Black Hawk College
Quad-Cities Campus

2016
Commencement
Ceremony

iWireless Center
7:00 p.m. | Thursday, May 19, 2016
On Academic Regalia

On at least one solemn occasion during the academic calendar – Spring Commencement – the faculty of the college publicly display their full academic regalia and participate in the ritual of a processional and recessional from the commencement ceremony. The purposes of commencement are well-known, but the reasons for the peculiar dress of the celebrants and the order of the procession are often as confusing to the audience as they are, in fact, to the faculty. This note may help to explain academic costumes.

Today’s academics are descendants of clerical schoolmen in the universities of medieval Europe. Like clergy, members of the bench and bar, and other learned professionals, the medieval scholar clothed himself in heavy robes to keep out the draft from unheated, windowless buildings. Like all members of medieval society, faculty enjoyed the visible symbols of their 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 but the use of them to symbolize the dignity of the profession remains.

Caps and gowns worn by our faculty are black. Black was the color adopted by mutual agreement among American colleges and universities at the end of the 19th century. In Europe, each university has its own distinctive gowns, varying in color and cut with each institution. A European commencement is a far more colorful occasion than its American counterpart.

There are four basic academic degrees: the associate degree, the baccalaureate or bachelor’s degree, the master’s degree and the doctorate. Each has a special robe. The associate and bachelor’s gowns are trim, neat and unadorned, as benefits apprentices. The master’s gown is still simple, but fuller, with a hood draped from the shoulders down the back. Once used to keep the shaved heads of medieval clerks from freezing, the hood now is solely a badge of degree of scholarly achievement. The master’s hood is small and narrow, but displays the colors of the institution that awarded the degree. The doctorate robe has a generous cut, is faced with velvet, and emblazoned with velvet stripes on the ample sleeves. Most of the velvet facings and chevrons or stripes are black, but some are other colors. According to personal taste, doctors may display the color of their doctoral degree on their sleeves and facings: for example; royal blue for philosophy, green for medicine, purple for law, scarlet for theology. The doctor’s hood is lined in satin with the colors of the degree itself. All academic costumes include the square cap called a mortarboard. The doctor’s tassels may be either black or gold. Tassels of all other degrees may be black or the colors of the college or department from which the student graduated or is graduating.

Stage party members wearing black, gold and red hoods are members of the Black Hawk College Board of Trustees. Their hoods do not represent academic rank; they indicate the trustees’ public service through their governance of the local college district. The three colors represent an integration of the colors of the college’s Quad-Cities Campus and East Campus.

Graduating nurses will also receive a pin tonight as they leave the stage. The first pinning ceremony directly related to graduating nurses occurred in the 1860s at the Nightingale School of Nursing at St. Thomas Hospital in London. Florence Nightingale had been awarded the Red Cross of Saint George for her extraordinary service to the Crimean War. By 1916, pinning was common in schools across the United Kingdom and North America. The pinning ceremony is rich in both beauty and tradition. The nursing pin has become a distinctive mark of nursing excellence and service to others. It also indicates to patients and others that the nurse has completed a nursing education program.
The Black Hawk College Seal

The official college seal was adopted in May 1969. It incorporates some of the oldest symbols known. The “Y,” or fork, is a key sign symbolizing the up reaching spirit, the striving of being. Above the key sign is the flame which represents knowledge, specifically the knowledge of liberal arts and sciences programs. The old chemical sign at right is for basic metals, which represents vocational and technical education. On the left is the philosopher’s sign which describes the nature of human intellect and symbolizes the active intellect present in adults who continue their education. The enclosing circle represents the continuing circle of education. The Latin phrase, Collegium Pro Populo, identifies Black Hawk as the College for the People.

Graduation Honors

- **Summa Cum Laude graduates** are identified by a gold honor cord.  
  *(60 hours at Black Hawk College and a 3.95 GPA or higher)*
- **Magna Cum Laude graduates** are identified by a white honor cord.  
  *(45 hours at Black Hawk College and a 3.85 GPA or higher)*
- **Cum Laude graduates** are identified by a red honor cord.  
  *(30 hours at Black Hawk College and a 3.75 GPA or higher)*

**Honors Regalia**

- Phi Theta Kappa, Honor Society for Two-Year Colleges  
  *Phi Theta Kappa graduates may be identified by a gold stole.*
- Alpha Beta Gamma, International Business Honor Society  
  *Alpha Beta Gamma graduates may be identified by a blue stole with Greek letters or a blue stole with emblem and Greek letters.*
- All-USA Community College Academic Team Nominee  
- Psi Beta, National Honor Society in Psychology for Community and Junior Colleges  
  *Psi Beta graduates may be identified by a blue and gold cord.*
- Academic All-American Award  
  *Academic All-American graduates may be identified by a purple cord.*
- Sigma Kappa Delta, the English Honor Society for Two-Year Colleges  
  *Sigma Kappa Delta graduates may be identified by a green and gold cord.*
- Black Hawk College HONORS Program Graduate
- Military Service  
  *Military service members honorably discharged or currently serving may be identified by a red, white and blue honor cord.*
Commencement Program

Prelude Music ............................................................... Black Hawk College Community Band
Sean Talbot, Director

Black Hawk College Chamber Singers
Jon Palomaki, Director

Special Prelude Music ..................................................... “America the Beautiful”
Bates/Ward
Black Hawk College Community Band /Combined Choirs

Presentation of the Colors .............................................. IL-962 Color Guard
Rock Island High School
United States Air Force JROTC
Student Marshals

Academic Procession ..................................................... Black Hawk College Community Band

National Anthem .......................................................... “The Star-Spangled Banner”
Francis Scott Key/John Stafford Smith
arranged by Bill Moffit
Black Hawk College Community Band/Combined Choirs

Moment of Silence ........................................................ Retiring of the Colors

(As the Colors are retired, please remain standing in a moment of silence in respect for our country and in honor of the members of our military.)
Welcome ......................................................................................................................Dr. Bettie A. Truitt
President, Black Hawk College

Professor Emeritae Presentation ..............................................................................Dr. Bettie A. Truitt
President, Black Hawk College

David L. Emerick, Jr.
Board Chair, Black Hawk College

Student Remarks .....................................................................................................Zachary Chapman
2016 Black Hawk College Graduate

Presidential Address ..................................................................................................Dr. Bettie A. Truitt

Presentation of the Class of 2016 ............................................................................Dr. Lee J. Weimer
Interim Vice President for Instruction and Student Services

Awarding of Certificates and Conferring of Degrees ..................................................Dr. Bettie A. Truitt
Board of Trustees
Dr. Todd M. Linscott
Professor
President, Quad-Cities Campus Faculty Senate

Recessional ..............................................................................................................Black Hawk College Community Band

A sign language interpreter will be on the floor in front of Section 115.

Families and friends may also take photos in front of Section 107 and Section 110 where special backdrops have been arranged.
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<td>Michelle Leigh Cunningham, Bettendorf</td>
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Gabrielle Howard, Altona
Desiree J.M. Knowles, Marine City, MI
Aleena Lapsey, Davenport

- Melissa McCollom, Davenport
  Rachel C. Oles, Davenport
  Jonn Olmstead, Racine, WI
  Summer A. Piloeponis, Moline
  Quananese R. Teague, Rock Island

MEDICAL ASSISTING
Robin M. Colo, Geneseo
Ginny Sue Donlevy Welin, Rock Island
- Patricia J. Eckert, Rock Island
  Akouvi Esse, Togo
- Megan Elizabeth Fanella, Hampton
  Victoria Garcia, Rock Island
  Andrea J. Hickerson, Moline
  Elizabeth Marquez, Silvis
  Kyla Nicole McElroy, Geneseo
  Monica Rojas, Silvis
  Leslie Sierra, East Moline
  Victoria C. Slink, Silvis
- Alexandra Whitaker, Rock Island

MEDICAL BILLING SPECIALIST
- Patricia J. Eckert, Rock Island
- Megan Elizabeth Fanella, Hampton
- Annette Marie Jones, East Moline
  Emilly D. King, Hampton

MEDICAL CODING SPECIALIST
- Patricia J. Eckert, Rock Island
  Jan Marie Franks, Geneseo
  Annette Marie Jones, East Moline
  Emilly D. King, Hampton

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST
- Patricia J. Eckert, Rock Island

- Andrea Castro, Moline
  Akouwavi A. Dansou, Moline
  Michelle DeMont, East Moline
- Houevisi Dosseh, Silvis
  Kelly Duyschaver, Kewanee
  Lupe Marie Eissens, Moline
  Ryan C. Erickson, Rock Island
  Guadalupe Garcia, East Moline
  Jennie Sue Gardner, Coal Valley
  Alicia Harmaning, East Moline
  Alicia Hartzell, Silvis
- Cristina Jensen, Milan
  Brenda Gail Johnson, Galva
  Amy M. Jones, Prophetstown
  Jessica King, Davenport
  Keisha M. Lenzen, Moline
  Alyson M. Leonard, Moline
  Abbie Krisin Martinez, East Moline
  Grace K. Marty, Moline

ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST
- Marsha L. Andersen, Colona
- Christina Pittford, Rock Island

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTING
- Yaneth Dumas, Kewanee
  Tara Hodshire, East Moline
- Elois Hughes, Moline
- Rochelle M. Mrvis, Geneseo
  Amanda Jane Mrazek, Moline
  Justine S. Sibomana, Rock Island

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE SUPPORT
- Carol D. Gooch, Fisher

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING
Omar Adan Aceviz, Moline
Ara Masami Alba, Carbondale
Magna Cum Laude
Rhiannon Sharnree Anist, Geneseo
Christina Bartelt, Milan
Maggie Marie Buxhorn, Hampton

- Andrea Castro, Moline
  Akouwavi A. Dansou, Moline
  Michelle DeMont, East Moline
  Houevisi Dosseh, Silvis
  Kelly Duyschaver, Kewanee
  Lupe Marie Eissens, Moline
  Ryan C. Erickson, Rock Island
  Guadalupe Garcia, East Moline
  Jennie Sue Gardner, Coal Valley
  Alicia Harmaning, East Moline
  Alicia Hartzell, Silvis
  Cristina Jensen, Milan
  Brenda Gail Johnson, Galva
  Amy M. Jones, Prophetstown
  Jessica King, Davenport
  Keisha M. Lenzen, Moline
  Alyson M. Leonard, Moline
  Abbie Krisin Martinez, East Moline
  Grace K. Marty, Moline

Kimala Larson, Wyoming
Rachel Meier, Milan
Fallon Moore, Moline
Karri A. Morse, Orion
Michelle Oertel, Davenport
Tiffany R. Rich, Kewanee
Christina M. Rubio, Rock Island
Elizabeth Shore, Geneseo
Wendy Ann Spencer, Rock Island
Cheyenne Williams-Shepherd, Davenport

PROFESSIONAL
- Edwin Forrest Moore III, Moline
  Benjamin Nevins, Rock Island

WELDING
Jared Ater, Moline
Quentin J. Gomez, Moline
Careem Hunter, East Moline
Adam Micheal Phillipson, Geneseo
Elizabeth M. White, Moline

WELDING, SHIELDED METAL ARC
McArthur Antonio Ellis, Rock Island
Austin Freeman, Milan
Magdaleno R. Lopez, Rock Island
Shamus P. Murphy, Milan
Robert Richards, Rock Island
Bridgit Roark, Rock Island
Aaron L. Woods, Rock Island

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE
Class of 2016

ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST
- Marsha L. Andersen, Colona
- Christina Pittford, Rock Island

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTING
- Yaneth Dumas, Kewanee
  Tara Hodshire, East Moline
- Elois Hughes, Moline
- Rochelle M. Mrvis, Geneseo
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Maggie Marie Buxhorn, Hampton

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