

April 2018

Graduation Newsletter



COMMENCEMENT

Your hard work is about to pay off! The 2018 ESCC Commencement Ceremony will be held at 4:00 PM on Friday, May 11th, on the lawn of Eastern Shore Community College. Former ESCC President, Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover, will be the commencement speaker and Robin Rich-Coates, retiring ESCC Associate Professor of Biology/Chemistry, will serve as the commencement marshal. A reception for graduates and guests will follow immediately after commencement in the Workforce Development Center. Please arrive to your robing location (assigned at rehearsal) with your cap and gown to prepare for the processional line-up no later than 3:15 PM.

TICKETS

Admission to commencement is by ticket only. Each graduate will receive five tickets, to be picked up from Bill LeCato (A38) between Thursday, April 19, and Thursday, April 26. After April 26, tickets not picked up will be given away to other graduates. If you are unable to use all five of your tickets, please consider returning the additional tickets for other students to use.

Contact Bill LeCato to have your name added to a waiting list for up to three possible additional tickets.

REHEARSAL/CLASS PHOTO

Bring your cap and gown with you to the commencement rehearsal for a group photo that will be taken at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, May 9. Meet in the Lecture Hall.

The commencement rehearsal will begin following the group photo. Please try to be at the rehearsal. Important information is shared to help you prepare for the Commencement. You will also be assigned your robing location at rehearsal.

AWARDS PARTY

All graduates are invited to an awards party following the graduation rehearsal at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, May 9, in the Great Hall of the Workforce Development Center.

There will be a delicious meal followed by an awards ceremony to recognize graduating students. Admission to the party is by ticket only. Graduates may pick up one complementary party ticket from Bill LeCato between Thursday, April 19, and Friday, April 27. In addition, there are a limited number of guest tickets available for sale on a first-come, first-served basis. Each additional ticket will be \$10.

Please obtain a Graduation RSVP card from the main reception or Student Services desks. These must be completed and returned to Bill LeCato (A38) by Friday, April 27.

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Diplomas will be mailed within three weeks after the Commencement Ceremony. Please contact the Registrar at 789-1728 with any questions.





CAPS & GOWNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Everyone who participates in graduation must wear the proper regalia.

Caps and gowns will be available for pick-up in the bookstore. The cost is \$28.20 plus tax. The coat for the tassel is \$4.25 plus tax. These may also be purchased separately. Students will be notified by email when graduation items are available for purchase.

If you did not order a cap and gown you will be responsible for coming to the bookstore to place your order.

We encourage you to order from the bookstore as soon as possible to ensure timely delivery and to avoid extra rush delivery charges.

Students desiring Graduation Announcements and Diploma Frame may order them through Jostens. Visit their website at

www.jostens.com. The bookstore will have blank announcements available.

Announcements are not invitations to graduation. Only those with tickets will be admitted into the Commencement Ceremony. We encourage you to order these items as soon as possible to ensure timely delivery and to avoid extra rush delivery charges.

Be sure to check your ESCC email for graduation news and updates!

Commencement Protocol

- Commencement is a formal occasion where all participants wear academic regalia: robes, hoods, and mortarboards.
- Casual business attire should be worn under the gown. Appropriate, comfortable shoes should also be worn. (You will walk from your seat, up a set of stairs, across the stage, back down a set of stairs and back to your seat in a grassy area.)
- Try your gown on before the rehearsal to have it pressed and properly altered.
- Wear the tassel over the right temple until all graduates are asked to stand and move the tassel to the left side.

“Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life. Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.” - Steve Jobs

BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

The All Christians Together in Service (ACTS) Group will host a Baccalaureate Service for the 2018 Graduating Class on Thursday, May 10th, at 7:00pm. A Baccalaureate Service is a Christian service held a few days before graduation in honor of the graduating class. All graduating students will receive an invitation that includes family and friends.

The service will be held in the Main Building Lecture Hall (C111). For more information contact Barry Neville. (bneville@es.vccs.edu)

CHILDCARE DURING COMMENCEMENT

No children five years or younger will be admitted into the graduation ceremony. Child care will be provided in B94 beginning at 3:00 PM on Friday, May 11. Please help us meet your child-care needs by completing and returning the enclosed Graduation RSVP card to Bill LeCato by Friday, April 27.

PLAN B—INCLEMENT WEATHER PLANS

When scheduling outdoor events like this, we hope for the best, but must make alternate arrangements in case of inclement weather. If we are forced to postpone the ceremony, we will hold commencement Saturday, May 12, at 9:00AM, in the same location at ESCC.

We will make the decision as soon as possible. We will send an announcement to your student email account, issue an ESCC Alert*, and post messages on our ESCC Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and the College website. We will also send a public service announcement to be broadcast on WESR 103.3 FM.

*Receive ESCC Alerts via phone, text, and/or email, by signing up at es.vccs.edu.



es.vccs.edu





CAPS & GOWNS - A SHORT HISTORY LESSON

Caps and gowns were first worn in the United States by the faculty of Harvard University in 1636. Until after the Civil War, students at most American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. Since that time American Colleges and universities have used this style of dress in commencement ceremonies.

The gowns range from fairly simple to elaborate- from the associate to the bachelor's, master's, and doctor's degrees. Board members wear doctoral gowns.

Chevrons on the sleeves of the doctoral gowns are the color of the discipline in which the degree was earned.

The wide variety of colors on the hoods adds beauty to the ESCC commencement ceremony and represents the highest degree earned and the university which awarded. The velvet border is in widths of two, three or five inches for the bachelor's, master's or doctor's degrees respectively.

The color of the border indicates the discipline. Some examples are: Arts, Letters, Humanities (white); Commerce, Accountancy, Business (drab); Education (light blue) ; Engineering (orange); Library Science (yellow); Nursing (apricot); Philosophy (dark blue); and Science (golden yellow). The colors of the satin lining (which are usually in a chevron design) indicate the university granting the degree.

For your convenience, ESCC has arranged for photographer Debbie Ritter to be on campus to take individual pictures on Wednesday, May 9, from 12:00-5:00PM, in Room C112. It is not necessary to make an appointment with the photographer. The group picture will be taken before the graduation rehearsal. Pictures must be paid for at the time of photography.

PHOTOGRAPHY PRICE LIST

Basic Package \$20.00
(1-5x7, 8-wallet)

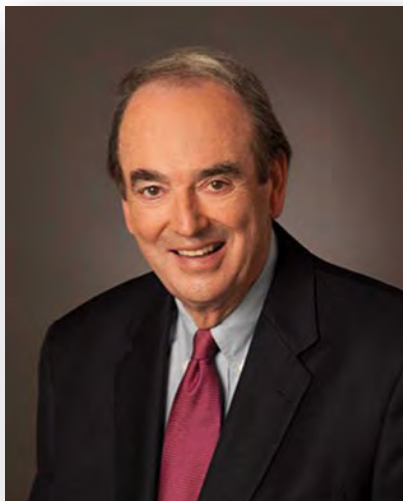
Standard Package \$35.00
(1-8x10, 3-5x7, 4-wallet)

Event Package \$ 50.00
(3-8x10, 4-5x7, 4-4x6, and 8-wallet)

Group Image \$15.00
(8x10)

Wednesday, May 9th from 12:00pm-5:00pm Classroom C112
 Group picture outside by Eagle Statue at 5:30pm
 To pre-register call (757) 990-0053

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT



I was walking across a college campus not so long ago and spotted a family reading a marker of historic value. I walked over to the family and asked, “Who is the student here?” With that question, a middle-aged man stepped toward me with great pride and said, “I wanted my family to see the place that made me what I am today.”

Parker Palmer says in some of his writing that it takes a lifetime to become the person we were intended to be. So many people have encouraged you and sometimes chastised you to be all that you can be.

I hope that you will not leave the graduation ceremony without speaking to or hugging all those who played a role in your success. Just as you have sacrificed to be a student, many others have made great sacrifices for you.

Those of us who work here will follow you always. In the words of the great Johnathan Swift, “May you live all the days of your life.”

- Dr. Billy Greer



Important Dates and Times for April and May:

PICK UP GRADUATION TICKETS	Thursday, April 19 to Thursday, April 26
RETURN RSVP CARD	Friday, April 27
BACCALAUREATE SERVICE	Thursday, May 10, 7:00PM in C111 Lecture Hall (Main)
INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS	Wednesday, May 9, 12- 5:00 PM, ESCC (C112)
GROUP PHOTO	Wednesday, May 9, 5:30 PM, ESCC
COMMENCEMENT REHEARSAL	Wednesday, May 9, 6:00 PM, ESCC
AWARDS PARTY	Wednesday, May 9, 6:30-8 PM, ESCC
COMMENCEMENT	Friday, May 11, 4:00PM, ESCC

Graduates are expected in their assigned robing room at ESCC no later than 3:15 PM. Childcare will be available at 3 PM.
Inclement Weather Date—Saturday, May 12, at 9:00AM.

Questions? Contact Bill LeCato at 757-789-1797 or at wlecat0@es.vccs.edu