April 10, 2015

Dear Senior,

I want to offer my congratulations and wish you well during this busy and exciting time in your life. The remaining weeks of this spring semester will go by faster than you can imagine. I hope you will take the opportunity to reflect on your time at Wellesley. What has been most special about your experience? What professor or class has been most influential? You have left your mark on this campus, but how has this campus left its imprint on you?

I am looking forward to Commencement on May 29. The ceremony marks the end of your time as a student at Wellesley, and it celebrates the beginning of the next phase of your life. It is a marvelous occasion for you and your family. It is also a wonderful moment for the Wellesley College community as we celebrate the Class of 2015 and all of your accomplishments.

I hope you will find this information booklet helpful as you and your family plan for Commencement. For all Commencement-related questions, please contact Sarah Willis, Events Manager: 781-283-2375 or commencement@wellesley.edu.

Again, I wish you all the best in your last semester as a student at Wellesley.

Sincerely,

H. Kim Bottomly
President
WELLESLEY COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT 2015
KEY EVENTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 27

12:00 p.m.  Senior Class Luncheon (seniors only)
_Houghton Chapel Lawn Tent_, sponsored by the Alumnae Association

12:00 p.m.  Senior Class Family Luncheon (families and guests only)
_Houghton Chapel Multifaith Center_
Sponsored by the Office of Parent & Family Programs

2:00 p.m.  Commencement Rehearsal (seniors only, attendance is required)
(No guests please)
_Academic Quad Lawn_

Thursday, May 28

10:30-11:45 a.m.  Sigma Xi Initiation (seniors and guests)
_Science Center, Room 277_

Noon-1:30 p.m.  Picnic Lunch (seniors and guests; advance tickets required)
_Tower Courtyard and Dining Hall_

2:00 p.m.  Baccalaureate Celebration (one guest ticket per senior)
_Houghton Chapel and Multifaith Center and adjacent Lawn Tent_

3:45-4:45 p.m.*  President’s Reception (seniors and guests)
_Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center, * following Baccalaureate Celebration_

5:00 p.m.  Phi Beta Kappa Initiation (seniors and guests)
_Jewett Auditorium_

8:00 p.m.  Baccalaureate Concert (seniors and guests)
_Houghton Chapel and Multifaith Center_

Friday, May 29  (Commencement Day)

9:15 a.m.  Senior Class Picture (seniors)
_Severance Green Hill_

9:45 a.m.  Procession Formation (seniors and faculty)
_Seniors - Severance Green pathways, alphabetically
Faculty - Outside of Founders Hall, on Jewett Road_

10:30 a.m.  Commencement Exercises
_Academic Quad Lawn_

1:15-3:30 p.m.*  Complimentary Light Lunch & Reception (seniors and guests)
_Chamber Lawn Tent, *Following Commencement_

1:00 - 2:15 p.m.  Diploma Pick-Up (seniors only)
_Margaret Clapp Library_
PLANNING AHEAD

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

The Commencement ceremony will be held on Friday, May 29th at 10:30 a.m. on the Academic Quad Lawn. Tickets for our outdoor ceremony will not be required. There will be adequate seating to accommodate your guests, or they may view the ceremony in air-conditioned venues on the College cable television network in Jewett Auditorium, Collins Cinema, and Pendleton Hall. For family and friends who cannot travel to Wellesley, join us via live webstream to view the Commencement ceremony.

WEATHER

Please take into consideration the ever-changing nature of New England weather. The Commencement ceremony on the Academic Quad Lawn will continue rain or shine. In the event of rain, please bring umbrellas and/or raincoats and be prepared to wear appropriate shoes and clothing. We also recommend bringing your own reusable water bottle to help reduce the use of disposable plastic bottles. There will be water stations set up at Commencement. This is particularly helpful in the case of a very warm day. If the weather forecast calls for unsafe weather, we will implement the Extreme Weather Commencement Plan. Please see plan enclosed.

SAFETY

Commencement attendees are respectfully discouraged from bringing large bags, luggage, backpacks, and other large containers to any Commencement activities. Please know that all such bags and containers are subject to search. Attendees are also asked not to leave personal property unattended while attending Commencement.

PARKING

Parking for the general public is available at several locations around campus and will be marked. Once you have arrived on campus, Parking Attendants will be available along College Road. There will be a designated parking area provided for guests who have mobility impairments and are driving themselves and have requested special parking in advance. Please see information enclosed on Disability Services during Commencement.

COMMENCEMENT PHOTOGRAPHS

Professional vendors will photograph each student as she receives her degree and take a panoramic photo of the senior class. Links to the company website for more information are on the Commencement webpages. You are not under any obligation to purchase the photographs.

