



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN
AUGUST 16, 1969

Program

Processional

Invocation

Reverend William Brewster, Campus Minister
Christian Federation, Associate Director,
Association for Ministries in Higher Education

Commencement Remarks

Meryl Ruth Friedman, Candidate for the
Bachelor of Arts Degree.
"20/20 Hindsight"

Conferring of Master Degrees

Durward B. Varner, Chancellor of Oakland University

Conferring of Bachelor Degrees

Durward B. Varner

Remarks to Graduates

Durward B. Varner

Benediction

Reverend William Brewster

Recessional

A reception for graduates, guests and faculty sponsored by the Senior Class, will be held at Trumbull Terrace immediately following commencement.

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 Commencement and Fall Convocation — the faculty of the University publicly displays its full academic regalia and participates in the liturgical measures of processional and recessional. The purposes of commencement and convocation 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 professionals, the medieval scholar clothed himself in heavy robes to keep out the draught from unheated, windowless 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. The need for such voluminous garments to keep the scholar from catching a cold is long past; the use of them to symbolize the dignity of the wearer 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 gowns, varying in color and cut with each institution. A European academic assemblage is a far gaudier occasion than its counterpart in America. Recently, a few universities in this country rashly broke the agreement and authorized robes in their own colors: the crimson of Harvard and the blue of Yale may be seen in our ranks. This unsuitable spontaneity has been frowned on by sister institutions, but Harvard and Yale persist in their madness.

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 tonsured heads of medieval clerks from freezing, 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: royal blue for philosophy, 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. All 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 a bit 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, 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 Chancellors, Presidents, and members of the Board of Trustees. All remain standing until the Board is seated. After the ceremonies 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 following 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.

Graduate Degrees

Master of Arts

Nicole Elizabeth Carels
Eleanor S. Collins
Mary Kenrick Cordes
Mary Louella Wermuth DeFilippi
Muriel Diane Fitzgerald
Anne Ping Hsia
Thomas Kendall Kegel
Daniel Craig Norman
Richard Harold Stout

Master of Arts in Teaching

Mary Dorothy Bowling
Judith Anne Breseman
Carolyn Irene Burrell
Laura Fairchild Corkum
Frances Jeanette Czapp
Hilda Edwards
Wanda Lou Hauer
Ronald Michael Hecló
Jean Marie Kelly
Suzanne Marie Lappin
Mary Bogan Lupton
Elizabeth Mayer McClintic
Carolyn Dostal Oakes
Elsin Rosa Powell
Joan Nash Robbins
Mary P. Sloan
David Alan Sommers
Angela Sykes
Helen Edith Thomas
Louise Cecille Tolbert
Jill Elizabeth Tozer
Jacqueline Nola Wuertenberg

Master of Science

Dale Alton Chatfield

Undergraduate Degrees

Summa Cum Laude

Janice Kay Adams
Michael Werenski

Magna Cum Laude

Emily Elisabeth Batinski
Helen G. Costantini
Mary Katharine Derck
Barbara Jean May
Estela M. Mazzoli
Owen Wilfred Porterfield, Jr.
Greta Helen Steiger
Cheryl Lynn Watson

Cum Laude

Judith Ann Austin
Beverly Sue Bare
John David Fachnie
Marilyn Z. Fellows
Lawanda May Hassenzahl
Sandra Evonne Lucas
Phoebe Ann Mainster
Nanette N. Ponder
W. Paul Stevenson

Bachelor of Arts

Russell Laurence Abbott
Janice Kay Adams
Susan E. Alldredge
Martha Leslie Allen
Myra Elaine Allen
Wayne R. Anable
Ingrid Ruth Anderson
Scott W. Aslakson
Lin Yiun Au
John Armand Auger
Bobbie Sue Aust
Judith Ann Austin
Larry H. Badger
Wolfgang Hans Baerwald
Kenneth Cantrell Baner II
Susan Joyce Barber
Beverly Sue Bare
Emily Elisabeth Batinski
Alexander Robert Bensky
Janice Bergstrom
Janet Marie Biernacki
Gerald F. Bosler
Robert David Brown
Dorothy P. Buhler
Donald Marcus Burnia
Edward Gerald Burwell
Dale Alton Chatfield
Robert Eugene Church
Roger Edward Church
George Henry Chynoweth III
Norman Lee Coates, Jr.
Kenneth Roy Colton
Claude James Cook
Kathleen Kessler Cooper
Helen G. Costantini
Jo Ellen Crawford
Gerald Frederick Curtis
David William Daniels
Diane MacDonald Davis
Mary Elizabeth Dawson
Michael Joseph Dengate
Sally Jean Denyes
Mary Katherine Derck
Ellen Mary Deveney

