

## TRANSMITTAL AND ABSTRACT OF SENATE REPORT

**Date Presented to the Senate:**

**Presenter: Willie L. Brown – Human Relations Committee**

**Subject of Report: Prayer at Commencement**

**Senate Document Number: 07-08-34**

**Voting: (a) on resolutions or recommendations one by one, or  
(b) in a single vote  
(c) to endorse entire report**

**A. Statement of Issue:**

Discontinuance of Prayer at University Commencement Ceremony.

**B. Recommendations:**

In an effort to be more sensitive to believers and non-believers in attendance at the university's commencement ceremony, the committee recommends that the current practice of an invocation be discontinued in the campus wide ceremony.

**C. Committee Work:**

The issue of Prayer at Commencement was first raised in the 2005 session of the Human Relations Committee and was a carryover into the 2006 session as unfinished business. The Human Relations Committee worked on the issue over the course of the next two years and twice brought it before the Senate Executive Committee and once before the Senate (see attachments). The second time that this was discussed in the SEC, the committee recommendation was to have a moment of silence in addition to the invocation. This was thought to be a compromise that would allow non-believers to contemplate whatever it was they wanted to contemplate, without the mention of a deity. After much debate, the SEC returned the proposal to the committee.

In the last round of addressing this issue, the committee met with Diane Krejsa of the President's Office of Legal Affairs to get a legal viewpoint about the practice at the University. Much to the committee's chagrin, there is no clear stance from the Supreme Court in regards to higher education on this issue. Additionally the committee did a review of our peer institutions (Berkeley, Illinois, Michigan, North Carolina and UCLA) and found that none of the peers have prayer at commencement.

In the past three years the University of Maryland has not performed a benediction. Only the invocation has been done since May of 2006. This has not been a policy but has become an acceptable practice. The committee discussed in depth as to what does the University, faculty, and students want in terms of Prayer at Commencement and should this become a policy for all institutions at the university? It was decided that the individual institutions would continue to make that decision on their own.

**D. Alternatives:**

Leave the university commencement as is with two minutes devoted to Invocations.

**E. Risks:**

This is a topic that is as old as time and there is no perfect solution. Therefore this proposal will not be met with the approval of everyone and someone will find offense. There are no other risks.

**F: Financial Implications:**

There are no financial implications

Meeting Minutes for the Human Relations Committee  
Meeting on Oct. 14, 2008

Members Present: Chandra Bisnath (Ex-Officio-VP SA Rep), Willie Brown (Chair), Roberta Donley (Staff), William Fourney (Faculty), Robert Hayes (Undergraduate), John Lea-Cox (Faculty), Valerie Orlando (Faculty), David Rieger (Ex-Officio-VP AA Rep), Kenneth Tanaka (Faculty), Marsha Turner-Botts (Staff), Susan Warren (Ex-Officio-VP SA Rep), Robert Waters (Ex-Officio-Prov Rep), Dave Miles

Member Excused: Cordell Black (Ex-Officio-Prov Rep), Gloria Bouis (Ex-Officio-Dir Hum Rel Rep), Tarandeep Kalra (Graduate Student), David Kwon (Undergraduate), Pamela Lanford (Faculty), Carol Pearson (Faculty), James Sandlin (Undergraduate), Zhan Shi (Graduate Student), Brandie Simons (Undergraduate), Audrey Stewart (Staff).

Guest: Diane Krejsa, University Council, Office of Legal Affairs.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chair Brown opening the meeting and took a vote on the approval of last meeting's minutes. All were in favor of approval.

Chair Brown introduced Diane Krejsa. Ms. Krejsa is the legal representative who is giving a presentation on the Supreme Court rulings on the matter of prayer at convocations.

Ms. Krejsa mentioned that the Supreme Court is not clear on this issue as it affects higher institutions of learning. A 'Lemon Law' is usually applied to determine if a particular invocation is in violation of the fourteenth amendment. The Fourteenth amendment states that the United States or the states shall not make a ruling or statute establishing religion. This 'Lemon Law' states that the purpose of the invocation can only be secular in nature, must not advance or inhibit religion and cannot cause excessive entanglement by the state.

In the case of elementary or middle schools the case is clear. The students would be compelled to attend a school function, their age of discernment is in question, the solemnity of the occasion was suspect and the function would be held on state property thus calling into question the state's endorsement of a particular religion.

At higher institutions, the solemnity of the occasion would be a factor in determining whether or not a particular invocation of a religious nature could be used. No one would be compelled to attend, and all the participants are above the age of discernment.

A recent Supreme Court ruling concerning the prayer at common mess at VMI states that the students were compelled to attend and the form of prayer was prescribed by the governing authority thus violating the 'Lemon Law'.

Another case involved the display of the Ten Commandments by a Kentucky courthouse as part and parcel of other state legal documents. This was denied. The case where the Ten Commandments were to be displayed as a monument along with other monuments was deemed acceptable as it amounted to a passive display and did not promote religion.

The moment of silence option was discussed but because it was normally given by the rotation of chaplains it was deemed by some to be invoking a religious endorsement.

A member mentioned that we should either have a prayer or not have it.

A member made reference to convocations as not really being a solemn occasion thereby not meriting any invocation.

A member brought up the issue of legal risk in not including prayer but voiced concern about being uncomfortable with this part of the convocation ceremony.

Another issue concerned a guest speaker's mention of prayer or religion, but this was not considered to be indoctrination but only a small part of the whole ceremony.

A member asked whether or not the right to religion exists.

Two members were of the opinion that it did not.

A member was concerned about offending the chaplains by not inviting them to perform the invocation.

Chair Brown ended the meeting at 11:00 a.m. stating that more work needed to be done and that we would have to start from scratch. The purpose of today's meeting was to get the legal perspective. He will make an attempt to find out what the elements and structure of the ceremony were for the last ten years and then try to get a consensus of opinion at the next meeting.

Submitted by: Dave Miles

## TRANSMITTAL AND ABSTRACT OF SENATE REPORT

**Date Presented to the Senate:**

**Presenter: Willie L. Brown – Human Relations Committee**

**Subject of Report: Prayer at Commencement**

**Senate Document Number:**

**Voting: (a) on resolutions or recommendations one by one, or  
(b) in a single vote  
(c) to endorse entire report**

### **A. Statement of Issue:**

Introduction of a moment of silence at the commencement ceremony to facilitate inclusiveness of believers and non-believers

### **B. Recommendations:**

In an effort to be more inclusive of believers and non-believers in the university's commencement ceremony, the committee recommends that the two minute invocation be replaced by a moment of silence for one minute and one minute of spoken word.

It is further recommended that any future alterations to the commencement ceremony invocation and moment of reflection will be subject to further conversation between the chaplains and the appropriate university senate committee.

### **C. Committee Work:**

The issue of Prayer at Commencement was first raised in the 2005 session of the Human Relations Committee and was a carryover into the 2006 session as unfinished business.

The 2006 committee started the discussions of the subject at their October 19, 2006 meetings and decided to move forward with it. There were members who felt that prayer should not be part of the commencement ceremony, some felt the ceremony was not inclusive enough and others felt that it was their right to have prayer at commencement. It was agreed that since the practice is already taking place, we do not have the authority to stop the practice and therefore we will

concentrate our efforts on making it more inclusive with the understanding that there is no 'perfect' solution.

Over the course of the next two months, the committee met with Father William Bryne in November and Rabbi Ari Israel in December of 2006, to further our understanding of processes and procedures for the chaplains' role in commencement ceremonies. Additionally we inquired as to the funding of the chaplaincies and the structural relationship with the university. To summarize:

1. The operating budgets for the chaplaincies are provided by their sponsoring faith organization e.g., the Archdiocese of Washington. Chaplain's salaries are not paid for by the state. Each chaplaincy organizes itself and is funded in various ways depending upon the governing body. This certifies one's presence. It is more of a matter of the University providing space for what it perceives as a need or desire for the wish of the students. There are no organizations that are funded by the University.
2. For the university commencement, the chaplains rotate on an annual basis. There is an occasional specific request but not often.
3. There is a very strict policy on the brevity for two minutes or less.
4. There is an offer made each year to the commencement committees of the individual colleges/schools by the Coordinator of the Memorial Chapel. It is the option of the college to accept. Some do and some do not.
5. There is a rigorous approval process for the recognition of chaplains by the University. There is a period of application and those materials are reviewed by the Vice President of Student Affairs and her staff. Among the criteria that are reviewed are the presence of a national organizing group, the funding necessary to support a chaplain and his/her programs, and of great importance, the presence of a large body of students that have requested this denomination or faith community.
6. In addition, the university requires the chaplains to have a board that oversees their work, and we require the chaplain have educational credentials (including ordination if that is normal for the faith group). The process for recognizing chaplains is rigorous because the University has limited resources to support the chaplaincies and we want to make sure we are placing those resources (financial, space, time, etc.) where the need is most critical.

At the December 2006 meeting, Rabbi Israel met with the committee and proposed that in order to be more inclusive, the chaplains would offer an introductory statement of a moment of silence for one minute and one minute of spoken words (the moment of silence was later changed to a moment of reflection and will be used from this point on). The committee agreed that this was a proposal that merits further consideration and asked the Rabbi to have the chaplains' work on a generic concept for the introductory statement for the moment of reflection.

The committee met in February 2007 and endorsed the proposal of having both a “moment of reflection” and an “Invocation”. The moment of reflection is not intended to give students a chance to pray in silence, but rather to be used by everyone for whatever it is they want to reflect upon, be that prayer, thankfulness for their graduation, the health of their dog, the new job they are starting. It is a way to be inclusive to believers and non-believers alike.

