

# Thirty Eighth COMMENT

May 10, 2008

AA/EE/EEO Institution

The University System of Georgia

# **Academic Regalia**

Stylized and distinctive academic regalia is a notable feature of all formal functions of colleges and universities throughout the world. The use of a particular kind of costume to distinguish university scholars evolved in Europe during the earliest days of these schools. Since there was an intimate relationship between the early universities and the church, a large number of scholars were prepared for the priesthood, and many of the faculty were clergymen. The garb adopted for students was similar to that worn by the clergy, although differing enough in design to set the scholars apart from the churchmen.

There are three types of gowns, three styles of hoods and two kinds of cap tassels included in American academic costume. The bachelor's gown is without ornamentation and has long, pointed and open sleeves; the master's gown is similar but has even longer sleeves, which are closed at the bottom (there are openings about midway for the hands); the doctor's gown has full-length lapels of velvet and bell-shaped sleeves with three horizontal velvet bars. The master's gown may be worn either open or closed.

All hoods are lined with the colors of the institution granting the degree and faced with the traditional color of the primary field of study. The bachelor's hood is three feet long; the master's hood is three and a half; the doctor's hood is four. The doctor's hood has wide set panels. The major field of study can be determined from the facing on the hood according to the following schemes: arts white, science gold/yellow, nursing apricot, physical education green, business administration drab, librarianship lemon, education blue.

The mace, a great and splendid staff, is actually a club and a symbolic weapon. Medieval universities would not defend themselves with the sword. It was not considered appropriate for gentle scholars to draw blood, but they could defend themselves using a cudgel, and they did. The mace has come to stand as a symbol for two critical matters. First, it stands for the freedom of the academy to seek the truth and to teach it. It also stands for the authority of the academy. This authority is best described by two traditional Latin terms: magisterium and auctoritas. Magisterium includes control of equipment, buildings and grounds, as well as the behavior of members and visitors ensuring order and liberty. The second term auctoritas includes a defense of the liberty to conduct research, to study, to publish and to learn. The mace makes the statement that the academy must protect and foster those ideals.

The Georgia Highlands College mace was designed by Mr. David Mott, associate professor of art, and Dr. David Cook, retired professor of biology. The faculty selected Dr. Bill Mugleston, professor of history, to have the honor of carrying the mace in the processional.

### **COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES** Dr. J. Randy Pierce, President, Presiding

*PROCESSIONAL
The Kilworth Hills
The Kilworth Hills
Mace Bearer, Dr. Bill Mugleston, Professor of History
WELCOME
Shannon Albert, President, Student Engagement Council; Co-President, Alpha Psi Omicron
Chapter, Phi Theta Kappa
GREETING FROM THE BOARD OF REGENTS, THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
AND COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Mr. Willis Potts, Regent, 11th Congressional District
PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL AWARDS
Dr. J. Randy Pierce
PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE
Regent Willis Potts
WESLEY C. WALRAVEN FACULTY AWARD
To be announced
REGENTS' ALUMNI AWARD
Judge Tami Colston, Floyd County Superior Court
Presented by Steven D. White, President, Alumni Association Board of Directors
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES
Dr. Renva Watterson, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs
Assisted by Travice Baldwin Obas, Assistant Professor of Communication
AWARDING OF DEGREES
Dr. J. Randy Pierce
Assisted by Ms. Sandie Davis, Registrar, and Ms. Sherri Beideck, Graduation
Specialist, Enrollment Management
COMMENTS TO THE GRADUATES
Dr. J. Randy Pierce
GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Mr. Steven D. White, President
CLOSING
Jessica Johnson, Vice President for Service, PTK; Emerging Leaders; Member,
Psi Beta
*RECESSIONAL
Scotland the Brave Medley Traditional

\*Audience will please stand.

The audience is asked to remain standing until the processional and recessional are complete.

Only hand-held video cameras will be allowed and must be used from your seat. Still photos may be taken only from behind the

Music provided by Carolyn Walker, organ; Marca Cox and Joe Dunaway, bagpipes.

Interpreters provided by the Georgia Highlands College Access Center.

The Georgia Highlands College Alumni Association will be represented by Mrs. Alison Lampkin, alumni director.

Sound engineering and digital keyboard provided in cooperation with Ready or Not, Inc., Lee Shealy. Large-screen video production by Georgia Highlands Television.

# COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER Regent Willis J. Potts

Gov. Sonny Perdue appointed Willis J. Potts of Rome to represent the 11th congressional district on the Board of Regents. Potts retired in June 2004 as the vice president and general manager of Romebased Temple-Inland Corporation following a 35-year career in the international pulp and paper industry. He began his career as an engineer at Union Camp Corporation's Savannah pulp and paper mill in 1969. He held a series of operational and management positions, including resident manager of Union Camp's mill in Prattville, Ala., before being named general manager and senior vice president of Union Camp in 1992. In 1999, following a 30-year career with Union Camp, Potts moved to the position he retired from at Temple-Inland. Potts served as President of the Paper Industry Management Association in 1995, and in 1999, the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry recognized his outstanding service to the industry by naming him a fellow. In 2002 the Pulp and Paper Safety Association presented him with the Executive Eagle Award, conferred on outstanding paper industry executives who have made major contributions to the cause of accident prevention in his/her company and beyond. Potts also is active with the United Way, the Boy Scouts of America, Boys and Girls Clubs and Chamber of Commerce. He is chairman of the mentoring program Communities in Schools. Potts earned a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering with highest honors from the Georgia Institute of Technology and completed the University of Virginia's Executive Program.

# PRESIDENT'S MERITORIOUS AWARD RECIPIENT

Dr. Pierce has chosen Regent Potts as the recipient of this award for 2008. In addition to the many achievements outlined above, he has worked tirelessly for the institutions that lie within his service area. He believes wholeheartedly in the two-year mission of access and affordability and is committed to supporting and developing this segment of the USG so that anyone who wants to pursue higher education can do so.

Honor Graduates (Gold Tassel):

Summa Cum Laude - 3.90-4.0 Graduation Grade Point Average

Magna Cum Laude - 3.70-3.89 Graduation Grade Point Average

Cum Laude - 3.50-3.69 Graduation Grade Point Average

Phi Theta Kappa (Gold Stole) - Members of the National Honor Society for two-year colleges

Psi Beta (Gold and Blue Honors Cord) - Members of the National Psychology Honor Society for two-year colleges

### PTK Graduates

### ● HOPE Scholarship Recipients

The HOPE Scholarship Program in Georgia has provided financial assistance to many Georgia Highlands College students each year since its inception in 1993. Georgia Highlands College thanks our legislative representatives for continuing this program for deserving students.

# Candidates for Graduation Associate of Arts

- Arthurs, Betty Dover Bearden, Andrew Clark
- Brown, Charity Faith
- Chandler, Joshua David
- • Ellenburg, Elizabeth Green Elliott, Andrew Brett
- · Goodwin, Deborah Lynn
- • Hannah, David Thomas
- Hawk, Cristopher Michael Henderson, Rochelle Marie

- • Hill, Travis William
- Holbrook, Tempest Ariel Hudson, Rita Grilliot Jones, Erin Elizabeth
- Kemp, Jessica Lynn
- · King, Cody Wayne
- Lemay, Laura Elizabeth
- Lewis, Kina Eugella Lopez, Joanie
- • McMahan, Cassandra Lee

- Newman, April Marie
- Nichols, Ansley Renee
- Nicolou, Mark E.
   Ritch, Mary Lynn
   Schoonyan, Amanda Lynn
- Southern, Amanda Lea
- • Stegall, Amanda Jenice
- Wieman, Lydia Elizabeth Woods, Jenna Lynn
- Yarbrough, Amanda Devon

# 

- Abrahams, Alina Rachelle
- Albert, Shannon N.
- · Allen, Erica M.
- Alvey, Michelle Lee
- · Alvis, Ami Leigh
- · Arnold, Ashlee Kathryn
- Atkison, Abigail Lynn
- Attaway, Ashley Danielle
- • Bailey, Jason Lance
- Bailey, Shea Marie
- · Barlow, Jonathan Morgan
- Barnett, Nicholas Kyle Barry, Chaskey N.
- Bates, Lisa Nicole Benes, Martin
- Bergmann, Tiffany Jean Bhamani, Nasir N.
   Bhamani, Naveed N.
- Bing, Elizabeth Cecilia Bingham, Erin Marie
- Black, Kecia Nicole
- Blount, James Samuel
- Blume, Tiffany Elaine
- Borders, Haley Nicole Bowen, Cortney Michelle

- Bramblett, Brian Chad
- Brand, Jessica Grace
   Brannon, Krushinda Latone
- Brannon, Margaret W.
   Brownlow, Amber VanHorn
   Bunder, Robert Brad
- Cantrell, Doug Scott
- Carlson, Nicholas Raymond Carter, Adam Lee
   Carter, April Nicole
- · Carter, Landon
- · Cecil, David Blake
- Chandler, Amanda Louise
- Chandler, Michael David
- · Chappell, Miranda Renee
- · Cheshire, Elizabeth Clare Jean
- Clark, Lisa Darlene Clark, Noah James Clifton, Allison Kimberly Cole, Justin Michael
- Cole, Melissa Gail
   Cook, Jacob Walter
- Cook, Shelby Jean-Louise Cooper, Jeromy Scott Crews, Matt Ryan

- Cruz, Deysy Garcia
- Cruz, Juana
- Daniel, Jennifer Lynn
- Davis, Heather Susan Dean, Courtney M.
- Dean, Joseph Lyndon Deavers, Erica Leigh
- Deiters, Heather Ashley
- Delaro, Nicole Cecilia Denney, Daniel Corey Dennis, Deanna E.
- Dever, Erin NicoleDobson, Rebecca Ann
- Dockery, Latrecia Freeman Dover, Jana P.
- Drawver, Shawn
- Drummond, Joseph Michael
- Dulaney, Demetrius LeJuan Dupre, Cody Wayne
- Dyer, Erin Kenzie
- Ensworth, Crystal Hollomon Fish, Emily Kathryn Fisher, David Allen
- Forsyth, Lillie Ann
- • Frost, Tremayne Rayburn

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### Associate of Science Continued

- Fudge, James Franklin Gabbert, Jerome Wayne Galosson, Ursula Josephine Gates, Janet Anita
- • Gillen, Renee Lorraine Gittelman, Ian R. Godfrey, Monica Anne
- Goode, Jessica Myong Goodridge, Justin Robert
- Gravitt, Norris Lamar
- Green, Brian Keith Green, Jessica Sheahay
- · Grindstaff, Brittney Ellen
- Grizzle, Kaylan Danielle Gum, Shelly Nicole Guthas, Lauren Miranda Hales, Franklin Dale
- Hales, Kelly Diane Hamilton, Alan Richard Harder, Brandy Rae
- Hawkins, Adam Daniel
- Henson, Jessica Nichole Hessenbruch, Brittney Lynn
- Hill, Tiffiney Nicole
- Holcombe, Kaci Miranda Hollenberger, Marian Alberna
- Holloway, Jerry Benjamin Hopper, Kelly Aretha
- Howerton, Robert Lamar
- Hunter, Crystal Dee
- Hunter, Johnathan W. Ibrahim, Ahmet E.
- Jenkins, Aaron Johnson
- Johnson, Donna Michelle
- Johnson, Paige Renne
- • Joiner, Milissa Lynne
- Kay, Ashley Marie
- • Kent, Kristin Suzanne
- Kerce, Matthew Thomas
- Kincaid, Casev Rene
- King, Aren Carlene
- King, Beverly A. Kiser, Trudy Ann Kozlowski, Maciek Filip
- Laminack, Shelia M.
- • Landrum, Savannah Joanne • Lanham, Robert Eugene
- Lawson, Amanda Michelle
- · Ledford, Kyle F.
- · Leffew, Haley Hornby Ledford, Tina Mae

- Lee, Brandon Steven
- Leonard, Eric Thomas
- Leonard, Laiuan Ouintell
- Lessis, Matthew
- · Lipscomb, Candace Rae
- • Little, Dustin Joseph
- • Littlejohn, Bradley James
- Livingood, Krista Barbara Loveless, Emily Beth
- · Lowe, Bethany Mary
- • Lunsford, Stephanie Elizabeth Luster, Jacinta Joidhe
- Maqueira, Shannon Nenette
- • Martin, Cody James Martin, Travis Brant Martinez, Maria Maribel
- · McConnell, Chad Keith
- McDonald, Sarah Charlene McDurmon, Jessica Lynn
- Mears, Nena Paige
- Messer, Ronnie David Mikulski, Joshua Luke
- Miller, Christopher Stephen
- Miranda, Elba
  - Mize, Danielle Leigh-Anne
- • Monroe, Jennifer Sabrina Moore, Michael Chad
- Moriarty, Colleen Ann
- Morris, Heather Sky
- Morris, Karissa Marlana
- Morris, Tammy Lynn
- • Murillo, Amy Carver Myers, Anna Michelle
- Nguyen, Quynh Phi
- Nikoue, Bethanie Betty
- Nolan, Lynda Renee
- Odle, Michelle Nicole Owen, R. Stuart
- • Palmer, Natalie M.
- • Parker, Keeli Ann
- Patchett, Cassandra Rachel
- • Phillips, Kodi Lynn
- Pierson, Rindi Langston Poff, Amanda Elizabeth
- Poole, Cynthia Jarvis Poor, Kelly A.
- Potts, Anthony Phillip Ouattlebaum, Kevin A.
- · Rader, Derrick James Richardson, Brittany Dian
- · Rickman, David Justin

- Riepe, Mark Roger
- Roberts, Keshia Aleigh
- Roberts, Sara Diane
- Robinette, Cari Ann
- Robinson, Katie Jean
- Rogers, Winona L. Sasser, Kayla Marie
- Scoggins, Morgan Lea
- Seabolt, Melinda Beth
- · Self, Nathan William
- Shaw, Henley Nicole
- Shumate, Amy Grace Smith, Sandra
- · Smith, Timothy Lee
- • Spence, Ryan Michael
- Stokes, Andrew Blake Stanford, Lauren Amanda Stewart, Amanda Irene
- · Sullins, Will Raden Sutton, Shandra M.
- Taylor, Patricia Elizabeth
- Thomas, Johnny Richard
- Thompson, Karey D.
- Tolbert, James Christopher · Townsend, Sarah Lynn
- · Truitt, Rachael Greathouse Turner, Jacqueline Michelle
- Turner, Rindy Ann
- · Vaughn, Jessica Ashley
- Vick, Amanda Jean Virani, Sarwat
- · Wadsworth, Elizabeth Renay
- Warren, George Jackson Warren, Rebecca Elaine Webster, William David
- • Wesley, Mary Jessica White, Jennifer Leigh
- • Wiggins, Adelia Leann
- Wilkinson, Nicholas Robert
- Williams, Christina Marlenee Williams, Christopher Justin Williams, Wendell Joe Wilson, Leah Marie Wilson, Tammy Jeanette Wimolsaeng, Avine
- Wolfe, Amanda Brooke Worthington, Tyler Lee Wright, Meridy Michelle
- · Yarbough, Lakisha Murphy Young, Kenneth Wilden

# Associate of Science in Nursing

Alexander, Erin Renee Alexander, Kelly Elaine Andrews, Jami Amandalyn Archer, Karen D. Attaud. Carolynne D.

- Bailey, Shawna Michelle
- Baldwin, Rodney Wayne Batchelor, Stacy Marie Baucom, Jessica Nichole Berny, Barbara Elizabeth Billman, Adele Christina
- ● Bond, Lisa Michelle Bonds, Dixie Denise Bradshaw, Jennifer Leigh Brown, Roderick Lamar Bruce, Lori Anne Buchanan, Jaclyn Leanne Burnette, Michelle Ann Burns. Heather Wood
- Burns, Rebecca Jean
- Chambers, Eva Maria
- · Charles, Bette Lu
- • Cochran, Beverly Michele
- · Cochran, Nicole Marie Cornejo, Tammie J.
- Craig, Heather DeAnn
- Crocker, Lindsey Anne Cunningham, Theresa M. Danforth, Amy Rebecca
- Daniel, Bethany Rae Dawson, Patricia Ann
- · Dempsey, Amanda Jane Duncan, Jeffery Hugh Dunn, Briana Diane Edwards, Tammy
- Evans, Briar L. Eze, Chidinma Ijeoma Eze, Ogochukwu Nneka
- Farris, Shawna Leigh Fisher, Kimberly Page Fletcher, Rosanna Marie

