
UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS

Spring 2019



COMMENCEMENT COMMUNIQUE

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GREETINGS

Congratulations to the newest graduates of the 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 6th – Spring 2019 Final Grade Submission
- May 6th – Final Day for Submission of Grade Changes
- May 7th – Transcripts Available for Distribution
- May 8th – Academic Regalia Available for Collection
- May 12th - Availability of Academic Regalia
- May 15th – Academic Senate Meeting
- May 16th – Rehearsal for New Providence Commencement
- May 27th – Distribution of Diplomas
- May 27th – Rehearsal for Grand Bahama Commencement

ELIGIBILITY FOR INCLUSION IN LISTING OF GRADUATES AND CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Candidates for Spring 2019 Commencement should have submitted a Graduation Evaluation Application by Thursday, 31st January 2019. A student is deemed eligible for inclusion in the listing of candidates for graduation if all courses, at the point of submission of the Graduation Evaluation Application, were due to be completed by the end of the Spring 2019 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. An asterisk will be placed in the Commencement booklet beside the names of students who have not completed all programme requirements by the end of Spring 2019 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.

COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE SPRING 2019

Never Give Up: The Pathway to Success Begins with Me

NEW PROVIDENCE

Thursday 16th May
Commencement Rehearsal | 6:00 pm
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

Monday 20th May
Awards Ceremony | 10:00 am
Kendal G. L. Isaacs Gymnasium

Monday 20th May
Baccalaureate Service | 7:00 pm
Bahamas Harvest Church,
East Campus, Prince Charles Drive

Tuesday 21st May
Teachers' Commissioning | 10:00 am
Kendal G. L. Isaacs Gymnasium

Wednesday 22nd May
Nursing and Allied Health Professions
Pinning Ceremony | 10:00 am
Kendal G. L. Isaacs Gymnasium

Thursday 23rd May
Spring 2019 Commencement | 4:00 pm
Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

GRAND BAHAMA

Thursday 23rd May
Awards Ceremony 10:00 am
UB-North Campus

Friday 24th May
Teachers Commissioning 10:00 am
Community at Heart Tabernacle,
Church of God of Prophecy, Coral Road

Friday 24th May
Nursing and Allied Health
Professions Pinning Ceremony 2:00 pm
Community at Heart Tabernacle,
Church of God of Prophecy, Coral Road

Saturday 25th May
Graduates Ball | 7:00 pm
Bahamas Union of Teachers' Hall,
Ponce De Leon Drive

Sunday 26th May
Baccalaureate Service | 3:00 pm
Jubilee Cathedral, Cathedral Boulevard

Monday 27th May
Commencement Rehearsal | 5:30 pm
Grand Lucayan Ballroom, Royal Palm Way

Tuesday 28th May
Commencement | 6:00 pm
Grand Lucayan 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, Oakes Field Campus, University Drive in New Providence and at University of The Bahamas-North, 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, Oakes Field Campus, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday to Saturday; and
Business Office, UB-North, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, 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
Business Office, UB-North – 688-5900/5901

Price List for Graduation Regalia

\$182.00 – Gown, Hood, Cap & Tassel
\$63.47 - Hood (Bachelor's)
\$ 35.84 - Tassel Only
\$19.04 - Cap

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.
- 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 (academic cap).
- 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.

GRADUATION REHEARSALS

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

New Providence – Thursday, 16th May 2019, 6:00 pm, Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium

Grand Bahama – Monday, 27th May 2019, 5:30 pm Grand Lucayan Ballroom

COMMENCEMENT

Arrival

The Commencement Ceremonies of University of The Bahamas-New Providence will be held at 4:00 pm on Thursday 23rd May 2019 at the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium.

The Commencement Ceremonies of University of The Bahamas-Grand Bahama will be held on Tuesday 28th May 2019 at 6:00 pm at the Grand Lucayan Resort.

New Providence candidates are to assemble for the academic procession by 3:00 pm; the line-up will commence at 3:15 pm. 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 begin at 3:45 pm. 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 Resort in their academic regalia by 5:00 pm in order to assemble for the academic procession which will begin at 6:00 pm.

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

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 decorations or signs to the academic regalia.
4. Chewing gum, eating and drinking detract from the solemnity of the occasion and are absolutely prohibited.
5. Candidates are to refrain from inappropriately celebrating (i.e. gyrating and dancing on stage; calling out the names of others; loud, offensive noises and gestures, etc.) during the ceremony.
6. Candidates for 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

General Parking – near eastern bandstand and also near the Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium

VIP parking for the New Providence Teachers Commissioning, Nursing and Allied Health Professions Pinning Ceremony and Awards ceremonies will be available in the parking area adjacent to the Kendal G. L. Isaacs National Gymnasium. Candidates for graduation, faculty, staff, students and guests will be accommodated at the Queen Elizabeth Sports Centre as directed by the parking attendants and security.

Parking for the New Providence Baccalaureate Service at Bahamas Harvest Church, East Campus will be in the Church's parking lot off Prince Charles Drive.

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.

Chapter One Bookstore

Guests attending the New Providence Commencement will have the opportunity to purchase UB memorabilia from Chapter One bookstore stationed at the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium.

Order of Academic Procession

- Chief Marshal
- 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 a photo of each graduate walking across the stage to receive their diploma. Images will be posted on the University of The Bahamas' official Facebook page within three days of the graduation and available for download. 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 Monday 20th May 2019 at 7:00 pm at Bahamas Harvest Church, East Campus, Prince Charles Drive. Candidates are asked to arrive no later than 6:00 pm in preparation for the Baccalaureate Procession which will begin promptly at 6:45 pm.

In Grand Bahama, the Baccalaureate Service will be held on Sunday 26th 2019 at 3:00 pm at Jubilee Cathedral, Cathedral Boulevard. Candidates are asked to arrive no later than 2:30 pm and to assemble in the foyer of the Church in preparation for the Baccalaureate Procession which will begin promptly at 3:00 pm.

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.

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 on this occasion. Candidates are advised not to leave anything of value behind once the procession departs.

DISTRIBUTION OF DIPLOMAS

In New Providence, diplomas will be available for collection on 27th May 2019 from the Records Department, Portia M. Smith Student Services Centre.

In Grand Bahama, diplomas will be available for collection on 3rd May 2019 at the Records Office, UB-North.

AVAILABILITY OF TRANSCRIPTS

Transcripts are available online and from the Records Department effective 6th May 2019.

POLICY WITH RESPECT TO ACADEMIC REGALIA https://www.ub.edu.bs/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Academic-Regalia_Approved.pdf

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!

