ACADEMIC CONVOCATION – Friday, May 19, 12:00 p.m.  Gordon Field House and Activities Center
Academic Convocation is a university celebration of graduates from all nine RIT colleges, the School of
Individualized Study, and the Golisano Institute for Sustainability. The program features remarks by RIT
President William W. Destler; undergraduate student delegate speaker, Ms. Lydia Hays (KGCOE),
graduate student delegate speaker, Ms. Tania Kleynhans (COS) and the 2017 Commencement Speaker,
Austin McChord, RIT class of 2009, the founder, CEO and driving force behind Datto, a privately-held
data protection company. Under his leadership, Datto has experienced incredible growth, making the
coveted Inc. 500 list of fastest growing companies for three consecutive years and now employing more
than 700 employees at locations around the world. Ph.D. candidates will be hooded at this ceremony.
The Convocation will last about 2 hours.
• Line-up is at 11:15 a.m., lower level of the Field House and the Student Life Center. Wear your
cap and gown. Look for the PURPLE balloons for line-up location.
• Do not bring or plan to leave valuables as the line-up area is not secure.
• Tickets are not required and there is no limit to the number of guests who may attend.
• Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.
• Overflow seating is available in the Gene Polisseni Center where the ceremony will be live
streamed.

CIAS Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, May 20, 9:00 a.m.  Gordon Field House and Activities Center (GOR)
Line-up is at 8:00 a.m.  Student Life Center (HAC) lower level, basketball courts
• Wear your cap and gown.
• Line-up locations are not secure. Do not plan to leave valuables, purses, cell phones, etc. in any
line-up location. Do not leave personal items on your chair when you go on stage. You may not
return to the same seat.
• The ceremony will last about two hours and each graduate will be individually introduced and
recognized. Please be respectful of your fellow graduates and their guests by returning to your
seat after you cross the stage, remaining seated until the ceremony ends, and turning off
electronic devices. Tickets are not required for this ceremony and there is no limit to the
number of guests who may attend.
• The ceremony will be live streamed via the Commencement website.
## Department Receptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Time &amp; Location</th>
<th>Menu</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School of Photographic Arts &amp; Sciences</td>
<td>Friday, May 19 4-6 p.m. Gannett Hall, William Harris Gallery, Room 3030 (GAN)</td>
<td>Meatball Sliders; baked chicken tenderloins with honey teriyaki and Buffalo sauces; vegetable masala with naan; tater tot poutine; Caesar salad; vegetarian tortellini antipasto salad; cheese board; rosemary focaccia bread with asiago; pumpernickel crostini with vegetable dip; cookies and brownies; punch, fruited water station, iced tea, lemonade</td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Art and School for American Crafts</td>
<td>Saturday, May 20 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Radisson Hotel 175 Jefferson Rd.</td>
<td>Assorted breakfast breads with cream cheese, jams and butter; Caesar salad; scrambled eggs; Crispy Idaho potatoes; French toast; sausage and bacon; seasonal vegetable; roasted rosemary potatoes; wild rice; Chicken French; tortellini in a garlic-asiago sauce; assorted desserts; fruit juices, regular and decaffeinated coffee &amp; teas</td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Design</td>
<td>Saturday, May 20 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Grace Watson Dining Hall (GWH)</td>
<td>Mini Rueben’s and quiche; fruit and cheese trays; vegetable crudité &amp; dipping sauce; house made bars and mini pastries; coffee, tea, lemonade</td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Film &amp; Animation</td>
<td>Saturday, May 20 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Room A050 &amp; SoFA Lobby, Gannett Hall (GAN)</td>
<td>Tossed salad with house dressing; “Make your own slider” station – pulled chicken and grilled Portobello mushrooms with brioche slider; Macaroni and cheese; potato chips; Assorted mini cheesecakes and mini brownies; lemonade, ice tea and water</td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Media Sciences</td>
<td>Saturday, May 20 11 a.m.-1 p.m. University Gallery, Room 2765 (UNI)</td>
<td>Vegetable spring rolls; Swedish meatballs; tossed salad with house dressing; make your own slider station; macaroni and cheese; potato chips; assorted mini cheesecakes and mini brownies; lemonade, iced tea, and water</td>
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Undergraduate and Master's Degree Candidates