There was a vote by the committee on there being a moment of reflection and a Invocation and the vote was passed 6 to 1

In April, the chaplains sent a few options for the committee's consideration:

**Moment of Reflection:**

*We believe (?) in the benefits and responsibilities of having a college education and for this we are grateful, let us take a moment of silent reflection etc...*

*Or “Today we are celebrating a terrific and well earned accomplishment of a college graduation, let us join in a moment of silent reflection together with all of those who have helped us through this time to show our gratitude for being here today....”*

**INVOCATION:**

*Let us join together in a moment of silent reflection, in gratitude for the opportunity we have had to study at this university... ..*

*.... (the moment of reflection was concluded with this thanksgiving :)*

*We give thanks for the gifts and opportunities bestowed upon us here at Maryland. For our teachers and mentors, for our daily food and those who prepared it, for our families, classmates, friends and employers. And for the strength to take what we have learned into the world.*

*We give thanks this night. We give thanks!*

*AMEN*

At the April meeting, the committee agreed that the wording was fine with the exception of the word "Amen". The chaplains have agreed to remove the word.

**Comments:**

The chaplain system exists so that the University maintains control in a public forum of the people who are representing religion in a way that is responsible and sensitive versus having no control and not knowing what you get.

Unregulated entities around campus can be very confusing for students.

Religious life is a very important part of a desire that the students themselves have and there is a demand and desire on the behalf of the students. Roughly 1,000 students are going to Catholic mass on campus every Sunday. We have the existence of religious life meeting the needs for students. A perfect example is September 11, 2001 commonly referred to as 9/11. When 9/11 happened, there was organization on the mall and since religion played a part in that tragedy it was very valuable for students to see religion presented in a peaceful unified way.

The chaplains believe and it is the belief of the majority of the committee that the students are sensitive to diversity on this campus. Lack of diversity and sensitivity is not a major issue that the University faces in terms of religious life. Since there is an open and closing word at commencement it would be easy to replace one of those with a moment of silence and then replace the other with a more organized meditation or thought.

Final point, the university has done research on campus that suggests that spirituality and faith are important to students (both in terms of their identity and in terms of salient items of discussion). The more recent research that used Alexander Astin's survey instrument from UCLA with our students at the University of Maryland would support the conclusion that students --- by majority-- have a positive regard for faith/spirituality.



**D. Alternatives:**

Leave the university commencement as is with two minutes devoted to Invocations.

**E. Risks:**

This is a topic that is as old as time and there is no perfect solution. Therefore this proposal will not be met with the approval of everyone and someone will find offense. There are no other risks.

**F: Financial Implications:**

There are no financial implications

May 22, 2008 • Comcast Center • 7:00 p.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. James N. Newton  
Commencement Committee

**Processional**

University of Maryland Concert Band  
Dr. L. Richmond Sparks, Conductor

**Invocation**

Dr. Elizabeth A. Platz, Chaplain  
Lutheran Campus Ministry

**National Anthem**

Professor Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**

Dr. Patricia S. Florestano  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Mr. Ryan J. Ples  
Senior Council

**Presentation of University Medal**

Dr. Mote

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Ms. Natalie V. Prizel

**Musical Selection**

"Carnival of Venice"  
arranged by Del Staigers  
Mr. J. Daniel Puckett, flute, bass clarinet, clarinet,  
soprano saxophone and alto saxophone

**Introduction of Speaker**

Mr. Robert L. Toll  
Chair, Commencement  
Speaker Selection Committee

**Address**

Mr. Carl Bernstein  
Pulitzer Prize-winning Journalist  
and Author

**Conferring of Honorary Degree**

Dr. Mote

**Alumni Association Induction**

Mr. Charles "Chip" Sollins '82  
President  
Maryland Alumni Association Board of Governors

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges and Schools**

Deans

**Conferring of Doctoral, Master's and  
Bachelor's Degrees**

Dr. Mote

**Alma Mater**

Professor Mabbs

**Recessional**

University of Maryland Concert Band

December 19, 2007 • Comcast Center • 7 p.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. James N. Newton  
Commencement Committee

**Processional**

University of Maryland  
Concert Band  
Dr. L. Richmond Sparks  
Conductor

**Invocation**

Rev. Holly R. Ulmer, Chaplain  
United Campus Ministry

**National Anthem**

Ms. Brittany Baratz

**Greetings**

Mr. Robert L. Pevenstein  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Mr. Ryan Ples  
Senior Council

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Mr. Andres Garcia  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

"Welcome the Rain"  
Music by Zina Goldrich  
Lyrics by Marcy Heisler  
Ms. Brittany Baratz, soloist  
Ms. Catherine Mann, guitar  
Mr. Loren Westbrook-Fritts, cello

**Introduction of Speaker**

Mr. Robert L. Toll  
Chair, Commencement  
Speaker Selection Committee

**Address**

Tim Kurkjian  
Senior Writer, *ESPN The Magazine* and *ESPN.com*  
Analyst/reporter ESPN TV

**University of Maryland**

**Alumni Association Induction**

Mr. Charles "Chip" Sollins '82  
President, Maryland Alumni  
Association Board of Governors

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of  
Colleges and Schools**

Deans

**Conferring of Degrees**

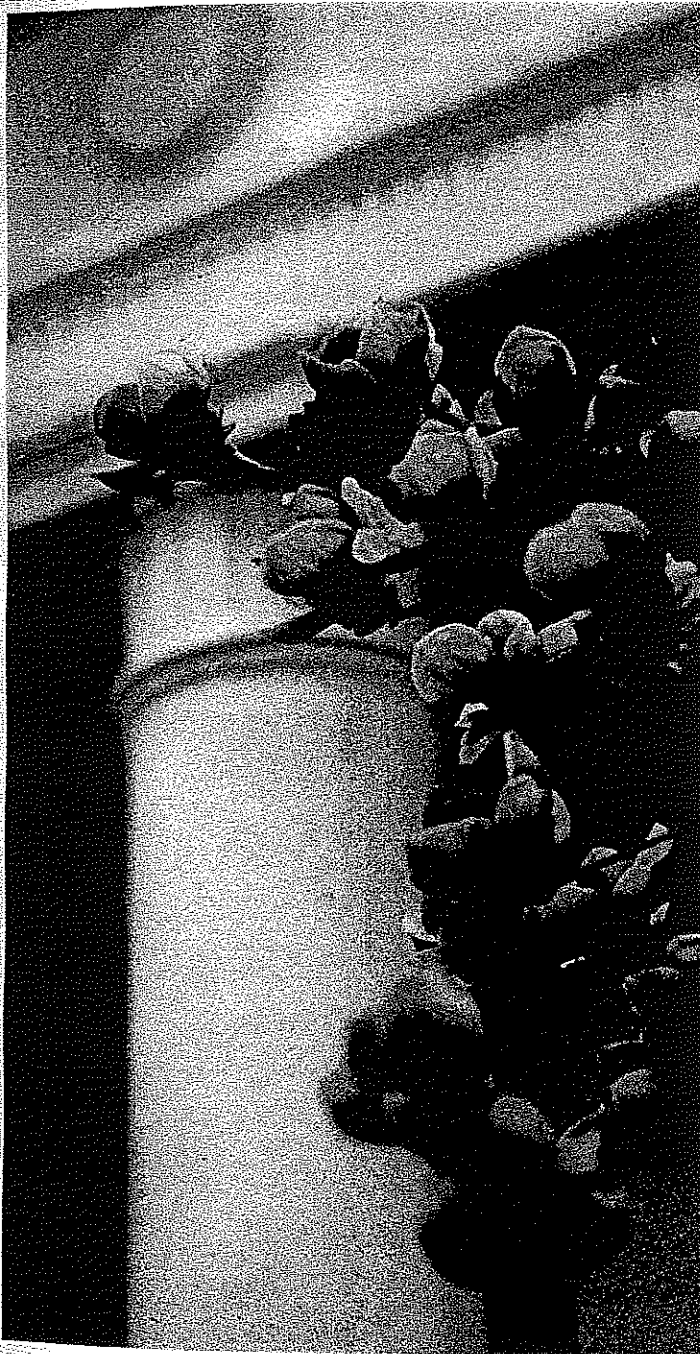
Dr. Mote

**Alma Mater**

Ms. Brittany Baratz

**Recessional**

University of Maryland  
Concert Band



May 20, 2007 • Comcast Center • 7 p.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. James N. Newton  
Commencement Committee

**Processional**

University of Maryland  
Concert Band  
Dr. L. Richmond Sparks  
Conductor

**Invocation**

Rabbi Eli Backman  
Director, Chabad Jewish  
Student Center

**National Anthem**

Professor Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**

Mr. R. Michael Gill  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Mr. Derek Standarowski  
Senior Council

**Presentation of  
University Medal**

Dr. Mote

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Mr. Ryan Cooper  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

"Introduction and Samba"  
by Maurice Whitney  
Ms. Sarah Hughes, Soloist  
University of Maryland  
Concert Band

**Introduction of Speaker**

Mr. Jesse David Fox  
Chair, Commencement Speaker  
Selection Committee

**Address**

The Honorable Steny Hoyer '63  
U.S. House of Representatives

**University of Maryland**

**Alumni Association Induction**

Mr. Marvin H. Rabovsky '81  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of  
Colleges and Schools**

