Spring 2007
COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
Saturday - May 12, 8 P.M.
THE COMMENCEMENT PROCESSION
THE OFFICIAL PARTY

University Mace, Dr. Thomas R. Mitchell, President, Faculty Senate
President, Dr. Ray Keck III
Chancellor, The Texas A&M University System, Michael D. McKinney, M.D.
Senator, District 21, Dr. Judith Zaffirini
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Dan R. Jones
Vice President for Finance and Administration, José García
Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Candy Hein
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Nasser Momayez
Dean, College of Business Administration, Dr. Jacky So
Dean, College of Education, Dr. Humberto González
Director, Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing, Dr. Susan Walker
Dissertation Committee Chair, Dr. Jacques Verville
President, Student Government Association, Sofía Sanmiguel Gutierrez

Marshalls:
Dr. Fernando Quintana, Associate Professor, College of Arts & Sciences
Dr. Mary Petron, Assistant Professor, College of Education

College Banners:

College of Arts & Sciences
Dr. Tongdan Jin, Assistant Professor

College of Business Administration
Mr. Zeeshan Ali, Visiting Assistant Professor

College of Education
Dr. Carlo Walker, Assistant Professor

Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing
Ms. Rose Saldívar, Assistant Professor
THE ORDER OF EXERCISES

Master of Ceremonies
Dr. Dan R. Jones, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Fanfare and Processional
Texas A&M International University Symphonic Band
Dr. Michael Stone
Conductor

Opening Declaration
Dr. Dan R. Jones
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Colors
Texas A&M International University ROTC
Cpt. David R. Ramírez

National Anthem
Dana Crabtree
Instructor of Music
Accompanied by TAMU Symphonic Band

Keynote Speaker
Michael D. McKinney, M.D.
Chancellor, The Texas A&M University System

Distinguished Student Scholar
Mayra Jannette Pliego
Class of 2007

University Scholar Award
Dr. Dan R. Jones
Assisted by Dr. Thomas R. Mitchell, President, Faculty Senate

University Teacher Award
Dr. Dan R. Jones
Dr. Thomas R. Mitchell

Certification of Candidates for Degrees
Dr. Dan R. Jones

Conferring of Degrees
Dr. Ray M. Keck III
President

Congratulatory Remarks
Dr. Judith Zaffirini, State Senator, District 21

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees
Mary Treviño
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

Alma Mater
Dana Crabtree
Accompanied by TAMU Symphonic Band

Prayer of Gratitude
Sofía Sanmiguel Gutiérrez
President, Student Government Association

Closing Declaration
Dr. Dan R. Jones

Recessional March
TAMIU Symphonic Band
In November of 2006, Dr. Michael D. McKinney was named Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System. A family physician, Dr. McKinney came to the A&M System from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, where he served as senior executive vice president and chief operating officer since September 2003.

He served in leadership at the UT System since 2002, including as vice chancellor for health affairs at the UT System’s Austin administrative offices and as acting dean of the UT Medical School in Houston.

During 2001 and 2002, he served as chief of staff to Governor Rick Perry. From 1995-1998, during former Governor George W. Bush’s first term, he was Texas Commissioner of Health and Human Services, overseeing 11 state agencies, a staff of 64,000 and a budget of $24 billion. He represented Leon, Madison, Grimes, Houston and Montgomery counties in the Texas House of Representatives from 1984 to 1991 and was speaker pro-tempore of the House from 1989 to 1990.

He earned a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Houston and an M.D. from the U.T. Medical Branch in Galveston. He is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honor society.

Other career experiences include serving as CEO of a Medicaid health care plan and member of the Physician Payment Review Commission in the Federal Office of Technology. For 16 years, he served as a family practitioner in Centerville, Texas.

Among his many honors and achievements are the American Medical Association’s 2006 Physician’s Recognition Award and the Texas Academy of Family Practice’s Presidential Award of Merit for Exemplary Service.

As a state representative, he was recognized as one of the 10 best legislators by Texas Monthly Magazine and The Dallas Morning News. The Texas Medical Association and the Texas Department of Commerce recognized him as an outstanding legislator.

The A&M System includes nine universities, seven state agencies and a statewide health science center. Combined, the universities have about 103,000 students, including approximately 45,000 at Texas A&M University in College Station, the state’s first public institution of higher education and the land-grant university of Texas.

The agencies, all of which perform agriculture and engineering-related research, service and continuing education, serve all parts of Texas and beyond.
Mayra Jannette Pliego is the daughter of Agripina G. Pliego and Roberto Pliego Jr. and the youngest of five children. Pliego graduated from Martin High School with highest honors. She obtained an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Nursing, magna cum laude, from Laredo Community College. At the age of 21, she became a registered nurse in the State of Texas.

