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# UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS

*Spring 2018*



## COMMENCEMENT COMMUNIQUE

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## GREETINGS

Congratulations to the newest 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

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## 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 10th - Availability of Academic Regalia

May 12th – Completion of Transition Academic Senate Paper

May 14th – Transition Academic Senate Meeting

May 18th – Rehearsal for New Providence Commencement

May 25th – Distribution of Diplomas

May 29th – Rehearsal for Grand Bahama Commencement

## ELIGIBILITY FOR INCLUSION IN LISTING OF GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Candidates for Spring 2018 Commencement should have submitted a Graduation Evaluation Application by Friday, 26th January 2018. 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 2018 Semester.

Students may walk at Commencement with a maximum of two (2) outstanding courses, provided 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](http://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.

**COMMENCEMENT  
SCHEDULE SPRING 2018**

*Forward Together in Pursuit of Greatness*

**NEW PROVIDENCE**

**Commencement Rehearsal**

Thursday, 17th May 2018, 6:00 p.m.  
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium  
University Drive & Mychal Thompson Boulevard

**Teachers Commissioning Ceremony**

Tuesday, 22nd May 2018, 10:00 a.m.  
Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium  
Mychal Thompson Boulevard

**Awards Ceremony**

Tuesday, 22nd May 2018, 3:00 p.m.  
Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium  
Mychal Thompson Boulevard

**Nurses Pinning Rehearsal**

Tuesday, 22nd May 2018, 6:00 p.m.  
Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium  
Mychal Thompson Boulevard

**Nurses Pinning Ceremony**

Wednesday, 23rd May 2018, 10:00 a.m.  
Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium  
Mychal Thompson Boulevard

**Baccalaureate Service**

Wednesday, 23rd May 2018, 7:00 p.m.  
Mount Tabor Church  
Willow Tree Avenue & Mount Tabor Drive

**Commencement Ceremony**

Thursday, 24th May 2018, 4:00 p.m.  
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium  
University Drive & Mychal Thompson Boulevard

**GRAND BAHAMA**

**Baccalaureate Service Rehearsal**

Saturday, 26th May 2018, 3:00 p.m.  
St. John's Jubilee Cathedral  
Settler's Way

**Awards Dinner**

Monday, 28th May 2018, 6:30 p.m.  
Teachers Union Hall  
Ponce De Leon & Pioneers Loop

**Commencement Rehearsal**

Tuesday, 29th May 2018, 6:00 p.m.  
Grand Lucayan Resort Ballroom  
Royal Palm Way

**Teachers Commissioning Ceremony**

Wednesday, 30th May 2018, 10:00 a.m.  
University of The Bahamas–North  
Courtyard

**Baccalaureate Service**

Wednesday, 30th May 2018, 6:30 p.m.  
St. John's Jubilee Cathedral  
Settler's Way

**Commencement Ceremony**

Thursday, 31st May 2018, 6:30 p.m.  
Grand Lucayan Resort Ballroom  
Royal Palm Way

## 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 University of The Bahamas - North. It is important that candidates secure the tassel and hood specific to their academic unit.

## GRADUATION REHEARSALS

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

### New Providence

Commencement Rehearsal  
Thursday, 17th May 2018, 6:00 p.m.  
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium  
University Drive & Mychal Thompson Boulevard

### Grand Bahama

Tuesday, 29th May 2018, 6:00 p.m.  
Grand Lucayan Resort Ballroom  
Royal Palm Way

## 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 (academic 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.
- Men should wear black trousers and black socks, no white socks are allowed.
- Women should wear black skirts or dresses no longer than their academic gown.  
Black dress pants may also be worn.
- Women 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.
- Candidates are permitted to wear 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

University of The Bahamas Commencement will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, 24th May 2018 at the Thomas A. Robinson (TAR) National Stadium in New Providence and on Thursday, 31st May 2018 at the Grand Lucayan Resort Ballroom, Royal Palm Way in Grand Bahama.

New Providence candidates are to assemble for the academic procession by 2:30 p.m. at the Thomas A. Robinson (TAR) National Stadium on the first level where the line-up will commence at 3:45 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.

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.

### Commencement Protocol and Decorum

Commencement is a formal ceremony. Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. This means: no signs, no fireworks, no cowbells and whistles, no horns, no alcoholic beverages, no chewing gum, no eating and no drugs. Persons, including candidates, who choose not to abide by these rules will not be allowed to participate and will be escorted from the ceremony.

### Special Instructions

1. No cell phones are allowed.
  2. 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.
  3. Respect the dignity of the ceremony and the academic robe by avoiding the attachments of jewelry, flowers, personal decoration or signs on academic regalia. Additionally, chewing gum, eating and drinking detract from the solemnity of the occasion and are absolutely prohibited.
  4. 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.
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## 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 eastern bandstand and also near the Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium (\$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. Additionally, 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.

## 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
- Administrative Council
- Board of Trustees
- Academic Deans
- Platform Guests
- Commencement Speaker
- 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 commencement experience.

## BACCALAUREATE

### Arrival

In New Providence, the Baccalaureate Service will be held on Wednesday, 23rd May 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Tabor Church, Willow Tree & Mount Tabor Drive. 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, 30th May 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at St. John's Jubilee Cathedral, Settler's Way. 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 or smile.
  - 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.
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### 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 starting on 25th May 2018 in the Records Department from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Grand Bahama: Diplomas will be available for collection immediately following the Commencement ceremony on 31st May 2018. Diplomas may also be collected from the Records Department at UB-North after 31st May 2018.

### AVAILABILITY OF TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts are available online and from the Records Department effective 3rd May 2018.

### 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

The deadline for the submission of information is Friday, 5th May 2018.

### 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!