- Flin, Elaine Stephanie Forrester, Barry Lawrence Francis-Gibney, Olive Rose Franklin, Cristian Derrick Gann, Jennifer Marie
- · Gentry, Geri Shelton Gichuhi, Monica Wambui Glass, Amanda Kay
- Godfrey, Bonnie Kathleen
- ● Graff, Holly Dave
- Griffin, Audrey Lee
- Grissom, Valerie D. Gunter, Steven Del
- Hall, Christy Edwards Hall, Jessica L.
- Harris, Jaime Lynn Heath, Jennifer Marie
- ● Henry, Barbara Jo
- Hernandez, Angelica · Herndon, Jessica Nicol Hicks, Crystal Hiser
- Hobbs, Joanne Kathleen ■ • Hughes, Jimmy Greg
- • Hutton, Tamara Wyketia Ibekwe-Onwueme, Princess Mary Ingram, Desmona Hera Ivev. Nicki Kathleen
- Jackson, Christie Marie Jarrett, Candice Pinkerton
- Kamau, Pauline Wambuku
- Keeton, James W
- Layton, Jannah Christin Lee, Stephanie Marie
- · Leffew, Ashley Wilhelmina Lyle, Maggie May Macemore, Harold Grav
- Massengale, Michelle Dawn Massey, Elizabeth Marie McCrary, Nerma Sanquenette
- McGuire, Linsey Ruth · McIntyre, Kelly Amanda

- Mohrmann, Daphne M. Moore, Veretta Cetrice
- Morgan, Kendra Gabrielle
- Morris, Rachael Daniels Morton, Tonya L. Muthoni, Bernard Gitau
- . Nguyen, Bich Chau Thi
- Parker. Kelly Cheyenne
- Patterson, Carol Lee Pavne, Amanda Lee Payne, Jessica Kasper Payne, Rachael Catherine Peak, Cheryl M.
- Pons. Jessica Teems Popham, Sarah E.
- Resendiz, Teresa Marie
- Reynolds, Cristal Dawn Roberts, Jodi Michelle Roberts, Phillip Dwayne
- Robinson, Darlene S.
- Rooks, Kristen Elizabeth Russell, Anna Marie
- Sarpong, Vincencia Shirley
- Shook, Heather Michelle ■ • Smith, Brittany Nicole
- Smith. Christina Rvan Smith, Jamie Michelle
- Spates, Harold Shane
- Stein, Charles William • Tibbetts, Lauren Kay
- Tillman, Johnice Lynn Turner, Arletha Shanta Van Weort, Susan Elizabeth
- Whitfield. Denice Danvelle • Williams, Beverly Barbette
- Williams, Samantha Elaine
- · Wilson, Brittney Renae • Wingate, Candice Marie
- Wolfe, Stephanie Danielle • Wood, Misty Nicole

# +++++++++++ **Associate of Science in Dental Hygiene**

- Bevels, Agnes Brookshire
- • Carter, Emily Laurel
- • Diemer, Stefanie Lauren Johnson, Kimberly Ann Locklear, Kodi Deanna
- • McCray, Fallon Nicole ■ • Moore-Dover, Jennifer Eve
- • Olvera, Ashlev LeAnn
- · Orebaugh, Lauren Drew Prater, Emmylou Ann
- • Raven, Grace Gail
- • Williams, Stephanie Renae

# Associate of Applied Science in Business

Boxerman, Patti Woodall Dyer, Catherine Leigh McCaffrey, Brendan Thomas Moore, Brooks Bacot Wilson, Janet M. Cox, Donovan Joseph Duvall, Lisa Marie Hardegree, Holli Lorraine

Johnston, George Clower Kimberly, Brenda Ann Kumar, Videsh Nichols, Mary Margret

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# Associate of Applied Science in Health

Green, Justin Trammell

Green, Justin Michael

• Humphrey, Emily Kay

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# Associate of Applied Science in Human Services

Atterton, Shirley Diane

• Goss, Jennifer Lee

• Sailors, Mary Ann

Smith, Melissa Jean South, Jennifer Elaine Tinch, Megan Emily

Worthy, Patricia Marie

+++++++++++

# Associate of Applied Science in Services

· Hickom, Steven Matthew

+++++++++++

# Associate of Applied Science in Technology

• McGill, Christopher Joseph

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# Georgia Highlands College Alumni Association

foday, you become a member of the GHC Alumni Association. As such, you will be able to connect with fellow alumni, tay informed of the college's future and take advantage of a host of events and benefits that are explained in the letter you eccive today.

In person who attended FC/GHC and has taken one academic course, including anyone in the audience today, is ligible for a free membership in the alumni association. If you are not already a member, join today at www.highlands.edu/alumni or e-mail: ghcalumni@highlands.edu

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he list of degree candidates was required by the printer several days prior to commencement to allow for the production of its program. The status of some candidates may have changed since that time. Some will not have completed all equirements for their degrees, and some will have achieved or lost honors status. The listing of the names in this program in b way implies an obligation on the part of Georgia Highlands College to award a given degree or a given honors status. or official purposes, a final correct list of graduates will be retained in the Office of the Registrar, Georgia Highlands ollege.

# GEORGIA HIGHLANDS COLLEGE FOUNDATION Board of Trustees

Co-Chairman	Danny Cibba
Co-Vice Chairman	Iorn Norman
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Co-Vice Chairman	Chin Changhing
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### TRUSTEES

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Greg Frisbee
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Tommy Strickland
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## **Honorary Lifetime Members**

Julia Quigg Dodd Sam Doss, Jr.

Jo Heyman James D. Maddox

Murray Stein Mark Webb

# GEORGIA HIGHLANDS COLLEGE FOUNDATION

The Georgia Highlands College Foundation serves as a vital link between the institution and the communities it serves. Foundation trustees are responsible for ensuring that the college is positioned to meet the current and future needs of public higher education throughout Northwest Georgia.

The foundation works closely with the institution to support advancement activities, including development of a comprehensive campaign strategy with major-gifts, annual-fund and planned-giving programs. Through these programs, donations from the private sector provide scholarships and support special funds, programs and services.

The foundation and the Office of Advancement are currently conducting the public phase of the college's first major gifts campaign. The leadership provided by the foundation trustees is essential to the success of the college. As a regional, multicampus institution, Georgia Highlands is indebted to the community leaders who serve as foundation trustees and/or chairs of the major gifts campaign and who support the mission of GHC and embrace its vision.

### The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia

Kenneth R. Bernard, Jr.
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Chancellor, University System of Georgia

The University System of Georgia's Board of Regents was created in 1931 as part of a reorganization of Georgia's state government. With this act, public higher education in Georgia was unified for the first time under a single governing and management authority. The governor appoints members to the board, each of whom serve seven years. Today the Board of Regents is composed of 18 members, five of whom are appointed from the state-at-large and one from each of the 13 congressional districts. The board elects a chancellor who serves as its chief executive officer and the chief administrative officer of the University System.

### Georgia Highlands College Senior Administrators

Dr. J. Randy Pierce

President

Dr. Renva Watterson

Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Ronald D. Shade

Vice President for Student Development

Mr. Robert Whitaker

Vice President for Finance and Administration

# Georgia Highlands College Graduation Air Times

Both the graduation and the nurses' pinning ceremonies will be broadcast on Comcast Cable, Channel 4 GHTV on the following days and times:

