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COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019

Ceremony One
9:30 a.m. | Pasadena Civic Auditorium
Graduate College of Biomedical Sciences
   Medical Sciences (MSMS)
   Biomedical Sciences (MSBS)
College of Health Sciences
   Health Sciences (MSHS)
   Physician Assistant Studies (MSPA)
   Physical Therapy (DPT)

Ceremony Two
3:00 p.m. | Pasadena Civic Auditorium
College of Pharmacy
   Pharmaceutical Sciences (MSPS)
   Pharmacy (PharmD)
College of Dental Medicine
   Dental Medicine (DMD)

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019

Ceremony Three
9:30 a.m. | Pasadena Civic Auditorium
College of Optometry
   Optometry (OD)
College of Graduate Nursing
   Nursing (FNP, MSN, DNP)

Ceremony Four
3:00 p.m. | Pasadena Civic Auditorium
College of Veterinary Medicine
   Veterinary Medicine (DVM)

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2019

Ceremony Five
9:30 a.m. | Pasadena Civic Auditorium
College of Podiatric Medicine
   Podiatric Medicine (DPM)
College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Pomona Campus
   Osteopathic Medicine (DO)

FACULTY AND GRADUATE ARRIVAL TIME

Faculty and graduates should plan to arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. for the morning ceremonies and 1:45 p.m. for the afternoon.

Faculty report to the PCA Gold Room and Graduates should make their way to Hall C. See map on page four.
DIRECTIONS AND PARKING

DIRECTIONS

FROM THE 210 WESTBOUND
Take the 210 freeway west to the Fair Oaks/Marengo exit. Turn left on Marengo and proceed four blocks to Green Street. Turn left onto Green Street, the Pasadena Convention Center is located on the right hand side at 300 E. Green.

FROM THE 210 EASTBOUND
Take the 210 freeway east to the Colorado Blvd exit on to St John Ave. Continue south on St John past Colorado Blvd and turn left onto Green Street. Travel five blocks east on Green Street. The Pasadena Convention Center is located on the right hand side at 300 E. Green.

FROM THE 134 EASTBOUND
Take the 134 east to the 210 east and exit at Fair Oaks/Marengo. Turn right on Marengo and proceed four blocks to Green Street. Turn left onto Green Street. The Pasadena Convention Center is located on the right hand side at 300 E. Green.

FROM THE 110 NORTHBOUND
Take the 110 freeway north to the end of the freeway. Proceed north on Arroyo Parkway. Turn right onto Green Street. The Pasadena Convention Center is located two blocks down on the right hand side at 300 E. Green.

PARKING
If you are staying at one of the Pasadena hotels, check with them regarding parking rates, and ask if they are within walking distance of the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. There are three parking areas adjacent to the Pasadena Civic Auditorium (parking fees may be subject to change):
- NW corner of E. Green St. and Marengo Ave. ($13.00)
- Pasadena Convention Center Onsite Parking. Enter on Marengo or Euclid ($13.00)
- Valet parking is available at the entrance to the Civic Auditorium on Green Street ($25.00)
**GRADUATE INFORMATION**

**PARTICIPATION IN COMMENCEMENT**

You are eligible to participate in the 2019 Commencement Ceremony if you anticipate you will complete all graduation requirements by December 31, 2019. Degree requirements for each University program can be found in the University Catalog. If you are unsure if you are eligible to participate in the 2019 Commencement Ceremony, please contact your College’s Student Affairs Professional for additional information.

**Attendance at Commencement is mandatory for all WesternU students.** Unless special permission has been granted by the Dean of your college, you must participate. If the Dean grants special permission for excusal from commencement, you may be required to present yourself to the Dean (or their designee) at another specified date to take your profession’s oath. Requests for excusal will only be granted for extenuating circumstances, such as a prior military commitment. Please contact your College’s Student Affairs Professional to discuss.

