



Dear Families of the Graduating Class of 2019,

I look forward to joining you in celebrating the success of your children during **La Sierra University's Commencement Weekend, June 14-16, 2019.** I want to ensure that you are informed of the many special events being planned for that weekend.

**Friday, June 14**

**8:00 PM: Consecration.** This student-planned worship service offers an important opportunity for graduates, their families, faculty and friends to focus on how the mission of La Sierra University – to seek truth, to know God, and to serve others – will be carried out in the lives of our graduates as they conclude their studies at La Sierra University. This service of consecration will take place in the La Sierra University Church, located on the corner of Pierce and Sierra Vista streets. The homily will be by Pastor Sam Leonor, La Sierra University's Chaplain. The University Alumni Office invites you to a reception in the courtyard behind the church following the Consecration Service.

**Saturday, June 15**

**11:15 AM: Baccalaureate.** This time of corporate worship and thanksgiving takes place at the La Sierra University Church. Leading us in this celebration of God's blessings in, and through, the lives of our students, will be Dr. Terry Johnsson, Vice President of Mission Integration for Adventist Health Pacific Northwest Region.

**3:30 PM: School of Education Dedication of Graduates.** This special service, dedicating teachers, administrators, and counselors to the ministry of education, will take place at the La Sierra University Church. You are invited to a reception immediately following the dedication ceremony. The dedication service is coordinated by the School of Education faculty.

**4:30 PM: H.M.S. Richards Divinity School Consecration Service.** The consecration service honors graduating (undergraduate and graduate) Divinity School students for their achievements at La Sierra University. It also provides an occasion for the students, their families, local Seventh-day Adventist Church conference pastors and conference officials to join the faculty in sending the students, with God's blessings, into gospel ministry. The homily will be presented by Elder Velino A. Salazar, President of the Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and will take place in Hole Memorial Auditorium.

**7:00 PM: Commencement Concert.** We are delighted to feature graduating musicians at this inspiring concert that takes place in Hole Memorial Auditorium.

**Sunday, June 16**

**8:00 AM: Conferring of Degrees Ceremony.** This commencement service takes place on the Founders' Green (main Campus Mall) and celebrates the academic accomplishments of our graduating students. The commencement address will be presented by Dr. Kendra Haloviak-Valentine, Professor of New Testament Studies, HMS Divinity School, La Sierra University. Seats may be held only until 7:30 AM. In order not to delay the start of this important ceremony, please wait to greet your graduate at the schools' designated reception areas after the program. Please notify Dr. Megan McDonough at (951) 785-2447 or at [ods@lasierra.edu](mailto:ods@lasierra.edu) if you have a disability and need special assistance. For those wanting to photograph a newly graduated family member or friend, there will be a designated area for photographers.

## ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Graduation Robes and Announcements:** Graduates may pick up robes at the campus bookstore on Monday, June 3. For your convenience, the bookstore will have extended hours from 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM on June 10-13 and will remain open until 3:00 PM on Friday, June 14, and will open for business at 6:00 AM on Sunday, June 16. Graduates may order announcements online at <http://jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1006447/La-Sierra-University/>.

**Lodging:** A list of some local hotels can be found at <https://lasierra.edu/graduation/guests-information/>. Please be sure to ask for the La Sierra University rate.

**Food Service:** The Dining Commons will open on Saturday, June 15, from noon – 2:30 PM and will offer limited food service on Sunday, June 16, from 7:00 - 10:00 AM.

**Parking:** During the weekend, the parking lot designations for faculty and/or students will not be enforced, but please comply with instructions indicated by temporary parking signs. Handicap parking will be available in designated areas. See map <http://lasierra.edu/fileadmin/documents/graduation/graduation-weekend-map.pdf>.

**Guests with Disabilities Needing Special Accommodations:** La Sierra University welcomes family members and guests with disabilities on campus. Please view: <https://lasierra.edu/graduation/guests-information/>.

**Photographs:** A professional photographer will take a photo of each graduate receiving the diploma. Copies may be ordered via a form that will be mailed to graduates by the photographer. The photographer will also be available, near the reception area after the commencement ceremonies, for formal portraits. There will be a designated area to the left of the stage where you may photograph your graduate receiving the diploma. Look for the signs indicating this area.

**Live Streaming** will be available for those who cannot attend the services in person at <http://stream.lasierra.edu>. Also, for those who prefer, Sunday's ceremony will be live streamed in Hole Memorial Auditorium.

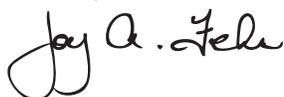
**Flowers:** Orchid leis, bouquets, and balloons will be sold on the main campus mall beginning at 7:00 AM on June 16 and concluding 30 minutes after the commencement program begins. The florist accepts cash only.

**Film, cards, drinks, etc.** will be sold in the campus bookstore until 3:00 PM on Friday and from 6:00 - 11:00 AM on Sunday. The store offers a variety of La Sierra University memorabilia, greeting cards, drinks and snacks.

The best way to stay up-to-date regarding graduation weekend preparations and information is to visit <http://lasierra.edu/graduation/>.

Thank you for entrusting your children to La Sierra University. It has been our special privilege to interact with them as valued members of our learning community. It has been rewarding as, together, we have worked to fulfill the mission of our university – *to seek truth, to know God, and to serve others*. I look forward to celebrating with you the significant accomplishments of La Sierra University's Graduating Class of 2019.

Sincerely,



Joy A. Fehr, Ph.D.

Provost