

# Academic Affairs Manual

## Commencement

(Supercedes PM 77-06)

### SPEAKER

The Commencement speaker shall be identified as early in the year as possible. The speaker should be a prominent individual who reflects the University's value of scholarly excellence, a commitment to service, and outstanding achievement in one's chosen field.

### ATTENDANCE

It has been the institution's objective to encourage a high level of faculty participation in the commencement ceremony on behalf of the graduates, parents, and community; and it is felt that attendance of **at least two-thirds** of the faculty, in total and in each academic unit, will meet this objective.

### SEATING

Faculty who wish to participate in the ceremony but who do not choose to wear academic robes will be seated in a section behind the robed faculty and will not march in the procession.

### CEREMONY

To the extent possible, there will be both centralized and decentralized ceremonies. The centralized one will focus on the speakers, awards, and mass conference of degrees. Each College will be given an opportunity to plan, in consultation with the Director of Ceremonies and Events, a decentralized ceremony, which will be scheduled to follow the centralized portion of the activities.

Approved: Allen A. Mori

Date: 9-1-2005