



January 2019

TO: Families of May 2019 School of Arts and Sciences (Traditional) Graduates

FROM: The Office of the Vice President of Academics

Congratulations on the upcoming graduation of your senior (December 2018, May and August 2019)! For your planning purposes, the schedule for the activities surrounding commencement is listed below.

Tuesday, April 24th – Senior Barbecue 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

President and Mrs. Livesay will host a senior barbecue at their home where the graduates will enjoy Mo-Mo's Barbecue and receive their first alumni gift. They will also receive pointers as they consider graduation and plan to enter the work force or go on to grad school! They will need to RSVP to Ms. Paulakay Hall (phall7036@bryan.edu).

Friday, May 3rd 7:30 p.m. – Vespers in Rudd Auditorium

The senior class will host a Vespers Service in RUDD auditorium. This is open to families of graduates, faculty and staff. Class members will present a program which may include music, testimonies and a video presentation with highlights of their years at Bryan. Dr. and Mrs. Livesay will host a reception for all in the Latimer Student Center Dining Hall following the service.

Saturday, May 4th, Commencement in the Triangle

Rudd Auditorium in inclement weather

The following schedule will be observed:

7:20 a.m. **Continental Breakfast** – All graduates may enjoy a continental breakfast in the dining hall before rehearsal.

7:45 a.m. **Rehearsal** – All graduates report to the Triangle for rehearsal. This will take approximately forty-five minutes.

9:00 a.m. Robing – Resident graduates robe in the dormitories. Commuters may bring their robes and hang them in designated classrooms on the main level of Mercer Hall. *(The alternate plan if it rains is Brock Hall in RUDD.)*

9:15 a.m. Lineup – Graduates, faculty and administration line up in the main floor of Mercer Hall (Administration Building). The Bachelor of Arts graduates are on the north wing (toward the dormitories) and the Bachelor of Science graduates are on the south wing (toward the Library). *(The alternate plan is the ground floor of RUDD and the stairwells.)*

9:30 a.m. Processional begins
During the program, there will be music, one graduating senior (selected by the senior class and the faculty) will speak and there will also be an outside guest speaker. The service will end (length is approximately one hour) with the singing of the Alma Mater and the recessional will begin.

You are invited to attend this ceremony. If the weather permits and the ceremony is held in the Bryan Triangle Lawn, the College will provide chairs for guests; however, some may have to stand. All seniors will be issued **a limited number of electronic tickets** for their guests in the event that it should rain causing the ceremony to be held in RUDD Auditorium. (The number of tickets received is determined by the number of graduates per the number of seats available.) **These tickets will be available for reservation the week of graduation through Eventbrite. The Commencement instructions will also be emailed to the graduates the week of graduation.** Overflow will be accommodated in the Latimer Student Center Dining Hall and the program viewed by closed-circuit TV on a big screen.

ACADEMIC REGALIA, INVITATIONS, AND RINGS:

It is the responsibility of the graduate to order regalia online, the cost of which is covered by the graduation fee, and have it shipped to the campus store. Please note that the cost of regalia and standard shipping will be covered by the graduation fee. Orders may be placed immediately by visiting <https://buildagrads.com/BryanSAS>. **The website will remain open from Wednesday, January 9th, through Friday, February 8th.** A representative from Balfour will be on the main campus outside of the Campus Store on **Tuesday, February 26th, and Wednesday, February 27th, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and IT IS REQUIRED that your graduate meet with this representative sometime during these dates to pick up their regalia.**

You may also call Ms. Green at 423.775.7271 or email her at greenja@bryan.edu with your questions; or you may go directly to www.balfour.com to place your order for graduation announcements and class rings. To place a regalia order, please visit the following website: <https://buildagrads.com/BryanSAS>.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Out-of-town guests will need to make hotel reservations very early. Below are listed some of the best options in the Dayton area:

- Best Western – 423-775-6560
- Holiday Inn Express – 1-855-914-9631
<http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/dayton/dtntn/hoteldetail?ratePreference=IEB TJ& corpld=100297134>
- Howard Johnson Motel, Spring City, TN [approximately 17 miles north of Dayton] – 423-365-9191 (Ask for the special “Bryan rate.”) *The Howard Johnson Motel would like to welcome all family members of Bryan College Students with a special rate of \$79.95 a night. Call 423-365-9191 to reserve your room today just mention Bryan College Rate. We look forward to having you and accommodating you during your stay with us! Thank you, General Manager*
- Sleep Inn – 423-693-0963 (4450 Rhea Co. Hwy., Dayton, TN 37321)
<http://www.sleepinn.com/ires/en-US/html/ArrivalInfo?hotel=TN7o8&srp=LCBRY&pu=no>

QUESTIONS: Please contact Rhonda Kettenring at rhonda.kettenring@bryan.edu or 423-775-7200.