As a registered nurse, she has worked in various departments including: endoscopics, interventional radiology, home health, pediatrics, and the intensive care unit (ICU). She is currently a full-time employee in the ICU at Laredo Medical Center and a part-time employee at Doctor’s Hospital in pediatrics.

Today, she graduates with a 3.896 GPA, Summa Cum Laude, with a major in Nursing.

She has a particular interest in nurse anesthesia and plans to continue graduate study at The University of Kansas.
THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

Tassel
Black or colored to indicate academic discipline. Worn on left side after graduation.

Hood
Designates discipline (see academic colors below).

Robe
Usually black, but sometimes colored to indicate University.

Academic Colors
Maize - Agriculture
White - Arts, Letters, Humanities
Drab - Business Administration
Lilac - Dentistry
Copper - Economics
Light Blue - Education
Brown - Fine Arts
Russet - Forestry
Maroon - Home Economics
Crimson - Journalism
Purple - Law
Lemon - Library Science
Green - Medicine
Pink - Music
Apricot - Nursing
Silver Gray - Speech
Olive Green - Pharmacy
Dark Blue - Philosophy
Sage Green - Physical Education
Peacock Blue - Public Administration
Salmon Pink - Public Health
Gold - Yellow - Science
Citron - Social Science
Scarlet - Theology of Divinity
Gray - Veterinary Science
Academic costumes of today have a history of nearly eight hundred years. In Medieval Europe men and women typically wore gowns or robes. There was a great deal of variety in color and material, depending upon the position and wealth of the wearer. Gradually there developed distinctive gowns for various professions, trades and religious orders. Students and teachers in many medieval universities such as Paris, Oxford and Cambridge organized themselves into guilds. Gradually the academic costume became distinctive for Bachelors of Arts (the apprentices), Masters of Arts (the teachers), and Doctors (teachers who had completed postgraduate studies). Most of the distinctive characteristics appeared in the hood, which was originally a practical element of dress, but which evolved into a separate and purely ornamental article, draped over the shoulder and down the back. The academic cap was a later development. It was first conferred as a symbol of the M. A. Degree. Some of these Master's caps were stiff, some soft, some square, some round with a tuft in the center. Today's tassel is an elaboration of the tuft. Although round caps are still used at some universities, Oxford University’s “mortar board” style is more common. The dress worn by faculty and graduates during Commencement ceremonies is based upon costumes used in 14th and 15th century universities, particularly Oxford and Cambridge in England. This style of academic dress and accoutrements has been used in the United States from Colonial times, and it was standardized by an Intercollegiate Code in 1895. Like the military of medieval times with its pages, squires, and knights, the academic world has long recognized three basic levels of dignity and achievement; these are: undergraduates, bachelors, and masters. The distinction between masters and doctors is a relatively recent phenomenon; both masters and doctors levels of achievement imply the right to teach. The variety of styles and colors seen in a faculty procession reflects the fact that each university retains its own distinguishing customs as especially revealed by the design of its doctoral robes. When a university is granted the right to confer doctoral degrees, one of the privileges that accompanies that right is the opportunity to design unique and distinctive regalia for its graduates.

12th/13th Centuries: Origin of academic dress – the dress of the scholar (student or teacher) is the dress of a cleric. Long robes are needed for warmth in unheated buildings; likewise, the hood provided warmth for the tonsured head. Eventually, a skullcap replaces the hood, 1321. University of Colombia stipulates that all “Doctors, Licentiates and Bachelors' wear robes.”

14th Century: Regulations of certain colleges in England forbid “excess in apparel” and prescribed a long gown for all scholars. Oxford and Cambridge prescribe a definite academic dress and exercise university control over all details.

19th Century (late): Assignment of specific colors to signify certain faculties is standardized in the United States.

1887: Gardner Cotrell Leonard's designed gowns adopted by Williams College. The standardization of American system of academic dress has begun.

1895: Representatives of leading institutions, including Leonard, meeting as the Intercollegiate Commission, define a system of academic apparel. In the meeting, held at Columbia University, the first academic costume code for different disciplines is established.

1932: American Council on Education approves the costume code established by the Intercollegiate Commission.

1959: Academic costume code is updated.

1986: The American Council on Education committee adds the following sentence to the code to clarify the use of dark blue for the Ph.D. Degree. “In the case of the Doctor of Philosophy Degree, the dark blue color is used to represent the mastery of the discipline of learning and scholarship in any field that is attested to by the awarding of this degree and is not intended to represent the field of philosophy.”
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY FLAGS
These flags represent countries or territories of current students and alumni of the University.

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<th>Albania</th>
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Honors at Graduation
Graduates receiving honors or distinction are acknowledged in the following manner:

D.D. Hachar Honors Program
Students who are members of the D.D. Hachar Honors Program will be designated by the silver medallion they wear during Commencement.

