to press with the official version until Thursday night or Friday morning. A Line of March indicating where you are placed will be available on Friday (copies will be available at the Information Desk in HPCC after rehearsal). You may also wish to ask a friend who is attending rehearsal to look up your number for you. Your position will have two parts that are very important like L 142 or R 142. This means you are on the left or right side of position number 142 that will be located on the floor to assist with line-up. You'll need to memorize your number including the L or R.

During line-up on Saturday in the main gym, there will be a long number tape on the floor that looks like a flattened fire hose with numbers on it. Find your approximate number, then ask those around you (since some will be absent), and make sure you are in front of and behind the appropriate people with lower/higher numbers, so you are in the correct order when your name is called.

2. The second most important part of rehearsal is learning how you get to the stage (watch those before you), and how you cross the stage. When you have reached the top of the ramp and are next to walk across the platform to receive your diploma cover, listen for YOUR name as some will be absent! If you hear someone else's name, freeze. Don't start across the platform. When you hear YOUR name called, walk across the stage to receive your diploma cover from and shake hands with the President. The Registrar will see you move and hand your diploma cover to the President to give to you.

For the Baccalaureate Ceremony, line up in the main gym on Saturday, May 16, at 10:15 a.m. The Procession begins at 10:20 a.m. in time to the Field House at 10:30 a.m. For the Commencement Ceremony, line up in the main gym on Saturday, May 16, at 1:00 p.m. The Procession begins at 1:20 p.m. in time to reach the Field House at 1:30 p.m. Once inside the fieldhouse, the Assistant Marshals will be there to tell you when to leave your seats and head for the ramp to the stage.

While you will receive your diploma cover at the Commencement Ceremony, your actual diploma will be available starting the week after Commencement for 1-1/2 weeks (May 20-May 29) in the Office of the Registrar (Beeghly Hall). Any diplomas that have not been picked up after the 2-week deadline will be mailed to your home address listed on Self-Service. Please make sure your address is correct in Self-Service before Commencement.

The authoritative website for Commencement weekend is: <https://www.mountunion.edu/commencement>

Congratulations on earning your degree. We, the faculty and staff, are proud of you.

Dr. Mike Zwilling
University Marshal