



COMMENCEMENT



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE



CONGRATULATIONS!

The University of Alabama in Huntsville is excited to honor our graduating students with a memorable commencement ceremony. You and your guests are cordially invited to join us at 2:00 pm on Sunday, May 6, 2018 at the Von Braun Center in the Propst Arena for this important event!

LIVE STREAMING VIDEO OF THE CEREMONY

Join us online! A live streaming video of the ceremony will be broadcast from the Von Braun Center. Access the video via uah.edu on May 6, 2018 at 2:00 pm!



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COMMENCEMENT MARSHALL //



Dear Almost Alumni,

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administration at The University of Alabama in Huntsville, I would like to extend my congratulations as you reach this significant milestone not only in your academic career, but also in your life. We share in your joy and are proud of what you have accomplished during your time here.

When you first arrived on campus at UAH your perspective was shaped by your family, your high school and your childhood friends. Your past provided the lens for you to view your future here at UAH, and shaped your dreams and goals. Now as a member of the Class of 2018, we hope that the knowledge and inspiration you have received from classes, classmates, professors and the organizations and activities in which you have been involved at

UAH will frame your future for years to come. Through classes, late night study sessions, trips, activities, research projects and other endeavors you have formed some lifelong friendships and sculpted an identity that has prepared you to lead and serve humanity.

We recognize your journey has been long and difficult, and we are excited to honor you with a meaningful commencement ceremony to help transition you to the next phase of your life. You have earned the title "alumni" as you join others who have graduated from UAH that went on to excel in their chosen professions or academia. We expect great things from our graduates, but I am confident the Class of 2018 will surpass all of those expectations. We take great pride in you and hope that you carry the UAH name with distinction to share your experience and the lessons you learned at this university with the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Wren". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Brent Wren
Associate Provost for
Undergraduate Studies

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER //



ROBERT M. LIGHTFOOT, JR. *Retired NASA's Acting Administrator*

Robert M. Lightfoot Jr. became NASA's acting administrator January 20, 2017. After a distinguished career, he has announced his retirement from NASA at the end of April, 2018.

Lightfoot previously was director of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Named to the position in August 2009, he headed one of NASA's largest field installations, which plays a critical role in NASA's space operations, exploration and science missions. Lightfoot managed a broad range of propulsion, scientific and space transportation activities contributing to the nation's space program.

From 2007 to 2009, Lightfoot was deputy director of the Marshall Center. He

served as manager of the Space Shuttle Propulsion Office at Marshall from 2005 to 2007, where he was responsible for overseeing the manufacture, assembly and operation of the primary shuttle propulsion elements: the main engines, external tank, solid rocket boosters and reusable solid rocket motors.

From 2003 to 2005, he served as assistant associate administrator for the Space Shuttle Program in the Office of Space Operations at NASA Headquarters in Washington. His responsibilities included space shuttle Return to Flight activities following the Columbia tragedy, technical and budgetary oversight of the \$3 billion annual budget and initial transition and retirement efforts for shuttle infrastructure.

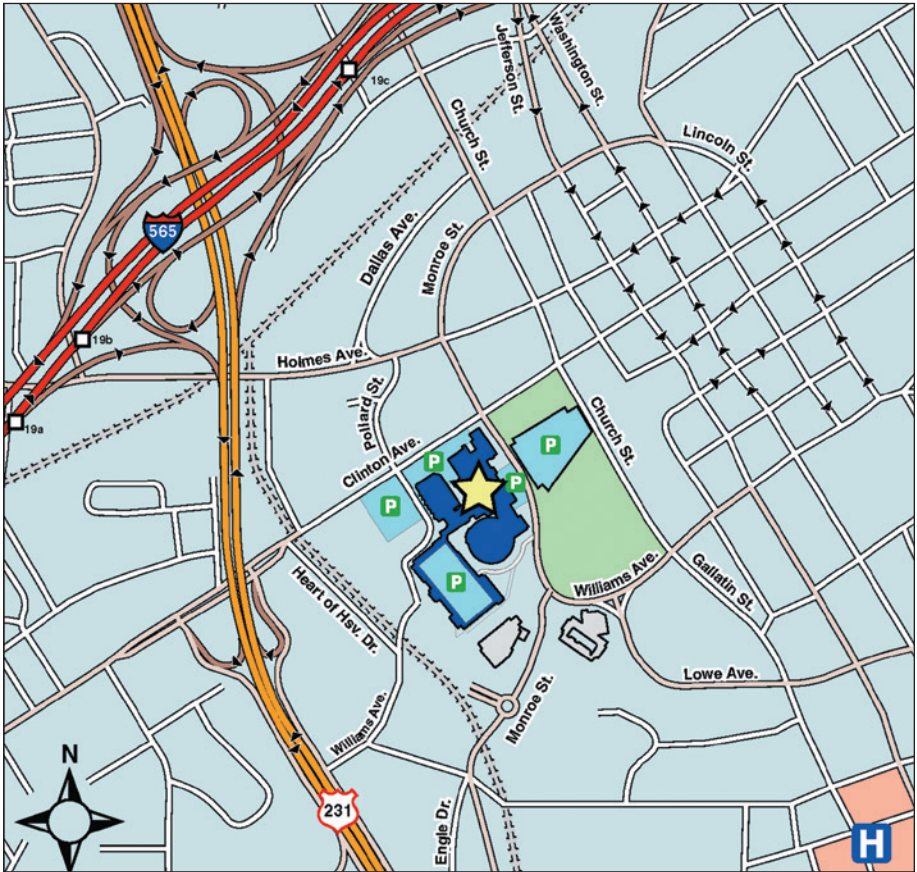
In 2002, Lightfoot was named director of the Propulsion Test Directorate at NASA's Stennis Space Center. He served as deputy director of the organization beginning in 2001, until his appointment as director.

Lightfoot began his NASA career at the Marshall Center in 1989 as a test engineer and program manager for the space shuttle main engine technology test bed program and the Russian RD-180 engine testing program for the Atlas launch vehicle program. He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1986 from the University of Alabama. In 2010, he was inducted into the State of Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame.

COMMENCEMENT LOCATION //

PARKING

The University of Alabama in Huntsville commencement ceremony will be held in downtown Huntsville at the **Von Braun Center in Propst Arena** on **Sunday, May 6**.



INSIDE THE VON BRAUN CENTER

North Hall Parking Lot (P1), Cost \$10

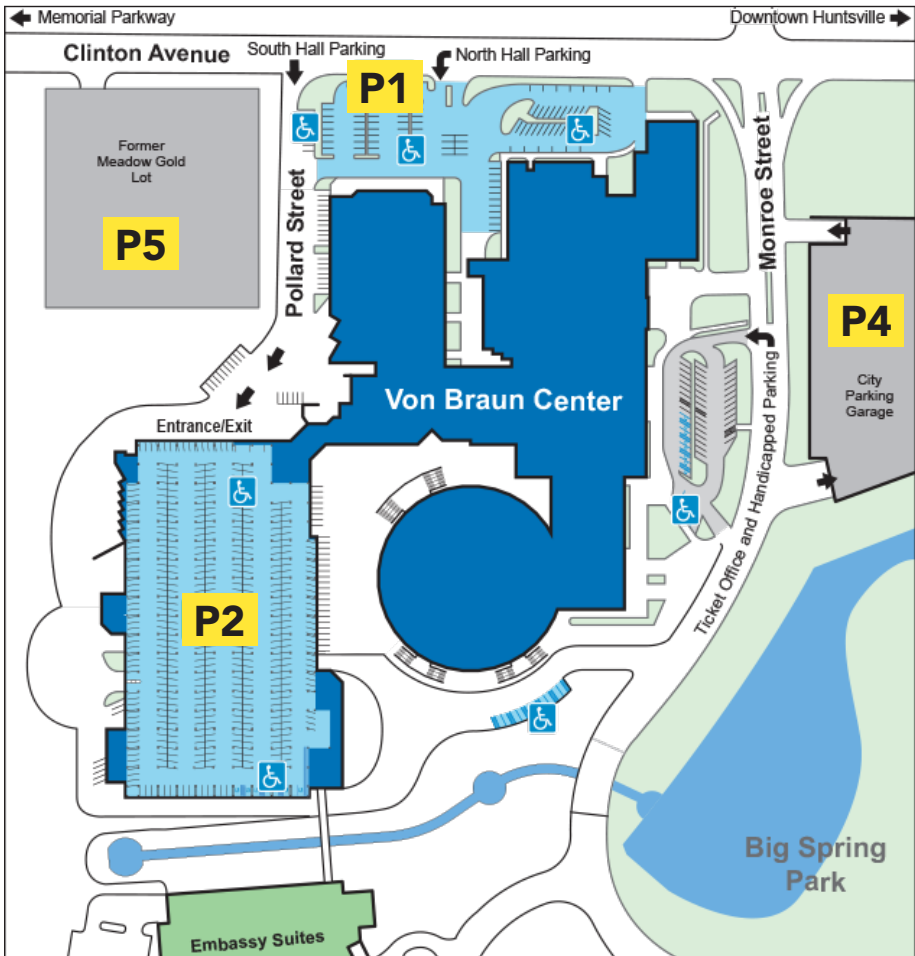
Access to the North Hall parking lot is from Clinton Avenue.

South Hall Parking Garage (P2), Cost \$10

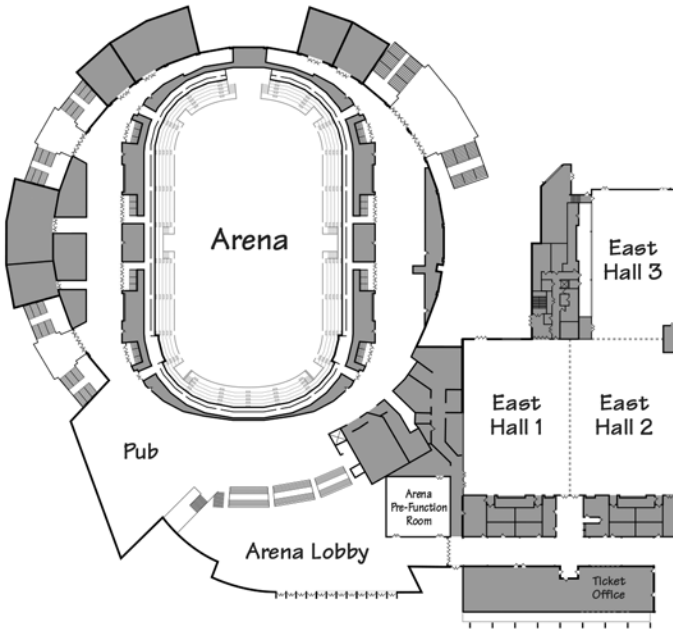
From Clinton Avenue, turn onto Pollard Street and follow the signs.

City of Huntsville Lot

- ▶ Former Meadow Gold Lot (P5), Cost \$5
- ▶ City Parking Garage (P4), Cost \$5

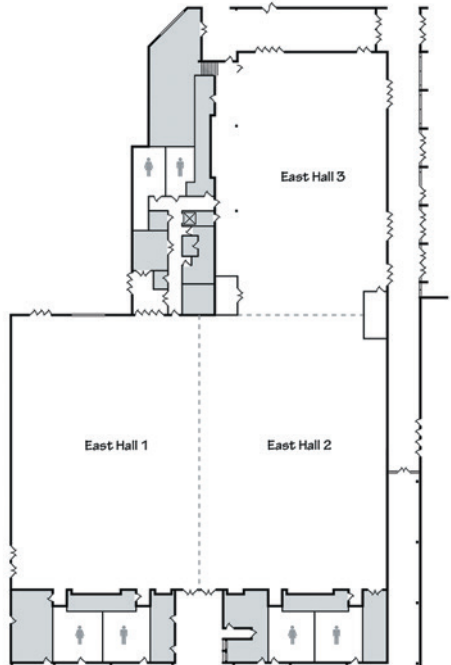


INSIDE THE VON BRAUN CENTER //



HELPFUL TIP

A detailed view of the Arena layout is shown on page 17.



GUEST SEARCHES //

All patrons entering the Propst Arena or Mark C. Smith Concert Hall during an event are subject to screening, which varies from event-to-event. Screenings range from visual inspection and bag search to screenings by a magnetometer (metal detector) and/or pat-down search conducted by security personnel. The purpose of the inspection is to detect prohibited items.