Deans

**Conferring of  
Doctoral, Master's  
and Bachelor's Degrees**

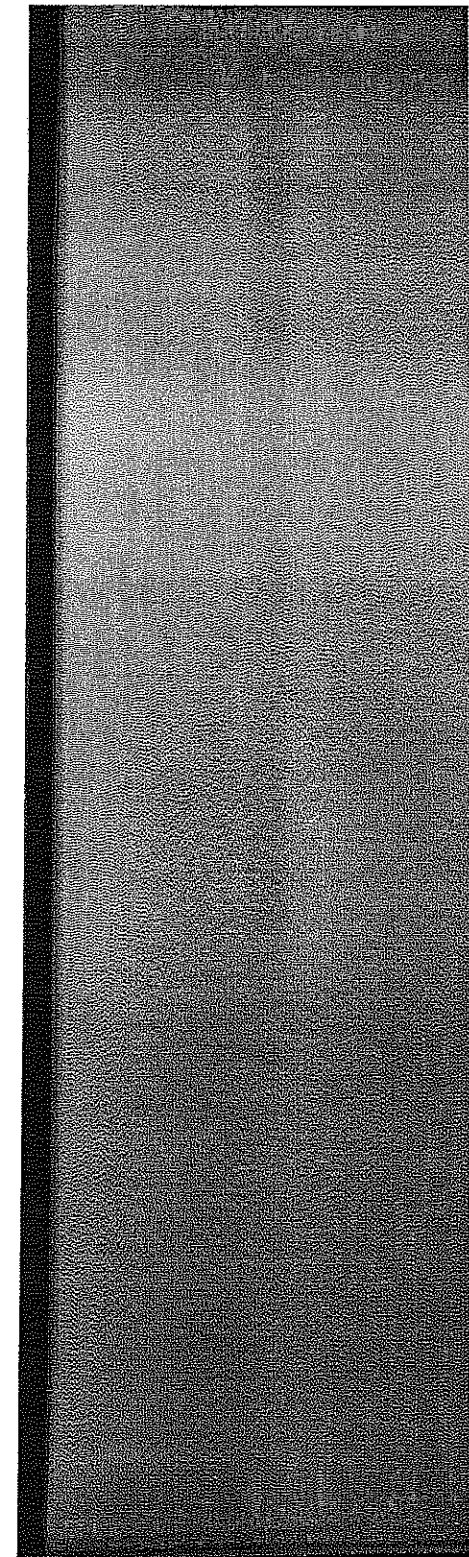
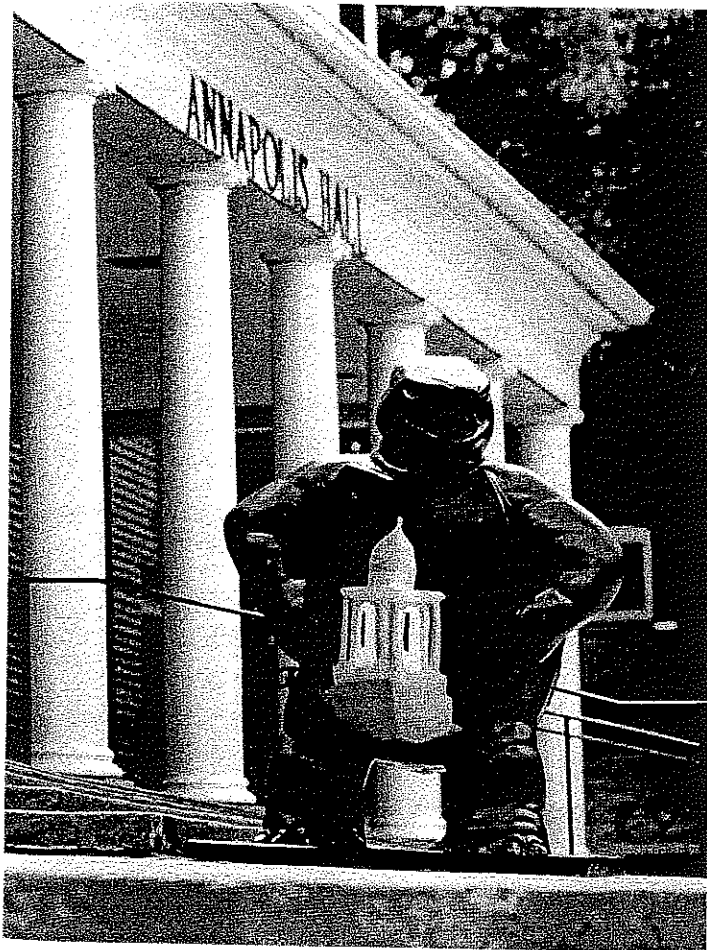
Dr. Mote

**Alma Mater**

Professor Mabbs

**Recessional**

University of Maryland  
Concert Band



Dec. 20, 2006 • Comcast Center • 7:00 p.m.

**Alma Mater**

Hail! Alma Mater  
 Hail to thee, Maryland!  
 Steadfast in loyalty;  
 For thee, we stand,  
 Love for the Black and Gold  
 Deep in our hearts we hold,  
 Singing thy praise forever,  
 Throughout the land.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
 President

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. James N. Newton  
 Commencement Committee

**Processional**

University of Maryland  
 Concert Band  
 Dr. L. Richmond Sparks  
 Conductor

**Invocation**

Rev. Dr. Peter M. Antoci  
 University Chaplain  
 Episcopal/Anglican Campus  
 Ministry

**The National Anthem**

Prof. Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**

Dr. William E. Kirwan  
 Chancellor  
 University System of Maryland

Mr. A. Dwight Pettit

University System of Maryland  
 Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Mr. Patrick Wu  
 Senior Council

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Ms. Ashleigh Butler  
 Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

"For Good"  
 by Stephen Schwartz  
 Lindsay Roberts and Heather  
 Aldrich, soloists  
 University of Maryland  
 Concert Band

**Introduction of Speaker**

Mr. Matthew R. Hirsch  
 Chair, Commencement  
 Speaker Selection Committee

**Address**

Mr. Brian Gallagher  
 President and CEO  
 United Way of America

**University of Maryland**

**Alumni Association Induction**

Mr. Charles "Chip" Sollins, '82  
 President-elect, University of  
 Maryland Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges  
 and Schools**

**Conferring of Degrees**

**Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Antoci

**Recessional**

University of Maryland  
 Concert Band

Floor Seating Arrangement  
 for Graduates in Comcast Center

**STAGE**

**MARSHALS**

ARCHITECTURE  
 ARTS & HUMANITIES  
 BEHAVIORAL &  
 SOCIAL SCIENCES  
 COMPUTER, MATH &  
 PHYSICAL SCIENCES  
 INFORMATION  
 STUDIES  
 JOURNALISM

**FACULTY**

AGRICULTURE  
 BUSINESS  
 EDUCATION  
 ENGINEERING  
 HEALTH & HUMAN  
 PERFORMANCE  
 INDIVIDUAL STUDIES  
 CHEMICAL AND  
 LIFE SCIENCES



Sunday, May 21, 2006 • Comcast Center • 7:00 p.m.

**Alma Mater**

Hail! Alma Mater  
 Hail to thee, Maryland!  
 Steadfast in loyalty,  
 For thee, we stand,  
 Love for the Black and Gold  
 Deep in our hearts we hold,  
 Singing thy praise forever,  
 Throughout the land.

Floor Seating Arrangement  
 for Graduates in Comcast Center

**STAGE**

FACULTY & STAFF	MARSHALS	MARSHALS	FACULTY & STAFF
BUSINESS	ARCHITECTURE	ARTS & HUMANITIES	AGRICULTURE
HEALTH & HUMAN PERFORMANCE	BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES	CHEMICAL & LIFE SCIENCES	CMPS
INFORMATION STUDIES	JOURNALISM	INDIVIDUAL STUDIES	EDUCATION
	PUBLIC POLICY		ENGINEERING

**Presiding**  
 Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
 President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**  
 Mr. James N. Newton  
 Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**  
 Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
 Dr. L. Richmond Sparks,  
 Conductor

**Invocation**  
 The Rev. Jeffrey Buffkin  
 Baptist Chaplain

**National Anthem**  
 Prof. Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**  
 Mr. Robert L. Pevenstein  
 University System of Maryland  
 Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**  
 Ms. Emily Dotter  
 Senior Council

**Presentation of University Medal**  
 Dr. Mote

**Remarks to the Graduates**  
 Ms. Michelle Karkowsky  
 Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**  
*Stars & Stripes Forever*  
 by John Philip Sousa  
 Symphonic Wind Ensemble

**Introduction of Speaker**  
 Ms. Mary Beth Hanley  
 Ms. Nicole Foster  
 Co-Chairs, Commencement  
 Speaker Selection Committee

**Address**  
 The Honorable Paul Sarbanes  
 U. S. Senate

**University of Maryland Alumni Association Induction**  
 Mr. Marvin H. Rabovsky '81  
 President, University of Maryland  
 Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**  
 Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges and Schools**  
 Deans

**Conferring of Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**  
 Dr. Mote

**Benediction**  
 The Rev. Buffkin

**Alma Mater**  
 Prof. Mabbs

**Recessional**  
 Symphonic Wind Ensemble

### Alma Mater

Hail! Alma Mater  
Hail to thee, Maryland!  
Steadfast in loyalty;  
For thee, we stand,  
Love for the Black and Gold  
Deep in our hearts we hold,  
Singing thy praise forever,  
Throughout the land.

Floor Seating Arrangement  
for Graduates in Comcast Center

#### STAGE

MARSHALS ✓	FACULTY ✓
ARCHITECTURE ✓	AGRICULTURE ✓
ARTS & HUMANITIES ✓	BUSINESS ✓
BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES ✓	EDUCATION ✓
COMPUTER, MATH & PHYSICAL SCIENCES ✓	ENGINEERING ✓
INFORMATION STUDIES ✓	HEALTH & HUMAN PERFORMANCE ✓
JOURNALISM ✓	INDIVIDUAL STUDIES ✓
	CHEMICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES ✓

#### Presiding

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

#### Master of Ceremonies

Mr. James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

#### Processional

Symphonic Brass Ensemble  
John Huling, Conductor

#### Invocation

The Rev. William Byrne  
Catholic Chaplain

#### The National Anthem

Ms. Linda Mabbs, Soprano

#### Greetings

The Hon. James C. Rosapepe  
University System of  
Maryland Board of Regents

#### Senior Class Gift Presentation

Mr. William Claude Collins III  
Senior Council

#### Remarks to the Graduates

Mr. Samy Bassam Muaddi  
Graduating Senior

#### Musical Selection

"Summon the Heroes"  
by John Williams  
Douglas Fraley, Soloist  
Symphonic Brass Ensemble

#### Address

Dr. John Splaine  
Associate Professor Emeritus  
University of Maryland  
Amos B. Hostetter, Jr. Chair  
University of Denver (ret.)

#### University of Maryland

#### Alumni Association Induction

Marvin H. Rabovsky '81  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

#### Message to the Graduates

Dr. Mote

#### Conferring of Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees

Dr. Mote

#### Presentation of Colleges and Schools

Deans

#### Benediction

The Rev. Byrne

#### Recessional

Symphonic Brass Ensemble

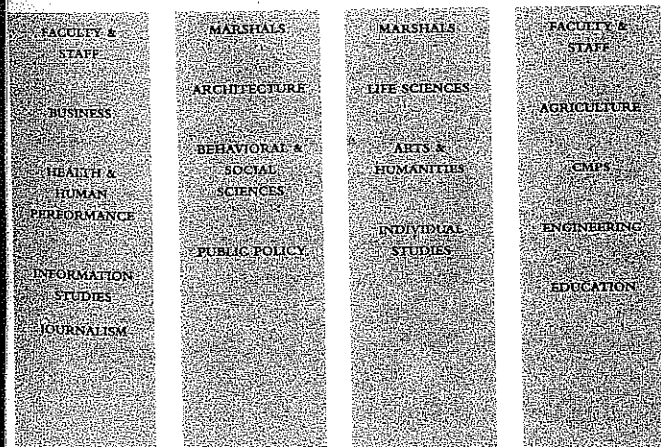
Saturday, May 21, 2005 • Comcast Center • 7:00 p.m.

**Alma Mater**

Hail, Alma Mater  
 Hail to thee, Maryland  
 Steadfast in loyalty  
 For thee, we stand  
 Love for the Black and Gold  
 Deep in our hearts we hold,  
 Singing thy praise forever,  
 Throughout the land.

Floor Seating Arrangement  
 for Graduates in Comcast Center

**STAGE**



**Presiding**  
 Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
 President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**  
 Mr. James N. Newton  
 Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**  
 Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
 Prof. John E. Wakefield  
 Conductor

**Invocation**  
 Chaplain Elizabeth Platz  
 Lutheran Campus Ministry

**National Anthem**  
 Prof. Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**  
 The Honorable  
 Joseph D. Tydings '51  
 University System of  
 Maryland Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**  
 Mr. Brad Hersh  
 Ms. Julie Lowe  
 Senior Council

**Presentation of  
 University Medal**  
 Dr. Mote

**Remarks to the Graduates**  
 Mr. Fernando Balderrama  
 Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**  
 "Bugler's Holiday"  
 by Leroy Anderson  
 Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
 Prof. Wakefield, Conductor

**Introduction of Speaker**  
 Ms. Maura A. Iezzi  
 Ms. Christine Delargy  
 Ms. Jessica Bowser  
 Co-Chairs, Commencement  
 Speaker Selection Committee

**Address**  
 Ms. Andrea Mitchell  
 Chief Foreign  
 Affairs Correspondent  
 NBC News

**University of Maryland  
 Alumni Association Induction**  
 Charles G. Carr '85  
 President, University of Maryland  
 Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**  
 Dr. Mote

**Presentation of  
 Colleges and Schools**  
 Deans

**Conferring of  
 Doctoral, Master's  
 and Bachelor's Degrees**  
 Dr. Mote

**Benediction**  
 The Rev. Platz

**Alma Mater**  
 Ms. Mabbs

**Recessional**  
 Symphonic Wind Ensemble

*Flowers grown in the university greenhouse  
 by the Department of Natural Resource  
 Sciences and Landscape Architecture.*



Saturday, Dec. 18, 2004 • Comcast Center • 7:00 p.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**

Symphonic Brass Ensemble  
Dr. Milton Stevens, Conductor

**Invocation**

The Rev. Kim Capps  
United Methodist Chaplain

**The National Anthem**

Ms. Carmen Balthrop, Soprano

**Greetings**

Dr. Patricia Florestano  
University System of  
Maryland Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Senior Council Representative

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Ms. Renee Sihvola  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

"Summon the Heroes" by  
Mr. John Williams  
Symphonic Brass Ensemble

**Address**

The Hon. Chris Van Hollen  
U.S. House of Representatives

**University of Maryland**

**Alumni Association Induction**

Charles G. Carr '85  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral,  
Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges  
and Schools**

Deans

**Benediction**

Rev. Capps

**Recessional**

Symphonic Brass Ensemble

**Alma Mater**

Hail! Alma Mater  
Hail to thee, Maryland!  
Steadfast in loyalty,  
For thee, we stand,  
Love for the Black and Gold  
Deep in our hearts we hold,  
Singing thy praise forever,  
Throughout the land.

Floor Seating Arrangement  
for Graduates in Comcast Center

**STAGE**

MARSHALS	FACULTY
ARCHITECTURE	AGRICULTURE
ARTS & HUMANITIES	BUSINESS
BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES	EDUCATION
COMPUTER, MATH & PHYSICAL SCIENCES	ENGINEERING
INFORMATION STUDIES	HEALTH & HUMAN PERFORMANCE
JOURNALISM	INDIVIDUAL STUDIES
	LIFE SCIENCES

December 20, 2003 • Comcast Center • 7:00 p.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**

Symphonic Brass Ensemble  
Dr. Milton Stevens, Conductor

**Invocation**

Rev. Jeffrey Buffkin  
Baptist Chaplain

**The National Anthem**

Mr. Jason Kaminski, Baritone

**Greetings**

Dr. William E. Kirwan  
Chancellor  
University System of Maryland

Mr. Orlan M. Johnson  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Ms. Sarah Barnhart  
Senior Council

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Ms. Robyn Ellyn Sanderson  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

"Summon the Heros,"  
by Mr. John Williams  
Symphonic Brass Ensemble

**Address**

Mr. Sergey Brin '93

**University of Maryland**

**Alumni Association Induction**  
Mr. Alan Cason '80  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral,  
Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges  
and Schools**

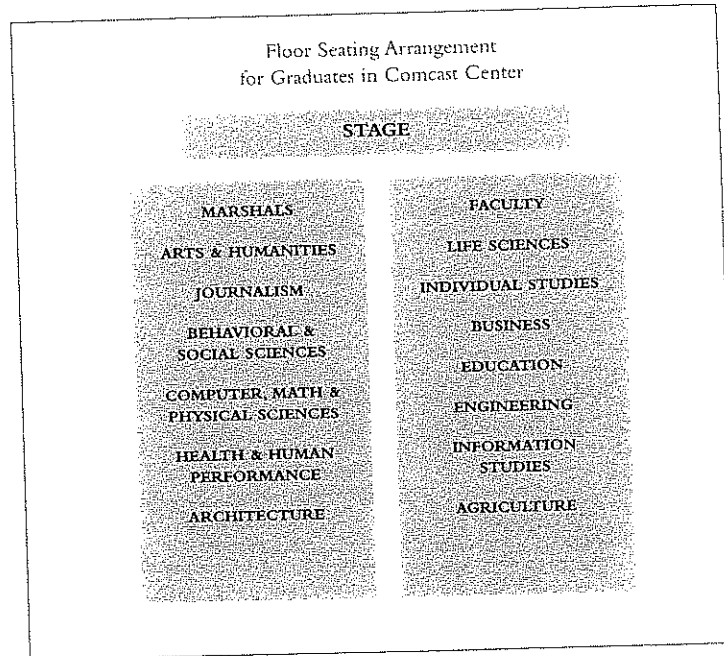
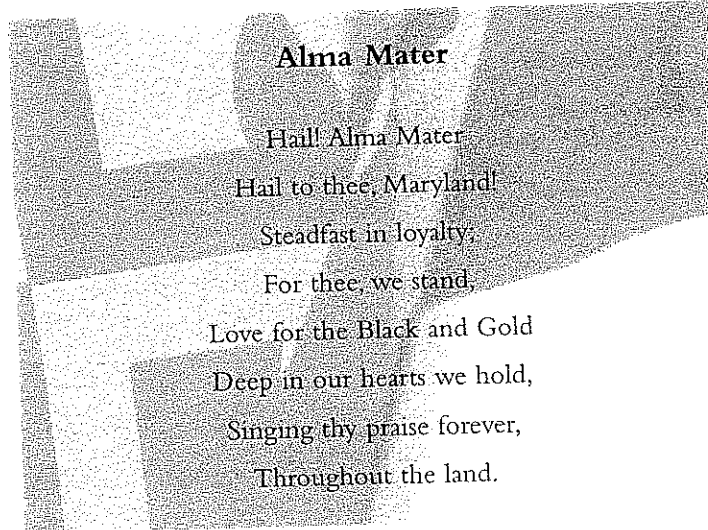
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**Benediction**

Rev. Buffkin

**Recessional**

Symphonic Brass Ensemble



Thursday, May 22, 2003 • Comcast Center • 6:30 p.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. John E. Wakefield  
Conductor

