



February 12, 2017

Dear Pamplin May Graduate:

Congratulations on your academic accomplishments and the prospect of your May 12 graduation. I look forward to congratulating you personally at the college ceremony. If you are unable to meet graduation requirements by May 12 and are within 12 semester hours, please see your academic department to determine if you are eligible to participate in this May's commencement activities.

Pamplin Commencement Ceremony
Friday, May 12, 2017
3:30 p.m. to approximately 5:30 p.m.
Cassell Coliseum

Listed below are instructions for the ceremony and attached is a floor plan of the coliseum where you will be seated (subject to change). Additional college commencement information is available on our website: www.undergrad.pamplin.vt.edu, and the university website at www.vt.edu/commencement. Persons with a disability, who desire accommodations to participate in the University Commencement Ceremony, please visit the following website: www.ssd.vt.edu. For those needing accommodations for the Pamplin commencement ceremony on Friday, May 13, please contact the Pamplin Undergraduate Programs Office at 540-231-6602.

The success and dignity of our college commencement depends in large part on your participation and behavior. **You must arrive by 2:45 p.m. to be seated** and remain seated with your department until the last diploma is awarded and ceremony concluded. Anyone who brings alcoholic beverages to the ceremony or arrives intoxicated will be asked to leave and will not have his/her name called. The appropriate dress is professional attire (including shoes) and graduation robes. Note that Cassell Coliseum is not air-conditioned. I am personally requesting your cooperation in assuring that all graduates are recognized in a ceremony that honors your achievements.

For your convenience, we have made arrangements with GradImages® for a professional photographer to record this special day. GradImages® will contact you by e-mail but there is no obligation to purchase. Note that if you have marked your address "CONFIDENTIAL" on

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HokieSpa, GradImages® will not be able to contact you, so you will have to contact them directly: www.gradimages.com, 1-800-261-2576. The stage ceremony will be broadcast on the jumbotron so that your family can see you on stage. A live feed of the college commencement ceremony will be available at <http://www.pamplin.vt.edu/graduation-2017> for family and friends who are unable to attend in person. The Registrar will not have diplomas ready for distribution on Friday; your diploma will be available for pick-up in the Pamplin Atrium on Saturday morning between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - **Hokie Passport required for pick-up.** Diplomas that are not picked-up will be mailed. Very important: Please be sure to log onto HokieSpa, click on Degree Menu, and enter/update your diploma address.

Due to the high demand for on-campus air-conditioned lodging and limited availability, Housing and Residence Life is conducting a lottery for suite-style and air-conditioned rooms. The registration deadline is 12:00 noon, Friday, March 17. The deadline to register for all other rooms is 12:00 noon, Friday, April 28. For on-campus lodging arrangements, go to the following website: <http://housing.vt.edu/conference/lodging.html>.

Finally, we want to assist you with the next stage of your life by securing a full-time job. The Class of 2016 reported a 87% placement rate of those seeking employment with a median salary of \$58,000. If you are still seeking employment please contact Stuart Mease at smease@vt.edu.

Thank you for your support and cooperation in making the 2017 college-wide commencement ceremony an extraordinary event. I look forward to seeing you May 12.

Sincerely,



Robert T. Sumichrast, Dean

RTS/jsa