

Report of the Convocation Committee

30 May 1997

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Introduction

At least once per academic quarter, the University of Chicago holds a convocation for the purpose of conferring degrees and recognizing scholarly attainment. Literally a “calling together,” the University’s convocation assembles all elements of the University community: students and degree candidates, their family, the faculty, friends of candidates and friends of the University, the Trustees, the Provost, and the President.

It is significant that the University of Chicago has always referred to these occasions as *convocations* rather than as “commencement exercises” or “graduation ceremonies.” At Chicago, receiving a degree marks neither a new beginning nor a termination. Although for degree candidates it may be a rite of passage, the ceremony focuses on continuity in the search for knowledge. Our ritual consciously evokes our own past and that of our predecessors, the great Western universities. Nowhere is this more evident than in those convocations that mark the inauguration of a new President of the University, in which representatives of colleges and universities worldwide march in ancient academic dress, entering the procession in reverse order of the founding of their institution. At the same time, our ceremony affirms the inseparability of the University from all who have passed through its gates.

An essential element in recognizing the achievement of each degree recipient is the active participation in the event by those who made it possible—parents, grandparents, spouses, children, friends, teachers, scholars, administrators, benefactors, trustees. These are the members of the community who are “called together” at the end of each academic quarter.

The scope of this report

The committee to review convocation was appointed to consider a number of concerns that have been raised about our convocation exercises. The most pressing of these concerns was the recognition that rising enrollments (particularly in the College), coupled with increased participation in the ceremonies, have made it impossible to accommodate all of our graduates’ guests. During the convocations of Spring, 1996, for example, candidates in the College and in the Graduate School of Business were allocated only two tickets apiece for seating in Rockefeller Memorial Chapel.

Additional guests were accommodated at three other sites¹ by way of a closed-circuit broadcast of the proceedings in the Chapel. An occasion that should celebrate students, faculty, administration, family, and friends “coming together” has often been cause for frustration and friction between students, their families, and University administration—a result of the “splitting apart” needed to accommodate our larger size. The limited capacity of Rockefeller Memorial Chapel has reduced the number and variety of people who can directly participate in the event. To the committee, the

¹ Mandel Hall, Breasted Hall, and the Max Palevsky Cinema in Ida Noyes Hall.

central goal of any reorganization should be to increase the ability of individuals to “come together” at convocation, to contribute to the event.

Other matters concerning convocation include whether quarterly convocations are desirable, whether Rockefeller Chapel is the only (or even the best) site at which to hold ceremonies, whether a single convocation followed by smaller, distributed, diploma-awarding ceremonies would be preferable to our current practice, whether speakers ought to be selected exclusively from the ranks of the faculty, whether teaching awards enhance or detract from the ceremony, whether it is necessary for the President of the University to preside at all sessions of the convocation, whether the Provost and/or the Trustees ought to have a formal role, and whether the practice of awarding honorary degrees for scholarly achievement should be continued.

We were struck by the fact that convocation is one event in the life of the University that touches nearly everyone—students in the College, in the Divisions, and in the professional schools, the faculty, the University Deans and Officers, the President’s office, the Registrar, the Physical Plant and Facilities Services crews, the University police, the Development and Alumni offices, the Board of Trustees, as well as the friends and family of the graduates.

The committee’s charge was to recommend improvements that could be made to our convocations, taking account of the many people and many purposes served by these events. We reviewed the traditions of the University, we investigated practices at other institutions, and we consulted both formally and informally with a spectrum of those who contribute to and who are affected by convocation.

A short history of Convocation at the University of Chicago²

The first convocation of the University of Chicago was held in University Congregational Church in the Autumn of 1897 [Appendix A]. Convocations have been held essentially every academic quarter since that time, with additional convocations to celebrate hallmark events in the life of the institution. Beginning in Winter of 1903, Mandel Hall became the main site for most convocations other than those of Summer quarter, which were held either outdoors or in Bartlett Gymnasium. In Spring of 1929 the first convocation in Rockefeller Memorial Chapel was held, where nearly all subsequent ceremonies have taken place³. Coincidentally, the Spring 1929 convocation was the first one to be split into multiple sessions. Until 1968 one undergraduate session and one graduate session were sufficient to accommodate the Spring-quarter participants. A third session was added in 1969 and a fourth in 1977.

2 This account draws heavily on a memo prepared by Michael P Clarke, Convocation Coordinator, dated 31 August 1995. Appendices A through D from that memo are appended to this report.

3 The exceptions occurred during three quarters in 1987-88, when Rockefeller Memorial Chapel was closed for renovation. Convocations were held in the newly refurbished Mandel Hall.

Although the basic structure of the convocation sessions has changed only slowly during recent decades, several variations and improvements have been introduced. The goal of all of these improvements has been to directly involve a wider community in the proceedings. Outdoor processions and the recessions to bagpipes have provided some opportunity for convocation guests seated in space other than Rockefeller Chapel to participate in one “live” portion of the proceedings. Words of welcome, recognition, and thanks directed toward parents and friends by the President have proven to be effective in making guests feel their own sense of pride and ownership of the occasion.

In assessing and recommending changes, then, it is essential to preserve those aspects of our ceremonies which are most highly valued by a broad University constituency, and which are effective at binding members of this community to one another and to a shared set of values which the University embodies.

