

UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS
SPRING 2017
COMMENCEMENT COMMUNIQUE



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GREETINGS

Congratulations to the first graduates of University of The Bahamas! Well done! I am proud of your accomplishments.

As you move into the next phase of your life, take some time to celebrate your successes. You have earned it. Also, remember to thank those who have helped you along the way. Whenever possible, take the opportunity to help someone else along the way, to give back to the community of which you are a part.

Whatever career you embark upon, endeavor to be the best at it. Put your personal stamp on it. Remember, only you can give what you possess. The world is waiting for your contributions. I look forward to seeing great things from you as you contribute to the positive development of this University, the nation and the world. May the Almighty God continue to bless your lives.

MARCELLA ELLIOTT-FERGUSON, Ph.D.

Vice President, Administrative Services

ALUMNI AFFAIRS

Dear Candidates for Graduation,

After years of hard work and dedication, you've finally earned your University of The Bahamas Degree. Congratulations on a job well done. On behalf of University of The Bahamas and University of The Bahamas Alumni Association, we applaud you for reaching this important milestone.

As you prepare to embark on the next phase of your life, know that it's not just you against the world: you are now one of more than 17,000 UB alumni worldwide. To maintain your relationship with your Alma Mater and your fellow alumni, we encourage you to participate in the UB Alumni Association. As an active member, you will be in the inner circle, doing your part to make University of The Bahamas greater. To help you start, here are some easy ways to get involved:

Stay Connected. Become a member of University of The Bahamas Alumni Association. When you become a member, we are better able to serve you and keep you informed of campus developments, news regarding your fellow alumni, upcoming special events and more.

Be Informed. Read the Spotlight, our monthly e-newsletter, follow us on Facebook and Instagram and return to campus often. By staying informed, you'll make a wonderful ambassador for the University within your profession and to prospective students.

Remain Involved. Whether it's participating in an Alumni Leadership Series or attending alumni events, you can join fellow alums who work together to make this institution the premier educational institution in the country.

Again, we congratulate you and look forward to helping you maintain your relationship with University of The Bahamas.

Yours truly,

ELVARDO THOMPSON
Director, Alumni Affairs

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- May 2nd – Spring 2017 Final Grade Submission
- May 3rd – Transcripts Available for Distribution
- May 5th – Deadline for Requests for Name Change to Office of Records
- May 5th – Final Day for Submission of Grade Changes
- May 12th – Completion of Transition Academic Senate Paper
- May 15th – Transition Academic Senate Meeting
- May 18th – Rehearsal for New Providence Commencement
- May 25th – Distribution of Diplomas
- May 29th – Rehearsal for Grand Bahama Commencement
- May 8th – Availability of Academic Regalia

ELIGIBILITY FOR INCLUSION IN LISTING OF GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Candidates for Spring 2017 Commencement should have submitted a Graduation Evaluation Application by **Friday, 27th January 2017**. A student is deemed eligible for inclusion in the listing of candidates for graduation if all courses at the point of the submission of the Graduation Evaluation Application were due to be completed by the end of the Spring 2017 Semester.

Students may walk at Commencement with a maximum of two (2) outstanding courses, provided that they register for all remaining requirements in the Summer Sessions immediately following Commencement. Once the outstanding courses have been completed successfully, the student's record will reflect a summer graduation date. In addition, asterisks will be placed in the Commencement booklet beside the names of students who have not completed all programme requirements with a note indicating this fact.

INCLEMENT WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS

Persons are advised to visit the UB website (www.ub.edu.bs) for all updates and amendments to plans for Commencement activities. Should there be inclement weather, the Commencement Ceremony will be relocated from the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium to the Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium.

INAUGURAL COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE

SPRING 2017

DAWN OF A NEW ERA: THE POWER OF PERSEVERANCE

NEW PROVIDENCE

Rehearsal

Thursday, 18th May 2017, 6:00 p.m.
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

Teachers Commissioning Ceremony

Tuesday, 23rd May 2017, 10:00 a.m.
Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium

Awards Ceremony

Tuesday, 23rd May 2017, 3:00 p.m.
Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium

Nurses Pinning Ceremony

Wednesday, 24th May 2017, 10:00 a.m.
Kendal G. L. Isaacs Gymnasium

Baccalaureate

Wednesday, 24th May 2017, 7:00 p.m.
Holy Family Catholic Church
Robinson Road

Inaugural Commencement

Thursday, 25th May 2017, 7:00 p.m.
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

GRAND BAHAMA

Awards Dinner

Saturday, 27th May 2017, 7:00 p.m.
A Social Affair Convention Centre
16 Britannia Boulevard