University Honors
Each year at Commencement, Texas A&M International University recognizes outstanding graduates based on grade point average with University Honors. These students are designated by gold cords worn at Commencement and their honors are announced as follows:

- **Cum Laude** – with honors
- **Magna Cum Laude** – with high honors
- **Summa Cum Laude** – with highest honors

Honor Societies
The following honor societies are represented on campus. Their members are presented certificates at a special ceremony and may wear cords of the color indicated below or a lapel pin at Commencement:

- **Alpha Kappa Delta** - International Sociology Honor Society
- **Kappa Delta Pi** - International Honor Society in Education (purple and green cords)
- **Phi Kappa Phi** - All-Discipline Honor Society (gold and royal blue)
- **Pi Sigma Alpha** - National Political Science Honor Society (red, black and white cords)
- **Psi Chi** - National Society in Psychology (blue and yellow cords)
- **Sigma Delta Pi** - National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society (gold and red cords)
- **Sigma Tau Delta** - National Honor Society in English (red and black cords)
TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Graduation Candidates - May 12, 2007

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION
Doctor of Philosophy in International Business Administration
Christine Bernadas

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Master of Arts
Ramiro Aguilar
Hilda Elena Cavazos
Rosa Cavazos-López
José Daniel Covarrubias
Melyssa Michelle Galindo
Joe Lee Herrera
Brenda G. Hoffman
 Roxana Johnston
Blanca Moreno Naudín
Elva Graciela Rodríguez

Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology
Sara Cristabel Luna-Rodríguez

Master of Public Administration
Michael Joseph Dole
Adrian Domínguez
Rolando Gallegos
Juan Carlos Rendón
Cordelia Rodríguez

Master of Science in Criminal Justice
José René Ríos Jr.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION
Master of Business Administration
Martín Rafael Alcalá Garza
Ma. Angelica Hular Angco
Mario Alberto Arevalo Vega
Adrian Eugenio Cantú-Garza
Humberto Luis Colón
Tomas Contreras
Elva Nelly Cuencar
José Roberto Díaz
Samuel Mauricio Díaz Prado
Juliet Diong
Elí Erasmio Guadiana Esquivel
Circe Peregrina Flores
Juan Gilberto García Jr.
Jorge Leal García
Timothy Joe Mata
Ciro Alberto Ochoa Alfaro
Stapley David Pearson II
Juan Plascencia De La Garza
Pedro Gabriel Reyes Toriz
Noe Alejandro Rodríguez
Carlos Saldaña Navarro
David Oscar Sepulveda
Roman Skopai
Nazim Taskin
Noel Antonio Vázquez Benavides
Paijit Wongprayuk

Master of Science
Gerardo Botello
Luis Carlos González
Mohamed M. Haddad
Preethi R. Kasam
Koti Vara Prasad Maddala Nava
Leelakrishna Nadella
Cynthia Verónica Vela-Galván
Rajesh Yadlapati

Master of Professional Accountancy
Mariela Arlette Arizola
Guadalupe García
Laura Edith García
Nelso A. Molina
Gilberto Requena
Victor Salinas IV
David Sánchez

Master of Science in Education
Gloria A. Ayala-Solís
Irna Guadalupe Castro-Carrillo
Lygia Estella
Gilbert Castro
Rebecca Coss-Morales
Jessica Cruz
Rosalinda Curiel-Escamilla
Laura F. González de los Santos
Cynthia Margarita York Garza
Sanjuana Elisa Garza
Teresa Gloria
Claudia Carolina González
Benita González-Gutiérrez
Laura Lorraine Hovel
Lydia Marie Johnson
Norvala Johnson
Yesenia Luna Mancha
Cecilia Marchan-González

JoAnn Navarro
Claudia Margarita Neira
Cordelia Eliza Nieto
Susan Rivera Barrientos
Herma C. Sánchez
Izzamary Cisneros Torres
Jevony Jeannine Vaccia
Elenisa Cisneros Vásquez
Sara Alicia Vázquez-Hinojosa
Debra De la Rosa Weikel