Chicago convocation traditions

A number of “traditions” have grown up around convocation, some of long standing and others more recently introduced. Four particular practices have gained widespread and devoted support among various groups in the University community. These four traditions are 1) to hold convocation ceremonies in Rockefeller Chapel, 2) for candidates to receive their diplomas directly from the President, 3) for the Convocation Speaker to be a current member of the faculty, and 4) to award honorary degrees, with a small number of traditional exceptions, only in recognition of distinction in scholarly achievement for work not conducted at the University of Chicago.

Our discussions revealed a number of structural and procedural changes, the implementation of which would clearly contribute to the goals of the event without any negative impact. Indeed, several of these changes have actually been implemented during the course of the committee’s deliberations.⁴ Changes to any widely supported practices, or practices uniquely associated with this University, should only be considered if there are clear benefits to be attained by doing so.

1. Convocation is held in Rockefeller Memorial Chapel.

Of all the traditions associated with Convocation, receiving a degree in Rockefeller Chapel is the one tradition most valued by students, their parents, and the faculty. Despite poor sight lines, a seat behind a pillar in the Chapel is valued by students and their families much more highly than a seat in the air-conditioned comfort of the Max

⁴ For instance, the Convocation program now contains information for the audience about the University and its history, about academic attire, and about some of the University-specific aspects of the ceremony and its participants. In addition, recent sessions have enlisted the entire assembly in singing the Alma Mater.

Palevsky Cinema. The solemn ceremony in the Chapel is the common experience linking current graduates, alumni of the University, and their teachers. As a symbol of the University and its values, it carries tremendous weight.

At the same time, the limited capacity of the Chapel has reduced the number and variety of people who can participate in the ceremonies. This problem is most acute for the Spring convocation. [Appendix E contains a statistical snapshot of the Spring 1996 sessions.] The practical capacity of Rockefeller Memorial Chapel is approximately 1900, which includes 250 temporary chairs added to extend the pews. On occasion this capacity can be expanded to no more than 2042 seats. With 692 marchers in the College session in June, 1996, just less than two seats per marcher were available for guests. Each graduating senior was given two tickets for seats in the Chapel and two more tickets to one of the closed-circuit broadcast sites. This allocation left virtually no flexibility in the system to accommodate special needs, no matter how compelling. Dealing with such issues is one of the most vexing problems with which the Convocation coordinator must deal. Similar difficulties apply to the Graduate School of Business, which had 604 candidates in Spring, 1996.

By contrast, the sessions for the graduate divisions and for the professional schools (excluding the Graduate School of Business and the Divinity School) had only 327 and 404 candidates participating, respectively. For these sessions each candidate was allocated four tickets in the Chapel. This level of allocation left sufficient flexibility to deal with special circumstances.

At present it seems likely that the College will expand by approximately 1000 students over the next ten years, although "we plan no significant increase in the number of new students entering the College [before the year 2000]." ⁵ Consequently, the need for seats at the College convocation will continue to grow, although increasing enrollments will not have an impact much before the classes entering in 2000 graduate in the Spring of 2005.

The Graduate School of Business surveyed its students who were to graduate in 1996. The consensus among these students was that, while Rockefeller Chapel would be the preferred venue, the Chapel's inability to accommodate more than two guests per graduate was such a serious limitation that the session should be held elsewhere. In June 1996, plans were made to hold the Business School session in the quadrangle outside Stuart and Harper. The additional costs associated with the outdoor version of the session (for scaffolding, bleachers, stage, sound system, security, setup, and related expenses) were estimated to be approximately \$33,000, with an additional \$22,000 contingency fund to replace sod, hedges, and sprinkler systems should that have proven necessary. Inclement weather on the day of the event forced the organizers to resort to the backup plan; the main session was held in Rockefeller Chapel, with closed-circuit satellite locations.

⁵ Hugo Sonnenschein, "The State of the University." February 3, 1997.

The Committee considered several possibilities to address the growing incompatibility between the size of the graduating classes and the size of the Chapel.

Sister institutions such as Yale, Stanford, Harvard, and Columbia each conduct a single large ceremony for all graduates and their guests. These exercises are held outdoors, rain or shine [Appendix D]. Columbia's exercises involve nearly 40,000 people; Yale's approach 14,000. Graduates receive their diplomas in separate, smaller ceremonies spread around the campuses. To accomplish something similar at Chicago, at which 2,030 candidates, would require sufficient open space to accommodate at least 10,000 persons (which would effectively limit candidates to 4 tickets per person).

Unlike many of our sister institutions, we do not have a large amphitheater or large unbroken spaces. Although the main quadrangle appears attractive as a potential location, sight lines are greatly obscured by the large number of trees. Conducting the ceremonies from a platform in the center of the quadrangle would be problematic (half the spectators would be watching the proceedings from behind), while a platform in front of the Administration building would be hard to view from many positions on the quadrangle. The other obvious candidate is a location on the Midway, just opposite Rockefeller Chapel. While sight lines are excellent, a temporary stage would have to be constructed (with cooperation from the City), and it is likely that temporary flooring would be required for the audience area as well, due to the poor drainage on the Midway.