INCLUDED IN YOUR COMMENCEMENT 2015 PACKET

- Three formal keepsake Commencement invitations
- An updated Commencement 2015 Key Events Schedule
- General information regarding Commencement
- Wellesley Fresh Dining Services order forms for Baccalaureate picnic lunch
- Information from Disability Services
- A list of recommended area hotels
- One guest ticket for the Baccalaureate Celebration. (A live broadcast of the event will be available for viewing in the tent adjacent to the Chapel. Tickets will not be required for tent seating on the Chapel Lawn.)
- Wellesley College Extreme Weather Commencement Plan and four Extreme Weather Guest Tickets
COMMENCEMENT 2015 EVENTS IN MORE DETAIL

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2015

SENIOR CLASS LUNCHEON 12:00 p.m.  Houghton Chapel Lawn Tent
Join us for your first event as alumnae! At this luncheon you will be inducted into the Alumnae Association and hear from your class-selected faculty speaker. This event is sponsored by the Alumnae Association and all seniors are invited free of charge. As the Chair of the Board of Trustees frequently reminds us, “Other people go to school for four years, at Wellesley, it is for life!”

SENIOR CLASS FAMILY LUNCHEON 12:00 p.m.  Houghton Chapel Multifaith Center
Sponsored by the Office of Parent & Family Programs
While your student is attending a private lunch with her classmates, families are invited for a casual lunch. Enjoy conversation with other families and College administrators! Sponsored by the Office of Parent & Family Programs. To register, complete a form at: www.wellesley.edu/events/commencement

COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL 2:00 p.m.  Academic Quad
Commencement rehearsal will begin at 2:00 p.m. Please meet on Severance Lawn in order to walk the procession route prior to taking your seat on the Academic Quad. Seniors must sit in their designated seats. Seat assignments will be emailed from the Registrar’s Office to each graduate by the end of the day on Tuesday, May 26th. Attendance is required for the entire rehearsal. Requests for permission to be absent, for serious reasons only, should be submitted to the Senior Class Dean by Friday, May 22nd. Caps and gowns are NOT worn at rehearsal. Please do not invite guests.

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2015

PICNIC LUNCH FOR SENIORS AND GUESTS (Tickets required by all) 12:00 p.m.  Tower Courtyard and Dining Hall
Reservations are required for the picnic lunch. Please complete the attached insert with the required information and return to the Wellesley Fresh Dining Services Office at the Physical Plant, next door to the Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center. One check may be made out for the total cost of the picnic lunch. You may also reserve your tickets by e-mailing wellesleyfresh@wellesley.edu or calling 781-283-2297. Reservations will not be accepted after Friday, May 22nd. You may pick up your tickets at the Wellesley Fresh Dining Office. If requested, we will send your tickets to your Wellesley College unit mail box. Tickets not picked up by Tuesday, May 26th will be sent to you via campus mail. Please note, this is an outdoor lunch and you are welcome to bring a blanket as there is limited seating. If you prefer, you and your guests may eat the regular lunch in designated residence dining halls.

BACCALAUREATE CELEBRATION (One guest ticket per senior) 2:00 p.m.  Houghton Chapel and Multifaith Center
Baccalaureate is a gathering of graduating seniors and their families/friends to celebrate the journey of each class through Wellesley College, and is held the day before Commencement each year. It is a time to be together in a more personal way: an original celebration planned by seniors for seniors and includes dancing, drumming, singing, and lots and lots of memories.
Gowns, no caps, are worn for the Baccalaureate Service. The Baccalaureate Procession will form at 1:40 p.m. on the path between Founders Hall and the Margaret Clapp Library if the weather is fair, or the ground floor of the Houghton Chapel and Multifaith Center in case of rain. As seating is limited in the Chapel, only seniors and those guests with a ticket will be seated inside the Chapel. Additional seating is available in the tent adjacent to the Chapel with large projection screens in place for viewing the ceremony. One ticket is included in your Commencement packet.

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2015

PRESIDENT’S RECEPTION FOR SENIORS AND GUESTS (No tickets required) (Following Baccalaureate Celebration) 3:45-4:45 p.m. Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center
All students, parents, and guests are invited to meet informally with President H. Kim Bottomly at the Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center, Tishman Commons for light refreshments.

BACCALAUREATE CONCERT (No tickets required) 8:00 p.m. Houghton Chapel and Multifaith Center
Join us as the Music Department celebrates the senior class musicians in their final concert performance at Wellesley. All are welcome to attend this festive and memorable occasion.

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2015

SENIOR CLASS PICTURE 9:15 a.m. Severance Green Hill
Gather on Severance Green Hill for the Senior Class of 2015 photo. Gowns and caps must be worn.

COMMENCEMENT FORMATION AND PROCESSION 9:45 a.m. Severance Green
The Registrar's Office will line up all seniors and be present to assist with any questions. Families may find their seats on the Academic Quad at this time in preparation for the Commencement Exercises.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES 10:30 a.m. Academic Quad
The Commencement ceremony will be held on the Academic Quad. Tickets will not be required for the Academic Quad. Also there will be adequate seating to accommodate your guests. A live broadcast of the event may be viewed indoors in Jewett Auditorium, Collins Cinema, and Pendleton Hall. The Commencement ceremony will also be live streamed.

