



RE: Email from Scott Belobrajdic, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management, regarding the cancellation of commencement ceremonies for Summer 2008

Hello Everyone,

As you are aware, the August 2008 commencement ceremony will not be held due to renovation construction in the Vadalabene Center. To accommodate student preferences to participate in a ceremony before the December 2008 commencement, students who anticipate graduating in August 2008 will be permitted to participate in a May 2008 Commencement ceremony.

Under normal circumstances, students are not permitted to participate in Commencement until preliminary review confirms that a student has completed or is enrolled in remaining requirements for the degree. However, a special one time exception is being extended to those impacted by necessary renovations on campus. While this exception will enable students to participate in a formal commencement ceremony, the exception will not be an indication of early granting of a degree or early graduation from the institution. **Students can not receive a degree until all requirements for that degree have been completed and approved.**

Summer (Aug.) degree candidates who desire to participate in the Spring (May) ceremony will need to complete and submit a standard **Application for Graduation form indicating a Summer (Aug.) 2008 expected degree completion date and a "Special May 2008 Commencement Request Form"** to the Office of the Registrar by end of business Friday, **February 15, 2008. Both forms are available for download at <http://www.siu.edu/commencement> and in the Service Center, first floor Rendleman Hall.**

Summer (Aug.) graduates who do not wish to walk in the Spring (May) commencement ceremony can continue to apply for Summer (Aug.) degrees through May 27, 2008. This is the traditional Summer (Aug.) application timeline. Summer (Aug.) 2008 graduates who have not previously participated in a commencement ceremony will be invited to participate in the Fall (Dec.) 2008 ceremony.

Please note that university policy prohibits students walking in more than one ceremony for any one degree. If a prospective Summer (Aug.) 2008 graduate chooses to walk in a Spring (May) 2008 ceremony, she/he **will not** be able to walk again after officially completing requirements for the degree.

**NOTE:** The final May 2008 commencement schedule for **ALL CEREMONIES** will be released shortly after the February 15, 2008 deadline. The previously released schedule may be superseded by a new schedule of events for the day.

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