Aside from the issue of a suitable site for exercises that include all of the graduates and their guests, a number of other factors make such an event problematic. Chicago's weather is undependable in early June, and early-summer thunderstorms are not uncommon. Parking is difficult in the vicinity of the University, and is particularly so during Convocation. A combined outdoor ceremony would bring all convocation participants to campus at the same time, rather than spreading resources such as parking over three full days. An estimate prepared for the Graduate School of Business in 1996 indicated that just preparing a temporary infrastructure accommodating 3600 people for an outdoor ceremony on the Midway would cost \$105,000. (This is equal to the combined costs for *all* of the sessions of the Spring Convocation.) The benefits that might accrue from having a single combined ceremony (whether or not followed by smaller distributed sessions at which diplomas would be distributed) do not seem to justify the formidable logistics problems and consequent expenses that would be required.

Other proposals that were considered featured a single "University session" to be held in Rockefeller Chapel, to be attended only by faculty and degree candidates, followed by divisional "diploma sessions," either held sequentially in the Chapel, or concurrently at several venues about campus. If the diploma sessions were to be held in Rockefeller Chapel, then the College and GSB would each have two sessions. The committee could see little advantage to having concurrent sessions. To make it possible for the GSB and the College to have sufficient space to invite four guests per candidate, these plans all

envisioned that these two units would have outdoor ceremonies on the Midway. The advantage of this approach is that every candidate would have some event in the Chapel (the University session), but it would not be possible for friends and family to participate there as well, which reduces its appeal. The need for a University session is even less compelling if diplomas are to be distributed in the Chapel in any event.

A third approach is to expand once again the number of sessions of the Spring Convocation by splitting the College into two sets of degree candidates. Doing so would dramatically alleviate the ticketing problems in the College. Allowing for increased enrollment in the College, using historical rates of graduation, and fraction of College graduates finishing in Spring quarter, two sessions of the College convocation would permit candidates an average of at least four tickets each through 2004, and at least three tickets each through at least 2010. Even with dramatically higher graduation rates and increased percentages finishing in Spring, *at least* three tickets could be guaranteed each graduate until 2007. [Appendix F contains projections for a variety of enrollment/graduation scenarios.]

2. The President of the University hands each candidate a diploma.

This tradition, which often takes some graduates and their parents by surprise, is one that is highly valued by candidates and parents alike. It is a distinctive element of our ceremony that more than any other single element can forge a bond to the University. For students in the College, the single individual who best represents the institution is the President. To a lesser extent, this is also true of the Divisions, while in the professional schools, the Dean is more likely to be the central figure.

The symbolic value of having a major figure in the institution, representing the University, greet each candidate and deliver his or her diploma, is an essential element of the University of Chicago convocation.

3. University faculty members give the Convocation Address.

Faculty take particular pride that Convocation Addresses at the University of Chicago are not delivered by politicians, entertainers, or astronauts, but rather by individuals who represent and speak about the values of the University. The speaker has generally been selected by the President and Provost. Until Robert Maynard Hutchins became President, only about one-fourth of the convocation speakers were professors at the University, and 40% were non-academics. During Hutchins's presidency, the number of non-academics and professors from other institutions declined, and since Edward Levi's presidency nearly every speaker has been a member of the faculty [Appendix B].

Although the selected speaker's topic or area of expertise has not always been relevant to the interests of the particular convocation audience, and despite the fact that delivery of the address is occasionally poor, the consensus is that the practice has largely served us well. At the same time, recent outside speakers (alumni Katharine Graham speaking at the College session and Eric Gleacher speaking to the Graduate School of Business in

Spring, 1996) have been very well received by students and their guests.

The committee believes that little is to be gained by engaging a public figure to deliver the Convocation address, as is the practice at many institutions of higher learning. To the extent that a farewell event for College graduates would be enhanced by celebrity not directly related to the University or its mission, that end could be better achieved in a less formal setting, such as the class day exercises mentioned above.

4. Honorary degrees recognize scholarly achievement.

Since Hutchins's presidency, more than 90% of honorary degrees conferred by the University have recognized academic achievement, although before Hutchins, less than half of the honors were for scholarly excellence. For the past fifty years, the recognized exceptions to the scholarly-distinction rule have been retiring Presidents of the University and Chairmen of the Board of Trustees [Appendix C].

The University already recognizes distinguished service and accomplishment outside academia with other awards and medals. The University's practice for the last half century of reserving its honorary degrees to recognize signal contributions to knowledge distinguishes this institution and the recipients of all its degrees.

Recommendations

The committee recommends that the following policies be implemented. Additional suggestions, which we believe would be beneficial but which are not in our view essential, are listed in Appendix E.

1. **Frequency.** The combined convocations held at the end of Summer, Autumn, and Winter Quarters should continue, largely in the current form. Most students who graduate at these times would be unable to return to campus for a graduation ceremony held once a year.
2. **Spring sessions.** The Spring convocation should continue in its present form with multiple sessions held across several days.
3. **Location.** The session(s) of convocation for the College should be held in Rockefeller Memorial Chapel. The Summer, Autumn, and Winter convocations should be held in Rockefeller Chapel as well.

Sessions of the Spring convocation for units of the University other than the College need not be conducted in the Chapel, although the Chapel should continue to be the customary location. Changing the site should facilitate increased participation in the event, and should not decrease identification with the University as a whole.

4. **The June College session.** The Spring session for the College should be divided

into two sessions. These sessions should be held on the same day, and should be conducted with a minimum of delay between the two sessions. Splitting the College session can be done in any manner that is convenient. In devising the procedures for doing so, the Registrar, the Dean of the College, and the Marshal should be consulted.

A split session increases the number of family and non-graduating friends who can share the event, but it does entail that the class itself be divided. To provide an occasion that focuses on the class as a whole, a “class-day” celebration should be held prior to the College convocation, perhaps the evening before. That occasion should be one in which all students in the College can participate.

The class-day observance could be held in conjunction with a reception held the evening before convocation at the Museum of Science and Industry. (Such a reception was held in Spring of 1996.) This occasion should be one in which all College students participate simultaneously, and should be an opportunity for friendships forged in the College to be cemented and celebrated. This would be a suitable occasion for Quantrell and other awards, including student honors, to be recognized; for student speakers; and for an outside speaker selected by the graduating class.

5. **Presiding officer.** Whenever possible, the President should preside at those convocations at which degrees from the College are conferred. On these occasions, the President should present each diploma individually with a word of congratulations to the candidate. It is desirable, but not essential, that the President fill these roles in sessions for the Divisions and for the Professional Schools. In the absence of the President, it is appropriate for the Provost to preside.
6. **Role of Trustees.** The trustees of the University should have a formal role in the convocation ceremony. We propose that a representative of the Board of Trustees present opening words of welcome and introduction.
7. **Role of Faculty.** Students and parents enjoy and appreciate the presence of many faculty members. The voluntary nature of faculty involvement makes the number of faculty participating in the exercise unpredictable and occasionally quite low. Increased participation of the faculty in convocation should be encouraged. The Graduate School of Business has been particularly successful in doing so by requesting members of their faculty to commit themselves annually to participate in particular activities (such as convocation) involving GSB students.
8. **Speakers.** Convocation speakers should continue to be selected by the President and Provost. Particularly for the sessions of the Spring convocation, selections should be made in consultation with the Deans of the units which share a common session. In particular, the Deans of the College and of the Graduate

School of Business should nominate speakers for their respective sessions. Although Convocation speakers need not be selected exclusively from the faculty, a strong connection between the speaker and the University, on which the address can draw, is an essential element.

9. **Honorary Degrees.** The award of honorary degrees at convocation is appropriate and is consistent with the event's focus on continuity in the pursuit of learning. The practice of awarding such degrees only for academic distinction in the pursuit of knowledge is indicative of the character of the University of Chicago and ought to be maintained. The award of honorary degrees to retiring Presidents of the University and Retiring Chairs of the Board of Trustees is consistent with the spirit of this recommendation. These individuals' contributions to the community of scholars, and to its continuity, are signal and appropriate to honor in this fashion.
10. **Teaching awards.** While faculty teaching awards do not constitute an essential element of convocation *per se*, they do recognize a central contribution to the life of the University, and they should be presented on an occasion when students of these teachers can be present. Consequently, awards for faculty teaching, including the Quantrell Awards, are appropriately made either at convocation or on another suitable occasion, such as class day.

Appendix A. Convocation Sites

Indoor Sites

University Congregational Church	Aut 1897, Spr 1898
The Auditorium*	Win 1898
Kent Theatre	Mid-sum 1898, Mid-aut 1898, Mid-spring 1903
Studebaker Music Hall*	Aut 1898, Win & Spr 1899, Win 1900, Aut & Win 1900, Spr & Win 1901, Spr & Win 1902, Spr 1903
Central Music Hall*	Aut 1899, Spr 1900
Mandel Hall	Win 1903, Spr 1904, Aut 1904 through Spr 1907, Aut 1907 through Spr 1909, Win 1909 through Aut 1928 (except summers), Sum 1987 through Win 1988
Bartlett Gymnasium	Sum 1907, Sum 1908, Sum 1910, Sum 1917, Sum 1919
Rockefeller Memorial Chapel	Spr 1929 through Spr 1987, Spr 1988 through Sum 1995

Outdoor Sites

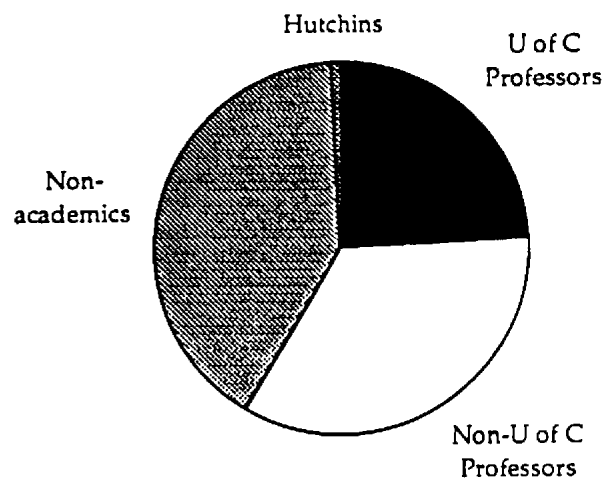
Graduate Quadrangle*	Sum 1898, Sum 1899, Sum & Mid-sum 1900
University Quadrangles*	Sum & Aut 1901, Sum & Aut 1902, Sum & Aut 1903, Sum 1904
Hutchinson Court	Sum 1909, Sum 1911, Sum 1913, Sum 1914, Sum 1916, all summers 1918 through 1928
Harper Court*	Sum 1912
Women's Quadrangle*	Sum 1915

* Name of site from Convocation program; exact location unknown.