**Invocation**

The Rev. Kiran Sankhla  
Hindu Chaplain

**The National Anthem**

Ms. Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**

Mr. Thomas B. Finan, Jr.  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Mr. Adam Chepenik  
Mr. Saj Popat  
Senior Council

**Presentation of University Medal**

Dr. Mote

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Ms. Rebecca Ariel Hoffberg  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

*America the Beautiful*  
Ms. Linda Mabbs,  
soprano soloist with  
The Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. Wakefield, Conductor

**Address**

Mr. Franklin D. Raines  
Chairman and Chief  
Executive Officer  
Fannie Mae

**Conferring of Honorary Degrees**

Dr. Mote

**University of Maryland Alumni Association Induction**

Ms. Cynthia Flanders  
'82, M.B.A. '88  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges and Schools**

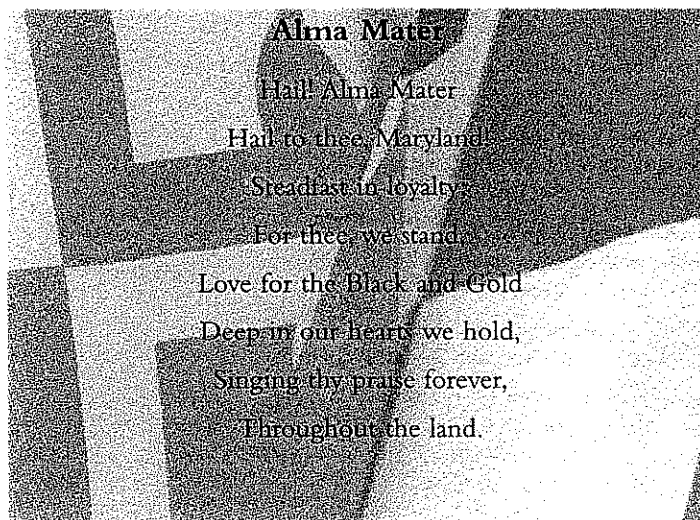
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**Benediction**

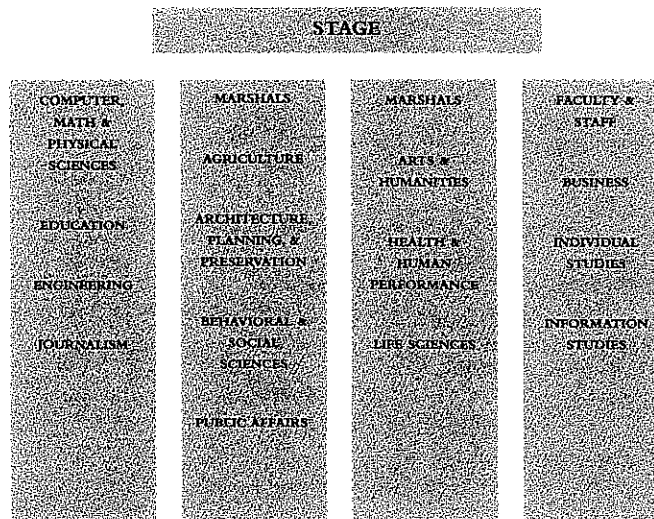
The Rev. Sankhla

**Recessional**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble



Floor Seating Arrangement  
for Graduates in Comcast Center



*Flowers grown in the university greenhouse by the Department of Natural Resource Sciences and Landscape Architecture.*

December 22, 2002 • Comcast Center • 1:00 p.m.

**Presiding**  
Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**  
James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**  
Symphonic Brass Ensemble  
Dr. Milton Stevens, Conductor

**Invocation**  
Rabbi Eli Backman  
Chabad Jewish Center

**The National Anthem**

**Greetings**  
William E. Kirwan  
Chancellor  
University System of Maryland

William T. Wood  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**  
Kit Tam  
Michael Demb  
Senior Council

**Remarks to the Graduates**  
Kirsten Ehrenspeck  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**  
"Summon the Heros,"  
by John Williams  
Symphonic Brass Ensemble

**Address**  
Dr. Dorothy Height

**Conferring of Honorary Degree**  
Dr. Mote

**University of Maryland Alumni Association Induction**  
Cynthia Flanders '82, M.B.A. '88  
President, University of Maryland Alumni Association

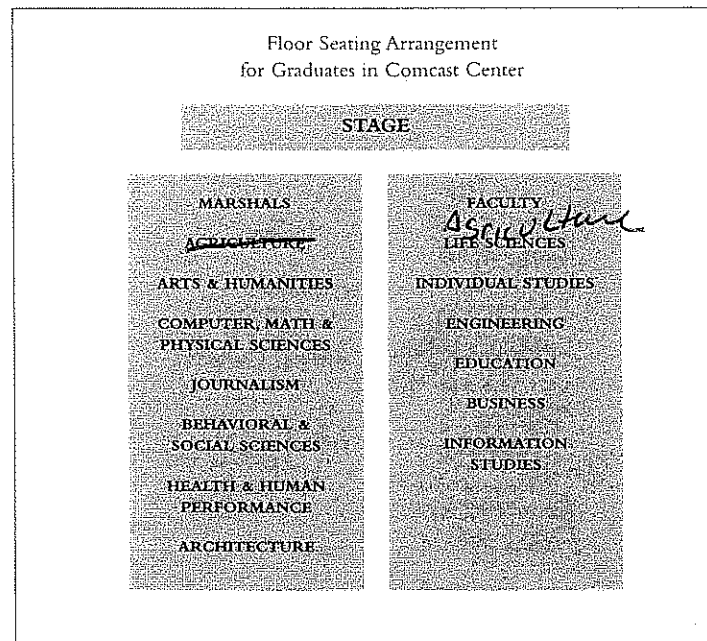
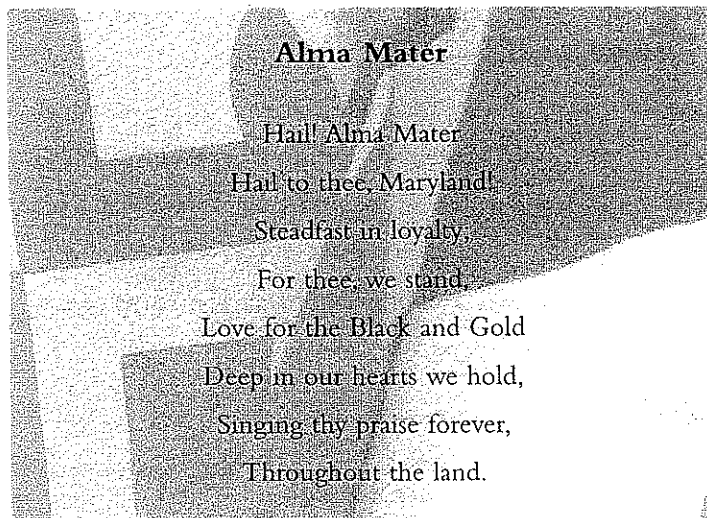
**Message to the Graduates**  
Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**  
Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges and Schools**  
Deans

**Benediction**  
Rabbi Backman

**Recessional**  
Symphonic Brass Ensemble





Thursday, May 23, 2002 • Cole Student Activities Building • 9:00 a.m.

**Presiding**  
Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**  
Mr. James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. John E. Wakefield  
Conductor

**Invocation**  
Dr. Ali Darwish  
Muslim Chaplain

**The National Anthem**  
Ms. Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**  
Mr. Joseph Vivona  
Interim Chancellor,  
University System of Maryland

Mr. Nathan A. Chapman  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**  
Sammy Popat  
Adam Wexler  
Senior Council

**Presentation of  
University Medal**  
Dr. Mote

**Remarks to the Graduates**  
Zachary Bookman  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**  
*The Battle Hymn of the Republic*  
Linda Mabbs, soprano soloist with  
The Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. Wakefield, Conductor

**Address**  
Mr. William K. Marimow  
Editor and Senior Vice President  
*The [Baltimore] Sun*

**University of Maryland  
Alumni Association Induction**  
Mr. J. Paul Carey '82  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

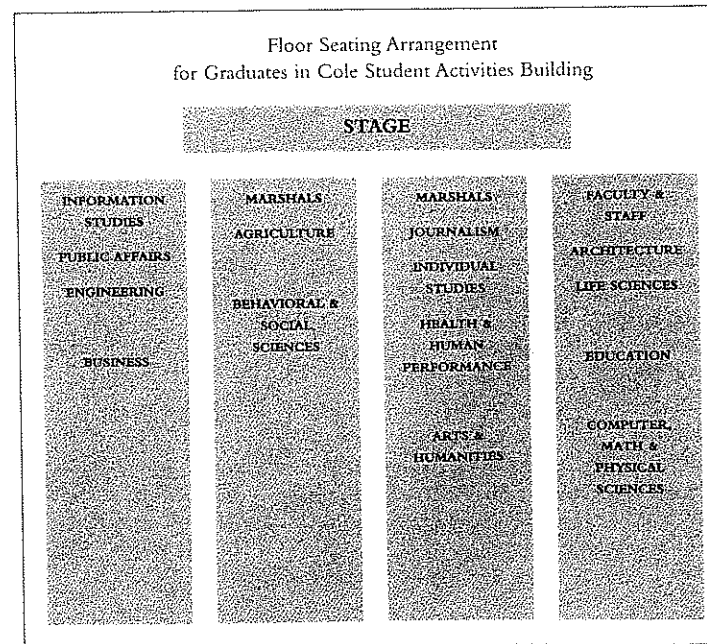
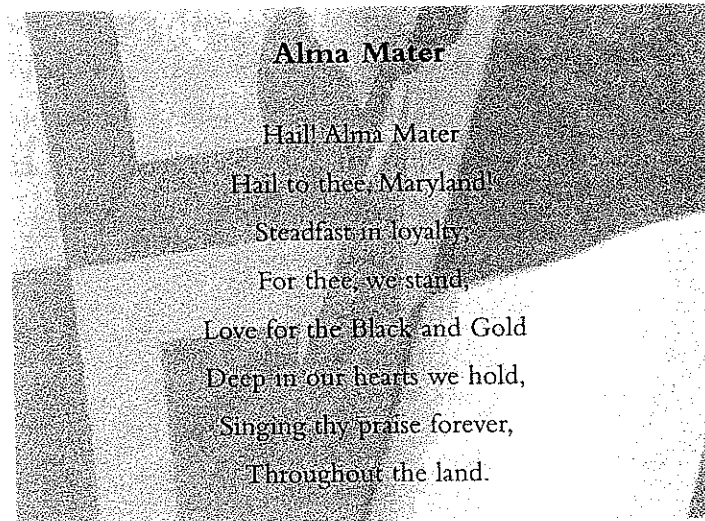
**Message to the Graduates**  
Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral,  
Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**  
Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges  
and Schools**  
Deans