COMMENCEMENT RECEPTION (No tickets required) 1:15 p.m. Houghton Chapel Lawn Tent
Following the Commencement ceremony, a complimentary reception/light lunch will be held on the Houghton Chapel Lawn for the Class of 2015, family, and guests.

DIPLOMA PICK-UP (seniors only) 1:00-2:15 p.m. Margaret Clapp Library
For questions, please email commencement@wellesley.edu, call 781-283-2375, or visit www.wellesley.edu/events/commencement
Wellesley College Disability Services during Graduation Activities and Commencement 2015

Students or guests needing disability accommodations during Commencement should make accommodation requests using the Disability Accommodation Requests online form by May 8, 2015. Late requests will be responded to depending on availability: www.wellesley.edu/events/commencement/commencementdisabilityservices

For questions about accommodations during graduation activities and Commencement, please email DisabilityServices@wellesley.edu or call 781-283-2434.

Commonly Requested Accommodations

- **Manual Wheelchair for use during Commencement**
  Requested wheelchairs will be available on the morning of Commencement. Your family member will need to sign for the chair at pickup and return it by 2:30 pm. To rent a wheelchair privately, you may contact Byrne Home Health Center in Natick by calling 508-655-3656.

- **Accessible Seating because of a mobility, hearing, seeing, or health-related disability or impairment**
  A maximum of three seats will be available per graduate. Please pick up your accessible seating tickets by May 22.

- **Accessible Seating with Aisle Space for a guest using a wheelchair**
  Please make a request to ensure enough maneuvering and aisle space.

- **Accessible Drop-off Area**
  There will be a drop-off area at Commencement for guests with disabilities who request this and are being driven to the ceremony.

- **Accessible Parking Area**
  A designated parking area will be provided for guests who have mobility impairments and are driving themselves and make this request.

- **Transportation between Parking Area, Ceremony, and Reception with lift-equipped Van**
  Transportation will be available upon request to bring guests with disabilities to and from parking, the ceremony, and the reception.

- **Interpreters, Transliterators, and Captioning for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing**
  Requests may be made for a sign language interpreter for American Sign Language (ASL), Signed English, Cued Speech, and Video Captioning Seating.

- **Alternative-Format Programs for individuals who are blind or have low vision.**
  Requests may be made for audio, large print, or Braille Commencement programs. Please make your request for a large print or Braille Commencement program early to allow for production time.

- **A Wellesley College Accessible Routes Campus Map**
  Please visit web.wellesley.edu/map/pdfaccessmap.pdf
Listed below are just a few of the many accommodation options near Wellesley and in Boston.

**Wellesley and Vicinity**

**Babson Executive Conference Center**  
One Woodland Hill Drive  
Babson Park, MA 02457  
781-239-4000

**The VERVE Crowne Plaza-Natick**  
1360 Worcester Road (Route 9)  
Natick, MA 01760  
508-653-8800

**Crowne Plaza Boston-Newton**  
320 Washington Street  
Newton, MA 02458  
866-257-7857  
Special Rate: $159  
Request Wellesley College rate by phone

**Residence Inn by Marriott**  
400 Staples Drive  
Framingham, MA 01702  
508-370-0001

**Needham Sheraton**  
100 Cabot Street  
Needham, MA 02194  
781-444-1110

**Marriott Hotel**  
2345 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, MA 02466  
617-969-1000

**Marriott Courtyard**  
342 Speen Street  
Natick, MA 01760  
508-655-6100

**Hotel Indigo**  
399 Grove Street, (Route 128 Exit 22)  
Newton, MA 02462  
617-969-5300

**Doubletree Guest Suites**  
550 Winter Street  
Waltham, MA 02451  
781-890-6767

**Hampton Inn Boston-Natick**  
319 Speen Street  
Natick, MA 01760  
508-653-5000

**Boston and Cambridge**

**Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel**  
Copley Square  
138 St. James Avenue Boston, MA 02116  
617-267-5300

**Four Seasons Hotel**  
200 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02116  
617-338-4400

**Marriott at Copley**  
Plaza 110 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02116  
617-236-5800

**Boston Marriott Cambridge**  
Two Cambridge Center, 50 Broadway  
Cambridge, MA 02142  
617-494-6600

**Sheraton Boston Prudential Center**  
39 Dalton Street  
Boston, MA 02199  
617-236-2000

**Westin Hotel Copley Place**  
10 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02116  
617-262-9600

**Hyatt Regency Cambridge**  
575 Memorial Drive  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
617-492-1234

**Holiday Inn Boston-Bunker Hill**  
30 Washington Street  
Somerville, MA 02143  
617-628-1000
COMMENCEMENT SITE 2015

Overflow Seating with Live Video Feed
Collins Cinema, Jewett Auditorium, Pendleton Hall