Dear Class of 2014 Students, Parents, and Families,

I invite you to join us for our 125th Commencement activities to be held on Friday, May 16, and Saturday, May 17, 2014. It will be a time to celebrate and commemorate the accomplishments of the Class of 2014. This brochure contains the information you will need to successfully navigate the weekend.

I am excited to tell you that Philip Rivers, five-time Pro Bowl quarterback for the San Diego Chargers, will deliver this year’s Commencement Address. We will also honor distinguished alumnus His Eminence Luis Antonio Tagle, cardinal archbishop of Manila. Cardinal Tagle will also preside and serve as the homilist at the Baccalaureate Mass on Friday.

It will be a great weekend at CUA and I look forward to seeing you in May!

John Garvey
President
Baccalaureate Mass
4 p.m., Friday, May 16, Great Upper Church, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
The Commencement Mass will be held at 11 a.m., and the Commencement website will also be opened for streaming.

Senior Athletics Awards Banquet
5 p.m., Thursday, May 17, Great Room, Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center
Senior athletes who have distinguished themselves with outstanding athletic achievements will be honored and a number of special achievement awards, including the Harris and Donley cups, will be conferred.

Phi Beta Kappa Induction Ceremony
10 a.m., Friday, May 18, Auditorium, Caldwell Hall
Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious collegiate academic honor society in the United States. Fewer than ten percent of American colleges and universities have a chapter. Founded in 1776, the society recognizes excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. CUA’s chapter was founded in 1941.

PhD Convocation for Undergraduates
1 p.m., Friday, May 16, Great Upper Church, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
The Honors Convocation for Undergraduates recognizes those students who have been elected to membership in national honor societies and those in good standing in the University Honors Program. Special recognition will be given to students who have completed academic tracks in the University Honors Program and those who have achieved individual honors in their specific disciplines. Students, in academic gowns, but without hoods, should be seated no later than 12:45 p.m. Family and friends are invited to attend this convocation.

CONFERENCE ON ACADEMIC ATTIRE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Academic Attire and Announcements for the Commencement Exercises, Honors Convocation, and Baccalaureate Mass. Students may also wear military uniforms or religious habits, as appropriate.
Graduating students order their caps and gowns through the CUA Bookstore or online at herffjones.com. Commencement Announcements are also ordered through the herffjones.com/c/college.

FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
Graduating students and guests who require accommodations for any of the Commencement activities should contact Disability Support Services at cuadisability@cua.edu or 202-319-5211 prior to Friday, May 2. Typical accommodations include interpreting services; assisting students along the procession route, in the seating area, and obtaining their diploma during the diploma ceremony; materials in alternative format; and assistive listening devices. All ceremonies have designated seating areas for those with mobility disabilities and for those who need interpreters or transcribers. Seating for guests with disabilities and a limited number of companions is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information about what is provided and available, please contact Disability Support Services at cuadisability@cua.edu or 202-319-5211 prior to Friday, May 2. For additional information, you may also visit dss.cua.edu/news/commencement.cfm.

CLEARING THE WAY FOR GRADUATION
Commencement is a time of celebration and CUA wants every graduate, along with their family and friends, to enjoy this very special occasion. Graduates should understand that University policy states that diplomas may not be released to students with a “hold” on their student record. Degree candidates with holds due to unpaid student account balances should contact the Business Office to resolve any issues in a timely manner. Graduates can review any holds on their account via the Holds box on the right-hand side of their Cardinal Station Student Center.

PARKING AND MAP
Visitors are advised that on-campus parking is limited, especially in the center of campus and areas near the various Commencement sites. Parking is available in the outlying areas of campus, limited primarily to the Marist and O’Boyle halls parking lots, the Raymond A. DuFour Athletic Center parking lot, the University Parking Garage (accessed from John McCormack Road), and street parking along both Harewood and John McCormack roads. Limited parking may also be available in the parking lot for the Basilica located at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Harewood Road. N.E. Guests may also choose to travel to Commencement activities and events via Metrorail to the Brookland/CUA stop on the Red Line.

Paying for those with disabilities who have a state-issued license plate or placard is available in front of Mullen Library and in designated locations.

MORE INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION
For additional information about Commencement, including FAQs, visit commencement.cua.edu.

USEFUL CUA CONTACT INFORMATION
Visit our website at commencement.cua.edu.

Office of Enrollment Services
202-319-5300

Department of Public Safety
202-319-5111

Disability Support Services
202-319-5211

CUA Bookstore
202-319-5232

HUONORS CONVOCATION FOR UNDERGRADUATES
1 p.m., Friday, May 16, Great Upper Church, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
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BACCALAUREATE MASS
4 p.m., Friday, May 16, Great Upper Church, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
The student procession will form at 3:30 p.m. in front of McMahon Hall and move promptly at 3:40 p.m. In case of inclement weather, students should proceed directly to Memorial Hall in the lower level of the Basilica to form the procession. Students are asked to wear their academic gowns without hoods. Note: Access to the Baccalaureate Mass will be limited to graduating students, members of their family, and University faculty.

PRESIDENT’S RECEPTION
Immediately following the Baccalaureate Mass
Friday, May 16, Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center
President and Mrs. Garvey invite all graduating students and their families to this reception honoring the Class of 2014. The reception takes place at the Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center, both inside and on the patio outside the center.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
10 a.m., Saturday, May 17
University Mall in front of the east entrance to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
Candidates for degrees are asked to assemble no later than 9 a.m. (undergraduate arts and sciences graduates no later than 8:45 a.m.) at locations that will be communicated by the various schools (and posted on the Commencement website at commencement.cua.edu). The Commencement procession will move at 9:30 a.m. and ushers will assist in organizing the procession. Students can verify their eligibility to participate in Commencement Exercises by contacting the Office of Enrollment Services at 202-319-5300. Candidates wear caps and academic gowns and carry their hoods — tassels to the right until their degree is conferred.

DIPLOMA DISTRIBUTION
Following the Commencement Exercises, diplomas will be distributed to students in individual ceremonies organized by each school. The list of the times and locations of these ceremonies can be found on the Commencement website (commencement.cua.edu) and will also be printed in the Commencement program.

RAIN PLAN
In the case of severely inclement weather that precludes holding the Commencement Exercises outdoors, an announcement will be posted on the CUA website (cua.edu) and will also be broadcasted on the campus radio station Student Center.

OTHER COMMENCEMENT WEEK EVENTS
There are a few other events taking place during the Commencement week that affect many but not all graduates.

School of Nursing Pinning Ceremony
9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 15, Great Room, Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center
In keeping with a long tradition in nursing, graduating senior nursing students receive their Catholic University School of Nursing pin. The Pinning Ceremony is open to graduating seniors and their guests.

Senior Athletics Awards Banquet
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