

2010

## **Ceremonial Script, December 19, 2010**

Eastern Michigan University

# EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## COMMENCEMENT SCRIPT

Sunday, Dec. 19, 2010

Convocation Center

1:40 p.m. PROCESSIONAL

(Eastern Michigan University Symphonic Band)

**Grand Marshal Mahmud Rahman 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 following Grand Marshal, turns left and stands holding flags.**

**Marshals lead participants down center aisle in this order: 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. Regent Roy Wilbanks enters and assumes the lectern.**

**REGENT WILBANKS:** Good afternoon. I'm Roy Wilbanks,

Chairman of the Board of Regents of Eastern Michigan University.

The Board of Regents is appointed by the Governor of Michigan to have final authority in the governance of this great university. As such, we are the degree-granting authority of Eastern Michigan University.

Therefore, as the representative of my fellow Regents, the governor and the people of Michigan, I formally open the Eastern Michigan University 2010 Winter commencement.

I want to extend a warm welcome to our distinguished faculty, staff, families, friends, and of course, our soon-to-be graduates. It is now my pleasure to introduce the honorable members of the Board of Regents who are here with us today. Please hold your applause until all regents have been introduced.

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

- Francine Parker of St. Clair Shores, vice chair
- Floyd Clack of Flint
- Gary Hawks of East Lansing
- Philip Incarnati of Clarkston
- Thomas Sidlik of Ann Arbor
- James Stapleton of Ann Arbor

Associate Professor of Voice **Robert Peavler** (peev-ler) will sing our national anthem. He will be accompanied by the renowned Eastern Michigan University Symphonic Band, conducted by **Amy Knopps** (kah-nopps), associate director of bands. I'd like the audience to please stand for the anthem.

*(Men remove caps. Regent Wilbanks steps back. Professor Peavler assumes the lectern. Colors are dipped during the National Anthem.)*

**PROFESSOR PEAVLER:** (Leads singing of National Anthem)

*(All remain standing. Immediately following anthem, Color Guard posts flags and exits left side of stage. Professor Peavler returns to chair and remains standing. Regent Wilbanks assumes the lectern.)*

**REGENT WILBANKS:** Would everyone please be seated? I would now like to introduce Dr. Susan W. Martin, President of Eastern Michigan University, who will preside over today's commencement ceremony.

*(Regent Wilbanks sits down; President Martin goes to lectern)*

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** Thank you, Regent Wilbanks. I also would like to extend my thanks to everyone here for joining us at today's ceremony.

I would now like to acknowledge the vice presidents, academic officers and deans. Please stand and be recognized.

*(Vice presidents, academic officers and deans stand briefly)*

Leading our procession today is Grand Marshal **Mahmud Rahman**, professor in the department of accounting and finance. *(Professor Rahman stands)*

Dr. Rahman teaches financial policy, risk management with derivative securities, international finance and global banking courses – important subjects in today’s economic climate. His current research interests center on financial risk measurements, financial engineering and real options.

Dr. Rahman’s work has been published in various publications including the *Journal of International Business and Economics*, and the *Journal of Emerging Markets*. He is multilingual, has traveled the world extensively and is active on various committees at Eastern, including Faculty Senate.

Thank you, Dr. Rahman. *(Professor Rahman sits down.)*

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** Our faculty marshals are:

- Aaron Liepman, assistant professor, biology, and
- Robert Winning, professor, biology

Please rise and be recognized.