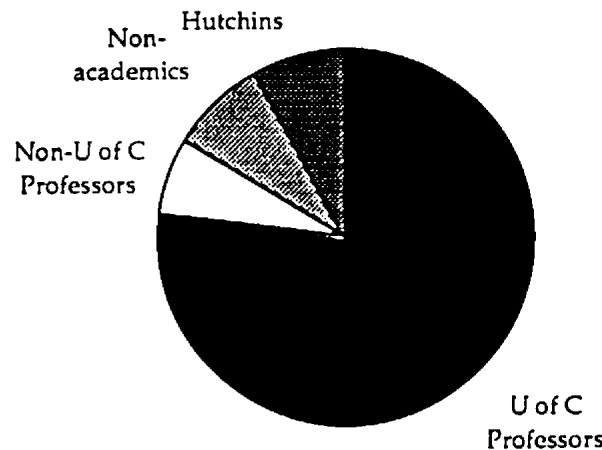
Appendix B. Convocation Speakers

Until Robert Maynard Hutchins became president, the Convocation Speakers were an even mix of University professors, outside professors, and non-academics. Since Hutchins' inauguration more than three quarters of the speakers have been members of the faculties of the University.

Convocation Speakers before the Inauguration of Robert Maynard Hutchins



Convocation Speakers after the Inauguration of Robert Maynard Hutchins



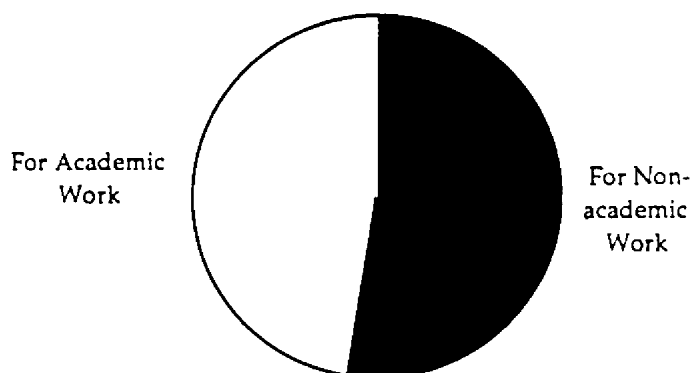
Hutchins, as President and then as Chancellor, gave the Convocation Address at the Spring Convocation every year except one. Lawrence Kimpton and George Wells Beadle followed this policy. Edward Levi gave one Spring Convocation Address, and since then, the President has never given the Address, and every speaker but one* has been a member of the University's faculties.

* Ramsey Clark gave the Address at the 332nd Convocation, 12 and 13 June 1970.

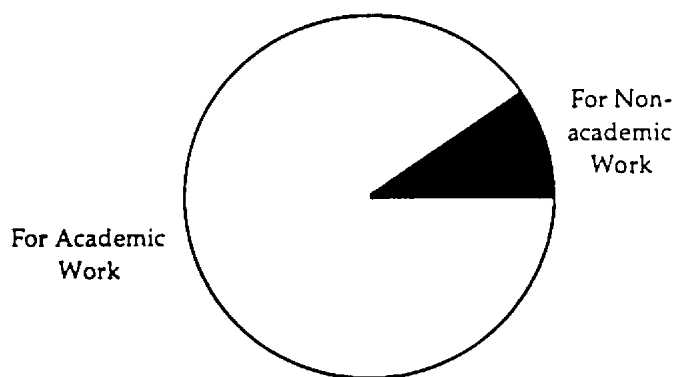
Appendix C. Honorary Degrees

The University awarded honorary degrees to academics and non-academics in more or less even proportion before Robert Maynard Hutchins became president, but since then has almost exclusively awarded honorary degrees to academics.

Honorary Degrees Awarded before the Inauguration of Robert Maynard Hutchins



Honorary Degrees Awarded after the Inauguration of Robert Maynard Hutchins



The exceptions since 1929 have been Presidents Emeriti of the University, Chairmen Emeriti of the Board of Trustees, judges, authors, a bishop, an industrialist, and a former vice-president of the University.

Appendix D. Ceremonies at Other Universities

Cambridge

Cambridge holds no university-wide ceremony; each college has a separate graduation ceremony. About thirty ceremonies are held over a three-day period two weeks after exams end. The students march from their college to the Senate House, which is only large enough to allow two guests per student. The Vice-Chancellor or the head of the college confers degrees on the students individually, by clasping his hands around the folded hands of each kneeling candidate. There is no speaker. After the ceremony the graduates meet their guests on the lawn and then are invited to tea in the Regent House rooms, next to the Senate House.

Columbia

Columbia holds its graduation ceremony two weeks after exams end. About 8200 undergraduate and graduate students and more than 30,000 guests attend the ceremony. The faculty and students process through the campus to the main plaza. There is no major address except the President's. After the deans of the various schools have presented candidates under their jurisdiction, the President confers degrees en masse to the whole group. The ceremony takes place outdoors no matter what the weather does; if necessary, the ceremony is abbreviated. In addition to the university's ceremony, each school holds a separate ceremony. Students receive their diplomas at this ceremony if it falls after the university's; if the school's ceremony falls before the university's, the students must wait to get their diplomas until after the university's.

