



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN
AUGUST 12, 1967

Program

Processional

Invocation

Reverend Stanley Stefancic, Associate Minister of the
Birmingham Unitarian Church, Birmingham, Michigan

Commencement Address

Charles O. Hucker, Professor of Chinese and Chairman of the
Department of Far Eastern Languages and Literature,
University of Michigan

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 Stanley Stefancic

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 costume includes 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

Elizabeth Susan Baker
Leonard Charles Gambler
Elisabeth L. Herschel
Dennis Gale Morton
Sek-Wui Seah
Thomas C. Woelfel

Master of Arts in Teaching

Gloria Maas Driscoll
Herbert M. Haffner
Dorothy Putnam Kelch
Constance N. MacLeod
Carol Margaret Repka
Phyllis D. Rupprecht
Olga Josephine Sauer
Betty Barstad Tindall

Master of Science

Marshall Edward Bishop

Undergraduate Degrees

Summa Cum Laude

Linda Louise Price

Magna Cum Laude

William Michael Newman

Cynthia Ann Sowers

Thomas John Volgy

Cum Laude

Alice M. Akram

Charles Frederick Eagen

Cheryl Lynn Eby

Jeffrey Lee Fox

Janice Stanton Johnson

John William Matthews

Marianne Kathryn Stocker

Bachelor of Arts

Alice M. Akram
Sybil Michele Aldridge
Karen Christine Allshouse
John Albert Alter
Jill Martha Anderson
Mary Elizabeth Atkinson
William Ray Bailey
Raymond Jay John Battestilli
Michael Frederick Bauer
Judith Lynn Bell
Barbara Ann Berlin
Richard George Bidigare
David L. Bihl
Hannah Reva Blau
Harold Ernest Boettger
Edward Lee Bondy
Mary Gail Bound
Thomas Edward Bruman
Harold Ray Carney
Barbara M. Carrick
Dorothy Lorraine Carros
Eugene Ting Chin
Kirk Michael Collins
Nancy Joan Crowe
Simone Mary Jane Culotta
Jane Marie Dikeman

Theodore Walter Dykoski
Charles Frederick Eagen
Cheryl Lynn Eby
Sallie A. Elsila
Thomas Lee Englert
Sandra Lee Feeley
Allen James Fogoros
Jeffrey Lee Fox
Geraldine McDonald Fuller
Charlotte Ann Gass
Lance Michael Gentile
Sally Ann Gulewich
Signe Caro Hagedon
Norman Leclair Hale
Susan Margaret Hall
Helen Chien Han
Kay Ann Hartley
Phyllis Jean Hendrickson
Nancy Jane Herpolsheimer
Jacqueline Joyce Heubel
Jan Louis Jaworski
Armand H. Johnson
Janice Stanton Johnson
Mary Ann Karakashian
Margaret Ruth Kemsley
Valna Elnora Knisely

Karen Ann Langridge
Jon Samuel Lee
Patricia Ann Lemanski
Natalie Anne Leskiw
Robert Arne Lyngos
Mary Wright Lyons
Andrea Lorraine Mansour
Ronald Edward Mapley
Diane Vermeulen Martineau
John William Matthews
Robert Elliott McGowan
Susan McMahan
Rickie Ann Meehling
Nina Alexandria Mikiczenko
Daniel S. Mitchell
Carol Marie Moon
William Michael Newman
Catherine Louise Noffert
Rodger Cary Olsen
Gerald L. Pakkala
Thomas A. Parkinson
James Arthur Pleger
Patricia Jean Presby
Linda Louise Price

Bruce Robert Quayle
Zita Miklos Rowell
Nancy Lynn Saarinen
Joanne Carol Schultz
Marilyn Kay Schwalm
Ruth Anne Shipman
Jane Skoropa
Phillip Smith
Ruth Ellen Smith
Evelyn Lee Sniderman
Sharon Sue Snyder
Cynthia Ann Sowers
Marianne Kathryn Stocker
Sandra Elizabeth Studer
Constance Louise Turski
Dennis James Underwood
Thomas John Volgy
Pauline Margaret Waatti
Eleanor S. Waddell
Karin Jean Walters
Ruth M. White
Robert Clerman Wiar
Cecelia Marie Wier
James Lynn Wyatt

Departmental Honors

Area Studies

Janice Stanton Johnson

Art

Marianne Kathryn Stocker

Biology

Eugene Ting Chin
Thomas Lee Englert

Education

Judith Lynn Bell
Hannah Reva Blau
Cheryl Lynn Eby
Sharon Sue Snyder
Cecelia Maria Wier

English

Alice M. Akram
Sybil Michele Aldridge
Jeffrey Lee Fox
Norman Leclair Hale
John William Matthews
Patricia Jean Presby
Cynthia Ann Sowers
Eleanor S. Waddell

History

Janice Stanton Johnson
Carol Marie Moon
Linda Louise Price
Thomas John Volgy

Mathematics

Pauline Margaret Waatti

Modern Languages and Literature

Cynthia Ann Sowers

Physics

Charles Frederick Eagen

Political Science

Thomas John Volgy

Sociology-Anthropology

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