FALL CONVOCATION

Thursday, August 24
Breslin Student Events Center

ORDER OF EVENTS

Processional and Welcome

Welcome Message
Thomas Jeitschko, Ph.D.
Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Land Acknowledgment
Emily Sorroche, Ph.D.

College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

Remarks and Induction of the Class
Teresa K. Woodruff, Ph.D.
Interim President

Student Remarks
Emily Hoyumpa
ASMSU President

James Madison College

Faculty Remarks
MSU Spartan Marching Band Drumline

From Major to Mission
Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha
Associate Dean for Public Health
College of Human Medicine

Introduction to Traditions
Singing of MSU Shadows and MSU Fight Song
Spartan Dischords

Recessional

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The Fall Convocation you are attending today and the Commencement ceremony that you will attend upon graduation are intended to be bookends to your college experience. Both are formal academic ceremonies that feature members of the University's faculty and administration in academic regalia.

The regalia that each faculty member and administrator wears communicates specific information about their level of education, their academic discipline, and the institution that awarded their degree. The majority of the faculty and administrators seated on stage have earned doctoral degrees. Those who have earned their doctorate wear robes bearing three bars of velvet on each sleeve and velvet panels on the front of the robe.

In addition to the robe, the hood also communicates information about the accomplishments of the person who wears it. The color of the velvet edging of the hood (visible around the neck in the front and down the back) signifies the discipline studied. Similarly, the tassel that you will wear when you graduate from MSU will be the color of the discipline of your major. Some of the colors and corresponding disciplines that you may see include:

- Agriculture - Maize
- Arts and Letters/RCAH - White
- Business - Drab (Tan)
- Communication - Royal Blue
- Education - Light Blue
- Engineering - Orange
- Law - Purple
- Music - Pink
- Natural Science/Lyman Briggs - Gold
- Nursing - Apricot
- Philosophy - Dark Blue
- Social Science/James Madison - Citron
- Veterinary Medicine - Gray
- Medicine - Green
- Many institutions that award advanced degrees, such as the Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree or Medical Degree, use hoods that have dark blue velvet edging signifying the discipline of Philosophy or Medicine. Other institutions award hoods for the Ph.D. and the M.D. that use the color of the actual discipline studied. Interim President Woodruff earned her Ph.D. from Northwestern University and her hood bears the color gold.

The Spartan Marching Band (SMB), founded in 1870 as a ten-member student group, is now comprised of 300 members. It has grown into one of the premier college bands in the nation and prides itself on its musical excellence, physical toughness, and extreme precision. The band has performed for five U.S. presidents, at four Rose Bowls, at two World’s Fairs, and at one World Series.

The MSU Spartan Marching Band Drumline serves as an integral unit of the MSU Marching Band, performing at all home football games as well as several exhibitions.
MSU SHADOWS
MSU we love thy shadows when twilight silence falls. Flushing deep and softly paling O’er ivy covered halls. Beneath the pines we’ll gather to give our faith so true. Sing our love of Alma Mater and thy praises MSU.

When from these scenes we wander and twilight shadows fade, Our memory still will linger where light and shadows played. In the evening oft we’ll gather and pledge our faith a new, Sing our love for Alma Mater and our praises MSU.

SPECIAL THANKS
Announcer:
Jeremy Whiting, General Manager of Impact 89FM
Sign Language Interpreters:
Annescia Dillard and Mieken VanderWaerden
University Mascot:
Sparty
University Student Radio Station:
Impact 89FM | WDBM-FM student radio station
WKAR TV Livestream
SPARTAN CODE OF HONOR
ACADEMIC PLEDGE

“As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do.”
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College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

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ASMSU President
Social Relations and Policy
James Madison College

Rochisshil Varma
Applied Engineering Sciences
College of Engineering

Faculty Remarks

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FALL CONVOCATION
A Formal Academic Ceremony

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