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Bachelor of Arts
Anna M. Aguiar
Amber Mireille Almanza
Nydia Noemi Amesquita
María Eugenia Arellano-Figueroa
Ricardo Arias
Christina Arriaga
Lisa Mayela Barrera
Cynthia Aydee Dougherty Bernal
Adriana Michelle Botello
Sandra Lorena Cardenas
René Jacob Castillo
Mónica Michele Castro-Jackson
Gretchen Arlene Esparza
David Jamar Crawford
Amanda Michelle Cruz
Amanda Rae Cruz
Silvia Elizabeth De La Peña
Bernardo Díaz
Karen Lizeth Escobedo
Julia Isabel Esquinca
Diana Esquivel
Saul Fernández Jr.
Denise Fuentes
Annalíce Ada Galindo
Christina Alicia García
Cynthia Griselda García
Mariano David García
Verónica García
Ruth Abigail Garza
Alberto González Jr.
Belinda González
Jacqueline González
Sandra González
Adriana Aliza Gutiérrez
Juan Francisco Heredia
Maria Isabel Ibarra
Sarah Ann Jenkins
Mary Elizabeth Koch
Iris Jeanette Kouba
Leonardo Limón
Karla Liñero
Eduardo Enrique López
Angelica Martínez
Cristina Erika Martínez
Erika Martínez
Limbania Verónica Martínez Fernández
Rebecca Lyn Massey
Jennifer Yvonne Medina
Lucero Méndez
Erica M. Morales
Miguel Alberto Moreno
Kristine Louise Newman
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<td>Maria Del Carmen Peña</td>
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<td>Idalia De Hoyos</td>
<td>Ambar Lizzette Bautista</td>
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<td>Lynn Marie Williams</td>
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Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies
Liliana Eloiza Aguilar
San Juanita E. Aguuirre
Adriana Alcaraz
Tanya Arlene Almazan
Brenda Erika Ambuehl
Mayra Arriaga-Martínez
Iris Irene Ávila
Patsy Ávila
Alma Nelly C. Barrera
Santa R. Camacho
Exie E. Chavarría
Larisel Yvette Collazo
Lizette Cortez-Martínez
Delcina De La Cruz
Martha Elizabeth De La Paz
Janice Marie De La Viña
Ana Flor Delgado
Cheryl R. Deutschman
Crystal Ann Elizalde
Diana Julietta Flores Escamilla
Claudia Esquivel
Adriana Galván
Ari García
Brenda Ariana García
Frances Dávila García
Adriana González Trujano
Karina A. González
Lissett González Salinas
Diana Alicia Guerra
Patricia Jennifer Guerrero
Brenda Lizzette Hernández
Sarai Hernández
Grisel Adanari Herrada
Mayra Leticia Herrera
Yvette Hinojosa
Carolina Isaac
Connie Lyzzette Juarez
Diana Elizabeth Laurel
Ana Lilia Lucio
Elizabeth Martínez
Diana Mata
Thelma Vega Mendoza
Sanjuana Claudia Montemayor
Celina Iveth Morales
María Isabel Mosqueda
Susana Peña
Brenda P. Pérez
Elda Yvette Piña
Karla M. Ramírez Guajardo
Suzanne Ramos
María Elena Rentería-Domínguez
Cindy Rodríguez
Mónica Ann Rodríguez
Shirley Rodríguez
Susan Marie Rodríguez
Yolanda Rodríguez
Audrey Ann Romo
Lupe M. Saldívar
Griselda Sánchez
Mónica M. Serna
Fabiola Gabriela Solís Herrera
Erika Soliz
Jessica Yvette Treviño
Stacey Joann Trujillo
Gabriela Villa Echavarría

Irene T. Zamarripa
Adriana A. Zamora
Alma Delia Zamora

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Margarita Alejandra Brizuela
Celeste A. Bryand
Adriana A. Cabello
Ana Laura Cantú
Leonardo Javier De la Garza
Valerie Marie De La Paz
Patricia Ann Díaz
Diana Sujey Flores
Betsabe Gallardo
Luis Rolando García
José González
Leticia González
Cruz Hernández
Rosa Isela Herrera
Rhianna Michelle Hinojosa-González
Cynthia Graciela Kawas
Zhe Li
Konstance Crystal Mackie
Maricela Edith Martínez
Valerie Nicole Martínez
Isela Elina Navarro
Gloria M. Ntakirutimana
Felix Francisco Peña
Mayra Jannette Pliego
Tania Sánchez
Jorge Raúl Sandoval
Yvette S. Smith
Michael Anthony Tijerina
Jennifer Vela
Eva M. Villarreal
Carla Isabel Zamarripa
Our Alma Mater

SUNG TO THE THEME FROM THE FOURTH MOVEMENT
OF BEETHOVEN'S NINTH SYMPHONY

A Song for
Texas A&M International University

Near to Rio Grande’s waters, stately towers above the plain,
Stands our noble Alma Mater, wisdom raised for all to gain.

Binding nations, hearts and visions, aspirations ever new,

Hail to Thee, our Alma Mater!
Hail to Thee, dear TAMIU!

Here, ‘neath sun and gentle breezes, dove and deer lodge safely by,
May Thy children, safe in wisdom, flourish ever ‘neath Thy sky.
Pledge we faith and homage ever, joined in our diversity,
May time ne’er efface the memory of our University! ©1996

Lyrics by Ray M. Keck III, Ph.D.
President, Professor of Spanish

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Delma Barrera        Dr. Thomas Mitchell
Socorro Calderón    Betty Momayezí
Angie Cantrell       María G. Mosqueda
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