Harvard

Harvard holds its graduation ceremony in Harvard Yard. If it rains, the ceremony goes on as scheduled. The President confers degrees en masse by department. After the university's ceremony, graduates adjourn to diploma-presentation ceremonies at the residence houses.

Princeton

Princeton holds its graduation ceremony on the first Tuesday in June, which is usually about 10 days after exams end. About 1200 undergraduate and graduate students receive degrees. The ceremony is held on the lawn in front of Nassau Hall, the administration building, and lasts under an hour. In case of rain, the ceremony is held in a gymnasium. The President confers degrees en masse by department.

University of Pennsylvania

Penn holds its graduation ceremony about 10 days after exams end. Around 4000 undergraduate and graduate students and more than 25,000 guests attend the ceremony. The students march along a six-block route lined by the faculty to Franklin Field, the university's football stadium. If it rains, the ceremony goes on as

scheduled, although if it is raining very hard, the processional is eliminated. The ceremony features a high-profile speaker, who usually receives an honorary degree. The President confers degrees en masse by school. Schools hold separate diploma-presentation ceremonies on the day of, or on the day before, the university's ceremony.

Yale

Yale holds its graduation ceremony three weeks after exams end. About 1400 undergraduate and graduate students and nearly 12,000 guests attend the ceremony. The faculty and students parade through the town and gather on the main quadrangle. There is no speaker. The President confers degrees en masse by department. The program takes about two hours. If it rains, however, an abbreviated version of the ceremony is used, since it takes place outdoors rain or shine. Following this ceremony the assembly splits into a couple dozen smaller ceremonies, at which the graduates receive their diplomas.

Spring 1996 Convocation Snapshot

Session I: Professional Schools

10:00 a.m., Friday, June 7, 1996

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, broadcast to Mandel Hall

4 tickets per candidate for chapel, 2 tickets per candidate for closed-circuit broadcast

School	Candidates
Law School	218
Irving B. Harris Graduate School of Public Policy Studies	71
School of Social Service Administration	115
Total	404

Session II: Graduate Divisions and Honorary Degrees

3:00 p.m., Friday, June 7, 1996

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel

4 tickets per candidate

Division	Candidates
College	4
Center for Continuing Studies	6
Biological Sciences Division and Pritzker School of Medicine	114
Humanities Division	38
Physical Sciences Division	28
Social Sciences Division	118
Divinity School	19
Total	327

Session III: The College

10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 8, 1996

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, broadcast to Mandel Hall, Breasted Hall, Max Palevsky Cinema

2 tickets per candidate for chapel, 2 tickets per candidate for closed-circuit broadcast

Collegiate Division	Candidates
Biological Sciences Collegiate Division	84
Humanities Collegiate Division	145
New Collegiate Division	28
Physical Sciences Collegiate Division	101
Social Sciences Collegiate Division	302
Student Marshals	32
Total	692

Session IV: The Graduate School of Business

3:00 p.m., Sunday, June 9, 1996

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, broadcast to Mandel Hall, Breasted Hall, Max Palevsky Cinema

2 tickets per candidate for chapel, 3 tickets per candidate for closed-circuit broadcast

Total candidates	604
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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EVENTS
OUTLINE OF COSTS OF CONVOCATIONS

Item	Each Summer, Autumn, or Winter Convocation	Spring Convocation, All Sessions	ANNUAL TOTAL	Spring Convocation, Session I	Spring Convocation, Session II	Spring Convocation, Session III	Spring Convocation, Session IV	Spring Convocation, Session IV (GSE part)
Ushers	\$840	\$9,343	\$11,863	\$1,720	\$840	\$1,400	\$1,540	\$4,443
Usher housing	n/a	\$1,500	\$1,500	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$1,500
Closed-circuit broadcasts	\$0	\$18,077	\$18,077	\$4,000	\$0	\$7,000	\$0	\$7,077
Closed-circuit site rental	\$0	\$1,487	\$1,487	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$0	\$937
Outdoor sound system	n/a	\$2,843	\$2,843	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$0	\$2,843
Stage and bleachers	n/a	\$11,750	\$11,750	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$0	\$11,750
Diploma covers	n/a	n/a	\$11,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Printing diplomas	\$4,284	\$22,440	\$35,292	\$4,590	\$4,080	\$7,140	\$6,630	\$0
Printing faculty invitations	\$76	\$76	\$304	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Faculty labels	\$75	\$75	\$300	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Printing candidate instructions	\$40	\$200	\$320	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Printing Registrar's notice to candidates *								
Printing Bookstore's notice to candidates †								
Printing programs	\$2,539	\$24,932	\$32,548	\$4,960	\$5,268	\$5,830	\$2,750	\$6,124
Printing tickets	\$255	\$2,047	\$2,812	\$330	\$320	\$410	\$241	\$746
Printing for Spring College mailing	\$0	\$645	\$645	n/a	n/a	\$645	n/a	n/a
Marshal's luncheon	\$400	\$1,200	\$2,400	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Physical plant	\$1,376	\$4,554	\$8,681	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Physical plant extra for Spring Session IV	n/a	\$6,401	\$6,401	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$0	\$6,401
Music	\$1,525	\$9,325	\$13,900	\$1,525	\$1,525	\$1,525	\$1,525	\$3,225
ASL interpreter	\$100	\$400	\$700	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$0
Attire rental	\$100	\$500	\$800	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Attire maintenance	n/a	n/a	\$650	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
University police	\$324	\$7,482	\$8,454	\$324	\$324	\$3,817	\$324	\$2,693
Honorary degree diplomas (for five recipients) *	n/a	n/a	\$600	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Honorary degree hoods (for five recipients) *	\$0	\$750	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$0
HDR souvenir folders (for five recipients)	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0
HDR flowers (for five recipients)	\$0	\$180	\$180	\$0	\$180	\$0	\$0	\$0
HDR photography	\$0	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
HDR transportation (for five recipients) §	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
HDR lodging (for five recipients) ¶	n/a	n/a	\$34,664	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Convocation Coordinator's salary and benefits	n/a	n/a	\$6,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Convocation assistant	n/a	n/a	\$1,200	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Postage	n/a	n/a	\$600	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Telephone	n/a	n/a	\$600	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Office supplies	n/a	n/a	\$600	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Office printing	n/a	n/a	\$2,700	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
SUB-TOTAL	\$11,933	\$131,407	\$225,220	\$16,949	\$18,387	\$27,867	\$13,110	\$47,739
Contingency cost to replace seat	n/a	\$12,300	\$12,300	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$0	\$12,300
Contingency cost to replace hedges	n/a	\$5,000	\$5,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$0	\$5,000
Contingency cost to repair sprinkler system	n/a	\$5,000	\$5,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$0	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$11,933	\$153,707	\$247,520	\$16,949	\$18,387	\$27,867	\$13,110	\$70,039