Rehearsal

Monday, 29th May 2017, 6:00 p.m.
Grand Lucayan Resort

Teachers Commissioning Ceremony

Wednesday, 31st May 2017, 10:00 a.m.
Northern Bahamas Campus Courtyard

Baccalaureate

Wednesday, 31st May 2017, 6:30 p.m.
Church of the Ascension
Arden Forest Road

Inaugural Commencement

Thursday, 1st June 2017, 6:30 p.m.
Grand Lucayan Resort

COLLECTION OF ACADEMIC REGALIA

The appropriate academic dress is the black gown, black cap, hood and tassel. These items are available for collection at Chapter One Bookstore, Michael H. Eldon Complex, University Drive in New Providence and at the Northern Bahamas Campus, Grand Bahama Highway, East Grand Bahama. It is important that candidates secure the tassel and hood specific to their academic unit. Items may be collected from:

Chapter One Bookstore, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday; and Business Office, Northern Bahamas Campus, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Candidates must present either a receipt or an ID card and are encouraged to call in advance to confirm that their packages are available for collection.

Chapter One Bookstore – 397-2649/2650

Northern Bahamas Campus – 688-5900/5901

ACADEMIC REGALIA PRICE LISTING				
Items	Costs		Deposit	Balance
	Before VAT	With VAT		
Full Package	\$170.00	\$182.75	\$ 91.38	\$ 91.38
Graduation Hoods-Associate	\$ 39.67	\$ 42.67	\$ 21.32	\$ 21.32
Graduation Hoods-Bachelor	\$ 56.67	\$ 60.92	\$ 30.46	\$ 30.46
Tassel with Signet	\$ 32.00	\$ 34.40	\$ 17.20	\$ 17.20
Gown	\$103.54	\$111.32	\$ 9.14	\$ 9.14
Cap	\$ 17.00	\$ 18.28	\$ 55.66	\$ 55.66

GRADUATION REHEARSALS

Candidates for graduation should attend all rehearsals in order to receive pertinent information relevant to the Commencement ceremony. Rehearsals are scheduled as follows:

New Providence – Thursday, 18th May 2017, 6:00 p.m., Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

Grand Bahama – Monday, 29th May 2017, 6:00 p.m., Grand Lucayan Resort

ACADEMIC DRESS

Candidates must wear appropriate attire for the Commencement ceremony and be guided by the following:

- Required attire for the ceremony is a black mortarboard cap and gown. There will be no exceptions.
- Black flat shoes or black wedge-heeled shoes are to be worn. No tennis shoes are allowed.
- Males should wear black trousers and black socks, no white socks are allowed.
- Females should wear black skirts or dresses no longer than their academic gown. Dress pants are NOT to be worn.
- Females are advised not to wear dresses or blouses with high necklines or bright colours that will detract from their hoods.
- Hair styles must be suitable for the proper adornment of the mortarboard (academic cap).
- Candidates are permitted to wear their honour pins and fraternity/club stoles at Commencement.
- During the academic procession, the hood is to be carried over the left arm in preparation for the hooding ceremony.
- The mortarboard is to be worn with the front point over the forehead, below the front hairline so that the flat board is parallel to the floor. The mortarboard is not to be worn on the back of the head with the board pointing upward. No decoration of any kind is to be placed on the mortarboard.
- Mortarboard tassels are to be worn on the right, with the tassel hanging near the right eye.

COMMENCEMENT

ARRIVAL

The Inaugural Commencement of University of The Bahamas will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, 25th May 2017 at the Thomas A. Robinson (TAR) National Stadium in New Providence and on Thursday, 1st June 2017 at the Grand Lucayan Resort in Grand Bahama.

New Providence candidates are to assemble for the academic procession by 5:30 p.m. at the Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium where the line-up will commence at 5:45 p.m. Candidates are to line up in accordance with the academic unit to which they belong with their hood draped over their left arm. The procession will leave the Gymnasium at 6:15 p.m. Once the academic procession enters the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium guests will remain seated for the duration of the procession.

Grand Bahama candidates are to arrive at the Grand Lucayan dressed in their academic regalia by 5:00 p.m. in order to assemble for the academic procession which will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Candidates who arrive after the start of the academic procession are NOT to join the procession. Instead, candidates are to remove their cap and gown and report to a marshal or protocol officer who will escort them to a seat in the audience. Marshals and academic unit representatives will be present to assist with information for the procession.

COMMENCEMENT PROTOCOL AND DECORUM

Commencement is a formal ceremony and inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. This means: no signs, no fireworks, no cowbells and whistles, no alcoholic beverages, no eating and no drugs. Persons, including degree candidates choosing not to abide by these rules will not be allowed to participate and will be escorted from the ceremony.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- NO CELL PHONES ARE ALLOWED.
- Candidates are to come fully dressed for the occasion. Handbags, tote bags and other items will be cumbersome. These should be left with family members or guests prior to arriving at the assembly location.
- Respect the dignity of the ceremony and the academic robe by avoiding the attachments of jewelry, flowers, personal decorations or signs of academic regalia. **ADDITIONALLY, CHEWING GUM, EATING AND DRINKING DETRACT FROM THE SOLEMNITY OF THE OCCASION AND ARE ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED.**
- Candidates are to refrain from inappropriately celebrating (i.e. gyrating and dancing on stage; calling the names of others; loud, offensive noises and gestures, etc.) during the ceremony.
- Candidates for the Associate and Bachelor degrees should enter the processional with the tassel on the right, hanging near the right eye.