Doors typically open one hour before show time. Please arrive as close to that hour as you can. If you cannot make it to the venue before 30 minutes prior to show, expect a possible delay. We have increased our typical staffing level for events to get each and every person into the building in time for the show. However, we cannot guarantee that will happen if the majority of the crowd arrives at the venue for entry close to show time.

To help everyone have a positive experience when coming to an event, we ask that you do the following:

- ▶ Bring only essential items needed for the event you are attending.
- ▶ Leave ALL weapons at home. Weapons may include firearms, pocketknives, pepper spray, stun gun/Taser, and wallet chains.
- ▶ No detachable lens cameras, iPad/smart pad or selfie-sticks will be permitted.

ITEMS NOT PERMITTED

The following items are not permitted in the Propst Arena or Mark C. Smith Concert Hall:

- ▶ Backpacks
- ▶ Bags/purses larger than 14" x 14" x 6"
- ▶ Bottles or cans
- ▶ Aerosol cans
- ▶ Food and drink purchased outside of the Von Braun Center
- ▶ Coolers
- ▶ Chains over 6" in length
- ▶ Laser pointers
- ▶ Frisbees and/or beach balls
- ▶ Jewelry or belts of any kind containing spikes or studs
- ▶ Large umbrellas
- ▶ Suitcases
- ▶ Any noise making devices, specifically air horns with sirens or whistles
- ▶ Fireworks
- ▶ Selfie sticks
- ▶ GoPro cameras
- ▶ Illegal drugs or alcohol
- ▶ Weapons or dangerous devices of any kind
- ▶ Professional recording devices
- ▶ Poles or sticks (including signs attached to poles)

The Von Braun Center is committed to creating a safe, comfortable and enjoyable experience for all guests. All guests shall remain respectful and courteous to their fellow patrons and to comply with requests from VBC staff regarding policies, emergency response procedures and behavior which impacts the event experience of fellow spectators. The Von Braun Center values the support of all guests and reserves the right to eject any guest for any reason, including not treating other guests attending the event with dignity and respect.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS //

TIME	ACTION ITEM	LOCATION
Noon	Check in for students	East Hall 3
Noon	Doors open for guests	Propst Arena
2:00 pm	Ceremony begins	Propst Arena

GRADUATES & GUESTS
ARE INVITED TO A

RECEPTION

IN THE VBC'S EAST HALL
IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CEREMONY



STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS //

PRIOR TO THE CEREMONY

1. Complete the "Reserve Your Seat" questionnaire and submit your special comment, if so desired. The extended deadline is March 23, 2018.
2. Purchase academic regalia from the UAH Bookstore. Don't forget to remove the regalia from the packaging and let hang so that wrinkles are removed prior to ceremony. Last day to purchase is May 4, 2018. The UAH Bookstore may be contacted at 256.824.6604.
3. Order graduation announcements from Balfour by calling 1.888.225.3687, emailing CollegeGrad@balfour.com, or visiting balfour.com.
4. Are you a member of an honor society? Contact Society Faculty Advisor about purchasing Honor Society cords for ceremony. Honor Society honor cords must be purchased prior to the ceremony (approved list on pg. 14-15).
5. If you feel you will be unable to walk or stand for an extended period during the processional march, please contact the Disability Services Office, 256.824.1997, prior to May 3, 2018. In addition, you will need to alert the officials on site of your need for assistance.

HELPFUL TIPS

Tickets are NOT required for the commencement ceremony. Guest seating at the VBC is first come first serve. Please do not save seats.

DAY OF THE CEREMONY

1. The Von Braun Center has plenty of parking in designated areas. There is a fee for parking at the VBC. For more info, directions and parking information, see page 6 or vonbrauncenter.com/directions
2. Arrive at the Von Braun Center, East Hall, for student line-up at least two hours prior to the ceremony.
 - ▶ Please arrive no later than noon (Notice: Downtown activities may impede traffic, so please arrive 15-20 minutes before doors open.)
 - ▶ Don't forget your regalia.
 - ▶ Women are advised to wear low-heeled or medium-heeled shoes for comfort and safety.
 - ▶ It is further advised that footwear and trousers be dark to complement the academic regalia. White or light colored shirts are also suggested.
3. Please give personal items, i.e. phone, purse, coat, etc., to your family prior to entering the student robing area or lock them securely in your vehicle.

