SPRING 2011 COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

The 2011 Spring Commencement will be held on **Friday, May 6th** in Memorial Hall’s McCown Gymnasium. There will be two ceremonies; the **9:30 a.m. ceremony** which will include graduates with majors from the departments in the College of Business and **College of Liberal Arts** and the **2:00 p.m. ceremony** which will include graduates with majors from the department of the College of Education, College of Nursing and **Health Sciences** and the College of Science and Engineering.

**PARTICIPATION** in Commencement is expected of all 2011 Spring Semester graduates. If you are unable to participate in Commencement, please notify the Office of Graduate Studies by April 6th if you have not already done so. Notification may be by mail, phone (507) 457-5038, email (pcichosz@winona.edu), or fax (507) 457-5578.

A list of Commencement participants will be posted beginning March 31st on the WSU website at [http://www.winona.edu/gradstudies/graduatelist.asp](http://www.winona.edu/gradstudies/graduatelist.asp). **If there are any corrections to be made on this list, please notify the Graduate Office at (507) 457-5038 by April 6th** to assure that the Commencement program will be correct.

**CAPS, GOWNS, TASSELS and HOODS** will be available to purchase from the WSU Bookstore beginning April 18th – May 6th. The graduates can order their regalia online, beginning April 1st, at [www.wsubookstore.com](http://www.wsubookstore.com). They may also purchase their regalia at the Grad Finale event that will be held in Baldwin Lounge on Friday, April 15th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please watch the bookstore website for updated information about the Grad Finale event. The Masters gown and hood are $25.00 each and the cap and tassel are $5.00 each.

In order to purchase the correct hood, you will need to know your major in order to determine the hood color. The tassel should be worn on the right side of the cap; you will be instructed to move it to the left side during the ceremony. Men should remove their caps during the National Anthem; otherwise caps should be worn at all other times.

**COMMENCEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS** are also available at the Bookstore. For additional purchasing information, please contact Deb Pelowski at (507) 457-5673.

**HONOR CORDS** – Graduate students do not graduate with honors. They may wear honor cords if a member of an Honor Society organization.

**REHEARSAL** will be held on **Thursday, May 5th. Please be in line** on the sidewalk north of Somsen Hall by **10:15 a.m. for morning participants and 11:15 a.m. for the afternoon participants.** In the event of inclement weather, please line up on the second floor of Somsen Hall outside of the auditorium. Your presence at the rehearsal is important for Commencement to run smoothly. If you cannot attend the rehearsal, please arrange for a graduating friend to relay specific instructions to you.
**ROW ASSIGNMENTS:** You will be in the first rows at commencement ahead of the undergraduate students and immediately after the faculty. Please report to rows six and seven.

**SEATING** of the candidates for graduate degrees will be as a group in front of all other candidates, and be alphabetical by name within the college and degree group. Candidates for graduation will proceed after the stage party and be followed by the faculty.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you are a graduate that will be using a wheelchair, crutches, or in need of a sign language interpreter, please inform Kristine Tibor at (507) 457-5036 PRIOR to April 22nd for special arrangements to be made.

**COMMENCEMENT LINE-UP** for the processional for the Commencement ceremony will be along the sidewalk north of Somsen Hall. In the event of inclement or threatening weather, you will line up on the second floor of Somsen outside of the auditorium. **It is extremely important that you be in line by 8:45 a.m. on May 6th if you are a morning participant and 1:15 p.m. if you are an afternoon participant.** The graduate’s “last walk through campus” will take approximately 10 minutes. Graduates are advised to wear comfortable shoes. A printed Commencement program will be placed on your chair in McCown Gymnasium.

**CONFERRING OF DEGREES** will be done by degree group. You will be directed to stand for this event.

**WALKING ACROSS THE STAGE** to receive your diploma cover will be done by college, and by degree group within the college. The first row of the conferring degree group will move to the platform to receive the diploma cover while the remaining rows remain seated until “cued” by an usher to proceed as a row to the platform. Please step forward to receive your diploma cover as your name is being called. After receiving your diploma, return to your seat via the opposite aisle and sit down.

**PHOTOGRAPHS** of each graduate being congratulated by President Ramaley after receiving her/his diploma cover will be taken by Herff Jones Photography. You may order copies of this photo by using the form which will be inserted in your printed Commencement program. **Notice the deadline date for ordering photos.**

**RECESSIONAL** will follow the Commencement program. Graduates will exit following the stage party and faculty. Guests are asked to wait until ALL graduates have left the hall. Please plan to meet your guests in a pre-arranged site away from Memorial Hall. Please do not re-enter the commencement hall until everyone has left the building.

**RECEPTION** will be held on the lawn, south and west of Memorial Hall or in Memorial Hall’s Talbot Gym in the event of bad weather. You and your guests are invited to attend.
DIPLOMAS for students completing all coursework at the end of Spring Semester will be mailed in August to the diploma address listed on your Application for Graduation. Please keep the Graduate Office informed of changes in your address for your diploma.

Please note: WSU reserves the right to hold your diploma if you have any unpaid fees to the University.

GUEST INFORMATION: Doors open one hour prior to the ceremony. There are NO tickets for this event. If seating on the bleachers would be uncomfortable, it is possible for friends and family to view the ceremony from the Recital Hall, room 154, in the Performing Arts Center. Food, beverages and balloons WILL NOT BE ALLOWED in McCown Gymnasium or the Performing Arts Center during the Commencement ceremony.

Senior Citizen Seating will be available in a specified section located on the main floor.

Special Seating arrangements can be made for guests with a physical disability or in need of a sign language interpreter. Please contact Jackie Lettner at the Warrior Hub, Maxwell second floor, or at (507) 457-2377 before April 22nd.

PARKING lots on campus will be available for commencement guests the day of the ceremony. For a downloadable parking map, go to http://www.winona.edu/registrar/Media/Parking_Commencement_2009.jpg. For a map of entrances to the building, go to http://www.winona.edu/registrar/Media/Commencement_Map_2009.jpg. For a Winona city map, directions to campus and other directional tools, visit: http://www.winona.edu/maps.asp.

TELEVISIONED COMMENCEMENT ceremony will be broadcast live by HBC in Winona on channel 25, and by Charter in Rochester on channel 20. The ceremony will be re-telecast at later dates. The dates and times will be posted on the WSU webpage.

The order form for a video of the commencement ceremony has been included for your convenience.

SEE ORDER FORM ON NEXT PAGE FOR VHS AND DVD COPIES OF COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES
Capture the excitement of Commencement for yourself and those special people who couldn’t be there. The complete Commencement ceremony is available on VHS and DVD. To order, send this form along with a check or money order to: HBC, ATTN: WSU Video, 58 Johnson Street, Winona MN 55987. The price of each VHS is $22.00 plus shipping. The price of each DVD is $24.00 plus shipping.

2011 Spring Commencement

Number of Copies ________

________ Morning Ceremony  ________ Afternoon Ceremony

Name ________________________________________________________

Address _______________________________________________________________________

City __________________________  State _______________  Zip ______________

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