

6-5-76
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OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
1976 Commencement Program

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Wilson Hall Auditorium

JUNE 5, 1976

10:00 A.M.

PROGRAM

PROCESSIONAL

Howard R. Witt, *Marshal*

WELCOME

Paul R. Paslay, *Dean*

PRESENTATION OF UNIVERSITY HONORS

PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL AWARDS

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE MS DEGREE

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE BS DEGREE

ALUMNI WELCOME

Camille E. Turski, *Engineering Alumni Association*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Robert R. Johnson, *President, Engineering Society of Detroit
and Vice-President, Burroughs Corporation*

VALEDICTION

Donald D. O'Dowd, *President*

RECESSIONAL

RECEPTION

About Honors and Awards

On the occasion of Commencement, the University offers special recognition to those students who have attained outstanding levels of academic achievement and service.

Students who have demonstrated superior performance in the courses of their major subject area are designated to graduate with Departmental Honors. The faculty of the School of Engineering has elected several graduating seniors to receive Departmental Honors in Engineering or in Computer Science.

The Faculty Senate of Oakland University has established three levels of special distinction to recognize sustained superior academic performance in all subject areas. Students who have completed at least 62 credits of study at Oakland University and whose cumulative grade-point average ranges between 3.60 and 3.74 graduate *cum laude*. A student who has earned a grade-point average between 3.75 and 3.89 graduates *magna cum laude*. Students attaining the highest academic level, grade-point averages of 3.90 and above, graduate *summa cum laude*.

Additionally, the faculty of the School of Engineering has created several special awards to honor graduating seniors who have distinguished themselves by truly outstanding scholarship in engineering studies, by outstanding technical development toward the engineering profession and by exemplary service to the School of Engineering. These special awards are marked by the presentation of certificates and prizes to the recipients and also by the engraving of the recipients' names on permanent commemorative plaques in Dodge Hall of Engineering.

The faculty extends most hearty congratulations to all of the students receiving honors and awards at this commencement exercise.

On Academic Regalia

An edifying note contributed by a certain anonymous doctor of philosophy

On at least two solemn occasions during the academic calendar — spring and fall commencement — the faculty of the university publicly displays its full academic regalia and participates in the liturgy of processional and recessional, that curious coming and going that symbolizes the ceremony of commencement. The purposes of commencement are well known, but the reasons for the peculiar garb of the celebrants and their odd order of march are often as obscure to the audience as they are, in fact, to the faculty itself. This note may serve to explain academic dress and the professorial pecking order it costumes.

Contemporary academics are descendants of clerical schoolmen in the universities of medieval Europe. Like the clergy, members of the bench and bar, and other learned professions, the medieval scholar clothed himself in heavy robes to stay warm in unheated stone buildings. Like all members of an hierarchical society, the medieval faculties rejoiced in visible insignia of rank. These outward signs of accomplishment and authority were tailored into the robes. Although the need for such voluminous garments to keep the scholar from freezing is long past, the use of them as emblems of dignity remains.

You will observe that all caps and gowns worn by our faculty are black, with certain disturbing exceptions. Black was the color adopted by mutual agreement among American universities at the end of the nineteenth century. In Europe each university has its own distinctive gown, varying in color and cut from all others. A European academic assemblage is a far gaudier occasion than its counterpart in America. Recently, certain universities in this country rashly broke the agreement and authorized robes in their own colors: for example, the crimson of Harvard and the green of Wayne State may be seen in our ranks. This unsuitable spontaneity has been frowned on by sister institutions, yet the mavericks not only persist in their madness, but gain adherents to their ranks with each passing year.

There are three basic academic degrees: the baccalaureate or bachelor's degree, the master's degree, and the doctorate. A special style of robe is prescribed for each. The bachelor's gown is sparsely cut, neat, but a bit skimpy and unadorned, as befits apprentices. The

master's gown is still simple, but fuller, sports a sleeve of extraordinary design impossible to describe, and has a hood draped from the shoulders down the back. Once used to keep the frost from the tonsured heads of medieval clerks, the hood now is solely a badge of a degree of scholarly achievement. The master's hood is small and narrow, but displays the colors of the institution that awarded the degree. If you knew the colors of American universities, you could easily identify from whence came our masters. The doctoral robe is the most handsome of academic raiment. Generous of cut, of fine aristocratic stuff, it is faced with velvet and emblazoned with velvet chevrons on the ample sleeves. You will note that most of the velvet facings and chevrons are black, but that some are of other colors. According to personal taste, the doctor may display the color of his doctoral degree on his sleeves and facings: green for medicine, purple for law, scarlet for theology, and many more. The royal blue of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) is the most commonly seen in a liberal arts institution such as Oakland. The doctor's hood is the most elegant of all academic appurtenances. Large and graceful, it is lined in satin with the colors of the university that awarded the degree and is bordered with the color of the degree itself. Most academic costumes include the square cap called a mortarboard; the doctor's tassel may be either black or gold — tassels of all other degrees are black and stringy.

To instructed eyes, the order of march in the processional and recession reveals the standing of individuals in the institution's formal hierarchy. In the processional the order of entrance into the hall is, quite fittingly, from most junior to most senior. The baccalaureate candidates enter first, followed successively by the masters and doctoral candidates with the whole separated from the faculty by a decent interval. In the faculty order, the instructors precede the assistant professors who in turn are followed by the associate professors. The august full professors bring up the rear. After a respectful distance, come the deans who in turn are separated by significant space from the awful majesty of the platform party, the president, the vice-president, and the members of the board of trustees. All remain standing until the board is seated. After the ceremony the order of recession is the reverse of the processional. The greatest dignitaries stream out of the hall first, with the artfully organized ranks of priority wallowing in their wake.

It is hoped that these notes may make more intelligible the spectacle you are witnessing today. A discerning intelligence may detect in it many clues to an understanding of the academic profession as it confronts the ambiguities of the future with ancient wisdom and dignified confidence.

DEGREES GRANTED DECEMBER 1975

MASTER OF SCIENCE — ENGINEERING

Nitinkumar Babubhai Desai

Nikolaus Kopetzki

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE — ENGINEERING

Douglas Frederick Bown

Markku Kristian Karell

*Melvin Henry Buss

Ernest John Mathews

*Louis Richard Calkins

Robert John Palasek

Timothy Patrick Dawson

Michael Robert Ritter

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE — COMPUTER SCIENCE

Richard Joseph Hagan

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES APRIL 1976

MASTER OF SCIENCE — ENGINEERING

Janice Simonson Parker

James L. Sullivan

Gary Edward Pummill

Stanley Ralph Windeler

John Paul Shaughnessy

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE — ENGINEERING

Daniel Andrucciolo
*Steven Allen Becroft
*Kevin Norman Brown
Frederick Hubert Chesney
*Susan Mary Cischke
*Charles R. Clark
Curtis Rex Engelmann
John Nicholas Ess
Mark Edward Farmer
Alan Edward Favenyesi
John Scott Felice
Thomas Neal Foot
*Terrence Paul Fries
*Walter Joseph Golembiewski
Keith Alan Jeffries
Timothy Wayne Kahley
William Emiel Kempf
*Richard James Kennedy
*Richard Alan McCormick
Kenneth Herbert Moore

John Joseph Patteeuw
Christopher Martin Peeters
Gregory Allen Pokriefka
*Allen Victor Pruehs
Zenon W. Prybula
Frank John Rozmus
Mohammed Ibraheem Sadeqi
Gari Michael Schalte, Jr.
Paul Thomas Schreiber
Dale Mark Schreiner
Michael Kipkerich Sigilai
Roger Smith
Gary Michael Swirski
*Douglas Gregg Talley
*Douglas William Templeton
S. Eric Trimble
Donna Rae Twisdom
*Erik B. Vigmostad
James Michael Wasiloff, Jr.
Gary Robert White

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE — COMPUTER SCIENCE

*Susan Jean Brown
Rosalie Bommarito Burley
*John George Cervenak
*Bruce Craig Greening

Danny Michael Kowalski
*Nancy Maria Byers Sprague
Daniel Joseph Tomczak

UNIVERSITY HONORS AWARDED APRIL 1976

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Charles R. Clark

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Susan Marie Cischke
Nancy Byers Sprague

Douglas Talley

CUM LAUDE

Melvin Henry Buss
Kevin N. Brown

Erik B. Vigmostad

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