



One College Park | Decatur, Illinois 62521
(217) 875-7200 | richland.edu

CLASS OF
2011



COMMENCEMENT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011

CONGRATULATIONS

You are about to complete your educational goal at Richland and will be receiving your degree or certificate. You should have received a postcard from the Registrar regarding the Grad Fair. We have already ordered a cap & gown for you from information provided on your Application for Graduation. At the Grad Fair you will be able to pick up announcements, order a DVD of the ceremony, and meet with Richland representatives as well as representatives from Millikin University, University of Illinois – Springfield, and Eastern Illinois University. When you pick up your cap and gown, you will be asked to complete an online Student Satisfaction Survey.

YOUR COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

2011 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR - BRETT SWALLOW



A 1988 graduate of Richland Community College, Brett Swallow received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting in 1990 from Eastern Illinois University and graduated from ACB's National School of Banking at Fairfield University in Fairfield, CT, in 2004. Brett spent nine years in Internal Audit at Archer Daniels Midland Company before transferring to Hickory Point Bank and Trust as Vice President in 1999. In 2001, Brett was promoted to Senior Vice President at Hickory Point Bank.

In his current position at Hickory Point Bank, Brett is responsible for all accounting and finance functions, including day-to-day management of the bank's funding needs and investment portfolio. In that role, Brett chairs the bank's ALCO and works with ADM's treasury department on a regular basis to coordinate funding and investment decisions. Brett has over 15 years' experience in the banking industry performing a wide range of functions.

Brett is a member of the boards of directors for the United Way of Decatur and Mid-Illinois and The Decatur Club and also serves on the Accountancy Advisory Board at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL. Brett and his wife Kelly reside in Decatur with their two children.

2011 FACULTY GRADUATION SPEAKER - LYNN HUDSON



Lynn Hudson has been Program Director for the Richland Community College Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (HVAC&R) program for the past 14 years. Lynn developed the Fast Track schedule in order to provide students the opportunity to acquire 2 certificates in 9 months so they can be employable in the industry in one year. With his leadership the program has grown from 1 declared HVAC&R student to a thriving Technology offering.

He grew up working in his father's HVAC&R business and operated his own business, Lynn's Refrigeration, for 9 years in Moweaqua, IL. He has over 30 years' experience in the industry. Lynn received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Ministry in 1983 from Oakland City (IN) University & pastored full-time for 11 years.

2011 STUDENT GRADUATION SPEAKER - NICHOLE DORSEY



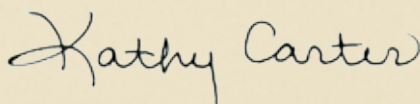
Nichole Dorsey, daughter of Lawrence Dorsey & Michelle Smith, is a 2008 graduate of Eisenhower High School. During her time at Richland, Nichole has been involved in many activities and organizations as a member of the Mentor Ambassador team, Secretary & Vice-President of Black Student Association, and co-founder and Vice-President of Girlosophy. Upon graduating from Richland, Nichole plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois-Springfield, double minoring in Teacher Education and Criminal Justice. Her dream is to become a parole officer or social worker who works with juvenile delinquents. She is determined to make a difference and help within the community to "put together the pieces of a puzzle."

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RICHLAND ALUMNI!

With the completion of your educational programs, you are now an official member of the Richland Community College Alumni family. We proudly welcome you and hope you will become an active member of the Richland Community College Alumni Association.

At the Alumni Development Office on campus and on the Alumni website at <http://alumni.richland.edu>, we continue to celebrate you by promoting alumni success and accomplishments. Please remain connected by learning about your Alumni benefits, updating your information, and returning to campus often to enjoy fun activities and reconnect with faculty and friends.

Richland wishes you much success and our warmest congratulations!



Kathy Carter
Director of Scholarships and Alumni Development



THE DETAILS

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Commencement is May 20, 2011. The commencement ceremony will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. The ceremony will last approximately one hour and thirty minutes. Doors to the Decatur Civic Center will open at 6:00 p.m.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS PINNING

A Pinning Ceremony for students graduating from the AD Nursing, Pharmacy Technology, Practical Nursing, Radiography, and Surgical Technology programs will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Theater. Graduates need to meet in the green room at 4:45 p.m. During the pinning ceremony, photographs will be taken of each student, and the event will be videotaped.

