UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
SPRING COMMENCEMENT
SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2010

IMPORTANT UPDATES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1

Join in the festivities!

TICKETS:

Graduate Ticket Distribution
All graduates and guests attending Spring Commencement, including children over age two, must have a ticket to enter Michigan Stadium. There is no cost for tickets.

All graduating students participating in Commencement must attend Ticket Distribution to pick up tickets. Graduates must present their student identification (MCard) in order to receive tickets.

Please call (734) 647-6037 by Friday, April 16 (prior to ticket distribution) to make arrangements for wheelchair seating. Wheelchair seating is limited and available on a first come, first serve basis.

Selling tickets is against the law — Each undergraduate student who plans to take part in Commencement receives eight tickets, and participating graduate students are eligible to pick up four tickets for family and friends. It is expected that students will only take the tickets needed for family and friends, and that they will not sell them. These tickets are considered the property of the University of Michigan, and therefore, are not to be sold. University policy states: “Any attempt to sale, resell, donate or otherwise exchange commencement tickets for anything of value will result in your ticket(s) being revoked.” In addition, selling tickets is considered scalping, and is punishable by law.

Important: Please reference {Tickets} section for complete ticket information.

Graduate Ticket Distribution
Alumni Center, Founders Room
(Alumni Association, 200 Fletcher Street, corner of Fletcher and Washington Streets.)

Monday, April 26: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 27: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 28: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Additional Ticket Distribution Information
After graduates have received their tickets, any that remain will be distributed to the university community (faculty, staff, non-graduating students, and graduating students that
would like to pick up extra tickets) and then the general public. Each person is eligible to receive up to two tickets on a first-come, first-serve basis. Members of the U-M community must bring their MCards to receive tickets.

Additional Ticket Distribution (UM Community and General Public)
Michigan Union Ticket Office
Michigan Union, Ground Floor, 530 South State Street

University Community
  Thursday, April 29:  9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m
General Public and University Community
  Friday, April 30:   9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

GRADUATES at ELBEL FIELD:
The University has planned a number of special activities for this historic commencement. GRADUATES must go to Elbel Field, beginning at 6:30 a.m., to receive security instructions for entering the stadium. At Elbel Field, there will be free continental breakfast, photos, and the chance to offer a shout-out to family and friends via video or Twitter. A video team will be on hand to tape short messages that will be played in the stadium for family, friends, and fellow graduates. Likewise, graduates can thank those who have supported them or bid farewell to friends through Tweets that also will appear on the video screen in the stadium. From Elbel Field, graduates will be directed by staff to the stadium, in order to get through security.

Graduates should arrive at Elbel Field no later than 9 a.m. to make sure they can get through security at the stadium before gates close for the formal ceremony. Seating priority for the graduates once inside the stadium will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Once the graduate seating area on the field is filled, graduates will be directed to seating in the stands.

GUESTS at MICHIGAN STADIUM:
The stadium gates will open to guests at 6:30 a.m. All guests should plan to arrive at the stadium no later than 9 a.m. to make sure they can get through security before the gates close for the formal ceremony. Inside the stadium, the celebration continues with student musical entertainment throughout the morning to help graduates and guests pass the time until the ceremony begins. Concession stands in the stadium will be open for guests who wish to purchase breakfast foods and beverages.

What else to expect on Commencement Day?
•  Prohibited Items — As on football game days, bags of all sizes (including purses and fanny packs) are prohibited in the stadium. This policy will be strictly enforced. Additional prohibited items for this commencement include ALL bottles and containers, Leatherman-type tools, air horns, and umbrellas. Rain ponchos, non-pocket seat cushions, and cell phones are allowed in the stadium. Binoculars and small cameras also will be allowed, provided they are not in cases. Any permitted items brought to the stadium will be searched. For a more detailed
list of items that can and cannot be brought through the gates, go to the section on {Security}.