All purses and bags will be searched prior to check-in. To see complete list of prohibited items, see page 9.

The student robing area is not secured during the ceremony. If you must keep electronic devices with you during the ceremony, please set them to silent, so as to not disturb the ceremony.

STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS //

FOR THE ACTUAL CEREMONY

1. When you arrive at the student robing area, you will be given a card with your name, marching order number, degree and honor information – **DO NOT LOSE THIS CARD!** This card is your ticket to process across the stage. Also, please do not bend the card. It has been coded with your information (name, etc.), so when you process across the stage all information will appear on the overhead screens. If your card has honors listed (summa, magna, cum laude), you will also be given a University Honor Cord.
2. You will be instructed to “find your college line.” There will be staff on hand to assist you in finding the right college line for the processional.
3. You will process to the arena in alphabetical order within each college/degree area.
4. As you march in the processional, keep your place in line as assigned by the Commencement staff.
5. When you have reached your appropriate seat, **REMAIN STANDING** until the entire processional party is in and the invocation is concluded.
6. Caps (Mortarboards and Tams) are to be worn at all times, with the exception that men will remove their caps during the national anthem and invocation. Dr. Wren (Commencement Marshall) will announce the national anthem and introduce the minister. He will then remove his cap as a signal to you (“gentlemen, please remove your caps”). Please remain standing, men with caps removed, until the invocation is concluded and then be seated and replace caps.
7. You will stand next when directed to do so by Provost Curtis, who will recommend that degrees be conferred. President Altenkirch will verbally confer your degree. When President Altenkirch finishes his statement, you should change your tassel from the right to the left (undergraduate students only), which indicates your degree has been conferred. Then be seated.
8. Follow the instructions of the floor staff. The direction of the procession will be from both sides of the stage.
9. Two colleges will process to the stage simultaneously. Remain in the correct marching order, remember to bring your “Card” to the stage and follow any instructions given to you by staff.
10. All students will exit the stage by the center stairs.
11. After exiting the stage, follow directions to the photography area before returning to your seat. Each student will have a “posed photograph” taken once the degree has been conferred and he/she has processed across the stage.
12. Return to your seat and celebrate with other candidates as they process across the stage.

GUEST INSTRUCTIONS //

DAY OF THE CEREMONY

1. Guests should be directed to the Probst Arena; doors will open at noon. Due to lack of space in the student robing area, family and friends are not permitted in that area.
2. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance. The Von Braun Center is ADA compliant. As new standards are introduced, VBC has implemented those changes or upgrades in a timely manner. However, due to a limited number of compliant seats in the arena, guests who are mobility impaired may not be able to sit with more than one or two family members in the designated ADA sections. Additional ADA seating will be available on the floor as well.
3. Photography: The Commencement Committee has arranged to have GradImages at the ceremony to take high quality photographs of each candidate as they receive his/her diploma. Members of the audience are asked not to stand at the rail to take pictures since it may obscure the view of others.
4. To maintain the dignity and decorum of the Commencement ceremony, we ask that everyone remain through the entire ceremony.
5. Do you need information about the City of Huntsville? Contact the Dean of Student's Office at 256.824.6700 or Charger Union, Room 223, on the UAH campus for tourism packets.

The logo for GradImages, featuring the word "GRAD" in a serif font, a stylized graduation cap icon, and the word "IMAGES" in a sans-serif font.

PHOTOGRAPHER

The Commencement Committee has arranged to have GradImages at the ceremony to take high-quality photographs of each candidate as he/she receives the diploma. Proofs will be sent to you within seven days after Commencement. There is no obligation to purchase the finished prints. Ordered prints will be delivered within thirty days of the deadline printed on order card. GradImages is the only photographer authorized by UAH to send photographs to the graduates.

www.gradimages.com/Preregistration



FLOWERS AND CLASS T-SHIRT

Make this special occasion memorable by pre-ordering flowers and a class T-shirt for your graduate. Commencement Flowers will be at the ceremony for you to pick-up orders or purchase flowers. For more information, please visit their website at commencementflowers.com/index.php/alabamahuntsville.