PARKING

Ample parking is available in the Civic Center parking lot. Persons with disabilities attending the ceremony, as well as others needing assistance, may be dropped off in the front of the Civic Center. Reserved parking spaces for persons with disabilities are available in the Civic Center parking lot.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Special seating arrangements have been made for persons with disabilities attending Commencement. The Civic Center and stage area are fully accessible. A special ramp will accommodate all graduates participating in commencement. Guests who need a special accommodated program (enlarged print or Braille) should contact the Registrar at least two (2) weeks prior to Commencement. A sign language interpreter will be on stage during the Commencement ceremony. Guests or graduates needing any special accommodations should contact the Registrar (Room C129 or email graduation@richland.edu).

DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE CREDITS

Questions regarding degree or certificate credits may be directed to the Student Records Office at graduation@richland.edu. To participate in Spring Commencement, students should be completing the requirements for his or her certificate or degree by the end of Spring or Summer Term 2011 or have completed the requirements in Fall 2010.

NAME CARD

When graduates line up for the commencement ceremony, he or she will be given a card with his or her name printed on it. Students will hand name cards to Jack Adwell, 2011 Faculty Member of the Year, or to Brooke Rhoades, 2011 Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year, at the podium so that the name can be read when the graduate walks across the stage to receive his or her diploma cover. Official Richland Community College diplomas will be mailed to graduates after all requirements have been completed and certified by the Registrar.

PHOTOGRAPHS/VIDEO

GradImages is the official photographer for Richland's Commencement. Proofs will be sent to the graduate's home and via e-mail within three to five days after graduation. Pictures may be ordered online, by phone, or by mail. Graduation Images can be contacted at 800-261-2576 or via e-mail at www.gradimages.com.

Registering graduates with GradImages provides them with the information needed to deliver graduation proofs in a timely manner. Giving GradImages an accurate mailing and e-mail address will allow them to deliver proofs on the first try. You may also provide GradImages with e-mail addresses of up to six friends and family members to allow them to celebrate in the accomplishment.

The ceremony will also be videotaped. Graduates may purchase a copy of the DVD by completing an order form at the Grad Fair. Each DVD copy will cost \$10.00.

In order to enhance an orderly ceremony, Richland asks that guests not take personal photographs and videos from the aisles or the balcony. The balcony is off limits and will be marked so. Please inform any guests so that everyone can enjoy the ceremony.

GRADUATING WITH HONORS

Students graduating with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher at the end of Fall 2010 will be acknowledged in the program and during Commencement and will wear an honor cord. Honor cords are provided to the students at the Commencement Ceremony.

KENTE CLOTH STOLES

Kente cloth stoles may be ordered by contacting Gail Bowman at (217) 875-7211, Ext. 252, by May 2, 2011.

PHI THETA KAPPA

Student members of Phi Theta Kappa may order honor stoles that indicate membership. Rental stoles are also available. Contact Teena Zindel-McWilliams at (217) 875-7211, Ext. 364, no later than Monday, May 2, 2011.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