**Benediction**  
Dr. Darwish

**Recessional**  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble



May 24, 2001 • Cole Student Activities Building • 9:00 a.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**

Mr. James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. John E. Wakefield  
Conductor

**Invocation**

The Rev. Velma W. Brock  
Episcopal/Anglican Ministry

**The National Anthem**

Ms. Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**

Dr. Donald N. Langenberg  
Chancellor  
University System of Maryland

Mr. Nathan A. Chapman, Jr.

Chair  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Ms. Rachael Polsky  
Mr. Seth Rosenzweig  
Senior Council

**Presentation of  
University Medal**

Dr. Mote

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Mr. Mark D. Tosso  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

*The National Emblem March*  
by E. E. Bagley  
The Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. Wakefield, Conductor

**Address**

The Hon. Parris N. Glendening  
Governor, State of Maryland

**Conferring of  
Honorary Degree**

Dr. Mote

**Response**

Professor Charles H. Townes

**University of Maryland  
Alumni Association Induction**

Dr. Jody K. Olsen '79  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral,  
Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges  
and Schools**

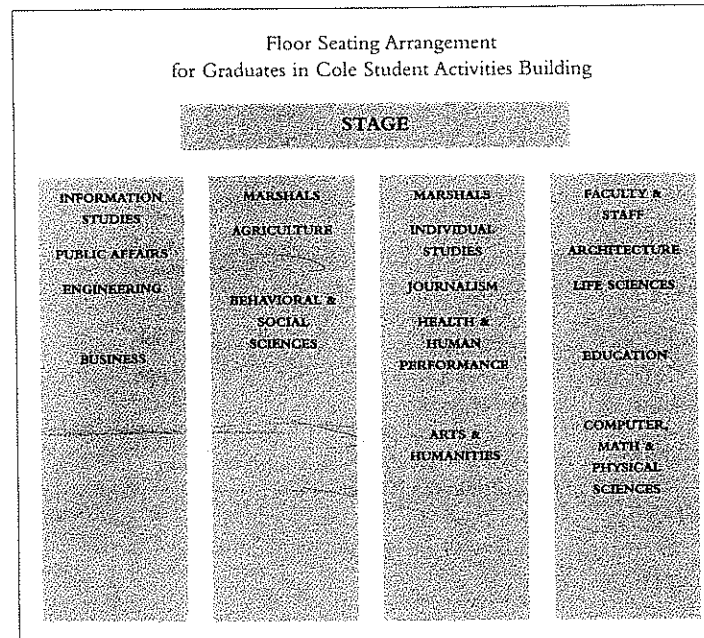
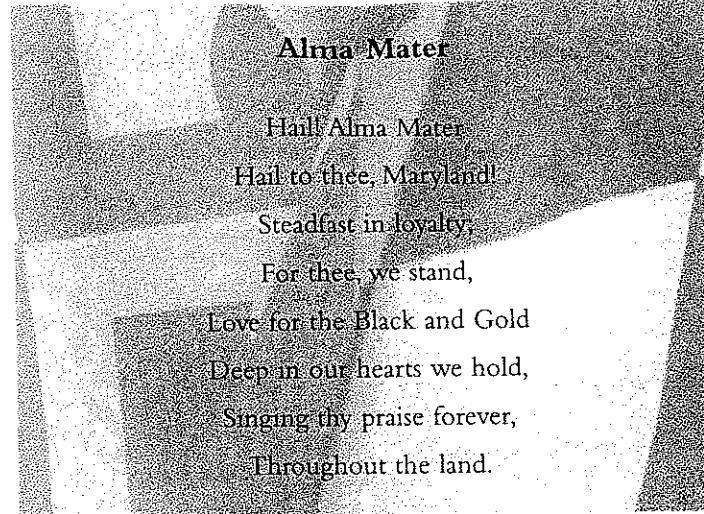
Deans

**Benediction**

The Rev. Brock

**Recessional**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble



December 20, 2001 • Cole Student Activities Building • 9:00 a.m.

**Presiding**  
 Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
 President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**  
 James N. Newton  
 Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**  
 Symphonic Brass Ensemble  
 Dr. Milton Stevens, Conductor

**Invocation**  
 The Reverend Kim Capps, Chaplain  
 United Methodist Ministry

**The National Anthem**  
 Led by Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Greetings**  
 Dr. Donald N. Langenberg  
 Chancellor  
 University System of Maryland

Nathan A. Chapman, Jr.  
 Chair, University System of  
 Maryland Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**  
 Betsy Bratek  
 Steve Fox  
 Senior Council

**Remarks to the Graduates**  
 Sonia Kumar  
 Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**  
 Symphonic Brass Ensemble  
*Olympic Fanfare and Theme*  
 by John Williams

**Address**  
 Dr. David Satcher  
 Surgeon General of the  
 United States

**University of Maryland  
 Alumni Association Induction**  
 J. Paul Carey, '82 M.B.A.  
 President, University of Maryland  
 Alumni Association

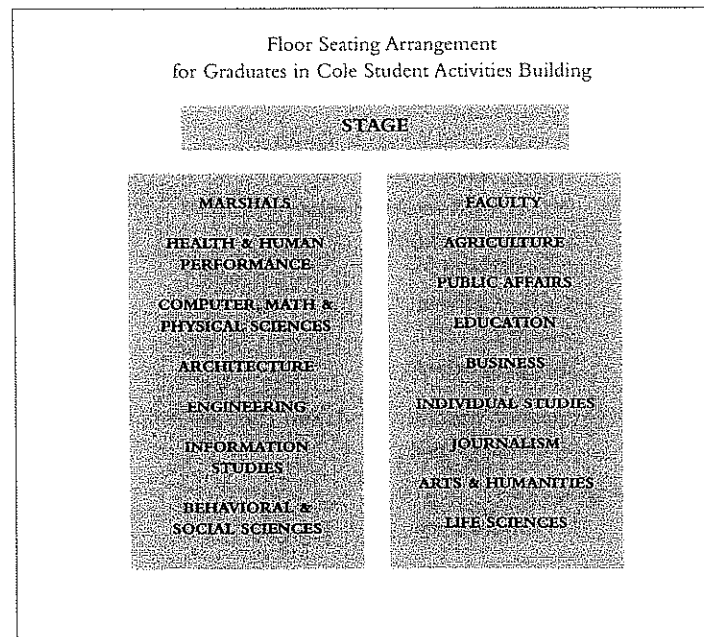
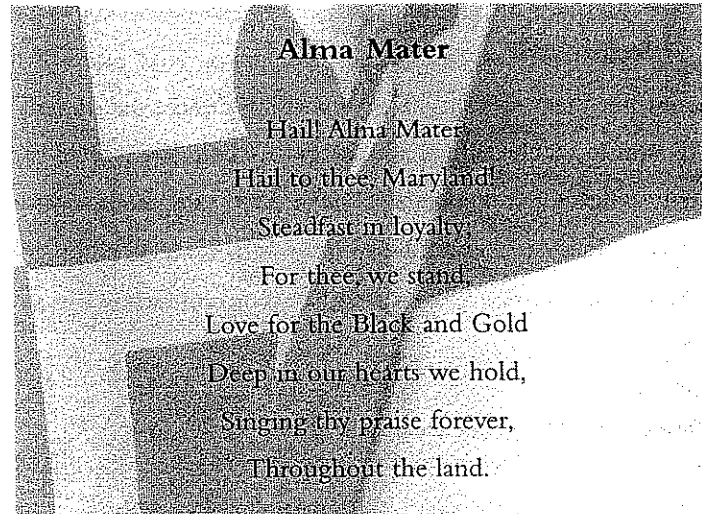
**Message to the Graduates**  
 Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral,  
 Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**  
 Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges  
 and Schools**  
 Deans

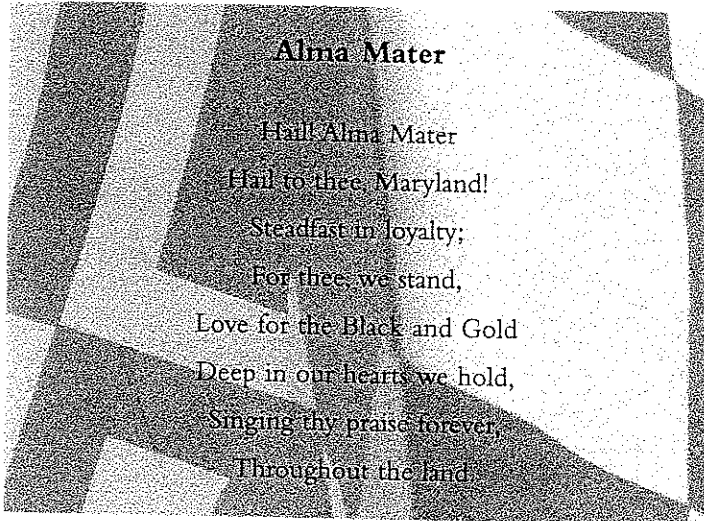
**Benediction**  
 The Rev. Capps

**Recessional**  
 Symphonic Brass Ensemble





May 25, 2000 • Cole Student Activities Building • 9:00 a.m.