James Vincent Dubay
Richard William Duffin
John David Fachnie
Robert Murray Fachnie
Diane Kaye Farstvedt
Marilyn Z. Fellows
Richard Donald Fessler
Bruce Arnold Fisher
Mathew Conrad Friedemann
Meryl Ruth Friedman
Patricia Jane Geary
Marilyn Ann Getchell
Hugh Randolph Gill
Clay James Gillette
Michael Andrew Glass
James Robert Goldberg
Thomas James Gordon
Tyson Grant Goring
Carolyn Margaret Grant
Edmund Emerson Gray
Patric Allen Halbert
Barbara A. Hall
Bonnie Gretchen Hall
Ramon Leroy Harrison
Cheryl Ann Hartman
Lawanda May Hassenzahl
George Reynolds Henry
Joseph Edward Hertzberg
Gayla Marie Hibbard
Paula Suzanne Horn
Christine Sadie Jaracz
Gerard J. Kaashoek
Louise Zutant Koslofsky
Thomas Edward Kurz
William H. Laiti
Brian John LaLone
Ira Ephraim Lax
Sandra Evonne Lucas
Robert Arne Lyngos
Bruce Palmer MacDonald
Alan C. MacGregor
William Charles Madigan
Eleonore Ina Magone
Phoebe Ann Mainster

Daniel Lee Majeske
Susan Helena Marsh
Loretta M. Martin
Marcia Ann Martin
Barbara Jean May
Estela M. Mazzoli
Marie Frances McBee
Mary Katherine McDonald
Kathleen McKenney
MaryJo Mensing
Daniel Wayne Monger
Vivian K. Morningstar
Ann Margaret Moulton
Diane C. Muehl
Judith Lee Nicholes Nault
Candace Susan Neiger
Michael Jay Neulicht
Stephanie Kay Owens
Thomas Arthur Parkinson
Glenn Andrew Patterson
Eino Allen Peterson III
Hermann O. Pfrengele
Frank Edward Pitts
B. Linda Plummer
Nanette N. Ponder
Owen Wilfred Porterfield, Jr.
Leroy James Pritchard
Gregory James Prokopp
Carol L. Rapaport
Pamela Dee Roberts
Jeremy David Rose
William Duane Sapelak
Dennis Maynard Schmedlen

Dennis Gary Scott
Lucille L. Seifert
Lynn D. Skinner
Sharon Lee Skinner
Kenneth Edward Smith
John Dennis Sorensen
Norma Cheryl Stallions
William Keen Stanton
Barbara Leigh Steeh
Greta Helen Steiger
Edward John Stevens
W. Paul Stevenson
Marcia Jeane Stolze
Jacquelyn Sue Stritmatter
Joan Margaret Swartout
Geoffrey Dale Tasker
Linda Sue Thayer
Ruth Nelson Thomas
Carol Jean Vander Molen
Richard Gerard VanLoo
Michael Eric Vargo
Linda Lee Venn
Susan Marie Vidmich
Leslie Carol Vogel
Michael Louis Vosburg
Lawrence Michael Walter
Cheryl Lynn Watson
Michael Werenski
Rae Anne White
Susanna Whitlock
Dennis Lee Zahm
Susan Wanda Zeleznik
Jane Ann Zimmerman

Bachelor of Science

Jaclyn Mahealani Aina
Ora Leon Arnold, Jr.
James D. Gray
James Lewis Grover
James Christopher Hargreaves
Duane Allen McCallum

Ronald Francis McPherson
Paule Richard Stein
Charles N. Szabo
Terry Lee Thomas
German Quibano Tovar