PARKING ARRANGEMENTS

Parking for Commencement at the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium will be as follows:

- **DIGNITARIES AND VIPS** – near the stadium’s western entrance
- **BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** – near the stadium’s western entrance
- **FACULTY & STAFF** – near Government High School
- **CANDIDATES** – near eastern bandstand (\$5.00)
- **GENERAL PARKING** – near the eastern bandstand and also near the Kendal G. L. Isaacs National (\$5.00)

VIP parking for the Teachers Commissioning, Nurses Pinning and Awards ceremonies will be available in the parking area adjacent to the Kendal G.L. Isaacs National Gymnasium. While candidates for graduation, faculty, staff, students and guests will also be accommodated at the Queen Elizabeth Sports Centre as directed by the parking attendants and security.

Parking for the Baccalaureate Service at Holy Family Catholic Church will be in the Church’s parking lot off Robinson Road.

SEATING

Guests attending Commencement will be accommodated in pre-determined seating as outlined by protocol. Special needs access and seating are available at the stadium. Protocol officers and ushers will be available to direct guests to their designated seating areas.

ORDER OF ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Chief Marshal
Student Marshals
Candidates for Graduation in order of the academic unit to which they belong
Faculty
Administrators
Administrative Council
Board of Trustees
Academic Deans
Platform Guests
Mace Bearer
Commencement Speaker
Honorary Doctorate Recipient's Representative
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Provost
Mace Bearer
President

PHOTOGRAPHY

A professional photographer will take an individual picture of each graduate receiving a diploma. The photographer will arrange for proofs within two (2) weeks after graduation. During the Commencement ceremony, access to the stage area for picture taking or videotaping by guests is strictly prohibited.

RECESSIONAL

The recessional includes the platform guests and participants, faculty and graduates. Family, friends and invited guests are to remain at their seats until the recessional has left the stadium.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. In doing so, you, your family and guests will leave with positive memories of your University of The Bahamas inaugural commencement experience.

BACCALAUREATE

ARRIVAL

In New Providence, the Baccalaureate Service will be held on Wednesday, 24th May 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church, Robinson Road. Candidates are asked to arrive no later than 6:00 p.m. in preparation for the Baccalaureate Procession. The Procession will begin promptly at 6:45 p.m.

In Grand Bahama, the Baccalaureate Service will be held on Wednesday, 31st May 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of the Ascension, Arden Forest Road. Candidates are asked to arrive no later than 5:30 p.m. and assemble in the foyer of the Church in preparation for the Baccalaureate Procession. The procession will begin promptly at 6:15 p.m.

PREPARATION FOR SERVICE

- Ensure that all academic attire items are secured at least one week in advance.
- While assembling outside the Church, comments are to be whispered as noise carries.
- Once the procession has arrived inside the church, gestures and conversations should cease. Acknowledge the presence of familiar faces with a nod.
- Candidates who arrive after the start of the Baccalaureate Service are to remove their gown prior to entering the Church and be seated in the audience.

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

Attire for the Baccalaureate service consists of the graduation gown and black shoes. Hoods, caps, honour medals, cords or sashes are not to be worn. Candidates are advised not to leave anything of value behind once the procession departs.

DISTRIBUTION OF DIPLOMAS

New Providence: Diplomas will be available for collection on 25th May 2017 at the Thomas A. Robinson Stadium following Commencement.

Grand Bahama: Diplomas will be available for collection from the Records Office.

AVAILABILITY OF TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts are available online and from the Records Office effective 3rd May, 2017.

REQUESTS FOR NAME CHANGES

In order to request a name change on an official record at University of The Bahamas, a completed Data Change Form must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar accompanied by one of the following official documents:

- Passport
- Marriage Certificate
- Affidavit

UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS ALMA MATER

Music and words by Christian Justilien (2016)

We've come to build together a dream for this great land,
Like palm trees tall upon this landfall called Bahamaland.
The future is before us like endless sea and sand.
We'll chart a course with alma mater proudly we will stand.

A beacon for these islands embraced in shallow seas,
UB will lift our spirits high for all the world to see.
With hands and hearts together we'll be a guiding light,
We'll live to praise our alma mater 'neath the clear blue skies.
We'll live to raise our alma mater's banner waving high!