All graduates are assessed a $350.00 non-refundable graduation fee in their final year of studies. The graduation fee covers the cost of your academic regalia (cap, gown and academic hood), degree audit/diploma processing, diploma and graduation celebration. Note: Students who elect not to participate in their College’s graduation celebration are not eligible for a refund of any portion of the graduation fee.

**HALL C**

At the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, graduates will check-in in Exhibit Hall C, located directly behind the Pasadena Civic Auditorium (see map on page four). Look for the directional signs to the graduate check-in. Graduates will be lined up in alphabetical order by program. Faculty and staff from the University and your College will be supervising the line-up procedure for the processional. Please follow their instructions. Graduates should plan to arrive no later than **8:00 a.m.** for the morning ceremonies and **1:45 p.m.** for the afternoon.

**COMMENCEMENT TICKETING**

In order to ensure adequate seating for all, guests of graduates will be required to possess a ticket in order to gain admittance to the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. (Attendees of the College of Veterinary Medicine Ceremony are not required to have a ticket to enter.)

All students are provided with six (6) general admission tickets and two (2) Family Hooder tickets for a total of eight (8) graduation tickets. If you are receiving two degrees at the Commencement Ceremony (e.g. DPM and MSHS), you will receive two (2) additional Family Hooder tickets; one set for each degree. In January, you will receive instructions for completing the ‘Graduate Participation Form’ where you can request additional tickets, if available.

All guest seating (with the exception of Family Hooders) is General Admission and on a First Come, First Serve Basis. Auditorium doors will open for guests one hour before each ceremony. Auditorium doors will close before the ceremony begins to clear the lobby and aisles to prepare for the academic procession (graduates and faculty marching in). The doors will reopen after the processional, national anthem and invocation (approximately 30 minutes). Late arriving guests will be seated immediately following the invocation.
WESTERNU ACADEMIC REGALIA

Your academic regalia (cap, gown, and academic hood) can be purchased online from Jostens’ beginning January 7, 2019. While the cost of your academic regalia is covered by your graduation fee, you will be required to pay shipping and handling (approximately $15.00). Your cap and gown will be mailed directly to the address you provide when ordering. Your academic hood will be shipped to the University and given to you on stage. Your academic regalia is yours to keep after the Commencement ceremony.

All WesternU Commencement participants must be attired in the appropriate WesternU academic regalia. Graduates who are members of nationally recognized, registered student organizations or registered honors organizations during their studies at WesternU may request authorization to wear additional regalia from those organizations during the Commencement ceremony. The only types of additional regalia items approved are honor cords or stoles. Medallions are not approved items of regalia.

If you wish to wear any additional regalia items, please complete the following steps:

1) Check to see if your club or organization is approved and listed on the [University Student Affairs](#) website. If your club/organization is listed, you may bring your honors cords or stole directly to Commencement.
2) If your club/organization is not listed, you will need to request permission to wear the regalia from the Student Affairs personnel within your College.

Graduates may also wear one (1) lei during the Commencement ceremony; however, you will be asked to remove it prior to going on stage to obtain your diploma and receive your academic hood. If you do not wish to leave it on your seat, please carry the lei on stage over your left arm.

Graduates are not permitted to add decorations to their mortarboards or tams. Graduates found to be out of compliance during line-up will be asked to remove unapproved items.

Graduates are asked to leave all ‘carry-along’ items (purses, cell phones, electronic devices, books, flowers, etc.) with family members or in your car. Graduates should not carry anything during the processional.

GRADUATE BEHAVIOR

Commencement is a dignified occasion. Participants are expected to conduct themselves accordingly. The behavior of each graduate helps to set the tone for this important event. Graduates and families look forward to this milestone with excitement and anticipation. The ceremony and appropriate behavior by the graduates will create positive memories for all who attend. Students and guests are expected to remain seated until the ceremony has concluded.
WesternU’s Commencement ceremonies follow a set order of exercises. At the start of the ceremony, graduates, then faculty and administration process into the auditorium and to their seats. Graduates will be seated in sections C and D at the front of the auditorium.