* Paid for by the University Registrar
† Paid for by the University Bookstore
§ Paid for by the Office of the Provost
¶ Paid for the sponsoring departments

Scenarios requiring at least four seats per marcher

Year	Added 1st-yr enrollees	Five-yr attrition	Number of graduates	% grad in spring	% of grads marching	Num in Spr conv	Tickets/marcher	Seats needed	RMC capacity	n of sessions	Extra tickets
96		0.20	847	0.86	0.95	692	4	3460	1908	2	356
97	50	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
98	75	0.19	861	0.86	0.95	703	4	3516	1908	2	300
99	100	0.19	861	0.86	0.95	703	4	3516	1908	2	300
2000	125	0.18	871	0.86	0.95	712	4	3559	1908	2	257
01	175	0.18	871	0.86	0.95	712	4	3559	1908	2	257
02	225	0.17	911	0.86	0.95	744	4	3722	1908	2	94
03	275	0.17	942	0.86	0.95	770	4	3848	1908	3	1876
04	275	0.16	963	0.86	0.95	787	6	5507	1908	3	217
05	275	0.16	995	0.86	0.95	813	6	5688	1908	3	36
06	275	0.15	1036	0.86	0.95	846	5	5076	1908	3	648
07	275	0.15	1089	0.86	0.95	890	5	5339	1908	3	385
08	275	0.15	1131	0.86	0.95	924	5	5545	1908	3	179
09	275	0.15	1134	0.86	0.95	927	5	5559	1908	3	165
10	275	0.15	1134	0.86	0.95	927	5	5559	1908	3	165

Scenarios requiring no more than two sessions

Year	Added 1st-yr enrollees	Five-yr attrition	Number of graduates	% grad in spring	% of grads marching	Num in Spr conv	Tickets/marcher	Seats needed	RMC capacity	n of sessions	Extra tickets
96		0.20	847	0.86	0.95	692	4	3460	1908	2	356
97	50	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
98	75	0.19	861	0.86	0.95	703	4	3516	1908	2	300
99	100	0.19	861	0.86	0.95	703	4	3516	1908	2	300
2000	125	0.18	871	0.86	0.95	712	4	3559	1908	2	257
01	175	0.18	871	0.86	0.95	712	4	3559	1908	2	257
02	225	0.17	911	0.86	0.95	744	4	3722	1908	2	94
03	275	0.17	942	0.86	0.95	770	3	3078	1908	2	738
04	275	0.16	963	0.86	0.95	787	3	3147	1908	2	669
05	275	0.16	995	0.86	0.95	813	3	3250	1908	2	566
06	275	0.15	1036	0.86	0.95	846	3	3384	1908	2	432
07	275	0.15	1089	0.86	0.95	890	3	3559	1908	2	257
08	275	0.15	1131	0.86	0.95	924	3	3697	1908	2	119
09	275	0.15	1134	0.86	0.95	927	3	3706	1908	2	110
10	275	0.15	1134	0.86	0.95	927	3	3706	1908	2	110

Notes: (1) Rockefeller Memorial Chapel capacity is 1581 without added chairs, 1908 with guest chairs, and 2042 with added candidate chairs.

(2) Five-year attrition rate is net of transfers

**Scenarios requiring at least four seats per marcher
(Lower attrition, higher fraction graduating in Spring)**

Year	Added 1st-yr enrollees	Five-yr attrition	Number of graduates	% grad in spring	% of grads marching	Num in Spr conv	Tickets/marcher	Seats needed	RMC capacity	n of sessions	Extra tickets
96		0.20	847	0.86	0.95	692	4	3460	1908	2	356
97	50	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
98	75	0.19	861	0.88	0.95	719	4	3597	1908	2	219
99	100	0.19	861	0.88	0.95	719	4	3597	1908	2	219
2000	125	0.18	871	0.90	0.95	745	4	3725	1908	2	91
01	175	0.17	871	0.90	0.95	745	4	3725	1908	2	91
02	225	0.16	922	0.90	0.95	788	6	5517	1908	3	207
03	275	0.15	953	0.90	0.95	814	6	5701	1908	3	23
04	275	0.14	984	0.90	0.95	841	5	5049	1908	3	675
05	275	0.13	1016	0.90	0.95	868	5	5211	1908	3	513
06	275	0.12	1069	0.90	0.95	914	5	5486	1908	3	238
07	275	0.11	1124	0.90	0.95	961	4	4805	1908	3	919
08	275	0.10	1179	0.90	0.95	1008	4	5039	1908	3	685
09	275	0.10	1192	0.90	0.95	1019	4	5097	1908	3	627
10	275	0.10	1195	0.90	0.95	1022	4	5110	1908	3	614

**Scenarios requiring no more than two sessions
(Lower attrition, higher fraction graduating in Spring)**

Year	Added 1st-yr enrollees	Five-yr attrition	Number of graduates	% grad in spring	% of grads marching	Num in Spr conv	Tickets/marcher	Seats needed	RMC capacity	n of sessions	Extra tickets
96		0.20	847	0.86	0.95	692	4	3460	1908	2	356
97	50	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
98	75	0.19	861	0.88	0.95	719	4	3597	1908	2	219
99	100	0.19	861	0.88	0.95	719	4	3597	1908	2	219
2000	125	0.18	871	0.90	0.95	745	4	3725	1908	2	91
01	175	0.17	871	0.90	0.95	745	4	3725	1908	2	91
02	225	0.16	922	0.90	0.95	788	3	3153	1908	2	663
03	275	0.15	953	0.90	0.95	814	3	3258	1908	2	558
04	275	0.14	984	0.90	0.95	841	3	3366	1908	2	450
05	275	0.13	1016	0.90	0.95	868	3	3474	1908	2	342
06	275	0.12	1069	0.90	0.95	914	3	3657	1908	2	159
07	275	0.11	1124	0.90	0.95	961	2	2883	1908	2	933
08	275	0.10	1179	0.90	0.95	1008	2	3023	1908	2	793
09	275	0.10	1192	0.90	0.95	1019	2	3058	1908	2	758
10	275	0.10	1195	0.90	0.95	1022	2	3066	1908	2	750

- Notes: (1) Rockefeller Memorial Chapel capacity is 1581 without added chairs, 1908 with guest chairs, and 2042 with added candidate chairs.
(2) Five-year attrition rate is net of transfers

Scenarios requiring at least four seats per marcher
(Historical attrition, fraction graduating in Spring)

Year	Added 1st-yr enrollees	Five-yr attrition	Number of graduates	% grad in spring	% of grads marching	Num in Spr conv	Tickets/marcher	Seats needed	RMC capacity	n of sessions	Extra tickets
96		0.20	847	0.86	0.95	692	4	3460	1908	2	356
97	50	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
98	75	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
99	100	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
2000	125	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
01	175	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
02	225	0.20	890	0.86	0.95	727	4	3636	1908	2	180
03	275	0.20	910	0.86	0.95	743	4	3717	1908	2	99
04	275	0.20	930	0.86	0.95	760	4	3799	1908	2	17
05	275	0.20	950	0.86	0.95	776	6	5433	1908	3	291
06	275	0.20	990	0.86	0.95	809	6	5662	1908	3	62
07	275	0.20	1030	0.86	0.95	842	5	5049	1908	3	675
08	275	0.20	1070	0.86	0.95	874	5	5245	1908	3	479
09	275	0.20	1070	0.86	0.95	874	5	5245	1908	3	479
10	275	0.20	1070	0.86	0.95	874	5	5245	1908	3	479

Scenarios requiring no more than two sessions
(Historical attrition, fraction graduating in Spring)

Year	Added 1st-yr enrollees	Five-yr attrition	Number of graduates	% grad in spring	% of grads marching	Num in Spr conv	Tickets/marcher	Seats needed	RMC capacity	n of sessions	Extra tickets
96		0.20	847	0.86	0.95	692	4	3460	1908	2	356
97	50	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
98	75	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
99	100	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
2000	125	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
01	175	0.20	850	0.86	0.95	694	4	3472	1908	2	344
02	225	0.20	890	0.86	0.95	727	4	3636	1908	2	180
03	275	0.20	910	0.86	0.95	743	4	3717	1908	2	99
04	275	0.20	930	0.86	0.95	760	4	3799	1908	2	17
05	275	0.20	950	0.86	0.95	776	3	3105	1908	2	711
06	275	0.20	990	0.86	0.95	809	3	3235	1908	2	581
07	275	0.20	1030	0.86	0.95	842	3	3366	1908	2	450
08	275	0.20	1070	0.86	0.95	874	3	3497	1908	2	319
09	275	0.20	1070	0.86	0.95	874	3	3497	1908	2	319
10	275	0.20	1070	0.86	0.95	874	3	3497	1908	2	319

Notes: (1) Rockefeller Memorial Chapel capacity is 1581 without added chairs, 1908 with guest chairs, and 2042 with added candidate chairs.

(2) Five-year attrition rate is net of transfers