Commencement Approaching

This year’s Graduate Commencement Ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 18, 2013, in Utica’s historic Stanley Theatre. A reception will be held afterwards on the Utica College campus.

The commencement ceremony is held once a year as a formal acknowledgement of your academic achievements even though students graduate from Utica College three times a year in May, August, and December. This ceremony is intended to be a memorable experience for our graduates, their families, and their loved ones. UC wants you to know that this is your day and hopes you enjoy yourself in celebrating this major life accomplishment. At the same time, we ask that all graduates and their guests be respectful of the formality associated with the event as well as the historic theatre in which the event is being held.

In order to participate in this year’s Graduate Commencement Ceremony, three actions are required by the indicated deadlines: (1) submit an Application for Degree by March 15, (2) complete the online RSVP - Attendance Notification form, and (3) order your academic regalia by April 15. The RSVP - Attendance Notification form must be completed by April 15, however, August 2013 graduates should complete it by April 1 to ensure their name appears in the commencement program booklet.

Academic regalia for graduate students - caps, gowns, and hoods - must be purchased from the UC Bookstore in person or via an online order form. Ordering your regalia is a three-step process that involves reserving your regalia based on size and academic program by April 15, arranging payment, and arranging pickup or shipping of your regalia with the UC Bookstore. For both Master's and Doctoral degree regalia, a hood is an additional component with colors that represent the graduate's academic program and college/university, which goes around the neck and drape down the back. Your Program Director and School Dean will place this hood on you as part of the commencement ceremony. Doctoral graduates also have the option of wearing a tam (soft-sided hat) instead of the traditional mortarboard cap.

Details can be found on the commencement website, and important
information for upcoming graduates will be sent to your UC email address (NOT via Angel).

We look forward to seeing you at your Graduate Commencement Ceremony!

The Write Idea:
AskUs 24/7: Connect with a Librarian

AskUs 24/7 is a research assistance tool that Utica College Library subscribes to and participates in via the WNYLRC (Western New York Library Resource Council). WNYLRC is a regional organization that joins area libraries with other councils. Through this network each library has access to other participating libraries’ information so they can work with students outside of their school and direct them through their school's resources. Librarians from each participating library take turns staffing AskUs 24/7. Utica College's librarians participate for three hours a week; UC students can use the service even when a UC librarian is not on duty. This service allows students to get help outside of library hours and in different time zones. AskUs 24/7 may experience some instances of lower coverage during holidays yet should be unaffected during winter and summer sessions.

All that is needed to utilize this service is basic computer skills, internet access, possibly the ability to work within multiple windows or tabs, and sometimes a PDF reader (free download available [here](#)). AskUs 24/7 connects students with a librarian so they can receive help with research, citations, formatting, and other library-related questions such as navigating the library website or how long a book can be checked out. AskUs 24/7 is a web-based chat feature that encompasses a national network of libraries and librarians, so someone is constantly available to help. As always you can contact a UC librarian. Lisa Rogers is just one of our very knowledgeable UC librarians who can be reached at lrogers@utica.edu.

Did You Know?
Utica College has only had graduate programs for about 13 years. Over the years student enrollment has increased at an impressive rate. In 2005 UC had 475 graduate students and 119 degrees conferred, and in 2012 there were 1,071 students and 247 degrees conferred. It is evident that graduate students, both online and campus-based, are starting to make a huge impact on campus! In addition to increasing enrollment, our graduate students represent almost all 50 states and four continents. For more information on the demographics and history of the College, see the UC Factbook.

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to be on the regular mailing list, please click on the button below: