SATURDAY, MAY 16


11:00 A.M.–  Brunch. Cheatham Dining Hall.
1:00 P.M.  A brunch buffet is available for purchase; no reservations required.
1:30 P.M.  Phi Beta Kappa Initiation Ceremony. Smith Memorial Building, Alice Ashley Jack Room.
Initiation ceremony and reception for initiates and their guests.
4:00–5:30 P.M.  Garden Party. Student Center and Michels Plaza.
Celebration for Master’s degree students, undergraduates, families, and guests with the College President, administration, and faculty. Dress: Cocktail attire.

SUNDAY, MAY 17

7:30–9:30 A.M.  Breakfast. Cheatham Dining Hall.
A breakfast buffet is available for purchase; no reservations required.

8:00–9:00 A.M.  Commencement Rehearsal. Michels Plaza. Rain Site: Smith Memorial Building, Smith Banquet Hall.
Participation is mandatory for graduates and squires. Graduates should come dressed and ready for Commencement. Cap, gown, and hood should be readily available. Please eat breakfast before rehearsal, as you will not have time afterward.

9:30 A.M.  Commencement Procession Forms. Graduates to line-up beginning at Michels Plaza. Rain Site: Smith Memorial Building, Smith Banquet Hall.

9:50 A.M.  Commencement Procession Begins.

10:00 A.M.  Commencement. The Dell. Rain Site: Smith Memorial Building, Smith Hall Theatre.

11:30 A.M.–  Commencement Luncheon. Cheatham Dining Hall.
2:00 P.M.  A buffet lunch is available for purchase; no reservations required. The College will provide lunch free of charge for all graduates.

6:00 P.M.  Residence Halls Close for the summer. (No exceptions.)
General Information

Commencement Logistics and Rain Tickets
Commencement will be held at 10 A.M. Sunday, May 17 in The Dell. The seats in The Dell are made of stone, so you may want to bring a blanket or stadium chair to sit on. It can be very warm in mid-May, so we encourage you to bring conveniently sized bottles of drinking water to the event. Water stations will be also available in The Dell. Portable restrooms will be available at the base of The Dell and also at the top of The Dell near the handicap parking area. Due to the terrain in The Dell, strollers are not permitted, but may be parked at the top of The Dell by the Pines House.

In case of rain, the ceremony will be held in Smith Hall Theatre, which has approximately 800 seats. Should Commencement be held indoors, each senior will be allotted at least 3 rain tickets for guests to attend the actual ceremony (graduates and squires do not require a ticket). Overflow seating with a live webcast of the Commencement ceremony will be shown in the Student Center in Hampson Commons, Nichols Theatre, Klein Board Room, and the Quillian Conference Room – no ticket required. A system to reserve allotted rain tickets and request additional tickets will be emailed to graduates in February. Rain tickets will be available for pick up in the Office of the Dean of Students during final exam week. MAT students will receive their rain tickets at the M.A.T. Awards Ceremony.

Parking Information
The city police will enforce parking regulations on the streets surrounding the College throughout the weekend. Guests are reminded to observe all parking signs. Parking areas on campus will be marked and campus safety officers will be available to provide directions. Do not park in non-College parking lots (such as for Magnolia Foods), as vehicles may be ticketed or towed, at owner’s expense.

For Commencement, a shuttle will run from the various parking areas on campus to the Bell parking lot, the area adjacent to The Dell. The Dell is steep and can be slippery. Guests are advised to wear appropriate and comfortable shoes and to remain on the marked pathways.

Assistance for Guests with Special Needs
If your party will include someone who has special needs, please contact Jill Mazzone in the Office of the Dean of Students. Requests for a sign language interpreter and/or handicap-accessible seating and shuttle ride into and out of The Dell must be made in advance by emailing deanofstudents@randolphcollege.edu or calling (434) 947-8895. One companion may accompany the guest in the handicap-accessible seating area. Seating in this area is limited. For Commencement, handicap-accessible vans will be available for those who cannot walk into The Dell and who have made reservations in advance. There will be no transportation to the base of The Dell after 9:30 A.M. even if advanced reservations were made for seating. Vans will provide transportation out of The Dell following the ceremony; however, it may take up to 45 minutes depending on the number of guests who have reserved the vans. Accessible seating will also be available in the air-conditioned Hampson Commons, located in the Student Center, where the ceremony will be simulcast.

Cell Phones, Cameras, and Video Equipment
During Commencement, all cell phones should be turned to silent. Use of cameras and video equipment during Commencement is permitted in designated areas, but should not interfere with the flow of the program. A professional photographer will take a photo of each graduate receiving a diploma. Photographs will be available for free download on the Commencement website approximately two weeks after Commencement.

Noise Makers
The use of air horns, cowbells, and other noisemakers is not permitted during the ceremony.

Pet Policy
Randolph College has a "no pet" policy that is strictly enforced. Pets are not allowed at the Commencement Ceremony. Service animals that provide assistance to individuals with disabilities are permitted.

Digital Commencement Program
A digital Commencement program, which is a part of the College’s sustainability efforts, will be available for download on the Commencement website and will contain final information, including honors awarded.

Important Reminder
It is important for graduates to BE ON TIME for Daisy Chain, Commencement rehearsal, and lineup. Instructions for graduates and squires will be emailed to graduates.