After the National Anthem is performed and the Invocation is given, the President and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees will give their welcoming remarks. Then, the keynote speaker will be presented with an honorary degree (if eligible) and give the Commencement Address. After the keynote speech, the President and the Dean will approach the podium, and the President will ask candidates for a specific degree to stand as he confers their degree. After the degree is conferred, all graduates can be seated except for those approaching the stage to receive their diploma.

At the prompting of the College Marshal, the first row will approach the stage and stand in front of the steps on the far right side of the stage. The ceremony will move from stage right to stage left (as you face the stage). Each graduate will be called to the stage in alphabetical order. A faculty member will be positioned at the stage steps to check the alphabetical order of the graduates before they go on stage.

Once your name has been announced, go to the diploma table, shake hands with the Dean and receive your stage diploma from the President. A professional photograph will be taken by a University photographer. After the photograph, walk across the stage to the hooding table to meet your Family Hooder(s). Turn with your back to the Family Hooder(s) and stand on the “X” marked on the floor. If you are taller than your Family Hooders(s), squat down so they can place your hood on you. Another photograph will be taken, so be sure you and your Family Hooder(s) face the photographer.

After the photograph, immediately leave the stage with your Family Hooder(s). At the bottom of the exit stairs, the Alumni Representative will give you your alumni pin. Once you have your alumni pin, return to your seat. Your Family Hooder(s) will be directed to return to their seats in the loge. All graduates should remain in their seat until the end of the ceremony.

After the President gives his closing remarks, the faculty and administration will recess out of the auditorium. Graduates will recess out of the auditorium and are required to return to Exhibit Hall C for their class photograph.
FAMILY HOODING

Western University of Health Sciences proudly offers our graduates the opportunity to have two (2) family members/friends join them on stage to bestow them with the academic hood signifying their degree. Family Hooders must be **12 years of age or older**. If one of your Family Hooders is a minor, they must be accompanied by an adult, who will count as one of the Family Hooders. No exceptions to the Family Hooeder policy will be granted due to safety and liability issues.

Instructions for your Family Hooders and a video showing the hooding process are available on the [Commencement website](#). Please urge your Family Hooders to review the instructions and video prior to the Commencement ceremony. Your Family Hooders may also review the instructional video in the Conference Center prior to the Commencement ceremony, where they will also have an opportunity to practice placing the academic hood.

CLASS PHOTOGRAPH

Your official class photograph will be taken immediately following the ceremony in Exhibit Hall C. The College Marshal will lead you to a designated area. Please stay in line during the recessional through to Exhibit Hall C. **All leis and stoles must be removed from your robe prior to the class photograph.** Following the photo session, you may obtain your official diploma (if available) and then join your family.

DIPLOMAS

Official diplomas will not be issued until the conclusion of the Commencement ceremony and completion of your class photograph. If you have completed all of your graduation requirements and received a confirmation e-mail from the Office of the Registrar, you may pick-up your diploma in Exhibit Hall C.

Diploma frames can be purchased from the [University Bookstore](#) on the day of the ceremony or in advance on their website. Master’s diplomas measure 11 x 14 inches, while Doctoral diplomas measure 12 x 15 inches.

UNIVERSITY HONORS

To receive University Highest Honors upon graduation, a student must be in the top 3% of their graduating class AND have a GPA greater than or equal to 3.75. To receive University Honors upon graduation, a student must be in the top 4-10% of their graduating class AND have a GPA greater than or equal to 3.75.

Students eligible for University Highest Honors or Honors will be given an honor cord to wear during the Commencement ceremony. Highest Honors and Honors are also noted on the student’s transcript and diploma.