- RIT’s regalia is made in the USA of 100% post-consumer recycled plastic bottles.
- There is no charge for the regalia and it is yours to keep or recycle (undergraduate and master's level students only). You do not need to place an order or be measured.
- Pick up your regalia between Monday, April 24 and Saturday, May 20, 2017 at the Textbook Information desk on the 2nd floor of the college bookstore, Barnes & Noble @ RIT during store hours - Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday - 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
- If you cannot pick up your regalia, a friend or relative may do so for you -- be sure that person knows the following information:
  - your height and approximate weight
  - college you are graduating from (i.e. CIAS)
  - type of degree you are receiving (i.e. bachelor's, or master's)
  - undergraduates only: if you are graduating with academic honors (cum laude, magna cum laude, summa cum laude). Note: this is different from being in the RIT Honors Program.
- If you are not in the Rochester area during the above dates, please contact the bookstore at regalia@rit.edu to arrange shipping your regalia to you (they will e-mail you an order form).
- There is no charge for the regalia; however, there is a shipping fee of $8.10 to ship to the lower 48 states. (Shipping outside the lower 48 will need a price quote.)
- A bookstore staff member will be at every line up to assist graduating students with their regalia and you can check out these how-to videos for bachelor’s and master’s graduates.

Apply for Graduation!

You must “Apply for Graduation” in the Student Information System (SIS). This will initiate the review of your academic record for certification. You can’t graduate without this!

If you want your name to appear in the Commencement Program Book and on the Commencement website, you must “Apply for Graduation” by April 15, 2017.

Be sure to complete the “Diploma Name” section!
CIAS Ice Cream Social
Tuesday, May 2, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. In front of Gannett Hall (GAN)
Graduating CIAS students should join us for ice cream novelties during this time! Time to hang out, have a little fun, and a sweet treat! Sponsored by CIAS Student Services, Alumni Relations, and Career Services.

Class Toast
Thursday, May 18, 4:30-6 p.m. in the Gene Polisseni Center (POL). The event is for all graduating students. Join fellow classmates and raise a glass in celebration of your accomplishments.

Overnight Accommodations & Rochester Visitor Information

Another area college is holding graduation ceremonies this weekend, so reservations should be made as soon as possible directly with the lodging of your choice. For information on area hotels, inns, motels, and bed and breakfast lodgings, contact Visit Rochester at 1-800-677-7282 or 585-279-8300. Locations nearest to RIT are found on Jefferson Road, West and East Henrietta Roads, White Spruce Boulevard, Lehigh Station Road, and Hylan Drive. RIT is approximately 25 minutes from downtown Rochester.

Graduation Announcements & Class Rings

Generic graduation announcements are available at Barnes & Noble @ RIT bookstore. They can be purchased in the RIT Gift Dept. on the 1st floor or by calling 585-424-6766, ext. 205. Generic announcements are sold 10/pk.

Personalized graduation announcements and rings can be ordered from Balfour at www.balfour.com or by calling 1-877-225-3687. Balfour reps will be on campus March 22-23, 12-4 p.m. in the Student Alumni Union (SAU) and May 19, 2-7:00 p.m., May 20, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and May 21, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Barnes & Noble at RIT Bookstore at Park Point.

Photographs

GradImages is the official photographer for Commencement. You will be photographed on and upon exiting the stage. There is no obligation to purchase photographs. Pre-register at GradImages.com/Preregistration to view your proofs and receive a coupon for $5 off any order of $25 or more. You may register e-mails of up to six loved ones who would like to view and order photos. Proofs will be ready to view online within 48 hours of the ceremony. Photos may be ordered online, by phone, or by mail. If you have any questions, please contact Customer Service at 800-261-2576 or by e-mail at giservice@gradimages.net.
Friday, May 19, 2 p.m.-6 p.m., 1010 and 1015 Campus Center (CPC).
Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 1010 and 1015 Campus Center (CPC).

Complimentary professional portraits for graduates with their families will be offered during this time. Hosted by Alumni Relations.

**DVDs of Academic Convocation and College Ceremonies**

DVDs of each college ceremony and the Academic Convocation are available for purchase. The DVD for each college ceremony includes all platform speeches and the individual recognition of graduates. The DVD for the Academic Convocation includes the official conferral of degrees as well as all platform speeches.

Individual college ceremony and Academic Convocation DVDs are $26.00 each or you can purchase both together for $42.00, a savings of $10.00. All prices include tax and shipping. DVDs can be purchased at ceremony locations during Commencement Weekend. You may also order by:

- phone (585-475-2516)
- [Online](#)
- Download paper form

**Orders received and postmarked prior to June 1st will ship by the end of June. All orders received after June 1st must be submitted online and will be charged a late production fee of $3.00.**

**Parking & Transportation Services**

Academic Convocation and the CIAS Commencement Ceremony will be held in the Gordon Field House (labeled GOR on campus maps). Upon arrival at RIT, please use the entrances on Jefferson Road. RIT Public Safety personnel will direct you to parking areas. You can view an [interactive map](#) which shows the location of RIT parking lots.