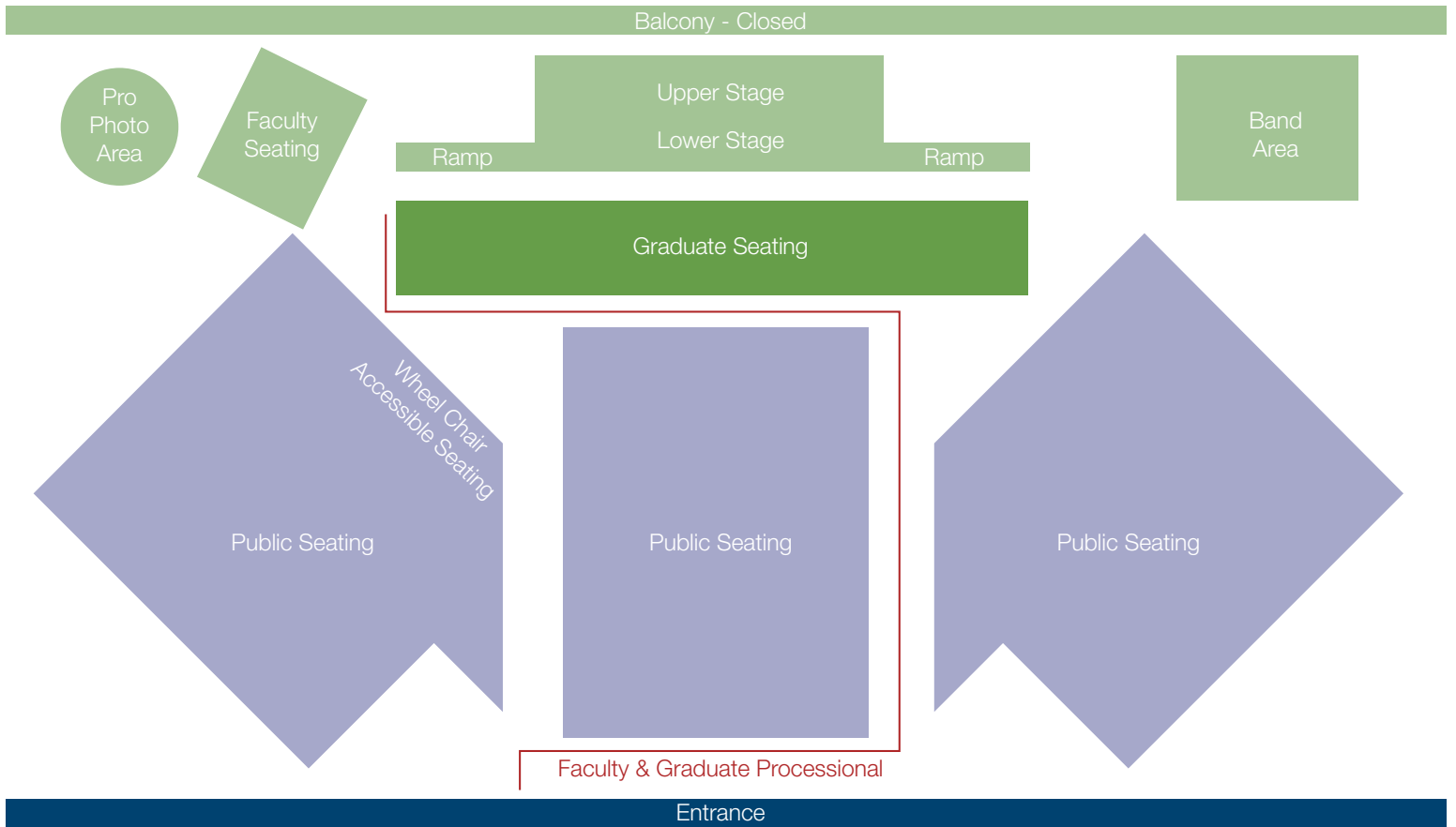
THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Grad Fair: Pick up cap and gown. Order a Commencement DVD. Pick up graduation announcements. Register for the Commencement Ceremony. Meet with Career Services, Financial Aid, Alumni Development, and the Bookstore. Representatives from Millikin University, University of Illinois – Springfield, and Eastern Illinois University will be available for students planning on transferring. 2:30-5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 20

Health Professions Pinning Rehearsal in the Decatur Civic Center Theater at 10:30 a.m. Graduation Rehearsal (reception to follow) at the Decatur Civic Center Arena at 11:00 a.m. Commencement procedures will be explained. Attendance is encouraged but not required. Health Professions Pinning Ceremony begins at 5:00 p.m. Civic Center doors open for the Commencement Ceremony at 6:00 p.m. Ceremony begins at 7:00 p.m. Students participating in Commencement must report to the Mezzanine no later than 6:15 p.m.

DECATUR CIVIC CENTER MAP



DIRECTIONS TO THE DECATUR CIVIC CENTER

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA | DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523 | (217) 422-7300

FROM THE WEST:

East on I-72 to Business 51 South. South Business 51 turns into North Main Street after Pershing Road. Stay on North Main until reaching Business 36/Eldorado Street. Turn left on Eldorado; go to Jackson Street (3rd traffic light). Turn right on Jackson. Parking lot is 1 block South.

FROM THE EAST:

West on I-72 to Business 51 South. South Business 51 turns into North Main Street after Pershing Road. Stay on North Main until Business 36/Eldorado Street. Turn left on Eldorado; go to Jackson Street (3rd traffic Light). Turn right on Jackson. Parking lot is 1 block South.

FROM THE NORTH:

South Business 51 turns into North Main Street after Pershing Road. Stay on North Main until you come to Business 36/Eldorado Street. Turn left on Eldorado; go to Jackson street (3rd Traffic Light). Turn right on Jackson. Parking lot is 1 block South.

FROM THE SOUTH:

North Business 51 turns into South Franklin Street after crossing lake; go North on Franklin until William Street. Turn right 1/3 block. Turn left arriving at #1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza in front of the Civic Center.