- **Metal detectors** — Security for this year's commencement will require that everyone (graduates, families, staff, public, etc.) pass through metal detection devices similar to those at airports. This will take some time, so guests are urged to arrive at the stadium no later than 9 a.m., and bring their patience, as lines most likely will be long. All electronic equipment, including cell phones and digital or video cameras, must be presented to the screening officers in a "powered on" mode.

- **All graduates must have a ticket and M-Card** — Students who do not bring their graduate tickets and M-Card will not be permitted entry to the graduate seating area on the field. This is a new requirement this year because of the number of students who want to participate. See more information in the {Ticket Distribution} section.

**Getting around on May 1**

Enhanced security for this event means that several roads and parking lots near the stadium are not available for use. In addition, the number of graduates participating this year has increased dramatically, so there will be even more competition for space on the roadways, in parking spots, and on shuttle busses. Even those who are familiar with football game day traffic or who have been to the stadium for commencement before will find different routes, gates of entry, and road/parking lot closures. Commencement participants should carefully study the maps identified below to determine the best routes and parking locations, and should **PLAN TO MAKE THEIR WAY TO CAMPUS EARLY**.

- **Roads**: Expect traffic congestion on all routes into Ann Arbor and to the stadium. Some streets also may be blocked entirely that morning, so drivers are urged to plan routes with alternatives in mind. If traffic is re-routed to accommodate arrival of the president’s motorcade, police will instruct drivers on alternative routes. At this time, the only known closing is Main Street between Pauline and Stadium Boulevard. There will also be restricted vehicle access on Keech and Greene Streets due to shuttle bus traffic.

- **Gates of entry:**
  - Graduates will enter through Gate 10, which is on the north end of the stadium, after first checking in at Elbel Field.
  - Guests may enter through Gates 2, 3, 4, and 8. Gate 9 is reserved for guests that have difficulty walking or who have other health concerns.

- **Parking**: There are a number of campus lots available for parking. See the {map} section for useable campus and off-campus lots. **NOTE**: some lots that are closer to the stadium are not being used or are for restricted parking only. Pioneer High School is available for parking at a fee assessed by the public school system. Unlike on football game days, the U-M Golf Course is not available for parking, as the ground is too wet to accommodate the vehicles.

- **Accessible parking and shuttle**: U-M has dedicated a parking lot off of Hoover Street for accessible parking {map} on a first come, first served basis. A state-issued handicap sticker or hangtag is necessary to park in this lot. This parking lot also serves as an area where drivers can drop off a guest who has difficulty walking. Staff will provide golf carts to transport those who need assistance in getting from the parking lot to Gate 9. Once through security, golf carts also will be available to escort those with needs to their sections. Persons requiring this service are asked to
arrive at Gate 9 by 9 a.m. or earlier, because the golf carts cannot operate inside the stadium after 10 a.m. Staff will be available at Gates 2 and 9 to assist guests in wheelchairs.

- **Shuttle buses:** Shuttle services are available to and from select hotels, central downtown locations, and select university parking lots. Service will begin at 5:30 a.m. and run approximately every 20 minutes, although timing is subject to traffic conditions. Commencement participants utilizing the shuttle service are strongly encouraged to depart for the stadium as early as possible. Please refer to the [map](#) showing specific pick-up and drop-off locations. The shuttle busses are expected to be quite busy all day, so users will need to expect long waits, especially following commencement. Guests who are parking at lots within walking distance from the stadium are encouraged to leave the shuttle busses to those with limited mobility. Busses will drop passengers off on Keech Street or Stadium Blvd., near the designated entry gates.

- **Concession stands:** Concessions in the stadium will be open for those who wish to purchase breakfast foods and beverages. Concession stands are expected to open around 7:00 a.m. Complimentary water will be available.

- **Information Tents:** Staff will be available at Gate 2 and Gate 9 to provide assistance. In addition, look for volunteers in bright yellow shirts throughout the stadium.

Office of University and Development Events, (734) 647-6037
www.commencement.umich.edu