GRADUATE CELEBRATIONS

Graduate celebrations are planned by your College/Program and typically take place during Commencement week. For a full schedule of planned celebrations, please visit the [Commencement website](#).
GUEST INFORMATION

The Commencement Exercises will take place in the Pasadena Civic Auditorium, located at 300 E. Green Street, Pasadena, California, 91101. The public will enter the auditorium through the main entrance. Guests must present their ticket or Family Hooder floor pass to gain entry to the auditorium. No tickets are required for the College of Veterinary Medicine ceremony.

No balloons, tripods, strollers, large signs, air horns, bright camera lights or other items that may obstruct other guests view will be permitted in the auditorium.

The processional starts promptly at 9:30 a.m. for the morning ceremonies and 3:00 p.m. for the afternoon ceremonies. The auditorium doors will close temporarily from approximately 9:20 – 9:45 a.m. (morning ceremonies) or 2:45 – 3:15 p.m. (afternoon ceremonies) for the processional. Auditorium doors will re-open for guests after the National Anthem and Invocation.

Please encourage your family members and guests to allow ample time to arrive, park and be seated in the auditorium.

CAMPUS TOURS

The Office of University Recruitment and Strategic Enrollment Management at Western University of Health Sciences is pleased to announce that we will be offering campus tours to families and guests of graduates on Tuesday, May 21st.

Tours will be offered at 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. and will last approximately one hour. The campus tour experience will give you the opportunity to learn about the University's history, campus-wide educational experiences and see the facilities first-hand!

To register for a campus tour, please sign up on the Commencement website.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

We have reserved rooms at special rates at several hotels in the Pasadena and Pomona areas for our WesternU graduates, their families and friends. You must contact the hotel directly for reservations. Please inform the operator that you are inquiring about rooms reserved for Western University of Health Sciences.

Call early before all WesternU rooms are reserved. After the "reserve by" dates, rooms are subject to availability and special rates may not be honored. Keep in mind, during the week of Commencement, there will be a number of large conferences in the Pasadena area, so make your reservations early. You can access a listing of participating hotels on the Commencement website.

The Pasadena Civic Auditorium is located directly across E. Green Street from the Paseo Colorado, a great place to shop and dine. The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce has compiled a list of places to eat Where to Eat in Pasadena.
SERVICES

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR GRADUATES AND GUESTS

To request accommodations in advance, you must indicate your needs when you complete the Graduate Participation Form. Please note, only graduates have access to the request form. Should you need to speak to anyone regarding your request, the friendly staff at the Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy/Accommodations and Resource Center (CDHP/AARC) available to assist you with your needs.

LaDonna Cash | lcash@westernu.edu
Administrative Associate, CDHP/AARC
(909) 469-5492

WesternU's Commencement Assistants will be on site and available to assist you with the following:

- **Wheelchair Assistance**: Wheelchairs will be on site for those who may need them, and seating has been reserved for wheelchair access. Staff will be available to help you to your seat should you or your guests need assistance.
- **Family Hooders Who Require Assistance**: The section of the auditorium reserved for Family Hooders is at the top of a long flight of stairs. If one of your Family Hooders is unable to ascend or descend stairs easily, they can request to be seated on the main floor.
- **Deaf/Hard of Hearing**: Reserved seating has been set aside for anyone needing a sign language interpreter. Captioning and assistive listening devices can also be made available upon request.
- **Blind/Visually Impaired**: Seating arrangements can be made for anyone with a visual impairment.
- **Other Needs**: If you or your guests need other disability related accommodations, we will be happy to work with you.

SERVICE ANIMALS

Pets and other animals are not permitted with the exception of service animals (i.e., dogs and miniature horses) defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as animals that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability. Service animals are work animals, not pets.

EMERGENCIES

EMT’s from the Pasadena Civic Auditorium will be on duty during the Commencement ceremonies to provide first aid assistance in the event of any medical emergencies or illnesses. If you need assistance, please let one of the Commencement Assistants (in white robes) know and they will contact the appropriate personnel.

