
Oakland University
Commencement

1987

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

7:30 p.m.
June 7, 1987

Howard C. Baldwin Memorial Pavilion
Oakland University
Rochester, Michigan



The motto **Seguir Virtute E Canoscenza**, has a very distinguished origin, Canto XXVI, 1. 120, of Dante's *Inferno*. These are the final words of Ulysses' great speech to his men urging them to sail on and on in pursuit of knowledge and experience of the world — even beyond the pillars of Hercules, traditionally the frontier and limit of legitimate exploration.

This is the three-line stanza:

*Considerate la vostra semenza
Fatti non foste a viver come bruti
Ma per seguir virtute e canoscenza*

*Consider your birth
You were not made to live like brutes
But to follow courage and knowledge.*

PROGRAM

PROCESSIONAL

Eleftherios N. Botsas, *Marshal*

EXORDIUM

Robbin Hough, *Professor*
School of Business Administration

PERORATION

Doug Ross, *Director*
Michigan Department of Commerce

PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL AWARDS

Ronald M. Horwitz, *Dean*
School of Business Administration

INVESTITURE

Joseph E. Champagne, *President*
Oakland University

AWARDING OF DEGREES

Ronald M. Horwitz
John E. Tower, *Associate Dean*
School of Business Administration

ALUMNI WELCOME

Beth Konrad, *Chair*
School of Business Administration Alumni Affiliate

VALIDICTION

Joseph E. Champagne

RECESSIONAL

*The audience is requested to stand and remain standing
during the processional and recessional.*

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 professional 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 a 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 19th 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 Dartmouth 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 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: light blue for education, pink for music, apricot for nursing, orange for engineering, and many more. The royal blue of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) is the most commonly seen in liberal arts institutions 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 recessional 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 a 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 recessional 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 AWARDED DECEMBER 1986

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*Receiving a B.A. from the College of Arts and Sciences

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William Carman Thomas

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William A. Jaber

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At each commencement Oakland University extends special recognition to those students who have attained outstanding levels of academic achievement.

The University Senate, acting on the advice of its Committee on Academic Standing and Honors, authorizes University Honors at three levels for those students who have completed 62 credits or more at Oakland, with cumulative averages as follows:

<i>Cum Laude</i>	3.60-3.74
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	3.75-3.89
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	3.90-4.00

Each student who has a record of superior achievement in a major field of study is designated as graduating with School Honors

HONORS AWARDED DECEMBER 1986

UNIVERSITY HONORS

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

William Carman Thomas

CUM LAUDE

Renee Hausherr
Donald James Kulhanek

Lori M. Stevens
Kimberly Ann Venditti

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Kathryn J. Borland
Adam Klaus
Donald James Kulhanek

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Lori M. Stevens

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MARKETING

Pennie J. Broecker

MARKETING AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Kimberly A. Venditti

QUANTITATIVE METHODS

William C. Thomas

HONORS AWARDED APRIL 1987

UNIVERSITY HONORS

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Judith Rose Zelenak

CUM LAUDE

Cynthia Ann Amacher
Bruce Sidney Cranfill
Jack F. DiFrance
Patricia Ann Dovre
John Brian Forbes

Eric Alan Glezman
Lynne M. Martyniak
Bonnie Ellen Miller
Matthew George Pop
David William Schorling

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Eric Alan Glezman
Matthew George Pop

Martin W. Schmitt
David William Schorling

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John Brian Forbes
Christopher Wayne Gavula

Laine Allen Reynolds
Sandra Marie Sedo
Kimberly Ann Ugolini
Joel Zieve

MARKETING

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Lynn Maria Fons

Margaret Ann Lombardo
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Oakland University is a legally autonomous state institution of higher learning. Legislation creating Oakland University as an independent institution, separate from Michigan State University, was established under Act No. 35, Public Acts of 1970. The university is governed by an eight-member board of trustees appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the state senate. The president of the university is appointed by the board of trustees and is an ex officio member without vote. The board also appoints a secretary and treasurer.

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