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

2006 Commencement Committee
Delma Barrera
Socorro Calderón
Angie Cantrell
Laura Corráz
Rose Dickenson
Laura Elizondo
Felipe Garza
Richard Gentry
Gina Gonzalez
Steve Harmon
Dr. Dan R. Jones
Dennis Koch
Albert Lopez
Patricia G. McBain
Dr. Thomas Mitchell
Betsy Momayezi
Maria G. Mosqueda
Mario Péña
Capt. David Ramírez
Minita Ramírez
Oscar Reyna
Jaime Ríos
Dr. Michael Stone
Mary Treviño
David VerMilyea
Student Ambassadors
THE COMMENCEMENT PROCESSION
THE OFFICIAL PARTY

University Mace, Dr. Thomas R. Mitchell, President, Faculty Senate
      President, Dr. Ray Keck III
      Senator, District 21, Dr. Judith Zaffirini
      Vice President for Finance and Administration, José García
      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
      Representative, Student Government, Dora Evana Trujillo

Marshalls:
      Dr. Richard C. Hicks
      Associate Professor of Management Information Systems, College of Business Administration
      Ms. Irma Lara
      Assistant Professor of Nursing, Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing

College Banners:
      College of Arts and Sciences
      Dr. Fredrich Charles Gechter, Associate Professor of Music
      College of Business Administration
      Dr. Andres Rivas-Chávez, Assistant Professor of Economics and Finance
      College of Education
      Dr. Carlo Walker, Assistant Professor of School Counseling
      Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing
      Ms. Rose Saldivar, Assistant Professor of Nursing

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 Concert 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
      Accompanied by TAMIU Band

Keynote Speaker
      Stephen E. Ogden
      State Senator, District 5

Distinguished Student Scholar
      Mariela Cantú Reyes
      Class of 2006

Certification of Candidates for Degrees
      Dr. Dan R. Jones

Confering of Degrees
      Dr. Ray M. Keck III
      President

Congratulatory Remarks
      Dr. Judith Zaffirini, State Senator, District 21
      Ryan Guillen, State Representative, District 31

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

Alma Mater
      Dana Crabtree
      Accompanied by TAMIU Band

Prayer of Gratitude
      Dora Evana Trujillo
      Representative, Student Government

Closing Declaration
      Dr. Dan R. Jones

Recessional March
      TAMIU Concert Band
State Senator Stephen E. Ogden, R-Bryan, has been in the Texas Senate since January 1997 and chairs the Senate Finance Committee. Prior to serving in the Senate, he served three terms in the Texas House of Representatives.

Ogden is president of Ogden Resources and has been in the oil and gas exploration business for the past 20 years. He served as an officer in the U.S. Navy’s nuclear submarine force for nine years and earned his Bachelor of Science degree at the United States Naval Academy. He earned his Master of Business Administration at Texas A&M University.

Named one of the Ten Best Legislators by Texas Monthly Magazine following the 79th regular session in 2005, the Senator has also received honors from the Texas County Judges and Commissioners Association, the Texas Association of District and County Attorneys, Scott & White, The Texas A&M University System, the Texas Veterans Commission, the Texas Municipal Police Association, and the Free Market Committee.

He also received the Bob Bullock Award for Outstanding Public Stewardship and was awarded the 2004 Defensor Pacem medal by Sam Houston State University.

Maricela Cantú Reyes is the daughter of Virginia Ramón Cantú and the late Florentino Cantú Vargas. A week after graduating from Martin High School in 1976, she started her working career with Central Power and Light Company (CPL), now American Electric Power (AEP) and for two years attended night classes at Laredo Junior College, now Laredo Community College. In 2002, after working for 26 years, she accepted an early retirement offer from AEP. In 2003, she resumed her interrupted academic studies at Laredo Community College and in August 2004 received the Associates in Science degree. Today, she receives her B. S. in Early Childhood Education with a specialization in Bilingual Education, summa cum laude. She is a member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at Texas A&M International University. She is married to Onofre Alejandro Reyes and has three children, Selina (David) Sánchez, Alejandro Onofre, and Angelo; and two granddaughters, Sophia Rebecca and Abigail Lorelai Sánchez.
THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

Academic Costumes and Regalia:
A Brief History and Chronology
By Dr. Stephen Lunce and Dr. Jerry Thompson

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."

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.

- Albania
- Algeria
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Bangladesh
- Belize
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Chile
- China, People's Republic
- China, Republic of Taiwan
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Estonia
- Ecuador
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Morocco
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- Nepal Antilles
- Nicaragua
- Nigeria
- Norway
- Pakistan
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Puerto Rico
- Republic of Georgia
- Romania
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Singapore
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Turkey
- Uganda
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Uzbekistan
- Venezuela
- Virgin Islands
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Honors at Graduation

Graduates receiving honors or distinction are acknowledged in the following manner:

- D.D. Harach Honors Program
- University Honors
- College of Business Administration
- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Engineering
- College of Law
- College of Medicine
- College of Nursing
- College of Science and Health Professions

- Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology
- Master of Public Administration
- Master of Public Health
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Science
- Master of Science in Nursing

- Summa Cum Laude
- Magna Cum Laude
- Cum Laude

- Alpha Kappa Delta - National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society (gold and red cords)
- Pi Sigma Alpha - National Society in Psychology (blue and yellow cords)
- Sigma Tau Delta - National Honor Society in English (red and black cords).

Texas A&M International University
Graduation Candidates - December 16, 2006

*Note: August 2006 Graduate