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

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** The marshals of the students are:

- David Anderson, associate professor, leadership and counseling

- Nancy Copeland, associate professor, teacher education
- Steven Hayworth, associate professor, economics
- James Perren, assistant professor, world languages
- Jeff Popko, assistant professor, world languages
- Gretchen Reeves, associate professor, health sciences
- Mehmet Yaya (**yah yah**) assistant professor, economics and
- Andrea Zakrajsek (**za cry sik**), assistant professor, health sciences

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

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** Faculty members reading the graduates' names as they are presented today are:

- JoAnne Aebersold, professor, world languages
- Jessica Alexander, associate professor, communication, media and theatre arts
- Dennis Beagen, head of the department of communication, media and theatre arts
- Catherine Day, professor, world languages
- Geoffrey Hammill, professor, communication, media and theatre arts, and

- Sally McCracken, professor, communication, media and theatre arts

*(Readers rise and sit down.)*

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** 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 stand and be recognized.

*(Faculty stands then sits down.)*

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** And finally, I would like to introduce Brian Lassiter, who will serve as sign language interpreter for our hearing impaired guests.

*(Mr. Lassiter stands and sits down. President pauses to change pace.)*

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** Graduates, your presence here today represents a significant achievement. Congratulations on a job well done!

Education has always been a critical component for success. You and your families have made sacrifices for several years in order for you to reach your goal of a college degree.

We at Eastern know how the economy has affected our students and their parents, which is why the University's Board of Regents approved this academic year's 0-percent, 0-percent and 0-percent increase in tuition and fees, room and board.

We believe this was the right decision at the right time, for our university and for Michigan citizens. *(pause)*

Eastern Michigan University is proud of its diverse student body. You are independent, smart and have worked hard for your education. I would now like to introduce several students who exemplify those traits.

Would **Wendy Albers** please stand?

Forty-four-year-old **Wendy Albers** of Willis graduates today with a bachelor's degree in technology management. It's been quite a journey for Wendy, who was born in England and immigrated to Ypsilanti in 1969. Her first American home was an apartment across from Eastern's baseball field.

Wendy enrolled as a transfer student in the Technology Management program in spring 2004. She was a part-time student, combining work, a family and her education.



As a media planner for Starcom, the media planning agency for General Motors, she managed a \$16-million budget for Chevrolet dealers in four U.S. Markets. She also had worked as a high-profile media buyer for various companies since 1991.

When she was laid off from her job in 2008, Wendy applied for and was accepted into the *No Worker Left Behind* program, allowing her to continue the Technology Management program without missing a beat.

Wendy has compiled a 3.9 GPA and was named outstanding student in the Technology Management Program for 2010.

Wendy has been interviewing this month, and hopes to be working soon. She is also excited to spend time with her family, homework free, and begin looking into advanced degree programs at Eastern.

“An education is the best investment you can make in yourself,” Wendy says.

Congratulations to **Wendy** and her family.

Our next student is Major Matthew Arrol (**air-role**)

The number four holds significance for **U.S. Army Major Matthew Arrol** of Southfield, who is graduating today with a Masters in Business Administration.

Four is the number of tours of duty he has done in his 12 years in the Army as a field artillery officer. Three of those tours were in Iraq.

Four happens to be the age of his oldest child, one of two he and his wife have. And four is his grade point average in a program where such a feat is rare.

True to his military tradition, Matt credits his success in all areas to the support he gets from his family, wife Brandy and children Jackson and Sidney. Of the ten years he has been married, he has been deployed for more than five years.

Matt also appreciates the support he has received from EMU's ROTC program, which helped him when he needed it and made him and his family welcome here.

In order to pursue his education, Matt signed an agreement with the Army to reenlist for an additional three years. For every day he was attending school earning his degree, he will owe the Army three days of service.

Once he is out of the Army, Matt isn't sure what he wants to do, but he knows he wants it to be, in his words, "something more robust than hurling projectiles down range."

On behalf of EMU, let me thank you for your family's sacrifice and service to protect this country.

Congratulations, **Matt**.

I'd now like to call on **Stephanie Knight**.

Twenty-four-year-old **Stephanie Knight** of Canton graduates today with a degree in nursing and a minor in Spanish.

As president of the Michigan Nursing Students Association, Stephanie has admirably represented Michigan nursing students at national conventions held in Cincinnati, Orlando and

Phoenix. She is currently helping the association prepare for its in-state convention in February.