HONORS //

UNIVERSITY HONOR CORDS

For those undergraduates who are eligible, gold cords have been purchased by the University and will be available at the Von Braun Center during the robing process.

Notice: Honors indicated in the program are based on grades for semesters completed prior to the last semester. Actual honors for all completed work will be subsequently calculated and will appear on the official transcript and diploma.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Graduate students should not wear honor cords. The hood adorned with the college colors represents their academic accomplishments recognized by the university.

Graduation honors are not bestowed upon students receiving Masters or Doctoral degrees; therefore graduate degree recipients do not receive or wear honor cords.

UNDERGRADUATES

Graduation with honors at the baccalaureate level requires a minimum of 60 semester hours at UAH. Honors will be determined by the grade-point average for the last 60 semester hours of coursework taken at UAH or the overall GPA for all coursework taken at UAH, whichever is higher. The academic terms containing the last 60 hours of coursework taken at UAH will be identified, and the GPA of all UAH courses taken during those terms to satisfy graduation requirements will be computed and the honors will be determined as follows:

- ▶ If the GPA computed as above is 3.90 or above, the student graduates summa cum laude.
- ▶ If the GPA computed as above is 3.70 or above (but below 3.90), the student graduates magna cum laude.
- ▶ If the GPA computed as above is 3.40 or above (but below 3.70), the student graduates cum laude.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

To receive updates before the event and to share selfies during the event!



facebook.com/UAHregistrar



[#UAHgrad18](https://twitter.com/UAHgrad18)

HONOR SOCIETIES //



To purchase honor cords, stoles, and medallions, contact the advisor listed.

UNIVERSITY HONORS

Summa, Magna, and Cum Laude	Gold Cords (distributed at ceremony)	Janet Waller
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ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Alpha Kappa Delta (Sociology)	Teal cord	Kyle Knight
Alpha Psi Omega (Theatre)	Light blue and gold braided cords	David Harwell
Kappa Pi (Art)	Purple and gold cords	David Stewart
Lambda Pi Eta (Communication Arts)	Red and white cords	Eletra Gilchrist
Phi Alpha Theta (History)	Madonna red and blue with multi-colored tassel at each end	Nicole Pacino
Phi Sigma Iota (Foreign Languages)	Purple and gold cords	Linda Maier
Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy)	White and Purple cords	Nick Jones
Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science)	Medallions red ribbons	Anne Marie Choup
Psi Chi (Psychology)	Dark blue/light blue cords	Dianhan Zheng
Sigma Tau Delta (English)	Red and black braided cords, 2" medallion attached to red ribbon	Chad Thomas

BUSINESS

Beta Alpha Psi (Accounting/Finance)	Red and black cords, pins	Hank Alewine
Beta Gamma Sigma (Business)	Blue and gold cords with tassels, stoles, and medallion	Chris Allport
Society of Human Resource Management (Management)	Navy blue, light blue, and white cords	Ivey MacKenzie
DECA	Blue and white cords	Liwu Hsu

EDUCATION

Kappa Delta Pi (Education)	Teal green and purple cords	Wolfram Verlaan
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HONOR SOCIETIES //

ENGINEERING		
Alpha Pi Mu (Industrial and Systems Engineering)	White satin and gold stole	Bryan Mesmer
Eta Kappa Nu (Electrical Engineering)	Gold braided cord with royal blue and scarlet tassels	Aleksandar Milenkovich
Omega Chi Epsilon (Chemical Engineering)	White satin collar (officers) / Maroon and white cord/rope (members)	Jeffrey Weimer
Pi Tau Sigma (Mechanical Engineering)	Teal and burgundy cords <i>(see national website)</i>	Nicholas Lynn
Sigma Gamma Tau (Aerospace Engineering)	Stole with red shoulders and white satin tips	Chang Kwon Kang
Tau Beta Pi (Mechanical Engineering)	White satin collar embroidered with bent in orange	Sampson Gholston
NURSING		
Sigma Theta Tau	Purple and white cords	Anne Dillard Jennifer Palmer
SCIENCE		
Sigma Pi Sigma (Physics)	Green and ivory tassels and cords	Max Bonamente
UNIVERSITY HONOR SOCIETIES		
Alpha Epsilon Delta	Purple and pink cords	Brooke Sheetz
Alpha Lambda Delta	Gold, red and white cords, medallions and/or stoles	Joseph Taylor Joseph Conway
Omicron Delta Kappa	White, black and blue twisted cords	Rita Ferguson
Phi Kappa Phi	Blue and gold cords with fringed tassels	Ivey Mackenzie
Sigma Xi-Scientific Research Society	Blue and white cords with tassels	Debra Moriarity
Nat'l Society of Leadership & Success	Platinum and black cords	George Watt
Delta Epsilon Iota	Blue and gold cords with tassels	Candace Phillips
GREEK HONOR SOCIETY		
Order of Omega	Gold and white cording	Brittany Watts
STUDENT LIFE		
	Blue and white stole	Jenny Russell-Clifton
U.S. ARMED FORCES VETERANS		
	Red, White and Blue braided cords	Brittany Howard