LOST AND FOUND

In the event that you lose an item during the Commencement Exercises, please check with the Information Booth at the front of the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. All items not picked up during the ceremonies will be given to the security department at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium.
VENDORS
As a convenience and service to our Commencement guests, the University has contracted with select vendors to provide flower leis. The University Bookstore will also be on site and offers diploma frames, WesternU apparel, and other assorted WesternU items for purchase.

PRINTED PROGRAMS
Commencement programs will be placed on each graduate’s seat for use during the ceremony. Programs will be distributed to guests as they are seated prior to the start of each ceremony. If you wish to request additional Commencement programs after the ceremony, please contact the Office of Special Events at 909-469-5439. A limited number of additional programs may be available and will be distributed on a First Come, First Serve Basis.

CEREMONY PHOTOGRAPHS/VIDEOS
Individual graduate photographs of the diploma and hooding ceremonies will be taken on stage. You may purchase these photographs directly from GradImages once they become available. A DVD of the entire ceremony will also be available. For additional information, please visit the Commencement website.

CEREMONY WEBCAST
Family and friends who are unable to attend your Commencement ceremony may view the webcast of the Ceremony via the Commencement website. For additional information, please visit the Commencement website.
FACULTY INFORMATION

PLAN YOUR ARRIVAL

Faculty robing and line-up will occur in the Gold Room on the second floor of the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Please be sure to leave yourself plenty of time to find parking. It is essential that you arrive on time so that we can obtain an accurate head count prior to the start of the processional. Faculty should plan to arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. for the morning ceremonies and 1:45 p.m. for the afternoon.

Faculty arriving late will not be included in the processional or seated on the stage after the processional begins.

REQUEST ACCOMMODATIONS (IF APPLICABLE)

If you are participating in the processional, but need an accommodation e.g. being pre-seated), please e-mail LaDonna Cash in the Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy at least one week prior to Commencement. Pre-seated faculty will have access to the stage 15 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony.

DETERMINE WHAT TO BRING

Please leave your valuables at home or in your car. We will have assistants looking after personal property (purses, etc.) during the ceremonies; however, they are not responsible for the safety of your belongings.

PREPARE YOUR REGALIA

Have your academic regalia steamed or dry cleaned and ready to wear prior to your arrival. There will not be steamers available in the Faculty Robing Room. Faculty should dress appropriately (business casual, no sneakers).

PROFESSIONAL STAGE DECORUM

Once on stage, please remember that you are being videotaped. A broadcast of the ceremony is also being streamed live on the Internet. In addition, the microphones on stage are on at all times during the ceremony – comments made during the ceremony may be heard and/or recorded.

ATTEND FACULTY PARTICIPANTS MEETING (IF APPLICABLE)

There will be a meeting of all College Marshalls, Name Announcers, Faculty Hooders for Graduates, Oath Administrators, Faculty Line-Up Assistants and Graduate Name Verifiers prior to Commencement. More information will be sent to faculty participants via their WesternU e-mail account.

LINE-UP/FACULTY PARTICIPANTS

Line-up is in friendly, not rank order. If you are a faculty participant (Name Announcer, Faculty Hooder, etc.), please check in with Kimberley de Kruif or Dr. Cundari at the start of line-up. We will place you in line so you land in the appropriate seat on stage. If you are not a faculty participant, but will be hooding a graduate, please let Kimberley de Kruif know so that she can reserve you a seat near the front of the stage.

ACCESS TO THE STAGE

Please be sure to place any items (scripts, etc.) on stage before the auditorium opens for seating. No one is permitted on the Pasadena Civic Auditorium stage once the auditorium doors are open and guests are being seated. The auditorium opens at 8:20 a.m. for morning ceremonies and 1:50 p.m. for afternoon ceremonies.

VALIDATE YOUR PARKING

The parking validation machine, along with light refreshments, will be located in the Gold Room.