

2005

PM Ceremonial Script, April 23, 2005

Eastern Michigan University

**Eastern Michigan University
COMMENCEMENT SCRIPT
Saturday, April 23, 2005
Convocation Center**

1:40 p.m. PROCESSIONAL
(Eastern Michigan University Wind Symphony)

Grand Marshal Thomas Gwaltney enters center aisle, ascends the stage, turns left and remains standing in front of the table at the center of the stage holding the mace. When the procession is over, the Grand Marshal places the mace on the table, goes to his chair and remains standing.

Color guard enters center aisle, ascends stage, splits and posts flags.

Marshals lead participants down center aisle: doctoral students, graduate students, undergraduate honor students, undergraduates then faculty. Participants remain standing in front of their chairs.

Platform participants enter center aisle, ascend stage and remain standing in front of their chairs. President Willis enters and assumes the lectern.

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Provost Loppnow, members of the Board of Regents, distinguished faculty, graduates, parents, families and friends. Welcome to Eastern Michigan University's 2005 spring commencement.

Please join Glenda Kirkland, professor of music, in singing our National Anthem. Professor Kirkland will be

accompanied by the Eastern Michigan University Wind
Symphony, conducted by Scott Boerma, director of bands.

(Men remove caps. President Willis steps back. Professor Kirkland assumes the lectern. Colors are dipped during the National Anthem.)

PROFESSOR KIRKLAND: (Leads singing of National Anthem)

(All remain standing. Professor Kirkland returns to chair and remains standing. President Willis assumes the lectern.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Please be seated.

Before we begin, please join me in a moment of silence to
remember our men and women in the armed services.

Thank you.

It is my honor to introduce the distinguished members of our
Board of Regents upon whose authority degrees are granted.
Please hold your applause until all have been introduced.

(Regents, please rise as your name is called.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS:

- Karen Valvo, of Ypsilanti, vice chair;
- Jan Brandon, of Ann Arbor;

- Sharon Rothwell, of Ann Arbor; and
- Thomas Sidlik, of Ann Arbor.

(Regents, please be seated.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Next, I would like to acknowledge the members of the President's Cabinet, academic officers and deans. Please stand and be recognized.

(Cabinet members, academic officers and deans, please stand briefly.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Leading our procession today is Grand Marshal Thomas Gwaltney (gah-walt-nee), professor in the department of teacher education.

(Professor Gwaltney rises.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Dr. Gwaltney is known for his devotion to his students. Dr. Gwaltney will be retiring this year after 41 years of teaching at E-M-U and 50 years in education. We will certainly miss his enthusiasm for scholarship, quick wit and service to the University.

Congratulations, Dr. Gwaltney.

(Professor Gwaltney sits down.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Our faculty marshals are:

- Daryl Barton, professor of marketing; and
- Howard Bunsis, professor of accounting and finance.

(Faculty marshals rise and sit down as their names are called.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: The marshals of the students are:

- Charles Anderson, emeritus professor of chemistry;
- David Anderson, associate professor of leadership and counseling;
- Judi Brooks, associate professor of dietetics and human nutrition;
- Gregory Huszczo (hus coe), professor of management;
- Christine Karshin (car shin), assistant professor, health promotion and human performance;
- Murali Nair, assistant professor, health promotion and human performance;
- Pedro Sanchez, professor of computer information systems; and
- Linda Woodland, professor of accounting and finance.

(Marshals rise and sit down as their names are called.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Reading the graduates' names today are:

- Dennis Beagen, head of the department of communication and theatre arts;
- Sandy Dugan, professor of foreign languages and bilingual studies;
- Gary Evans, professor of communication and theatre arts;
- Sally McCracken, professor of communication and theatre arts;
- Mary Vielhaber, professor of management; and
- Paul Dean Webb, director of the Office of International Students.

(Readers rise and sit down as their names are called.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Seated before you are members of the faculty who represent the academic departments of the University upon whose recommendation candidates for degrees are presented.

Faculty members please rise to be recognized.

(Faculty members rise and sit down as their names are called.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: And finally, I would like to introduce Jeffrey Pluta who will serve as interpreter for our hearing impaired guests.

(Mr. Pluta rises and sits down. President pauses to change pace.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Graduates, this may be one of the most important and memorable days of your life, and as president, I am proud to share it with you.

