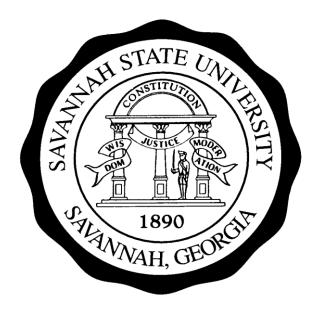
SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA



Lux et Perítas

The One Hundred Eightieth Commencement

Saturday, the Fifth of May Two Thousand and Twelve

Ten O'clock in the Morning Tiger Arena

Javannah State University Mission Statement

Savannah State University, the oldest public historically black university in the State of Georgia, develops productive members of a global society through high quality instruction, scholarship research, service, and community involvement. The University fosters engaged learning and personal growth in a student-centered environment that celebrates the African-American legacy while nurturing a diverse student body. Savannah State University offers graduate and undergraduate studies including nationally accredited programs in the liberal arts, the sciences and the professions.



HISTORY OF SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY

On November 26, 1890, enabling legislation was passed by the Georgia General Assembly to establish a school for the education and training of colored students, which was to operate as a part of the University of Georgia. One hundred and twenty-two years later, the college has become Savannah State University, the oldest public historically black university in Georgia.

A preliminary session of the new college was held in the Baxter Street School Building in Athens, Georgia, with Richard Robert Wright, Sr., as principal. On October 7, 1891, the new college, named the Georgia State Industrial College for Colored Youths, moved to its present location in Thunderbolt, Georgia. Wright was president and there were five faculty members: Loring B. Palmer, A.B.; Frank Cobb, A.B.; Alexander Ashton; Reverend Leigh B. Maxwell, A.B.; Reverend James M. Simms, proctor and steward; and Decatur Suggs, vice-president.

The university awarded its first baccalaureate degree to Richard R. Wright, Jr., in 1898. He went on to become the first black man to receive the Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania (1911), and later to become the president of historic Wilberforce University. During Wright's tenure as president (1890-1921), President William McKinley (1898) and President William Howard Taft (1912) visited the campus and spoke to students and faculty in the Peter W. Meldrim Hall.

Cyrus Gilbert Wiley, class of 1899, and the first alumnus to become president of the university (1921-1926), followed Wright. Benjamin F. Hubert, who came to Georgia State College from Tuskegee Institute, served as president from 1926-1947. It was during his tenure that the college became a fulltime degree granting institution, without high school and normal programs, and became a member of the University System of Georgia (1932). The name of the college was changed to Georgia State College in 1932. In 1950, the name of the college was changed to Savannah State College and in 1996 the name was changed to Savannah State University.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ACADEMIC MACE

Observing the centuries-old convocation procedures, each Marshal in the Savannah State University Academic Procession carries an official mace, which is indicative of the power, dignity, and magisterium vested in the University. The mace is a club-shaped staff that originated in the Middle Ages as a weapon. Eventually, it gained a ceremonial character and is presently employed most often by legislative forums and academic enterprises.

The official mace and stand of Savannah State University were designed and made from mahogany wood by Dr. Ernest S. Brown, Associate Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering Technology.

SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY MOTTO

The University motto is "Lux Et Veritas" (Light and Truth).

ACADEMIC REGALIA

Modern academic dress has evolved from a type of apparel prescribed by English Medieval Universities to distinguish their schools from the lay person in dress at a time when everyone wore robes or gowns. When American colleges and universities desired to adopt some suitable system of academic apparel a half century ago, it seemed best to agree on a definite system which all might follow. Accordingly, this attire has consisted of the cap, the gown, and the hood, the latter two now differing according to the degree the wearer has received.

The modern cap, in academic dress, has the same design for all degrees: black and square-shaped with a tassel hanging from the center. However, the color of the tassel usually differentiates the field of study for which the degree was granted, the gold tassel being worn by doctors or by presidents of colleges and universities; however, the black tassel is correct for all degrees.

The gown, unlike the cap, differs appreciably in design according to the degree conferred on the wearer. The gown for the bachelor's degree has pointed sleeves. It is designed to be worn closed. The gown for the master's degrees, worn open or closed, has an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist, like the others. The sleeve base hangs down in the traditional manner. The rear part of its oblong shape is square cut, and the front part has an arc cut away. The doctor's gown, worn open or closed, has long sleeves faced with velvet; three bars of velvet are midway on the sleeves. The trimmings of the doctor's gown may be black or the color associated with the field of study.

The hood, while not an article of dress, is however, the most distinctive feature of the academic attire. It is a black, crow-shaped badge or adornment with an oval opening and worn down the back. It enables one to quickly determine not only the degree held by the wearer but also the college or university from which he or she is graduated. The colors lining the hood and the size and the shape of the hood make this distinction. The bachelor's and master's hoods are three feet and three and a half feet in length, respectively; the doctor's hood is four feet in length and is made with a wide panel. Hoods may be worn for only those degrees actually held by the wearers.

Members of the governing body of a college or university, and they only, whatever their degrees may be, are entitled to wear doctor's gowns (with black velvet), but their hoods may be only those of degrees actually held by the wearers or those especially prescribed for them by the institution.

In some colleges and universities, it is customary for the president, chancellor, or chief officer to wear a costume similar to that worn by the head of a foreign university.

The chief marshal may wear a specially designed costume approved by the institution. For all academic purposes, including trimmings of doctor's gowns, edging of hoods, and tassels of caps, the color associated with different subjects as prescribed by the revised American Intercollegiate Code is as follows:

Arts, Letters, HumanitiesWhite	
Business Drab	
EconomicsCopper	
Education Light Blue	
LawPurple	
Library ScienceLemon	
MusicPink	

Oratory (Speech)	Silver Gray
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Physical Education	Sage Green
Public Administration	Peacock Blue
Science	Golden Yellow
Social Work	Citron
Theology	Scarlet

At Savannah State University, the lining of the hood has an orange chevron on a blue background to represent school colors. A faculty member wears the color of his or her alma mater.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER GENERAL LARRY R. ELLIS, USA (RETIRED)

Member, University System of Georgia Board of Regents



General Ellis served in the United States Army for more than 35 years with nearly half his service assigned overseas. General Ellis represents one of only six African Americans ever to hold the rank of Four Star General. He commanded combat arms units at every echelon of the Army before retiring in 2004 as the Commander of U.S. Army Forces Command. He served in senior command and staff positions with the United Nations Command in South Korea, the U.S. Pacific Command in Hawaii, the U.S. European Command in Germany and the Balkans as well as the Pentagon in Washington, DC. At the Pentagon, he oversaw multi-year programs and budgets in support of national strategic objectives as the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Training.

His military awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Army Distinguished Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the NATO Medal and the Combat Infantryman Badge. General Ellis earned

an undergraduate degree from Morgan State University and a graduate degree from Indiana University. Other honors include an Honorary Doctor of Laws, an Honorary Master of Strategic Studies, the Distinguished Alumni Service Award, the NAACP National Service Award and the ROCK of the Year Award.

Today, General Ellis is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Ellis Services and Solutions Enterprises of Atlanta, Georgia. He joined the Board of Directors of Point Blank Solutions and served as its President and Chief Executive Officer through April 2009. He serves as a director on the Boards of the Armed Forces Benefit Association and the Medical College of Georgia Health, Inc. (MCGHI). General Ellis is a member of the MCGHI Audit Committee. In 2009, General Ellis was appointed by then-Governor Sonny Perdue to a seven-year term on the University System of Georgia Board of Regents. There, he is chair of the Organization and Law Committee and serves on the Academic Affairs and Personnel and Benefits committees. General Ellis also serves on the Board of Regents for his undergraduate alma mater – Morgan State University – an appointment made by the Governor of Maryland.

General Ellis is married to Jean W. Ellis. They have two adult daughters.

ORDER OF PROCESSION

THE CHIEF MARSHAL

THE CLASS MARSHALS

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER'S AND BACCALAUREATE DEGREES, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER'S AND BACCALAUREATE DEGREES, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER'S AND BACCALAUREATE DEGREES, COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY EMERITI

THE FACULTY

THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY

The academic regalia, the academic processional, and the ceremonial program are part of an ancient tradition of learning. This tradition is a unified, solemn occasion at which only applause is appropriate.

The audience is asked to refrain from any other form of expression and to reserve celebrations until the program is concluded.

SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY HYMN

Original words and music by J. Randolph Fisher and Hillary Hatchett Lyrical Revision by Ms. LaGina M. Frazier

Let us give thanks and praises to Our Alma Mater, S.S.U. Thine honor, pride, and eminence, We raise in prayerful reverence.

Guide us still from day to day, Be Thou mindful lest we lose our way; Help us know that life, short or long, Means unceasing work for weak and strong. Refrain Where Savannah meets the sea, Where grassy plains and palms abound, Where the Flow'rs are gems of loveliness, There S.S.U. is found.

We adore each beauteous scene and hall, Our all we pledge to Thee! In our hearts we'll build a shrine for You We hail Thee, S.S.U.!

ORDER OF CEREMONY

DR. CHERYL D. DOZIER, INTERIM PRESIDENT

Presiding

PRELUDE	Largo
	(Handel)
	PROFESSOR QUYNH SHANNON, Organist
ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL*	
	(Mendelssohn)
PRESENTATION OF COLORS*	SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY NAVAL RESERVE
	OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS COLOR GUARD
	The Star-Spangled Banner
	(Key, Arr. Spicer)
	SSU CONCERT CHOIR
	DR. NAN POOLE SPICER, Director
INVOCATION	
	Living Hope Community Fellowship
SELECTION	
	(Howe, Moen, Arr. Wells)
	AMBER YOUNG, soprano, ARCEAFUS CURRY, bass
INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM GUESTS	Dr. Cheryl D. Dozier
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKED	
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER	NROTC Student, U.S. Marine Corps
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS	
	Member, Oniversity System of Georgia Doard of Regents
PRESENTATION OF	Dr. Curry D. Dogur
PRESIDENT S SECOND MILE AWARD	Dr. Cheryl D. Dozier
SELECTION	
	(Spiritual, Arr. Simpson)
	ERVIN SMITH , tenor

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Conferring of Degrees Dr. Mostafa Sarha	n, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES IN TH College of Business Administration	
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES IN TH COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES	
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES IN TH College of Sciences and Technology	
ALUMNI INDUCTION	MR. ROY L. JACKSON President, SSU National Alumni Association
PRESENTATION OF NAVY RESERVE OFFICERS TRAIN CANDIDATES FOR COMMISSIONING COMMISSIONING OF OFFICERS READING OF THE COMMISSIONING DOCUME	CAPTAIN CLARK PRICE, US NAVY Commanding Officer, SSU Naval ROTC Unit Professor of Naval Science
ADMINISTERING THE OATH OF OFFICE	CAPTAIN CLARK PRICE
Alma Mater*	Savannah State University Hymn
BENEDICTION*	
RECESSIONAL**	Pomp and Circumstance (Elgar)

*The audience is requested to stand. **The audience is requested to sit and to remain seated until the procession has exited.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

GRADUATES

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

GRACE ELIZABETH CURRY | University of Georgia MICHAEL LENARD KING | Savannah State University MYRA E. STOKES | Georgia Southern University

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***JEFFREY DANIEL CROSLEN | Savannah, Georgia
! NATASHA NICOLE CROSS | Columbus, Ohio
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*JAVAR EMANI HENRY | Rex, Georgia **AMARA FELECIA JONES | Freeport, Bahamas AMARRIA BONICE PHILLIPS | Fairburn, Georgia *ERIC LEE RANSOM | Savannah, Georgia

MATHEMATICS

SHAMYRA IVANA ADAMS | Hiram, Georgia ANTONIO SHAIMAR EDWARDS | Savannah, Georgia *WILLIAM DEMETRIUS EDWARDS | Athens, Georgia *LAVONDA DENISHA FOXX | Atlanta, Georgia *RHECIA MARIE GOODLEY | College Park, Georgia *LEWIS BATTISE HALL, JR. | Savannah, Georgia *CRAIG HULING | Elberton, Georgia **KAHNTINETTA M. PR'OUT | Newark, Delaware **JULIAN RASHAD RAYFORD | Powder Springs, Georgia SIERRAH DELANCIA ROSS | Warner Robins, Georgia DEVIN ANTHONY STOWERS | Savannah, Georgia **SHAYANA MAYRENE THOMAS | Decatur, Georgia

***SUMMA CUM LAUDE **MAGNA CUM LAUDE *CUM LAUDE ! IN ABSENTIA

NOTE: Appearance of a name on any list in this program must not be considered as conclusive evidence of graduation. Persons who have met all requirements for a particular degree and whose names appear on the lists in this program will receive the degree indicated.

TRACY NICOLAS KAHNTINETTA M. PROUT IULIAN RASHAD RAYFORD

MATTHEW ALEXANDER SIMMONS

CUM LAUDE (3.00 – 3.39)

JONATHAN THOMAS HALL LEWIS BATTISE HALL, JR. PHYLICIA MONIQUE PATTI HAWKINS JAVAR EMANI HENRY ASHENNA VIRGINIA HOWARD CRAIG HULING DARREN HUNTER THELMORE MATTHEW JACKSON JACOB DAVID JOHNSON GARRY DEXTER KELLEY SOBRIQUIA ZASHUN KELLEY ADRIANA LARSHA LARD ELEANOR VINEZ MARCHANT **RODNEY DEMOND MCDOWELL** MICHAEL THOMAS MCQUEEN, II LAMONT L. MIGNOTT PORSHE LASHEA MOODY SHAKARI MOSLEY

BRITTNEY NICOLE SPARKS BRIDGET DION STEPHENS Shayana Mayrene Thomas Brittney Trashun Williams Derek Paul Williams

JASMINE BREE PENDERGRAPH TIAISHA MONA RANDOLPH **CARLENE KIMBERLY ROBERSON** ERIC LEE RANSOM KENDRA ETHEL ROBINSON **RAHJA MASON SHARP NESHA JANINE SIMPSON** FREDERICK JEROME SMITH JARVIS KENTRELL THOMAS **QUITERIA QUINTA THOMAS** LYUDMILA TKACHUK KIMBERLY MICHELLE VINING SHETERRICA TRENEICE WALKER CHANNING NAPOLEON WELCH ERIKA MONIQUE WHEATLEY MELVIN GUISCHARD WINFREY

PRESIDENT'S SECOND MILE AWARD NOMINEES

RUBEN L. CHIZA ME'KIA DAVIS BRIAN GLADNEY CLARICE GORDY RODNEY MCDOWELL-TURNER RAHJA' SHARP

Christopher Nathaniel Barnes Sidraya A'dai Bussie Me'Kia Angela Davis Leneshia Keone Dixon Melissa Sheena Fleurio Brian LaQuinn Gladney

KRAYNEWSKIA KINSHASA ALLEN

JASMINE NICOLE ALLS MONICA JUANITA ALSTON **OPRAH SHERA ANDERSON COURTNEY ALEXANDRA BANKS BETHANY CHANEL BLOUNT** LASHEMA YVETTE CHEEKS **RUBEN LUBALA CHIZA** SYHJIA NAKARRE COLEMAN ERIC JAY CORBETT, JR. DORKESE ELISE DAVIS **KE'AIRA JANAE DAVIS** ALFRED JOHN DEFILIPPIS **EONYXE RENEE EDWARDS** WILLIAM DEMETRIUS EDWARDS LAVONDRA DENISHA FOXX KEYONDRA SHANAY GARVIN **RHECIA MARIE GOODLEY** CLARICE ANASTASIA GORDY

HONOR GRADUATES

SUMMA CUM LAUDE (3.75 -4.00)

JENNIFER LANE BROWN COURTREVEZ L. MCTIER JEFFERY DANIEL CROSLEN RACHEL LEANDRA RAINES AYTEK A. TEKAY

MAGNA CUM LAUDE (3.40 -3.74)

JULIUS OCTAVIUS GREEN

JOHN EDWARD HUDSON

AMARA FELECIA JONES

SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY NATIONAL ALUMNI COVENANT

Graduates/Now Alumni, will you please stand?

By this physical act of standing, you have passed symbolically through a door, leaving past experiences on one side, to start new experiences on the other side. At this moment, you are participating in the rites of passage from that of student to member of the Savannah State University National Alumni Association.

Please raise your right hand and signify your understanding by saying "I do so understand."

As a Savannah State University graduate, you must keep in mind the high purposes to which you have aspired and for which this great university has prepared you: intellectual development, moral behavior, compassionate relationships and personal actions for the good of the commonwealth. Do you understand?

GRADUATES: "I do so understand."

As a Savannah State University graduate, you must be alert to opportunities to advance the legitimate interests and welfare of the Savannah State University National Alumni Association, and through the association, to assist in the continued development of Savannah State University. Do you understand?

GRADUATES: "I do so understand."

As a Savannah State University graduate, it is incumbent that you give financial support to the Savannah State University National Alumni Association and to your alma mater as a means of providing an educational legacy for those who will follow you. Do you understand?

GRADUATES: "I do so understand."

Considering what you have just heard and have read silently, do you covenant with members of the Savannah State University National Alumni Association?

<u>GRADUATES</u>: "I do hereby covenant with the members of the Savannah State University National Alumni Association and solemnly pledge my loyal support to my Alma Mater–Savannah State University."

Congratulations, Alumni, and I look forward to seeing you during the many activities that we share when we return to campus. You may be seated.

Congratulations May 2012 Graduates!

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