**Presiding**  
Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**  
James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Dr. L. Richmond Sparks,  
Conductor

**Invocation**  
Mr. Robert Snyder  
Advisor, Christian Science

**The National Anthem**

**Greetings**  
Dr. Donald N. Langenburg,  
Chancellor  
University System of Maryland

Mr. David H. Nevins  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**  
Katie Doll  
Vinit Patel  
Senior Council

**Presentation of University Medal**  
Dr. Mote

**Remarks to the Graduates**  
Mona H. Siddiqui  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**  
*Dance of the Jesters*  
Peter I. Tchaikovsky  
Transcribed by Ray E. Cramer  
The Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Dr. Sparks, Conductor

**Address**  
The Hon. Kweisi Mfume

**Conferring of Honorary Degrees**  
Dr. Mote

**University of Maryland Alumni Association Induction**  
Mr. Adrian Teel '64  
President, University of Maryland Alumni Association

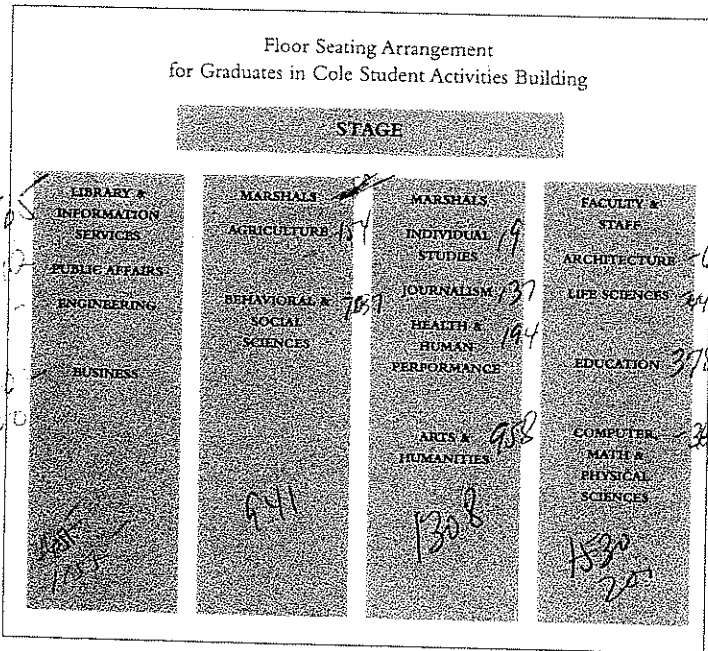
**Message to the Graduates**  
Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**  
Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges and Schools**  
Deans

**Benediction**  
Mr. Snyder

**Recessional**  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble





December 21, 2000 • Cole Student Activities Building • 9:00 a.m.

**Presiding**  
 Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
 President, University of Maryland

**Musical Selection**  
 Symphonic Brass Ensemble  
*Olympic Fanfare and Theme*  
 by John Williams

**Master of Ceremonies**  
 James N. Newton  
 Undergraduate Studies

**Address**  
 John S. Hendricks

**Processional**  
 Symphonic Brass Ensemble  
 Dr. Milton Stevens, conductor

**University of Maryland  
 Alumni Association Induction**  
 Dr. Jody K. Olsen '79  
 President, University of Maryland  
 Alumni Association

**Invocation**  
 The Reverend Holly Ulmer  
 Chaplain, United Campus Ministry

**Message to the Graduates**  
 Dr. Mote

**The National Anthem**  
 Led by Linda Mabbs, Soprano

**Conferring of Doctoral,  
 Master's and Bachelor's  
 Degrees**  
 Dr. Mote

**Greetings**  
 Nathan A. Chapman, Jr.  
 Chair, University System of  
 Maryland Board of Regents

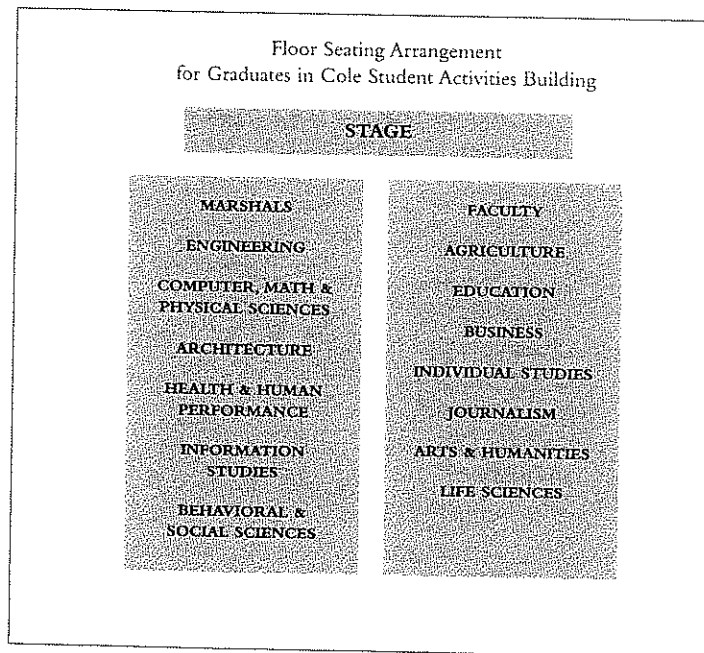
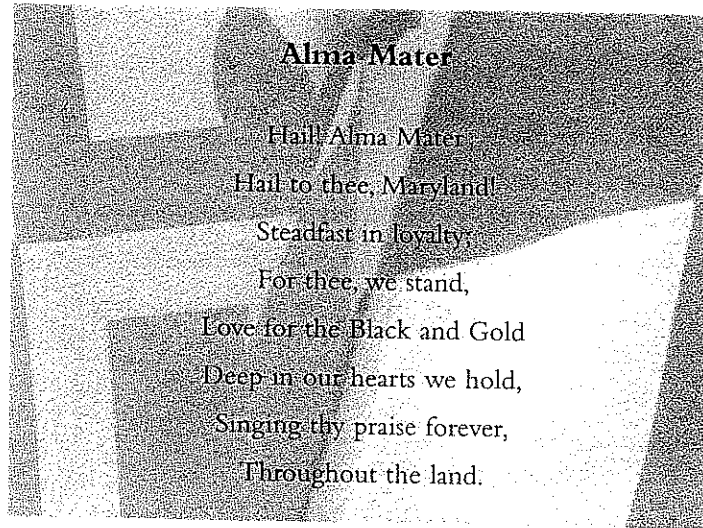
**Presentation of Colleges  
 and Schools**  
 Deans

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**  
 Jared Stahl  
 Senior Council

**Benediction**  
 The Rev. Ulmer

**Remarks to the Graduates**  
 Heather C. King  
 Graduating Senior

**Recessional**  
 Symphonic Brass Ensemble



May 24, 1999 • Cole Student Activities Building • 9:00 a.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**

James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. John E. Wakefield, Conductor

**Musical Selection**

"Fortuna Imperatrix Mundi" from  
*Carmina Burana*  
Carl Orff, Composer  
The Maryland Chorus and  
The Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Dr. Paul Traver, Conductor

**Invocation**

The Reverend Gerald Buckner

**The National Anthem**

Dr. Traver, Conductor

**Greetings**

Mr. Lance W. Billingsley, Chair  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Meg Smith  
George Perry  
Senior Council

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Benjamin Lynerd  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

*A Maryland Salute*  
arr. Jerry Brubaker  
The Maryland Chorus and  
The Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. Wakefield, Conductor

**Address**

James Carville and Mary Matalin

**University of Maryland**

**Alumni Association Induction**  
Mr. Edwin R. Fry  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral,  
Master's and Bachelor's Degrees**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges and  
Schools**