CEREMONY FLOOR PLAN //



- 1. Faculty
- 2. Faculty
- 3. **Doctoral and Masters:** Nursing DNP; Colleges of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences: Business; and Education.
- 4. **Doctoral and Masters:** Engineering Ph.D.; Interdisciplinary Ph.D.; Science Ph.D.; Colleges of Engineering; and Science
- 5. **Bachelors:** Colleges of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences; Business; Education; Nursing; and Professional Studies
- 6. **Bachelors:** Colleges of Engineering; and Science

FLOOR PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON ATTENDEE RESPONSES.

ABOUT YOUR DIPLOMA //

WHEN DO I GET MY DIPLOMA?

Diplomas are ordered after all degrees have been awarded. Degrees are awarded once all grades have been turned into the Office of the Registrar. Please note it takes approximately 7 weeks to receive your diploma. An email will be sent to the student's UAH account once the diplomas have been ordered and then again after they have been mailed.

Diplomas will be sent via U.S. mail, so please make sure that your permanent mailing address is updated upon graduation.

INFORMATION STATED ON DIPLOMAS

- ▶ Student Name
- ▶ Graduation Date
- ▶ Degree
- ▶ Major (Bachelor's and Master's only)
- ▶ University Honors (Bachelor's only)

DIMENSIONS

- ▶ Doctoral diploma: 11" X 14"
- ▶ Master's and Bachelor's diplomas: 8.5" X 11"

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

1. Login to your MyUAH account
2. Select Personal Information and update addresses/phones
3. In the Type of Address to Insert drop down menu select Permanent Mailing Address and submit
4. Finally, update your address/phone and submit

PROOF OF GRADUATION

Order official transcripts early! Requests can be submitted online or at the Registrar's Office, Student Services Building, Room 120. If you submit a request early, please make sure to select Hold for Degree. Visit us at uah.edu/registrar.

HELPFUL TIPS

Let your friends, family, and guests know what area you are sitting in so they can snag a seat and get the best position to see you during commencement!



COMMENCEMENT CONTACTS //

PROVOST OFFICE

Associate Provost

Dr. Brent Wren
256.824.6767
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Student Services Building, Room 303

Peggy Bower
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Student Services Building, Room 303

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Registrar

Janet Waller
wallerj@uah.edu
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Student Services Building, Room 120

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Dean of Graduate Studies

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DEGREE AUDITORS

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SPECIAL DISABILITY NEEDS

Disability Services
256.824.1997

UAH BOOKSTORE

256.824.6604
fax 256.824.6754
Monday – Friday
8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Located in Charger Union



COME CELEBRATE!

The University of Alabama in Huntsville invites you and your family to attend the UAH Commencement ceremony on **SUNDAY, MAY 6** to celebrate your big achievement!

Inside this guide, you will find more information about:

- ▶ Schedule of events, including a reception
- ▶ Instructions for students and guests
- ▶ Parking and the floor plan of the arena
- ▶ Purchasing photographs and flowers
- ▶ Alumni Association
- ▶ Receiving your diploma

UAH Commencement Ceremony

SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018

2:00 PM

Von Braun Center's Propst Arena
700 Monroe Street SW, Huntsville, AL 35801

For any questions regarding Commencement, please visit our website at uah.edu/commencement or call the Registrar's Office at 256.824.7777.



Registrar's Office
301 Sparkman Drive
Student Services Building, Room 120
Huntsville, Alabama 35899