Shuttle bus service will be available Friday, 7:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. and Saturday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. to transport guests from parking lots to the Academic Convocation, college ceremonies and most reception locations. **Please note your bus stop number and parking lot letter when boarding your bus.** Get real-time bus information with the [RIT Mobile App](#) or go to [m.rit.edu](http://m.rit.edu). For more information about parking and shuttle, contact Adam Petzold at [appfms@rit.edu](mailto:appfms@rit.edu).

**Disabled Parking:** G Lot is the primary lot, however limited disabled parking will be available in U Lot adjacent to the Gene Polisseni Center (POL). **To enable us to best serve your needs, please submit our Accessible Parking Request Form** (even if you have a disabled parking permit). **See also the Accessibility section below.**
**Interpreting Services**

The Academic Convocation and all college ceremonies will be American Sign Language interpreted and real-time captioned. The Gordon Field House and Activities Center and the Gene Polisseni Center are equipped with an FM hearing assistance system. Receivers will be available at the ticket office in the Field House and at Guest Services in the Gene Polisseni Center.

**Accessibility**

**Special Seating Needs**
Both the Gordon Field House and Activities Center and the Gene Polisseni Center are accessible to those with special needs; however, guest seating is primarily in the bleachers which have steps. Our ushers will find seats on the floor together for your guests, however, please note that special needs seating is neither reserved nor guaranteed. We recommend that those with special seating needs arrive 2 hours in advance of the Academic Convocation and 90 minutes in advance of the college ceremony they plan to attend.

**Wheelchairs**
We do not have wheelchairs available on campus. You may rent wheelchairs from Monroe Wheelchair at 888-546-8595, Fonte Surgical Supply at 585-338-1000, or Westside Medical Supply at 585-227-8750.

**Golf Carts:** A limited number of golf carts operated by staff will be available to help elderly guests and others needing mobility assistance. This is a limited service and we ask that guests not requiring extra assistance please respect the needs of those that do. For safety reasons, golf carts will not take on passengers until crowds have cleared the building entrances after ceremonies. Please be aware that you may have to wait for up to 15 minutes for a golf cart immediately prior to and after the Academic Convocation and college ceremonies when demand is at its highest. Thank you for your patience.

**Walking Around Campus**
Please advise your guests that campus is large and considerable walking is involved from shuttle stops to ceremony and reception locations. We encourage everyone to wear comfortable shoes!

**Wi-Fi**
People without an RIT username can connect to the "RIT-Guest" wireless network. Please note the following about this service:

- Guests must have a phone number capable of receiving text messages in order to register (carrier text message rates may apply).
- Students, employees, and others with RIT computer accounts should continue to use the encrypted "RIT" wireless network.
- RIT-Guest access prohibits access to some internal RIT network resources.

If you have any questions about guest wireless at RIT, please contact the ITS Service Desk at servicedesk@rit.edu or 585-475-4357.

Students and staff of other universities may be eligible to access the internet via eduroam. Please visit the eduroam site for information.
RIT Dining Services facilities and concessions stands will be open throughout the day on Friday and Saturday. Hours, location and menu information can be found at on their website.

Flowers and RIT Commemorative T-shirts, with the names of all graduates, will be for sale at both the Gordon Field House and Activities Center and the Gene Polisseni Center during Commencement Weekend. Flower and shirt sales benefit the RIT Student Music Association. You may pre-order flowers and shirts here.

For lost items, please check the ticket booth in the main lobby of the Gordon Field House and Activities Center and at Guest Services at the Gene Polisseni Center. All items will be taken to Public Safety in Grace Watson Hall (GWH) at the end of each day. Call 585-475-2853 for assistance.

Before Commencement
- Academic and CIAS specific commencement questions should be directed to CIAS Student Services at ciasadvising@rit.edu.
- For general commencement questions, e-mail academicaffairs@rit.edu or call 585-475-5334.

During Commencement Weekend
- Information Booths will be located throughout campus for your assistance. In addition, volunteers wearing yellow ribbons will be happy to assist you.
- TEXT RITGRAD to 888777 to receive important updates throughout Commencement Weekend. Subscribers will receive event information, as well as safety, weather, traffic and emergency alerts from RIT. Your subscription is anonymous and you will be automatically unsubscribed from the service at the end of the weekend. You can unsubscribe at any time by replying STOP.
- All of the information in this newsletter and more is available on our mobile friendly website http://www.rit.edu/commencement. Bookmark it, get the RIT Mobile App for Apple and Android devices, or go to m.rit.edu.

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