Monday, May 12	Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18	Wednesday, May 21
11:00 a.m. Pinning	9:00 a.m. Graduation	11:00 a.m. Graduation
1:00 p.m. Graduation	11:00 a.m. Pinning	1:00 p.m. Pinning
-	1:00 p.m. Graduation	
Tuesday, May 13	3:00 p.m. Pinning	Thursday, May 22
11:00 a.m. Graduation	5:00 p.m. Graduation	11:00 a.m. Pinning
1:00 p.m. Pinning	7:00 p.m. Pinning	1:00 p.m. Graduation
Wednesday, May 14	Monday 21 May	Saturday, May 24 and Sunday, May 25
11:00 a.m. Pinning	11:00 a.m. Graduation	9:00 a.m. Pinning
1:00 p.m. Graduation	2:00 p.m. Pinning	11:00 a.m. Graduation
•	•	1:00 p.m. Pinning
Thursday, May 15	Monday, May 19	3:00 p.m. Graduation
11:00 a.m. Graduation	11:00 a.m. Pinning	5:00 p.m.Pinning
1:00 p.m. Pinning	1:00 p.m. Graduation	7:00 p.m. Graduation

### The History of Georgia Highlands College

In its 38-year history, Georgia Highlands College has served the Northwest Georgia community with a solid educational foundation for the first two years of college. Founded in 1970 as Floyd Junior College, GHC is a two-year unit of the University System of Georgia. It serves students who commute from throughout a large portion of Northwest Georgia and Northeast Alabama.

In 1968 the Board of Regents of the University System authorized the establishment of Floyd Junior College in Floyd County. Under the board's policy, the local community provided a campus site and funds for the construction of the initial facilities. Led by the Junior College Committee headed by Rome attorney J.D. Maddox, Floyd County citizens responded enthusiastically by approving a \$3.2 million bond issue by a margin of nearly three to one. Construction began in early 1970. The college's first classes were offered during the fall quarter of 1970 in temporary facilities. At the end of 1970, all operations were moved to the new campus on Highway 27 (Cedartown Highway), six miles south of Rome.

Dr. David B. McCorkle became the first president of Floyd Junior College on January 1, 1970, and served in that position until June 30, 1991. Following Dr. McCorkle's retirement, Dr. Richard Trimble was appointed acting president of the college and served until the November 1992 selection of Dr. H. Lynn Cundiff as the college's second president. Dr. Cundiff left the college in August 2000. During the 2001 academic year, Robert Watts served as interim president. The Board of Regents named Dr. J. Randolph Pierce the third president of Floyd College on June 15, 2001.

Now enrolling more than 4,000 students in transfer and career academic programs, Georgia Highlands College operates additional sites in Cartersville, Acworth, Marietta and Carrollton. After summer semester 2008, the Acworth site will close, with Marietta and Cartersville locations absorbing the Acworth students. The college began offering classes in Marietta on the campus of Southern Polytechnic State University fall semester 2005, and the student body population at that site continues to grow.

GHC also pioneered cooperative programs with Coosa Valley Technical College as early as 1972, and now offers joint programs with North Metro Technical College. In 2006 the college expanded the flagship nursing program to Acworth. To help ease the nursing shortage across Northwest Georgia, a class of 25 nursing students began taking classes there. This nursing cohort will be absorbed at Cartersville and Marietta like the other Acworth students.

In recent years, the college has become more innovative with its outreach and programming, offering more courses via nontraditional means to meet the needs of its diverse student population and initiating programs that serve as models for college across the country.

In 1994, the college opened Heritage Hall in downtown Rome to be more accessible to the working student. GHTV, a 24-hour cable television station went on the air that same year. It offers classes that could be viewed multiple times a week for students with scheduling conflicts. An open-access channel, GHTV is broadcast in Floyd County through the Comcast cable system.

In 1999, construction was completed on a new classroom building on the central campus in Rome. In addition to classrooms, the Lakeview Building features an art lab, an art gallery and an exhibit hall. The college's student center has also recently undergone extensive expansion and renovation.

As fall semester 2005 began, the college dedicated the new campus and building in Cartersville, on Route 20, just west of I-75. Immediately, enrollment there jumped by 50 percent. The 100,000-square-foot facility, which houses a soaring library, biology and physics labs, and the latest technological advances, can accommodate about 2,000 students. During the first semester, Cartersville enrollment reached 1,181. It now exceeds 1,700, making it the single largest GHC site.

Georgia Highlands College, which has grown significantly during the past five years, continues to offer an advanced educational foundation to its expanding student body. On August 1, 2005, the institution officially became Georgia Highlands College to reflect the regional nature of the population it serves. Your continuing support and comments are always appreciated.