Dear Candidate for Graduation,

The 2009 Commencement Exercises will be held on the University Athletic Field on Saturday, June 27, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. Afterwards, and starting at 8:30 pm, the diplomas will be distributed by the deans in individual ceremonies organized by each faculty. I hope to see all candidates for graduation on this very special day.

**ACADEMIC COSTUME**

All candidates are required to wear the appropriate academic costume (GOWN, CAP, HOOD) for the Ceremony. Academic costumes are available at the West Hall (Room 109). It is recommended that all female candidates wear a white dress, or a plain-color dress. No jewelry or decoration should be worn on the gown. It is recommended that male candidates wear a dark suit with a white shirt, and a plain-color necktie.

**PROCESSION**

For the Academic Procession, the candidates should congregate at the South end of the Athletic Field, not later than 5:30 p.m. Candidates should use the East Gate of the Athletic Field (this is the gate located on the side of the Athletic Field facing the School of Engineering). Candidates who arrive later than 5:30 p.m. will not be allowed to join the procession.

Please be reminded that you may choose not to attend. If, however, you choose to attend, you are expected to behave in an orderly manner and give the occasion the dignity it deserves. Candidates should remain in their places until the end of the Commencement Exercises as well as the faculty ceremony.

**REHEARSAL**

A rehearsal will be held on Friday, June 26, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at the University Athletic Field. All candidates should attend the rehearsal. Candidates who cannot attend the rehearsal need to present a valid excuse to Dr. Samir Makdisi (the Chief Marshal at the Ceremony); the names of unexcused candidates who are not present at the rehearsal will be removed from the seating plan and the candidates will not be able to receive their degrees during the faculty ceremony.

**TICKETS**

Each Candidate for Graduation is entitled to THREE (3) tickets, which will be given to the candidates who have secured academic costumes, and who will be attending the Ceremony.

For the October 2008 and February 2009 Graduates, tickets will be given ONLY to those who have officially notified the Office of the Registrar of their intention to attend and participate in the Ceremony. Such notification is accomplished by filling in a special form (Form CE 1) and submitting it at the Office of the Registrar not later than June 10, 2009. June 2009 graduates who choose not to attend the Ceremony must inform the Office of the Registrar of their intention (by filling in Form CE 2 at a date not later than June 11, 2009); they should also arrange to receive their diplomas at a later date. **If you are a June Graduate and you intend to receive your degree during the Commencement Exercises, you need not fill any forms.**

Peter Dorman
President