

**REMINDER FOR UNDERGRADUATES IN THE WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY  
EBERLY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**COMMENCEMENT — MAY 17, 2009  
2:00PM at the Coliseum**

**The 2009 Commencement Ceremony** for the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences is scheduled for 2:00pm at the WVU Coliseum. This ceremony is for those students completing their University degree requirements in August 2008, December 2008 or May 2009. Tickets are not required for admission. Special seating is reserved for the physically challenged. Guests should be seated before the academic procession begins.

**ORGANIZATION OF ACADEMIC PROCESSION:** Promptly at 1:00pm candidates should report to the Coliseum to line up for the processional. All graduates (BA,BS,MA,MS,PHD) attending the ceremony will be recognized. Students will line up to be seated **ALPHABETICALLY** within their own major and degree being awarded. Students with more than one major or degree should choose which major to sit with and notify our office or their department by the end of April. There is no rehearsal. The general information prepared by the University Special Events office will be available on the web site at <http://www.wvu.edu/commencement/>.

**ACADEMIC APPAREL** - Degree candidates must wear caps and gowns. Students should carry the gown and put it on after entering the Coliseum. Caps and gowns are usually available at the WVU Book Store in March or April. Eberly College of Arts and Sciences tassels are color coded by degree being awarded: BA degrees wear white tassels; BS degrees wear gold-yellow (maize) tassels.

**ATTENDING THE CEREMONY** - If you do not plan to attend the ceremony, please notify this office or the Office of Admissions and Records so your diploma will not be taken to the Coliseum. To allow us to properly plan for the commencement ceremony we ask May 2009 graduates to electronically RSVP via the special events web site above.

**AUGUST 2009 graduates** are permitted to participate in the ceremony with the advanced knowledge that they will not receive a diploma distributed at the event. However, in order to prepare, we need to know in advance if potential Aug. 2009 graduates plan to attend. We ask that these students complete the online RSVP and, whenever possible, notify our office of their plans to attend prior to finals week.

**HONOR CORDS:** For the May 2009 graduates, West

Virginia University has decided to provide cords for students eligible for honors distinction. These cords will be available at a special location at the Coliseum when students check in for the ceremony. Upon registration and receipt of the cord, students will report to the area assigned in the Coliseum for departmental lineup.

**FORMAT FOR THE CEREMONY - DIPLOMA DISTRIBUTION-** Students will be recognized individually with their names read as they walk across the stage. They will be greeted the Dean of the College and others and receive a letter of congratulations. (The hooding of graduate students is planned for a special ceremony earlier in the day).

**A RECEPTION** for the candidates and their guests will be held on Sunday, May 17, 2009 around 4:30pm at the Shell Building next to the Coliseum.

**GRADUATION FEE (\$39.00):** Be sure you have paid your fee for graduation and diploma in the Office of Student Accounts in the basement of Stewart Hall prior to finals week. If there is no record of the fee being paid your diploma may not be available.

**INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS** - You should contact your major to see if there are plans for events specifically for your department. We will not have that information in our office.

**OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS** - The Office of Admissions and Records will be able to tell you if you have restrictions which could cause your diploma to be held. These can include library fines and/or parking tickets.

**BLUE SLIPS FOR FINAL GRADES** – After many years, we have decided that this process is no longer necessary, therefore, we **WILL NOT** be requiring blue slips for final grades. If special circumstances arise and we need to use a blue slip, we will have them in our office.

**Any questions, please call 293-7476 to speak with Rose Eavenson, 221 Armstrong Hall.**