Stephanie began her academic career at Eastern as a Spanish language major. After working at a summer camp for children with special needs, she realized that pediatric care is her true calling.

For the past seven summers, Stephanie has helped a young quadriplegic girl experience the same thrills of summer camp enjoyed by children without disabilities.

Stephanie is completing a nursing externship at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne, and she recently accepted a position as a pediatric intensive care nurse at Mott Children's Hospital.

This is also a special day for Stephanie, as she becomes the first person in her family to graduate from college. Congratulations to **Stephanie and her family.**

Our next student is **Janan (jan-en) Daniel**. Would you please stand? Janan is 27 years old and a lifelong resident of Ann Arbor.

She graduates today with a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in biology, and a master's in occupational therapy.

Janan is one of our top students in the McNair Scholars Program, which offers academic advising, mentoring and research experience to students who plan to pursue a doctorate degree. Janan focused her research on African-American women and the stresses they face as they enter the world of academia as occupational therapy professors.

In addition, Janan completed an internship last summer at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, where she researched different modalities to help patients who have suffered strokes. Both studies were published in the 2009 McNair Chronicles.

Janan's future plans include pursuing a doctorate in occupational therapy. Her long-term goals are to make a positive change in people's lives and to help others enter the field of occupational therapy.

Thank you, **Janan (jan-en)**

I'd now like to call on **Minoru (Mee-nor-oo)**

**Nakamura (Nah-kah-mur-uh)**. Minoru, would you please stand?

Minoru graduates today with an MBA in Supply Chain Management. He is a native of Osaka, Japan who came to the United States in 2004.

Minoru, 45, has received several scholarships, two university fellowships and two outstanding academic achievement awards. He also has a 3.98 grade point average.

He says he chose his field of study because it requires people to work closely together to provide exceptional quality while reducing business costs.

Minoru demonstrated this during an independent study by helping a small manufacturer implement a customer relationship management software system, saving the company thousands of dollars.

As a single parent of three young children, Minoru became very adept at balancing his studies with fatherhood. His young family became a familiar sight within the College of Business building. Minoru says he hopes his children will also graduate from Eastern.

After graduation, Minoru will begin a one-year optional practical training program as a department manager.

Congratulations, **Minoru**.

I now would like to recognize our last student. **Kevin Alschuler (all-shoe-ler)** would you please stand?

Kevin, 29, graduates with a doctorate in clinical psychology and a 3.93 grade point average.

While completing his studies at Eastern, Kevin practiced with the Ann Arbor Rowing Club and finished 5<sup>th</sup> at the United States National Team Trials for the Pan American Games. Kevin was also very active in coaching, including the Eastern women's rowing team.

In addition, Kevin actively volunteered with “Michigan from the Heart,” a student-athlete group that visits patients at Mott Children’s Hospital.

As a doctoral student, Kevin made 26 professional paper and poster presentations at national and international conferences. He also taught undergraduate courses and was a therapist in the Psychology Clinic.

Kevin currently lives in Seattle, where he is completing a postdoctoral fellowship in Rehabilitation Psychology at the University of Washington Medical Center.

His future plans include working with patients at a major medical center, as well as with athletes on both performance and injury rehabilitation.

Congratulations, **Kevin**.

These students are wonderful representatives of Eastern’s student body. Their efforts demonstrate the depth and breadth of an Eastern education, one that includes using that education to benefit our community.

*(Pause to change pace)*



I now would like to ask Regent James Stapleton to introduce our distinguished speaker.

*(President returns to seat. Regent Stapleton walks to lectern.)*

**REGENT STAPLETON:** Madame president, my colleagues on the board, faculty, graduates and distinguished guests.

As my colleagues know, I view this day as one of the highlights of being a member of our Board of Regents.

Witnessing the joy expressed on the faces of students who have worked so hard for this moment, as well as their family, guardians and friends who have supported them, makes the time we spend serving the University worth it in and of itself.

Today, however, marks a particularly momentous occasion for me in that I am honored to introduce a very special woman as our commencement speaker, who not only is a personal friend, but a champion for public education in our region.

Long before she became president and chief executive officer of the Skillman Foundation in 2004, Carol Goss has been a vibrant voice in our community.

For 20 years, prior to her tenure at Skillman (which actually began as senior program officer in 1998), she served as program officer at The Stuart Foundation in San Francisco, and as program director at the W.K. Foundation in Battle Creek, Mich.

Her professional career also includes experience in the human services field as a social worker, social work supervisor and agency administrator with the Detroit Department of Public Welfare, Oakland County Family and Children's Services, and the Children's Home Society in Oakland, Calif.

She also is the recipient of numerous honors. In 2008, Carol received the City Mission Champion for Children award, and was the Eleanor Josaitis (a truly legendary figure in Detroit public service) "Unsung Hero" recipient.

She also was one of only 25 women to be featured in the Charles H. Wright Museum's newest exhibit, "Women of a New Tribe."

Crain's Detroit Business named Carol as one of southeast Michigan's Most Influential Women, an honor bestowed just once every five years to the region's most dynamic and powerful women.

Carol grew up in Detroit and during her teenage years, became active with community service. That experience convinced her to become a social worker.

She earned a master's degree in social work and a bachelor's degree in sociology, both from my alma mater, the University of Michigan. She and her husband, my good friend and mentor Tom Goss, have three children and three grandchildren.

On a more personal note, Carol and I see each other in the most eclectic places; at football games, at parties and, oddly enough, Metro Airport where, I swear, at least a

handful of times, she and I have unexpectedly run into each other taking flights to different parts of the globe.

Today, however, we meet in front of you, the Graduating Class of 2010, as we all get to share this day with you.

Without further adieu, it is with great pride I introduce to you, Carol Goss.

*(Regent Stapleton is seated. Ms. Goss assumes lectern.)*

**MS. GOSS:** (COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS)

*(Following the commencement address, Ms. Goss returns to her chair. President Martin assumes lectern.)*

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** Thank you, Carol, 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 high esteem of their colleagues and communities.

Eastern Michigan University is proud to confer upon Carol Goss, the honorary degree – Doctor of Public Service.

To confer the degree, I call upon Regent James Stapleton.

Provost and Executive Vice President Jack Kay, and Murali Nair, dean of the College of Health and Human Services, will assist Regent Stapleton. *(President Martin steps to her left. Regent Stapleton assumes the lectern.*

*Provost Kay picks up the hood from under his chair. Dean Nair picks up the citation and diploma from under his chair. Provost Kay and Dean Nair escort Ms. Goss to a position behind and to the right of the President. Dean Nair hands the citation to Regent Stapleton. At the appropriate time, Provost Kay assists with the hooding.)*

**REGENT STAPLETON:** Carol Goss, distinguished executive in philanthropy and social work, you have exemplified dedication, honor and excellence throughout your extraordinary career.

Upon the recommendation and authority of the Board of Regents, Eastern Michigan University is proud to confer upon you, Carol Goss, the honorary degree, Doctor of Public Service, with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities pertaining thereto.

*(Regent Stapleton hands the citation and diploma to Ms. Goss.*

*Provost Kay and Dean Nair hood Ms. Goss.*

*At this point, Provost Kay and Dean Nair escort Ms. Goss to her seat. Regent Stapleton returns to his seat. President moves right to lectern)*

**PROVOST KAY:** President Martin, it is my honor to present the deans for the presentation of the Class of 2010.

*(The President stands at her chair. Provost Kay 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 VENNER:** President Martin, on behalf of the faculty, I present the graduates from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Graduates, please stand to be recognized.

*(Pause)* Thank you. Please be seated.