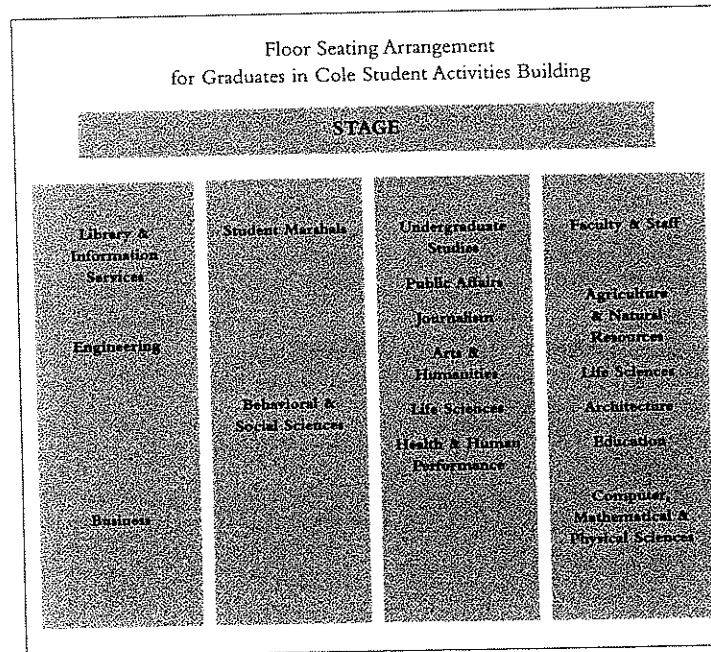
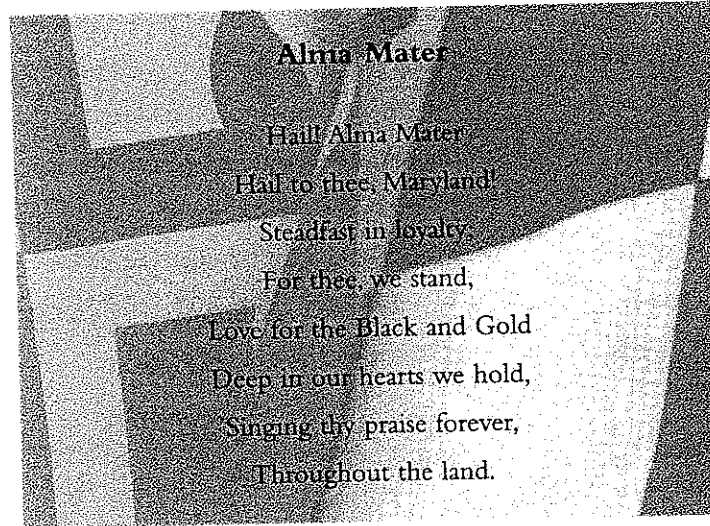
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**Benediction**

The Rev. Buckner

**Recessional**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. Wakefield, Conductor



December 23, 1999 • Cole Student Activities Building • 9:00 a.m.

**Presiding**  
Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**  
James N. Newton  
Undergraduate Studies

**Processional**  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. John E. Wakefield, conductor

**Invocation**  
The Reverend William Byrne

**The National Anthem**

**Greetings**  
Nathan A. Chapman, Jr.  
Chair, University System of  
Maryland Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**  
Elissa Aaronson  
Sohail Zandieh  
Senior Council

**Remarks to the Graduates**  
G. Scott Shaw  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**  
*A Sousa Spectacular*  
March Medley by John Philip  
Sousa  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble

**Address**  
Boomer Esiason '84

**President's Distinguished  
Alumnus Award Presentation**  
Mr. Adrian Teel '64  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

**University of Maryland  
Alumni Association Induction**  
Mr. Teel

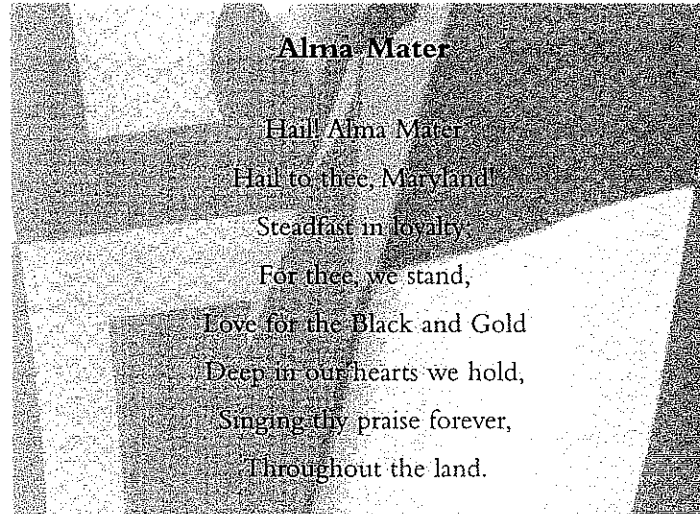
**Message to the Graduates**  
Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral,  
Master's and Bachelor's  
Degrees**  
Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges  
and Schools**  
Deans

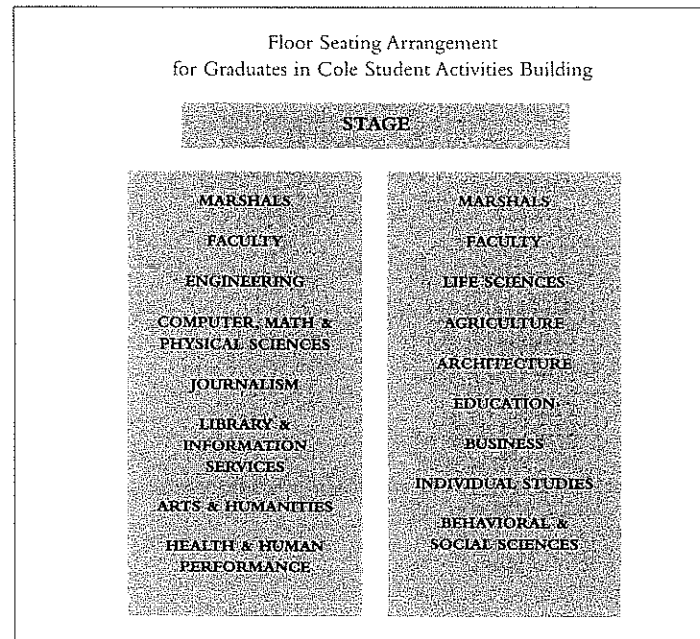
**Benediction**  
The Rev. Byrne

**Recessional**  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble



**Alma Mater**

Hail! Alma Mater  
Hail to thee, Maryland!  
Steadfast in loyalty  
For thee, we stand,  
Love for the Black and Gold  
Deep in our hearts we hold,  
Singing thy praise forever,  
Throughout the land.





# Order of Commencement

May 22, 1998 • Cole Student Activities Building • 9:30 a.m.

### Presiding

Dr. William E. Kirwan, President  
University of Maryland, College Park

### Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Mitchell P. Hebert  
Department of Theatre

### Processional

Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. John E. Wakefield, Conductor

### Musical Selection

*The Maryland Salute*  
arr. Jerry Brubaker  
The Maryland Chorus and  
The Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Dr. Paul Traver, Conductor

### Invocation

The Reverend Dr. Ruby Reese Moore  
Chaplain, Black Ministries

### The National Anthem

Dr. Traver, Conductor

### Greetings

Dr. Donald N. Langenberg  
Chancellor, University System of Maryland

Mr. Lance W. Billingsley, Chair  
University System of Maryland  
Board of Regents

### Senior Class Gift Presentation

### President's Distinguished Alumnus Award

Mr. Edwin R. Fry  
President-Elect  
University of Maryland Alumni Association

### Remarks to the Graduates

Randall Dana Katz  
Graduating Senior

### Address

The Hon. Madeleine Korbel Albright  
Secretary of State

### Conferring of Honorary Degrees

Dr. Kirwan

### University of Maryland Alumni Association Induction

Mr. Fry

### Message to the Graduates

Dr. Kirwan

### Conferring of Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees

Dr. Kirwan

### Presentation of Colleges and Schools

Deans

### Musical Tribute

Ms. Linda Mabbs, soprano  
Mr. Robert McCoy, piano

### Benediction

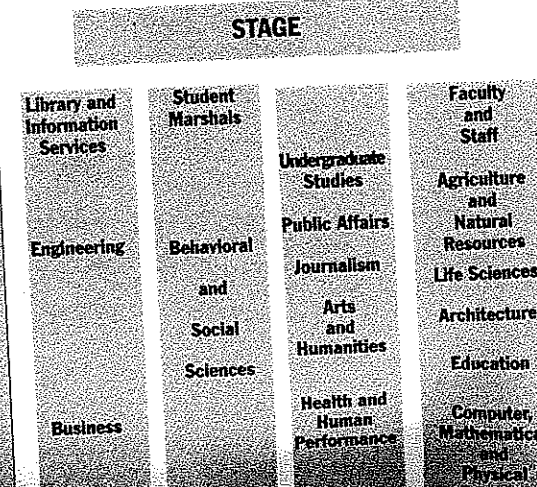
### Recessional

Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. Wakefield, Conductor

### Alma Mater

Hail! Alma Mater;  
Hail to thee, Maryland!  
Steadfast in loyalty;  
For thee we stand,  
Love for the Black and Gold  
Deep in our hearts we hold;  
Singing thy praise forever  
Throughout the land.

### Floor Seating Arrangement for Graduates



December 20, 1998 • Cole Student Activities Building • 1:00 p.m.

**Presiding**

Dr. C. D. Mote, Jr.  
President, University of Maryland

**Master of Ceremonies**

Professor Adele Cabot  
Department of Theatre

**Processional**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble  
Mr. John E. Wakefield, conductor

**Invocation**

Dr. John Stephenson  
Director, L.D.S. Institute of Religion  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day  
Saints

**The National Anthem**

**Greetings**

Ms. Louise Michaux Gonzales  
Member, University System of  
Maryland Board of Regents

**Senior Class Gift Presentation**

Mr. Faiz Ahmad and  
Ms. Lauren Mallon  
Senior Council

Ms. Jane Henson '55

**Remarks to the Graduates**

Ms. Amy Melissa Schlom  
Graduating Senior

**Musical Selection**

*Ballad for Chris* by Elliot Del Borgo  
Mr. Chris Vadala, alto saxophone  
soloist  
Symphonic Wind Ensemble

**Address**

Captain Scott F. O'Grady

**University of Maryland**

**Alumni Association Induction**  
Mr. Edwin R. Fry '69  
President, University of Maryland  
Alumni Association

**Message to the Graduates**

Dr. Mote

**Conferring of Doctoral,**

**Master's and Bachelor's**

**Degrees**

Dr. Mote

**Presentation of Colleges and**

**Schools**

Deans

**Benediction**

Dr. Stephenson

**Recessional**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble

