

June 19, 2012

ALL DEGREE CANDIDATES FOR AUGUST 2012 Commencement Exercise 10:00 am, Saturday, August 4, 2012 A. E. Wood Coliseum, Clinton Campus

Congratulations upon your anticipated graduation from Mississippi College. Listed below are very important items that need to be carefully heeded:

Construction on Campus – MC is experiencing growth during this summer. Parking areas will be reduced on campus due to the construction. You will want to plan to arrive early and wear comfortable walking shoes. The distance from the parking area to the coliseum may be several hundred (200-600) yards. Drivers are able to drop off guests riding with them at the area marked with a star (\$\pmi\$) on the attached map. Access for guests with disabilities will be available. Signs will direct these guests to the ramped sidewalk at the Northwest entrance of the coliseum. Once inside, the guest and one family member will be assisted to a reserved section on the coliseum floor. For those drivers with ambulatory difficulties who are parking and walking, there will be some shuttles available to assist you as you journey from the parking area to the coliseum. The attached map will guide you as you make plans to drop off guests and walk to the commencement exercise.

Tickets will not be required for admission to the Commencement exercise.

Please be prompt – Our commencement exercise begins exactly at the top of the hour. Candidates should report to the coliseum at 9:00 am. You will be directed to the candidate check in area in the south hallway. You will receive your name card which has your room assignment and line up number. If your name card has a Latin honor designation stamped on it (Undergraduate only), pick up your stole before leaving the check in area. Proceed to either the Rebounders Room or Baseball Locker Room as directed by staff members.

Clear your account in the Business Office by 4:00 pm, Wednesday, August 1, 2012. You will not be able to pick up your cap and gown unless you have cleared your student account in the Business Office and in the Library and have completed exit counseling if you have had Perkins or institutional loans through the Financial Aid office.

Caps and gowns will be picked up in the Moody Adams Field House from 1:00 – 6:00 pm on Thursday, August 2, or Friday, August 3. All candidates are required to wear academic regalia. Stop by the Alumni/Career Services table in the field house to complete an information survey. You can speed up the process by going to: www.mc.edu/career/alumni/foundajob.php to complete the survey before you arrive to pick up your cap and gown. Graduation picture envelopes will be available. Due to construction, you should park in front of the stadium main entrance when you come to pick up your cap and gown. Signs will lead you to the Moody Adams field house (building #22 on the map).

All pictures in academic regalia with family and friends must be made before 9:00 am. Caps and gowns must be turned in immediately after the commencement exercise. You may keep your tassel.

Respect for our degree candidates and dignity for the commencement exercise are important. Please honor each candidate by reserving all individual celebrations until the end of the exercise. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Diplomas will be given to you as you leave the stage. If you cannot attend the commencement exercise, your diploma will be mailed by certified mail to the address indicated on your absentia card. The absentia card must be returned by August 1, 2012. This form is available on the MC web site under Quick Links. Select Commencement, then Degree Applications.

Recessional – After the commencement exercise, you will be directed to the hallways under the main seating area. You will then exit the side of the coliseum to rejoin your family outside (weather permitting).

If you are not graduating this semester, please notify the Registrar's office immediately.

Again, congratulations on your accomplishment. Come prepared for your commencement exercise by carefully reading this information.

Sincerely, Rob Ward, Chairman, Commencement Committee

COMMENCEMENT INSTRUCTIONS August 4, 2012

Candidate Arrival Time is 9:00 am – Due to construction of the new parking garage, parking near the coliseum will be reduced. You will need to wear comfortable shoes for walking several hundred yards and you should allow time for walking from the available parking areas to the coliseum. **Please be prompt.**

Place: A. E. Wood Coliseum, Clinton Campus. Degree candidates enter through the doors at the main entrance of the coliseum.

Check-In: You will be directed to the degree candidate check in area in the south hallway of the coliseum. You will receive a very important card with your name, room assignment, line up number and Latin honor (Undergraduates only). If your name is challenging to pronounce, you can give pronunciation tips to your dean before you leave the check in area.

All personal pictures in your cap and gown must be made PRIOR to line up.

Order Picture: Turn in the envelope for your commencement photograph to the photographer at the table to the left of the stage on the main floor of the coliseum. The tassel should be worn on the **Right** side to avoid obstructing the picture.

Report to: Rebounders Room or Baseball Locker Room as assigned on your name card. A student marshal will give you more instructions just before the processional.

MC Tradition – Etiquette

In order to show respect for each of our degree candidates and dignity for the commencement exercise, please ask your family and friends to reserve individual celebrations until directed to do so or the end of the exercise.

Leave all personal belongings (purses, etc.) with your family or friends. We do not have a place to keep them during the commencement exercise.

Dark clothes and shoes are suggested. Black is the color of the cap and gown. Be careful going up and down the steps on both sides of the stage. Please be aware of the big sleeves on your robes as they might get caught on the railing.

The following items are <u>not acceptable</u> accessories to your cap and gown: honor program cords, corsages, flower garlands, etc. Only Latin honor stoles (Undergraduate and Law only), distributed at the time of commencement, are appropriate accessories to the graduation regalia.

Men will remove caps for all prayers. (Replace caps after prayers, please.) Ladies will wear caps at all times. Tassels should be worn on the right side.

PLEASE BE PROMPT. Our exercises begin on time. Ushers will escort late-arriving guests to a designated seating area after the exercise begins. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Disabled Assistance: For degree candidates and guests.

Degree Candidates: If you are hurt or disabled in any way and feel that you should not walk about 60 yards or climb stairs to walk across the stage during the exercise, we ask that you do each of the following: (1) Using your MC email address, contact the Commencement Committee Chairman at rward@mc.edu about your situation and (2) Tell the Registrar's office personnel about your need for assistance immediately upon your arrival at the check-in area for the commencement exercise.

Guests: Access for guests with disabilities will be available. Signs will direct these guests to the ramped sidewalk at the Northwest entrance of the coliseum. Ushers will direct them and one family member to a reserved area inside the coliseum.

Recess: The student marshal will lead you out after the commencement exercise. PLEASE STAY IN LINE until you turn in your cap and gown in the hallway under the main seating areas. You will exit the side of the coliseum to rejoin your family outside in front of the coliseum (weather permitting).

Rob Ward Chairman, Commencement Committee

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE

Saturday, August 4, 2012 10:00 a.m. Commencement exercise for all degree candidates at A. E. Wood Coliseum, Clinton, MS

COMMENCEMENT PHOTOGRAPH

You will have the opportunity to have a professional photograph taken by Mark Berryhill of Mississippi School Pictures as you receive your diploma cover from the President.

The Picture Order Envelope that you fill out for this photograph will be available from 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Thursday or Friday, Aug. 2 or 3 in the **Moody Adams Field House** where you will pick up your cap and gown. Please fill out the envelope and leave it at the field house with the correct fee. The photograph will be taken as you receive your diploma cover. The \$20 package includes (1) 8x10, (2) 5x7's, and (8) wallets. The pictures will be mailed to the address you put on the Picture Order Envelope in approximately six weeks. **Orders with the correct fee of \$20 will also be accepted prior to line up at your commencement exercise.** However, orders placed **after** the commencement exercise will be \$40 per package. You may reach the photographer, Mark Berryhill, at 601-936-6847 with any questions.

Mississippi College Campus Map with parking area and drop off point suggestions

