

The College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

SPRING COMMENCEMENT

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2008 8:00 P.M.

Eisenhower Auditorium

Congratulations!

What you need to know:

1. **Admission:** free **No tickets!**
2. **Seating:** open There is **plenty of room** for as many guests as you like. However, please **encourage an early arrival** to avoid the last minute rush for seats.
3. **Parking:** free **Eisenhower Parking deck** is directly behind the auditorium.
4. **Special needs:** yes Accommodations are available for persons with disabilities; please call **University Relations at (814) 865-2501**
5. **IMPORTANT:** **BRING YOUR BLUE NOMENCLATOR CARD WITH YOU TO COMMENCEMENT! (Only the card & program are to be carried to your seat.)**

You use this card for your **seating assignment**;
Remember to **bring it with you when you line up to cross the stage!**
You give this card to the Nomenclator, who reads it as you cross the stage.
6. **Arrival time:** **Student check-in is 7:30 p.m.** We use the house right and left halls. Please report to the assigned table for your major to check in. (See the diagram below.) After checking in, please **be in your seats by 7:45 p.m.**
- 7: **Questions:** Please contact **Martha Traverse** at **814-865-7482** or mjt5@psu.edu if you have any questions about anything pertaining to graduation & commencement.

Student Check-in Spots

METEO

ENVSE E B F
I H S PNG E

MATSE GEOBS
GEOBA

EARTH GEOBI
GSCBA All Summer '08 Grads
GSCBS and Fall 07 Grads

Left Hall

Right Hall

↙ **ENTER Front Doors at Eisenhower Auditorium** ↗

over →

Attire

Men: Slacks, dress shirt with tie or suit; *Women:* slacks with a blouse or dress; Dress shoes; no flip-flops. You must wear your academic robe and mortar board, available at the Penn State Bookstore on campus. The mortar board should be worn flat on your head, **tassel on the right**. Word to the wise: Do NOT decorate your robe or mortar board! Students will be checked before crossing the stage. **You will not be permitted to cross the stage if your regalia is not in order.** Please don't risk missing your well-deserved recognition!

Decorum

Commencement is an academic ceremony steeped in a thousand years of history and tradition. It is a day of joy and celebration, but the ceremony itself calls for dignity and quiet respect. While cheering for sports teams is great, such loud noises are not appropriate for the commencement exercises. Cheering, horn-blowing and the like for one student not only disturbs the dignity of the occasion, but also, *and more importantly*, disturbs the following graduate's recognition. No one wants to process during someone else's cheering, or worse, not to even have their name be heard. **Please alert your guests to this important rule**, so that this doesn't happen to *anyone*. Thank you very much.

Conferring of Degrees

At Dean Hellmann's bidding, each department head will present degree candidates by asking those students to rise. **Please remain standing until all departments have been presented and you are directed to sit down.**

After all the candidates are presented, Provost Erickson will make a statement to confer degrees. Then **Dean Hellmann will direct you to switch your tassel from the right side of the mortar board to the left.**

Individual Recognition of Graduates

Following the conferral of degrees, we begin the individual processing across the stage, starting with Earth Sciences and Geosciences graduates. An usher will direct the students through the door to the right. Please wait to stand until an usher directs your row to do so. **Take your Nomenclator card with you!**

When you go backstage, **be SURE to stay in the same order.** When you reach the stage, hand the Nomenclator your card. As she reads your name, proceed across the stage and shake hands with each faculty person lined up to greet you. Continue off stage, where your diploma will be handed to you. Follow the usher's directions to return to your row.

In the *highly unlikely* event we are not able to immediately find your diploma, don't panic! Return to your seat. At the conclusion of the ceremony, return backstage and we will sort things out. This is a rare occurrence, because we check everything thoroughly before the ceremony.

Recessional

Graduates will march out of the auditorium, following the platform party. **Rows CC, EE, A and C will process out up the RIGHT aisle; Rows DD, FF, B and D will process out up the LEFT aisle.** You may want to suggest to your families to sit on the side you will be processing out, so they can see you better. Again, please follow the directions of the ushers. Your guests will be able to greet you in the main lobby. We wish you a memorable commencement, and our heartfelt congratulations on your achievement!

Be Sure to Join the Pre-Commencement Celebration!

5-7 p.m. Alumni Hall HUB-Robeson Center

The EMS Alumni Society, GEMS, is hosting a delightful pre-commencement reception for our new graduates and their families and friends. Come enjoy a relaxed occasion for you to make your farewells to fellow students and EMS faculty and staff. A wide variety of substantial hot and cold hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Penn State encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you or your guests anticipate needing any type of special accommodations or have questions about the physical access provided, please call University Relations (814-865-2501) by May 2, 2008. This information is available on alternative media on request.