DATE: March 7, 2016
TO: Members of the Class of 2016
Department of Behavioral Health and Nutrition
FROM: P. Michael Peterson, Ed.D., Department Chairperson

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Department of Behavioral Health and Nutrition (BHAN), please accept my congratulations on the approaching completion of your studies at the University of Delaware. We will be holding two separate ceremonies to celebrate the accomplishments of our students. This letter provides information about the May 27th BHAN Convocation Ceremony and the May 28th University of Delaware Commencement Ceremony. This information can also be found at [www.udel.edu/commencement](http://www.udel.edu/commencement). I am looking forward to participating with you in these momentous occasions.

**BHAN Convocation Ceremony:**
Date: Friday, May 27th, 2016
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: “Gold Tent” located on the south green – adjacent to Robinson Hall.
Note: Tent is white in color but will be labeled as “Gold Tent”

The Convocation Ceremony is an event specifically for students in the Department of Behavioral Health and Nutrition. This ceremony gives us an opportunity to recognize our students in a more personal way by acknowledging each one individually. No tickets are required for the ceremony; seating capacity of the tent is approximately 1,000.

**BHAN Convocation Information for Graduating Students:**
Note: This ceremony is for Fall 2015, Winter 2016, Spring 2016 or Summer 2016 graduates

Students should come robed and plan to arrive in front of Robinson Hall no later than 2:00 pm. Line-up will begin at 2:30 pm on the grass outside of Robinson Hall to start procession to the Gold Tent. Major signs will be posted on the lawn outside of Robinson Hall. Please look for your major and immediately move to this spot. In the case of inclement weather, you will line up inside of Robinson Hall by major. Faculty and Staff will be present to direct you.

- Upon arrival please prepare to complete a Degree Candidate Name Card and a Career Services Survey Card.
  - 1) **Degree Candidate Name Card**—Students will carry the Degree Candidate Name Card with them into the tent. If your name is often mispronounced, please write it phonetically on the card. This name card will be collected as you approach the stage to be announced.
  - 2) **Career Services Survey Card**—The two-sided Career Services Survey Card should be completed and given to a faculty member.
- Photographs of each graduate will be taken by a professional photographer as they exit the stage.
- Comfortable footwear is recommended since this is an outdoor event.
- There is no registration or application required to participate in the ceremony.
- Convocation is a dignified occasion and students are required to wear academic regalia (cap and gown). In order to maintain visual uniformity, students are directed to only wear current year’s regalia.
- Anyone who is noticeably intoxicated will be escorted from the ceremony and will not be permitted to participate in convocation.
- Food is not permitted. Water coolers will be stationed in the rear of the tent.
BHAN Convocation Information for Families:
Due to the number of families and cars on campus on Friday, May 27, 2016, we are asking that families plan to arrive to the Gold Tent (located on South Green) and be seated between 2:30 and 3:00 pm to avoid delays in the ceremony. The Convocation ceremony will begin promptly at 3:30 pm and will last approximately one hour and thirty minutes. Please be advised that in the event of severe weather conditions, the ceremony may be altered or cancelled at the discretion of Public Safety.

- Keep in mind this is an outdoor event and dressing in layers and comfortable footwear is recommended.
- Special seating will be available for those persons with disabilities or the elderly and up to two of their guests.
- Closed captioning will be provided on one of the main screens.
- Parking information can be found at: https://sites.udel.edu/commencement/parking/
- Official photographers from GradImages will photograph each graduate as he/she exits the stage. Please remain seated during the ceremony to allow room for the professional photographer to take photos of the graduates. Photographs are available for purchase within 24-48 hours of the ceremony at: www.gradimages.com.
- At the conclusion of the convocation ceremony, please remain seated until the students have completed the recessional.
- Students and their guests may want to arrange for a pre-determined meeting place after the ceremony due to the number of attendees.

University of Delaware Commencement Ceremony:
Date: Saturday, May 28th, 2016
Time: 9:00 am
Location: Delaware Stadium

The Commencement Ceremony is a university-wide event in which students proceed onto the field at the Delaware Stadium, degrees are conferred by the President of the University, the graduating students are acknowledged by their respective colleges, and the commencement speaker delivers his/her address. It is recommended that degree candidates and guests arrive by 7:30 am. Student procession begins at 8:20 am.

Please contact Janice Brown at jgbrown@udel.edu with any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation in these significant and momentous events!

Warm Regards,

P. Michael Peterson, Ed.D.
Professor and Department Chairperson