2017 Commencement Events

FRIDAY, MAY 12
11:00 AM–
Lunch. Cheatham Dining Hall.
A buffet is available for purchase; no reservations required.

11:00 AM–
Baccalaureate Service Rehearsal. Houston Memorial Chapel.
Only speakers and performers required to attend.

1:30 PM

1:45–2:15 PM

2:30–3:30 PM
Final Friday. Student Center, Hampson Commons.
All undergraduates are required to attend this event to complete last minute Commencement preparations. Staff will be in attendance to hand out caps, hoods, tassels, and Commencement rain tickets. Master's degree students need not attend Final Friday. These students can pick up their robes, caps and tassels from Peggy Schimmoeller.
Commencement rain tickets will be handed out to these students at the Master’s Degree Awards.

4:00–5:30 PM
Senior Cocktail Party. President’s House.
Celebration for undergraduates with the College president. Shuttle transportation will be provided to and from the President’s House. Shuttles will depart Main Hall Lobby beginning at 3:55 PM. Dress: cocktail attire. Undergraduates only please.

SATURDAY, MAY 13
10:45 AM
Baccalaureate Service Procession Forms. Graduates to line-up in Bell Quad. Rain Site: Houston Memorial Chapel, Chapel Lounge.

11:00 AM
Baccalaureate Service. Houston Memorial Chapel.
All graduates and their guests are invited to the Baccalaureate Service, which is planned by fellow students. Graduates will process in their robes.

11:00 AM–
Brunch. Cheatham Dining Hall.
A buffet is available for purchase; no reservations required.

1:30 PM
Phi Beta Kappa Initiation Ceremony. Smith Memorial Building, Alice Ashley Jack Room.
Initiation ceremony and reception for initiates and their guests.

3:00 PM
Master's Degree Awards. Maier Museum of Art.

4:00–5:30 PM
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 14
7:30–9:30 AM
Breakfast. Cheatham Dining Hall.
A buffet is available for purchase; no reservations required.

8:00–9:00 AM
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.

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

9:50 AM
Commencement Procession Begins.

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

11:30–2:00 PM
Buffet Lunch. Cheatham Dining Hall.
A buffet lunch is available for purchase; no reservations required. Graduates are guests of honor of the College.

6:00 PM
Residence Halls Close for Summer. (No exceptions.)
General Information

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. 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 Disabilities.
For Commencement, handicap accessible shuttles will be available for those who cannot walk into The Dell. Shuttles will leave periodically from Main Hall front porch beginning at 8:00 AM until 9:30 AM. Handicap accessible shuttles will also pick up passengers at the far north end of the Bell parking lot. There will be no transportation to the base of The Dell after 9:30 AM. Accessible seating is also available in the Pines Cottage at the top of The Dell. The shuttles will provide transportation out of The Dell following the ceremony. Please allow time for the shuttles to return.

Handicap-accessible seating will be made available upon reservation.
If your party will include someone who has special needs, please contact Jill Mazzone in the Dean of Students Office to reserve a handicap-accessible seat. She can be reached at mazzone@randolphcollege.edu or by phone at (434) 947-8895. One companion may accompany the special-needs guest in the handicap-accessible seats.

Commencement Logistics and Rain Tickets.
Commencement will be held at 10 AM Sunday, May 14 in The Dell, our outdoor Greek Theatre. The seats in The Dell are made of stone. You may want to bring a blanket or stadium chair to sit on in The Dell. 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 available in The Dell.

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 3 rain tickets for guests (graduates and squires do not require a ticket) to attend the actual ceremony. Overflow seating with a live webcast of the Commencement ceremony will be shown in the Student Center in Hampson Commons, Nichols Theatre, and the Quillian Conference Room – no ticket required. A system to reserve allotted rain tickets and request additional tickets will be emailed to graduates this month. Undergraduates will receive rain tickets at Final Friday. Master’s degree students will receive rain tickets at the Master’s Degree Awards.

Cell Phones.
During Commencement, all cell phones should be turned off.

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.

Cameras and Video Equipment.
Use of cameras and video equipment during Commencement is permitted in designated areas. A professional photographer will take a photo of each graduate receiving a diploma. Prints and digital access can be downloaded directly from www.randolphcollege.edu/rcgrad by using the password “rcgrad.”

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.

A digital Commencement program, which is a part of the College’s sustainability efforts, will be available for download at www.randolphcollege.edu/commencement and will contain final information, including honors awarded.

Hours of Operation

Dean of Students
Friday, May 12, 8:30 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 14, Staffing in the Lobby

Campus Store
Friday, May 12, 10:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.
Saturday, May 13, 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 14, 12:00-4:00 P.M.

Cheatham Dining Hall
Friday, May 12, Lunch, 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
Saturday, May 13, Brunch, 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 14, Breakfast, 7:30 A.M.-9:30 A.M.
Sunday, May 14, Lunch, 11:30 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Skeller
Friday, May 12, Breakfast and Lunch, 8:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.
Saturday, May 13, CLOSED
Sunday, May 14, Breakfast, 7:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M.

Maier Museum of Art
Friday, May 12, 1:00-5:00 P.M.
Saturday, May 13, 1:00-5:00 P.M.
Sunday, May 14, 1:00-5:00 P.M.

2/13/2017