February 2015

Dear Degree Candidate:

Based on the number of credit-hours completed, you may be eligible to participate in the May 2015 Commencement ceremonies of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as well as the School of Music Convocation. By now you should have already received information from the Chancellor’s Office.

**Campuswide Commencement – Saturday, May 16, 2015 at 9:30 AM, Memorial Stadium**
The Campuswide Commencement ceremony is the official University of Illinois academic ceremony at which the Chancellor presides and the President confers degrees. Tickets are required, but there is no limit on the number of tickets you can request.

Students with disabilities who require special assistance to fully participate in the campuswide Commencement ceremony may contact the Commencement Office at (217) 333-8834 or commencement@illinois.edu.

Detailed instructions can be found here: [http://oc.illinois.edu/commencement](http://oc.illinois.edu/commencement).

**School of Music Convocation – Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 5:30 PM, Smith Memorial Hall**
In addition to the campuswide ceremonies, the School of Music will host a separate convocation in Smith Recital Hall. All graduates’ names are read at this ceremony, and graduate degree recipients are hooded. Tickets are not required, but you must register in advance here: [http://music.illinois.edu/convocation](http://music.illinois.edu/convocation).

**Ordering Academic Attire**
A cap and gown are required for participation in Commencement exercises. Herff Jones has been contracted to provide custom rental academic attire for all graduates. Bachelor attire consists of a mortarboard, gown, tassel, and stole. Additional stoles of gratitude may be purchased. Master’s and Ph.D candidates get a hood instead of a stole. Students can order their academic regalia online at [http://www.herffjones.com/illinois/](http://www.herffjones.com/illinois/) or in person at the Illini Union Bookstore during dates and times specified here: [http://oc.illinois.edu/commencement/students/academic_attire.html](http://oc.illinois.edu/commencement/students/academic_attire.html)

Dates and times for ordering may be found at [www.illinois.edu/commencement](http://www.illinois.edu/commencement). All online orders must be placed by 10:00 PM, April 16, 2015 at [www.herffjones.com/illinois](http://www.herffjones.com/illinois). The deadline to order custom doctoral regalia for purchase is March 23, 2015 in order to receive it in time for the ceremonies.

Announcements cards may also be ordered through Herff Jones, the Illini Union Bookstore, or other source of your choice.

**Hotel Location Service**
Most hotels begin taking reservations for Commencement Weekend very early and may already be filled in the Champaign-Urbana area. However, the Champaign County Convention and Visitors Bureau website [www.visitchampaigncounty.org/visitors/index.php](http://www.visitchampaigncounty.org/visitors/index.php) may be able to assist you with finding accommodations.

Warmest congratulations on your academic achievement. I look forward to your participation in 2015 Commencement Weekend!

Sincerely yours,

*Stephen Burian*
School of Music Convocation Coordinator