On behalf of the University community, I want to congratulate each of you.

Obtaining a degree isn't easy. In fact, in today's world, it often means juggling classes, family and work. But, the end result pays off – in terms of personal growth and development, and in a more rewarding lifestyle – no matter what your future profession.

Whether you entered E-M-U as a freshman, a transfer student or as a graduate student, you started a new chapter in your life – just as I did nearly one year ago when I accepted the interim presidency of E-M-U.

I thought I was in the twilight of my professional career after retiring from Lock Haven University after 22 years as president. Then, this position became available.

I mention this for an important reason. I believe it demonstrates how life offers many opportunities – and a few surprises – no matter how young or old – or should I say experienced – you are.

You have to be prepared to identify and then seize those opportunities.

For as Pulitzer-prize winning author Daniel Boorstin reminds us, “the greatest obstacle to discovery is not ignorance – it is the illusion of knowledge.”

You have been provided with an outstanding education and have worked with dedicated faculty. Now it is time to use these years of preparation to make a difference.

Each of you knows the sacrifice and effort it took to reach this point of your lives. Although time will not permit me to share all your stories, I would like to share with you the

stories of two of your classmates.

Would **Julie Patterson** please rise?

Twenty-six-year-old Julie Patterson, of Napoleon, Ohio, is graduating today with a master of science in occupational therapy.

Julie first came to E-M-U as an undergraduate in 1997, with thoughts of becoming a teacher. Then she learned about the occupational therapy program at Eastern and she was hooked.

After graduating with her undergraduate degree in 2003, Julie accepted an occupational therapy position in Ohio.

Working in rural Ohio can be a challenge, especially when serving five school districts in four counties.

During a typical day, Julie may find herself working with up to 20 children a day, helping them become independent in daily living tasks. She also assists in nursing homes, as needed.

Despite a hectic work schedule, she enrolled at E-M-U for her master's degree. While continuing to work full-time, Julie took advantage of night, online and weekend classes to complete her master's program in only two years.

Needing to balance school and work, she learned to be very flexible and, as she put it, "work on the fly to adapt to various situations."

Her hard work, however, has paid off. Julie is graduating today with a 4.0 grade point average.

Congratulations, Julie.

Although many of you came to E-M-U after high school, others traveled a less traditional path to graduation.

Would **Michael Kinnick** please rise?

Michael is a 28-year-old finance and accounting major from New Boston.

Michael originally transferred to E-M-U from Washtenaw Community College in winter 2000, intending to become a

teacher. Like many students, he soon changed his mind. He explored the field of sociology, then marketing, before finally settling on a major in finance.

Things were going well for Michael. He enjoyed his classes and serving in the Marine Reserves. Then, in February 2003, his world changed. His unit was called to active duty and sent to the Middle East with only two weeks notice.

Michael ended up spending nearly nine months overseas. His unit was in Iraq when Saddam Hussein was toppled and then he found himself in Kuwait trying to avoid Scud missiles. Fortunately, he came home and, one week later, re-enrolled at E-M-U to finish his degree.

Michael amazed his professors by jumping right back into a hectic class schedule. He said his experience overseas helped him remain extremely focused during his remaining semesters.

He complimented his classroom experience by serving as president of the finance club and co-president of the Dean's

Board of Student Advisers for the College of Business. He also tutored fellow students.

And, he gained valuable hands-on experience by working at the Ypsilanti Marriott on weekends.

For his efforts, Mike was recently honored with the Financial Executives International Award. He is graduating today with a 3.3 grade point average.

Having recently completed his eight-year commitment to the Marine Reserves, he is looking forward to starting work as a financial analyst with the Ford Motor Company.

Congratulations, Michael.

Julie and Michael symbolize each and every one of you who have worked so very hard to turn your dreams into opportunities for success. We applaud you for your achievements.

(Lead applause, then pause and change pace.)

Now, it is my honor to introduce the commencement speaker.

We are pleased to have one of Michigan's foremost research scientists and business leaders as our guest speaker today.

Dr. David Canter is a Senior Vice President for Pfizer Global Research and Development and Director of Pfizer's Michigan Laboratories.

Dr. Canter is a native of England, although after nearly 20 years of living in Michigan, he says his accent is more of a "mid-Atlantic twang."