**DEAN MIELKE:** President Martin, on behalf of the faculty, I present the graduates from the College of Business. Graduates, please stand to be recognized.

*(Pause)* Thank you. Please be seated.

**DEAN NAIR:** President Martin, on behalf of the faculty, I present the graduates from the College of Health and Human Services. Graduates, please stand to be recognized.

*(Pause)* Thank you. Please be seated.

**ASST. DEAN GORENFLO:** President Martin, on behalf of the faculty, I present the graduates from the College of Education. Graduates, please stand to be recognized.  
*(Pause)* Thank you. Please be seated.

**DEAN BOONE:** President Martin, on behalf of the faculty, I present the graduates from the College of Technology. Graduates, please stand to be recognized. *(pause)* Thank you. Please be seated.  
*(President Martin is seated. Provost Kay takes the lectern.)*

**PROVOST KAY:** Regent Wilbanks, President Martin, faculty, students and guests, it is my pleasure to present Eastern Michigan's **nine doctoral candidates**. These candidates have completed a program culminating in the doctor of education degree in educational leadership and the doctor of philosophy degree in clinical psychology.

Upon recommendation of the faculty of Eastern Michigan University, I present the candidates to you for the conferring of their degrees.

Regent Roy Wilbanks will confer the doctoral degrees. Dr. Deb de Laski-Smith, interim dean of the graduate school, will assist.

*(Candidates and faculty chair [chair has hood] walk to bottom of ramp at side of stage. Dr. de Laski Smith stands in front of chair. Provost Kay steps back. Regent*

*Wilbanks assumes the lectern.)*

**REGENT WILBANKS:** 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 to which you are entitled with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities pertaining thereto. Please come forward to receive your diplomas.

*(President Kay assumes the lectern. Regent Wilbanks and Dr. de Laski-Smith descend the stairs to the lower center stage.)*

*(As the Provost calls their name, candidates move forward up the ramp for hooding, receipt of diploma cover from Regent Wilbanks, shaking of Regent's hand and back to their seats. Dissertation chair follows graduate.)*

**PROVOST KAY:** The first candidate is **Kevin Alschuler (al-shoe-ler)** who is accompanied by his dissertation chair, **Dr. Flora Hoodin**, professor of psychology. Mr. Alschuler is a rehabilitation psychology fellow in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle.

His dissertation is entitled, "Factors Contributing to Disability in a Chronic Low Back Pain Population: A Comprehensive



Analysis Using Continuous Ambulatory Monitoring.”

Congratulations, **Dr. Alschuler**.

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

Our second candidate is **George Boyce**, who is accompanied by his dissertation chair, **Dr. David Anderson**, associate professor in the department of leadership and counseling. Mr. Boyce is a police officer at Eastern Michigan and this is his **third degree** from Eastern!

His dissertation is entitled, “20<sup>th</sup> Century Adult Learners as Students in 21<sup>st</sup> Higher Education.” Congratulations, **Dr. Boyce**.

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

Our third candidate is **Gregory Dixon**, who is accompanied by his dissertation chair, **Dr. Ronald Williamson**, professor in the department of leadership and counseling. Mr. Dixon is assistant principal of L'Anse Creuse (**lance cruise**) North High School.

His dissertation is entitled, “A Study of Middle School Principals’ Staff Trust Levels, Self-Efficacy and Their Relation to MEAP Scores.” Congratulations, **Dr. Dixon**.

*(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Mr. Dixon and Dr. Williamson move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. de Laski-Smith. Dr. de Laski-Smith and Dr. Williamson hood Mr. Dixon. Dr. Dixon accepts diploma cover from Regent Wilbanks and shakes Regent’s hand. Dr. Dixon ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Williamson. They return to their seats.)*

Our fourth candidate is **Lauren Earls**, who is accompanied by her dissertation chair, **Dr. Alissa Huth-Bocks**, associate professor of psychology. Ms. Earls is with the University of Michigan Psychological Clinic in Ann Arbor.

