

For: Chairman of Board of Trustees
President
Conductor of Commencement Music
Faculty Representative & Dean of Studies
Candidates for Degrees

THE DEGREE CONFERRING CEREMONY--Saturday, June 20, at 10 a.m.

- Items 1. Procession from the southwest door of the Barn to Silo Base. The procession starts after the clock strikes the hour of ten and when the musicians begin to play.
2. The Candidates for Degrees stand in front of their seats until the music stops. The Signal for their being seated is President Bloustein and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mrs. Emmet, seating themselves.
3. Mr. Bloustein rises and gives his remarks.
4. Mr. Bloustein then turns to the Faculty Representatives, seated in the front row of the faculty section, and says: "Will the representatives of the Faculty present their recommendations for the awarding of degrees?"
5. The (Dance) Faculty Representative will rise and say: "Mr. President: As a representative of the Faculty in (field), and by recommendation of the Educational Counseling Committee, I present the names of the following students for the award of the Bachelor of Arts degree..." He then presents the names of candidates, if any, for the degree of Master of Arts. Each candidate rises as his or her name is called and remains standing until the Faculty Representative resumes his seat.
6. Drama, General; Literature, Inter-Divisional, Music, Science, Social Science, Visual Arts Representatives follow in this order.
7. After all the faculty Representatives have presented their candidates and resumed their seats, Mr. Bloustein addresses the whole Faculty, who remain seated until he has concluded the following remarks: "Members of the Faculty, you have heard the names of those students who have fulfilled all requirements for graduation and are recommended for the award of the Bachelor of Arts degree and the names of the graduate students who are recommended for the Master of Arts degree. Do you now nominate these candidates to the Trustees for this purpose? If so, please signify your approval by rising."
- (The Faculty stand and remain standing until the end of the ceremony.)
8. Mr. Bloustein then addresses Mrs. Emmet as follows: Mme. Chairman: (The Chairman rises) I present for the consideration of the Trustees the

extra

students whom you have heard formally nominated by the Faculty for the degrees of the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts."

9. Mrs. Emmet, addressing the Board of Trustees (who remain seated until she has concluded the following remarks)--"Members of the Bennington College Corporation: By charter the power of conferring all degrees, diplomas and honors from this institution is placed in your hands. You have heard the nominations of the faculty. As many as are in favor of granting the recommended degrees to the students named, signify your approval by rising."

(The Trustees stand and remain standing until the end of the ceremony.)

10. Mrs. Emmet then addresses the candidates for degrees, as follows:

"Members of the Graduating Class and Graduate Students: (The Class stands in response to this salutation) I am happy to inform you that the Trustees of the Corporation, in the exercise of their authority and on nomination of the Faculty, have admitted you to the Degree of Bachelor of Arts, and in the case of the graduate students, to the Degree of Master of Arts. I declare you entitled to all the rights and privileges pertaining to those degrees here or elsewhere."

11. The candidates for the Master of Arts degree will then step to the edge of the platform to receive their hoods from Mr. Bloustein.
12. Mr. Bloustein then addresses the Graduating Class, who are already standing. "With this formal recognition of academic accomplishment, join the company of young men and women from this College and the men and women in all our colleges and universities who have been admitted to the special opportunities and obligations which the Bachelor of Arts and the Master of Arts degrees imply. In the name of all here assembled--your trustees, your instructors, your fellow students, your parents, your friends, your fellow townsmen--I congratulate you."
13. Musicians play for recessional.
14. Mrs. Emmet and Mr. Bloustein remain standing while the graduates march in procession past the Science Wing of the Barn, down to Commons lawn. When the music stops, Mrs. Emmet and Mr. Bloustein exit at the rear of the Silo Base.
15. On Commons lawn, Graduates will form a circle around Mr. Bloustein and Mrs. Emmet, who will hand each graduate (in alphabetical order) his or her diploma.
16. After giving out the diplomas, the President, the Chairman, the Dean of Studies, the Dean of Faculty, and their wives, will form a receiving line, and the graduates are invited to escort their parents and guests through the line.

POOR WEATHER PROCEDURES

Should it be necessary to hold the Commencement exercises in the Tent, students will be notified by Switchboard. They will robe in Booth House living room at 9:20 a.m. By 10:00 a.m., the procession will be formed at the rear of the Tent and the procedure will follow as already outlined through item #13. The following will then occur:

14. Mrs. Emmet and Mr. Bloustein remain standing while the graduates march in procession to the back of the Tent. When the last graduates have reached the rear and the music stops, they disassemble.
15. The faculty-section chairs will be removed and the graduates proceed to this area and form a circle around Mr. Bloustein and Mrs. Emmet, who will then give each graduate his or her diploma.
16. After giving out diplomas, the President, the Chairman, the Dean of Studies, and their wives, will form a receiving line and the graduates are invited to escort their parents and guests through the line.