A surgeon by training, Dr. Canter says he abandoned the joy of practicing socialized medicine in downtown Liverpool to join Parke-Davis. His role initially was to help coordinate clinical trials of new medicines in Europe.

Two years later, he moved to Ann Arbor, where he went on to lead all of the cardiovascular clinical research programs for Parke-Davis. If you take Lipitor, then you're taking one of the medicines he helped to develop; Dr. Canter was project leader of the Lipitor team for nearly five years.

In the late 1990s Dr. Canter transferred to Europe for three years to work in Paris, until Pfizer bought Parke-Davis in 2000. He returned to the States that year to serve as the Site Director of the Pfizer lab in Ann Arbor, which is now part of the Michigan Lab of Pfizer in partnership with the recently acquired R & D facility in Kalamazoo.

You may have heard Dr. Canter's voice on WJR in a series of Pfizer spots talking about the issues surrounding pharmaceutical research. Dr. Canter is passionate about the value of innovation and new medicines.

Dr. Canter earned a bachelor of medicine and a bachelor of surgery degree from Liverpool University, and a bachelor's degree in natural sciences from Cambridge University. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons and a member of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Physicians.

Dr. Canter currently chairs Gov. Granholm's Technology Tri-Corridor Steering Committee.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am very honored to present our

commencement speaker, Dr. David Canter.

(President Willis is seated. Dr. Canter assumes lectern.)

DR. CANTER: (COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS)

(Following the commencement address, Dr. Canter returns to chair. President Willis assumes lectern.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Thank you, Dr. Canter, for your inspiring message to our graduates.

It is the right of the Board of Regents to grant an honorary degree to individuals who have distinguished themselves and whose contributions, meritorious public service or other achievements have brought them the high esteem of their colleagues and communities.

Eastern Michigan University is proud to confer upon David Canter, the honorary degree – Doctor of Science.

To confer the degree, I call upon Regent Karen Valvo, vice chair of the Board of Regents. Regent Valvo will be assisted by Dr. Donald Loppnow, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Linda Pritchard, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

(President Willis steps to his left; Regent Valvo assumes the lectern. Provost Loppnow picks up the hood from under his chair. Dr. Pritchard picks up the citation and diploma from under her chair. Both escort Dr. Canter to a position behind and to the right of the President. Dr. Pritchard hands the citation to Regent Valvo. At the appropriate time, Provost Loppnow assists with the hooding.)

REGENT VALVO: David Canter, distinguished surgeon, scientist and civic leader, you have devoted your life to helping eliminate life-threatening diseases.

A recognized leader within your profession, you have made important contributions to public awareness of health issues, the need for innovation in medicine and scientific research, and have informed national discussion regarding policy and legislation.

Your clinical research and advocacy for corporate responsibility have affected the lives of thousands.

Eastern Michigan University and the people of the state of Michigan have benefited greatly from your selfless and dedicated service.

Upon the recommendation and authority of the Board of

Regents, Eastern Michigan University is proud to confer upon you, David Canter, the honorary degree, Doctor of Science, with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities pertaining thereto.

In token thereof, I cause you to be vested with the hood of this degree, (pause for the hooding) and present you with this diploma and citation.

(Regent Valvo hands citation to Dr. Canter. Regent Valvo returns to her chair. Provost Loppnow and Dean Pritchard escort Dr. Canter to his chair. Dean Pritchard is seated. Deans Mielke, Starko and Thomas move to stage right. Provost Loppnow assumes the lectern.)

PROVOST LOPPNOW: President Willis, it is my honor to present the Deans for the presentation of the Class of 2005.

(The President stands at his chair. Provost Loppnow steps away from the lectern. Each Dean will present the graduates from their college. The President will give an academic salute. The Deans then return to their seats.)

DEAN MIELKE: President Willis, on behalf of the faculty, I present the graduates from the College of Business.

Graduates, please stand to be recognized. (Dean Mielke and President Willis give academic salute.) Thank you. Please be seated.

DEAN STARKO: President Willis, on behalf of the faculty, I present the graduates from the College of Education. Graduates please stand to be recognized. (Dean Starko and President Willis give academic salute.) Thank you. Please be seated.

DEAN THOMAS: President Willis, on behalf of the faculty, I present the graduates from the College of Health and Human Services. Graduates please stand to be recognized. (Dean Thomas and President Willis give academic salute.) Thank you. Please be seated

(President Willis is seated. Provost Loppnow takes the lectern.)

PROVOST LOPPNOW: Members of the Board of Regents, President Willis, faculty, students and guests, it is my pleasure to present E-M-U's 10 doctoral candidates. These candidates have completed a program culminating in the doctor of education degree in educational leadership.

Upon recommendation of the faculty of Eastern Michigan

University, I present the candidates to you for the conferring of their degrees.

Vice Chair of the Board of Regents, Karen Valvo, will confer the doctor of education degrees. Dr. Robert Holkeboer, associate vice president for graduate studies and research, will assist.

(Reader moves to microphone. Candidates and faculty chair (chair has hood) walk to bottom of ramp at side of stage. Assoc. Vice President Holkeboer stands in front of his chair. Provost Loppnow steps back. Regent Valvo assumes the lectern.)

REGENT VALVO: In as much as you have been recommended by the faculty, contingent upon completion of all requirements, and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Board of Regents of Eastern Michigan University and the state of Michigan, I confer upon you, the degree to which you are entitled with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities pertaining thereto. Please come forward to receive your diplomas.

(Provost Loppnow assumes the lectern. Regent Valvo and Associate Vice President Holkeboer descend the stairs to the lower center stage.)

(As the Provost calls your name, move forward up the ramp for hooding, receipt

of diploma cover from Regent, shaking of Regent's hand and back to your seat. Dissertation chair follows graduate.)

PROVOST LOPPNOW: The first candidate is Barbara Bleyaert (blay-art), accompanied by Dr. Ella Burton, assistant professor of leadership and counseling. Dr. Burton is representing Ms. Bleyaert's dissertation chair, Dr. Charles Achilles, professor of leadership and counseling.

Ms. Bleyaert is assistant superintendent of Achievement Initiatives for the Washtenaw Intermediate School District. Her dissertation is entitled "A Follow-Up Study of Washtenaw County Graduates: Dreams Realized or Deferred."

Congratulations, Dr. Bleyaert.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Bleyaert and Dr. Burton move up the ramp, and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Burton hood Ms. Bleyaert. Dr. Bleyaert accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. Bleyaert ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Burton. They return to their seats.)

Our second candidate is Matthew Calfin, who is accompanied by his dissertation chair, Dr. Eboni Zamani-Gallaher, assistant professor of leadership and counseling.

Mr. Calfin is assistant director of housing at E-M-U. His dissertation is entitled "The Influence of a Christian Student Organization on First Year College Students."

Congratulations, Dr. Calfin.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Mr. Calfin and Dr. Zamani-Gallaher move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Zamani-Gallaher hood Mr. Calfin. Dr. Calfin accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. Calfin ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Zamani-Gallaher. They return to their seats.)

Our third candidate is Richard Diebold, Jr. who is accompanied by Dr. David Anderson, associate professor of leadership and counseling. Mr. Diebold is deputy superintendent of the Charlevoix (shar-leh-voy) – Emmet Intermediate School District. His dissertation title is "Michigan's Proposal A: A Study of Educational Finance Policy Formation."

Congratulations, Dr. Diebold.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Mr. Diebold and Dr. Anderson move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Anderson hood Mr. Diebold. Dr. Diebold accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. Diebold ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Anderson. They return to their seats.)

Our fourth candidate is Sara Duvall, who is accompanied by her father, Dr. Elven Duvall, professor emeritus of leadership and counseling. Dr. Duvall is representing Ms. Duvall's dissertation chair, Dr. Ronald Williamson.

Ms. Duvall is department chair of the Instructional Media Center for the Ann Arbor Public Schools. Her dissertation is entitled "Superintendent Evaluation and Other Influences on the School Board and Superintendent Relationship: Measuring Strength of Relationship."

Congratulations, Dr. Duvall.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Duvall and Dr. Duvall move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Duvall hood Ms. Duvall. Dr. S. Duvall accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. S. Duvall ascends down the center ramp followed by Dr. E. Duvall. They return to their seats.)

Our fifth candidate is Benjamin Edmondson, who is accompanied by Dr. Helen Ditzhazy, professor of leadership and counseling. Dr. Ditzhazy is representing Mr. Edmondson's dissertation chair, Dr. Charles Achilles.

Mr. Edmondson is principal of King Elementary School in Ann Arbor. His dissertation is entitled “The Effects of Parental Involvement and Small Class Sizes on the Academic Achievement Gap.”

Congratulations, Dr. Edmondson.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Mr. Edmondson and Dr. Ditzhazy move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Ditzhazy hood Mr. Edmondson. Dr. Edmondson accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent’s hand. Dr. Edmondson ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Ditzhazy. They return to their seats.)

Our sixth candidate is Marcia Mardis, who is accompanied by Dr. Jacklyn Tracy, professor of leadership and counseling. Dr. Tracy is representing Ms. Mardis’ dissertation chair, Dr. Charles Achilles, professor of leadership and counseling.

Ms. Mardis is a research investigator in the School of Information at the University of Michigan. Her dissertation is entitled “The Relationship Between School Library Media Programs and Science Achievement in Michigan Middle Schools.”

Congratulations, Dr. Mardis.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Mardis and Dr. Tracy move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Tracy hood Ms. Mardis. Dr. Mardis accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. Mardis ascends down the center ramp and returns to her chair. Dr. Tracy goes down the side ramp to meet Ms. Quinn.)

Our seventh candidate is Korin Quinn, who is accompanied by Dr. Jacklyn Tracy, professor of leadership and counseling. Dr. Tracy is representing Ms. Quinn's dissertation chair, Dr. Charles Achilles, professor of leadership and counseling.

Ms. Quinn is an adjunct faculty member in the School of Education at Grand Valley State University. Her dissertation is entitled "Beliefs About Parenting and How It Affects A Child's Education."

Congratulations, Dr. Quinn.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Quinn and Dr. Tracy move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Tracy hood Ms. Quinn. Dr. Quinn accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. Quinn ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Tracy. They return to their seats.)

Our eighth candidate is Michael Stearns, who is accompanied by Dr. Ella Burton, assistant professor of leadership and counseling. Dr. Burton is representing Mr. Stearns'

dissertation chair, Dr. Charles Achilles, professor of leadership and counseling.

Mr. Stearns is the superintendent of Northview Public Schools. His dissertation is entitled “The Influence of the Implementation of a Data Warehouse on a K-12 School District.”

Congratulations, Dr. Stearns.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Mr. Stearns and Dr. Burton move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Burton hood Mr. Stearns. Dr. Stearns accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent’s hand. Dr. Stearns ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Burton. They return to their seats.)

Our ninth candidate is Katrina VanderWoude (vander-wood), who is accompanied by her dissertation chair, Dr. Helen Ditzhazy, professor of leadership and counseling.

Ms. VanderWoude is president of the Michigan Association of Adult and Continuing Education, based in Lansing. Her dissertation is entitled “The Impending Retirements of Community College Presidents: A Higher Education Leadership Crisis.”

Congratulations, Dr. VanderWoude.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. VanderWoude and Dr. Ditzhazy move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Ditzhazy hood Ms. VanderWoude. Dr. VanderWoude accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. VanderWoude ascends down the center ramp, and returns to her seat. Dr. Ditzhazy goes down the side ramp to meet Ms. Vorenkamp.)

Our 10th candidate is Dawn LouEllen Vorenkamp, who is accompanied by her dissertation chair, Dr. Helen Ditzhazy, professor of leadership and counseling. Ms. Vorenkamp is an education consultant for MKJ Educational Consulting in Pinckney. Her dissertation is entitled "Michigan Charter School Teacher Satisfaction."

Congratulations, Dr. Vorenkamp.

(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Vorenkamp and Dr. Ditzhazy move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. Holkeboer. Dr. Holkeboer and Dr. Ditzhazy hood Ms. Vorenkamp. Dr. Vorenkamp accepts diploma cover from Regent and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. Vorenkamp ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Ditzhazy. They return to their seats.)

PROVOST LOPPNOW: The presentation of candidates for graduate certificates advanced graduate certificates, master's degrees, master of fine arts degrees and specialist degrees will be conducted by Dr. Holkeboer.

Regents Jan Brandon and Sharon Rothwell will confer the degrees. Academic deans will assist them.

(Provost Loppnow returns to his seat. Dr. Holkeboer assumes the lectern. Regent Brandon comes forward and stands to the left of Dr. Holkeboer. Regent Rothwell and Deans Mielke and Starko stand at their chairs.)

DR. HOLKEBOER: Will the candidates for graduate certificates, advanced graduate certificates, master's degrees, master of fine arts degrees, and specialist's degrees, please rise?

(Pause - Candidates rise.)

DR. HOLKEBOER: Regent Brandon, each of these candidates has completed a program of advanced studies. The faculty of Eastern Michigan University recommends them for specialist's degrees, master's degrees and graduate certificates. I present them to you now for the conferring of degrees.

(Dr. Holkeboer steps back and Regent Brandon assumes lectern.)

REGENT BRANDON: Inasmuch as you have been recommended by the faculty, contingent upon completion of all requirements, and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Board of Regents of Eastern Michigan University and

the state of Michigan, I confer upon you the degree or certificate to which you are entitled with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities pertaining thereto. Please come forward to receive your diplomas and certificates.

(Dr. Holkeboer is seated. Regent Brandon and Dean Mielke go down the stairs to the presentation stage left. Regent Rothwell and Dean Starko go down the stairs to the presentation stage right. Two of the readers go down the stairs to the microphones left and right.)

(Candidates are led to the stage by the marshals of the students. Candidates present their name card to the reader who reads the name of the candidate. Dean Mielke hands Regent Brandon, and Dean Starko hands Regent Rothwell, the diplomas for the students.)

(Regents Brandon and Rothwell will shake the hands of the students and hand them their diplomas. When all specialist's, certificate and master's candidates have walked across the stage, all presenters are seated and Provost Lopnow assumes the lectern.)

PROVOST LOPNOW: We work very hard at Eastern

Michigan University to create an honors environment that maximizes our students' chances for academic success. The University Honors program attracts academically gifted students to the University and provides them with intellectual challenges and opportunities to excel.

Sixty students are graduating from the University Honors program this semester. In addition to completing their

undergraduate requirements with an exceptional grade point average, these students have undertaken the special challenge of honors work that includes a major project, the senior honors thesis.

At this time, I would like to recognize the graduates of the **University Honors Program**. Will these graduates please rise and be recognized?

(Pause)

Please be seated.

Next we will recognize those undergraduate students who are graduating with academic honors.

Students who have attained a 3.5 to 3.69 grade point average are graduating **cum laude**. Would you please rise and be recognized?

(Pause)

Please be seated.

Students who have attained a 3.7 to 3.89 grade point average are graduating **magna cum laude**. Would you please rise and

be recognized?

(Pause)

Please be seated.

(Pause)

Students who have attained a 3.9 to a perfect 4.0 grade point average are graduating **summa cum laude**. Would you please rise and be recognized?

(Pause)

Please be seated.

(Pause)

Regents Sharon Rothwell and Thomas Sidlik, assisted by the academic deans, will now confer the bachelor's degrees.

(Regent Rothwell approaches the lectern and stands slightly behind the lectern stage right. Regent Sidlik and Deans Pritchard, Dugger, Thomas, Mielke and Starko stand at their chairs.)

PROVOST LOPPNOW: Will the candidates for the bachelor's

degree, please rise? (Pause)

(Candidates rise)

Regent Rothwell, it is an honor and a distinct privilege, on behalf of the faculty of Eastern Michigan University, to present to you the members of the undergraduate class of

2005 for the conferring of the bachelor's degrees to which they are appropriately entitled.

(Provost Loppnow steps back. Regent Rothwell assumes the lectern.)

REGENT ROTHWELL: Inasmuch as you have been recommended by the faculty, contingent upon completion of all requirements for the bachelor's degree and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Board of Regents of Eastern Michigan University and the state of Michigan,

I confer upon you the bachelor's degree to which you are entitled with all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities pertaining thereto.

Please come forward, as directed by the marshals, to receive the diploma appropriate to the degree that has been conferred upon you

(Provost Loppnow is seated.)

(Regent Rothwell and Dean Mielke go to presentation stage right. Dean Thomas and Regent Sidlik go to presentation stage left. All others are seated. Two of the readers go to the microphones stage left and stage right.)

(Candidates are led to the stage one row at a time by the marshals. Candidates present their name cards to the readers who read the name and any honors listed

on the cards of the candidates.)

(Readers, please read University academic honors only – not program or college designations. Please read, where appropriate, summa cum laude, magna cum laude and cum laude.)

(After the candidates receive their diplomas, they return to their seats where they remain standing until their entire row has returned, whereupon the marshals give the signal to be seated.)

Dean Mielke hands Regent Rothwell, and Dean Thomas hands Regent Sidlik the diplomas. Regents Rothwell and Sidlik shake the students' hands and give them their diplomas.)

ROTATION FOR DISTRIBUTION OF DIPLOMAS

About one-quarter of the way through the bachelor's candidates,
Dean Starko replaces Dean Mielke. Dean Mielke replaces Regent Rothwell.
Dean Dugger replaces Dean Thomas. Dean Thomas replaces Regent Sidlik.

About halfway through the bachelor's candidates,
Rachel Cheng replaces Starko. Dean Starko replaces Dean Mielke.
Dean Pritchard replaces Dean Dugger. Dean Dugger replaces Dean Thomas.

About three-quarters of the way through the bachelor's candidates,
Dean Mielke replaces Cheng. Cheng replaces Dean Starko.
Dean Thomas replaces Pritchard. Dean Pritchard replaces Dugger.

(When all bachelors' candidates have walked across the stage, all presenters are seated and President Willis assumes the lectern.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Congratulations.

(applause).

At this time, I would like to recognize the parents, spouses and significant others, grandparents and other family

members who have played a major influence in your lives.

Would you all please stand and be recognized?

(applause)

I now present the honorable Karen Valvo, vice chair of the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents, who will address the graduates.

REGENT VALVO: On behalf of the Board of Regents and the citizens of the state of Michigan, I wish to congratulate you and your families on your accomplishment today. We are especially proud that you will be representing Eastern Michigan as professionals in your chosen field.

Recognizing your excitement to get on with the celebration, I promise not to speak very long. But I would like to offer some advice from John F. Kennedy, the 35th president of the United States,

President Kennedy said, “In a time of turbulence and change, it is more true than ever that knowledge is power.” That was 43 years ago, but it still rings true today.

You all have worked especially hard to get here today. I want you to keep that momentum going. As the philosopher Descartes once wrote, “It is not enough to have a good mind. The main thing is to use it well.”

Continue to learn and expose others to learning. Use your education to make a difference in both your lives and in your communities. I promise you – if you follow these simple rules, success will follow.

And remember – Eastern Michigan University will always be a part of you. Now, go out and give it your best!

(Regent Valvo returns to seat. President Willis assumes lectern.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Ms. Jennifer Rass, president of the Eastern Michigan University alumni association, and a 1993 graduate, will welcome you as E-M-U’s newest alumni.

(President Willis returns to seat. Ms. Rass assumes the lectern.)

MS. RASS: As president of the Alumni Association, to which you now belong, I’m proud to represent more than 125,000 graduates of Eastern Michigan University.

Your diploma represents a significant investment. As alumni, you want your investment to increase in value.

You can help guide this process by staying in touch and involved, and by remembering that you play a key role in the future of the University.

Our culture is extremely competitive – that is no less so in the educational sector than it is in business. Eastern Michigan competes for the best faculty, students and staff. It also competes for resources and recognition.

As you shape your own career, please do everything you can to help position E-M-U to compete at the highest level. In turn, the University's success will enrich us all many times over.

Congratulations on your achievements. I look forward to seeing you at future alumni events.

(Ms. Rass returns to seat. President Willis assumes lectern.)

PRESIDENT WILLIS: Thank you, Jennifer.

We will conclude the commencement ceremonies with our

alma mater, *Our Pledge*, led by Professor Kirkland. The words are found on page nine of your program.

Following the alma mater, we request that you remain in your seats until the recessional is completed. Please meet your graduates **outside** of the Convocation Center.

(pause)

Please rise.

(pause)

Professor Kirkland.

(President Willis returns to seat and remains standing. Professor Kirkland assumes lectern.)

PROFESSOR KIRKLAND: Eastern, sacred alma mater, to your name we shall be true. Ever marching on to victory, we'll stand by to see you through. Softly floating on the breeze, verdant green with white of snow. This our banner we will carry in our hearts where'er we go.

(Professor Kirkland returns to seat and remains standing. Participants replace caps. Wait until the Grand Marshal and Color Guard are in place.)

(Recessional is led by the Grand Marshal, followed by the Color Guard and then the President leading participants in reverse order of the processional. Return to the robing room where you may remove your robes.)

RECESSIONAL