Her dissertation is entitled, “The Relationship Between Adult Attachment and Trauma.” Congratulations, **Dr. Earls**.

*(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Earls and Dr. Huth-Bocks move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. de Laski-Smith. Dr. de Laski-Smith and Dr. Huth-Bocks hood Ms. Earls. Dr. Earls accepts diploma cover from Regent Wilbanks and shakes Regent’s hand. Dr. Earls ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Huth-Bocks. They return to their seats.)*

Our fifth candidate is **Jessica Hale**, who is accompanied by her dissertation chair, **Dr. David Anderson**, associate professor in the department of leadership and counseling. Ms. Hale is a faculty member at Washtenaw Community College.

Her dissertation is entitled, “Validity and Reliability of a Rubric for Online Threaded Discussions.” Congratulations, **Dr. Hale.**

*(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Hale and Dr. Anderson move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. de Laski-Smith. Dr. de Laski-Smith and Dr. Anderson hood Ms. Hale. Dr. Hale accepts diploma cover from Regent Wilbanks and shakes Regent’s hand. Dr. Hale ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Anderson. They return to their seats.)*

Our sixth candidate is **Ramona Meraz-Lewis**, who is accompanied by her dissertation chair, **Dr. Eboni Zamani-Gallaher**, professor in the department of leadership and counseling. Ms. Meraz-Lewis is an adjunct faculty member at Eastern Michigan University.

Her dissertation is entitled, “Exploring Resident Attraction and Experience in University-Linked Retirement Communities: A Qualitative Approach.” Congratulations, **Dr. Meraz-Lewis.**

*(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Meraz-Lewis and Dr. Zamani-Gallaher move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. de Laski-Smith. Dr. de Laski-Smith and Dr. Zamani-Gallaher hood Ms. Meraz-Lewis. Dr. Meraz-Lewis accepts diploma cover from Regent Wilbanks and shakes Regent’s hand. Dr. Meraz-Lewis ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Zamani-Gallaher. They return to their seats.)*

Our seventh candidate is **Katherine Porter**, who is accompanied by her dissertation chair, **Dr. Ellen Koch**, associate professor of psychology. Ms. Porter is a staff psychologist at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

Her dissertation is entitled, “The Impact of Prior Sexual Victimization and Victim Identification on Threat Recognition in a College Sample.” Congratulations, **Dr. Porter**.

*(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Ms. Porter and Dr. Koch move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. de Laski-Smith. Dr. de Laski-Smith and Dr. Koch hood Ms. Porter. Dr. Porter accepts diploma cover from Regent Wilbanks and shakes Regent’s hand. Dr. Porter ascends down the center ramp, followed by Dr. Koch. They return to their seats.)*

Our eighth candidate is **Craig Ross**, who is accompanied by his dissertation chair, **Dr. Ronald Williamson**, professor in the department of leadership and counseling. Mr. Ross is a community education administrator for the Portage Public Schools.

His dissertation is entitled, “A Case Study of the Implementation of Positive Behavior Supports.” Congratulations, **Dr. Ross**.

*(The following is happening while the Provost is speaking: Mr. Ross and Dr. Williamson move up the ramp and stop in front of Dr. de Laski-Smith. Dr. de Laski-Smith and Dr. Williamson hood Mr. Ross. Dr. Ross accepts diploma cover from*

*Regent Wilbanks and shakes Regent's hand. Dr. Ross ascends down the center ramp and returns to his seat. Dr. Williamson ascends ramp and returns to stage area.)*

Our ninth candidate is **Richard Vandermolen**, who is accompanied by his dissertation chair, **Dr. Ronald Williamson**, professor in the department of leadership and counseling. Mr. Vandermolen is principal at Traverse City Central High School.

His dissertation is entitled, "The Examination of the Implementation of Blended Learning Instruction on the Teaching and Learning Environment in Two West Michigan School Districts." Congratulations, **Dr. Vandermolen**.

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

**PROVOST KAY:** The presentation of candidates for graduate degrees will be conducted by Dr. Deb de Laski-Smith.

Regents Francine Parker and Thomas Sidlik will confer the degrees. Academic deans will assist them.

*(Provost Kay returns to stand by his seat. Dr. de Laski-Smith assumes the lectern. Regent Parker comes forward and stands to the left of Dr. de Laski-Smith.)*

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

*(Pause - Candidates rise.)*

**DR. DE LASKI SMITH:** Regent Parker, each of these candidates has completed a program of advanced studies. The faculty of Eastern Michigan University recommends them for graduation. I present them to you now for the conferring of degrees.

*(Dr. de Laski-Smith steps back, and Regent Parker assumes lectern.)*

**REGENT PARKER:** 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. de Laski-Smith is seated. Regent Sidlik and Dean Boone go down the stairs to the presentation stage left. Regent Parker and Dean Venner 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 Boone hands Regent Sidlik, and Dean Venner hands Regent Parker the diplomas for the students.)*

*(Regents Sidlik and Parker 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. Provost Kay assumes the lectern.)*

**PROVOST KAY:** We work very hard at Eastern

Michigan University to create an environment that maximizes our students' chances for academic success.

The University's Honors College attracts academically gifted students to the University and provides them with intellectual challenges and opportunities to excel.

**14 students** are graduating from the University Honors College 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 College**. Will these graduates please stand and be recognized? *(Pause)* Please be seated.

**PROVOST KAY:** 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 stand and be recognized? *(Pause)* Please be seated.

Students who have attained a **3.9 to a perfect 4.0** grade point average are graduating summa cum laude. Would you please stand and be recognized? *(Pause)* Please be seated.

**Three members** of this graduating class have completed the required courses in military science and through R.O.T.C, have been selected for commissions as second lieutenants in the United States Armed Forces. Will our new **second lieutenants** please stand and be recognized?

Please join me in a moment of silence to remember our men and women in the armed services.

*(Pause for a few seconds)* Thank you.



**PROVOST KAY:** I would now like to ask Antonio Cosme, president of student government, to say a few words.

*(Dr. Kay is seated and Mr. Cosme takes the lectern.)*

**MR. COSME:** (REMARKS TO STUDENTS)

*(Mr. Cosme returns to seat. Provost Kay takes the lectern)*

**PROVOST KAY:** Regent Philip Incarnati, assisted by Regents Floyd Clack, Gary Hawks and Thomas Sidlik, and the academic deans, will now confer the bachelor's degrees.

*(Regents Incarnati, Clack, Hawks and Sidlik, and Deans Venner, Nair, Mielke, Gorenflo and Boone stand at their chairs.)*

**PROVOST KAY:** Will the candidates for the bachelor's degree please rise? *(Pause) (Candidates rise)*

Regent Incarnati, 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 2010 for the conferring of the bachelor's degrees to which they are appropriately entitled.

*(Provost Kay steps back. Regent Incarnati assumes the lectern.)*

**REGENT INCARNATI:** 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.

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

*(Regent Incarnati and Dean Venner go to presentation stage right. Dean Boone and Regent Clack 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.*

***ROTC candidates will be the last to receive their diplomas; readers, please hold the first ROTC candidate until the last regular undergraduate has received his or her diploma cover and is starting down the center ramp. There will be a brief pause before the first ROTC candidate's name is read, then the usual pace should be resumed until the last cadet walks.)***

**(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.)*

## **ROTATION FOR DISTRIBUTION OF DIPLOMAS**

*Dean Venner hands Regent Incarnati and Dean Boone hands Regent Clack the*

*diplomas. Regent Incarnati and Regent Clack shake the students' hands and give them their diplomas.*

**About one-quarter of the way through the bachelor's candidates,**

*Dean Venner remains in place while Regent Hawks replaces Regent Incarnati shaking hands. Dean Boone remains in place while Regent Sidlik replaces Regent Clack shaking hands.*

**About halfway through the bachelor's candidates,**

*Dean Mielke replaces Dean Venner. Dean Venner moves forward, replacing Regent Hawks shaking hands.*

*Dean Gorenflo replaces Dean Boone. Dean Boone moves forward, replacing Regent Sidlik shaking hands.*

**About three-quarters of the way through,**

*Dean de Laski-Smith replaces Dean Mielke. Dean Mielke moves forward, replacing Dean Venner shaking hands.*

*Dean Nair replaces Dean Gorenflo. Dean Gorenflo moves forward, replacing Dean Boone shaking hands.*

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

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** Congratulations, Class of 2010. I now would like to have you turn the tassels on your cap to the other side, symbolizing your new transition to graduate.

We also need to take a few moments to recognize some very special people – the parents, spouses and significant others, grandparents, children and other family members who have played a major influence in your lives. Would you all please stand and be recognized? *(Applause)*

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** Mr. Eric Brown, president of the Eastern Michigan University Alumni Association, and a 2003 graduate, will welcome you as EMU's newest alumni.

*(President Martin returns to seat. Mr. Brown assumes the lectern.)*

**MR. BROWN:** Thank you, Dr. Martin. Good afternoon, graduates. Before I began, I want each of you to turn to your neighbor and congratulate them.

Now, look into the stands to find your loved ones and extend thanks to them for all of their support.

Now, I would like all graduates to stand up and acknowledge your professors for the job they have done to see that your dreams come true. *(pause)* You may be seated now.

These fine men and women are worthy of our praise for many reasons. In addition to educating us, they have served as

friends, confidants, and oftentimes as our away from home mothers and fathers.

It is because of these fine role models that you will be able to go forth and make a difference in today's world. And it was at this fine institution where a strong foundation was laid for you to become successful.

This is the same expectation that President Martin, the Board of Regents, professors, your loved ones, and the EMU Alumni Association have for you.

As president of the Eastern Michigan University Alumni Association, representing more than 145,000 great graduates of this fine place, I welcome you to the fold.

I now encourage you to go out into the world and demonstrate the value of an Eastern degree.

You have accomplished one of the greatest goals that you set for yourself. As EAGLES, it is time for you to let those wings soar and make us proud of you.

On a more personal note, please don't try to ignore those calls in the future asking for your continued support of this fine university.

The foundation that has been laid for you here is also with the hope that you will always be connected to your alma mater. With 145,000 alumni from Eastern, you'll have more than enough chances to network.

Again, congratulations, best of luck to each and every one of you and always stay true to yourself. I wish you well and as always, Go Green.

*(Mr. Brown returns to seat. President Martin assumes lectern.)*

**PRESIDENT MARTIN:** Thank you, Eric.

This is a day of celebration for everyone here today.

It's been said: "You all have powers you never dreamed of. You can do things you never thought you could do. There are no limitations in what you can do except the limitations in your own mind. Don't think you cannot. Think you can."

Enjoy and savor this time, because you are now poised to take on new challenges from a position of strength. We know that you will be successful in all that you pursue.

**(Space for additional Presidential comments)**

Congratulations. We will conclude the commencement ceremonies with our alma mater, *Our Pledge*, led by Professor **Robert Peavler**. The words are found on page nine of your program.

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

*(Pause)*

Please rise. *(Pause)* Professor Peavler.

*(President Martin returns to seat, remains standing. Professor Peavler assumes lectern.)*

**PROFESSOR PEAVLER:** 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 Peavler returns to seat and remains standing. Participants replace caps. Wait until the Grand Marshal and Color Guard are in place.)*

*(As soon as Professor Peavler finishes singing, Color Guard ascends stage, picks up flags and waits for Grand Marshal to begin recessional.)*



*(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