

Graduation Decorum Policy

Southern's commencement ceremony is a formal event that exhibits the pride we have in the accomplishments of our graduates. As such, professional decorum is expected from those who attend or participate. Behavior that is loud, disruptive, or otherwise incongruous with that expectation may result in fines or other repercussions. Southern is within its rights to withhold diplomas and transcripts for students who have not paid their bill in full, including fees associated with improper graduation behavior. We encourage all in attendance to join us in enthusiastically celebrating individual academic accomplishments without diminishing this milestone moment for the group as a whole.

--Student Handbook, page 63



Instructions for Graduating Seniors

Commencement

May 3 – May 5, 2019

May 3-Consecration, Collegedale Church, 8pm

May 4-Sabbath School, Convention Center, 10a

May 4-Baccalaureate, Convention Center, 11a

May 5-Commencement, Convention Center, 9:30a

Parking at the Convention Center is free for
Saturday and Sunday

Note: Current construction Downtown

Friday, May 3
Consecration Service 8:00 p.m.
Collegedale Church

- No regalia needed
- Sit with whomever you wish, wherever you wish.
- Platform party – meet at room, left side of platform by 7:40 p.m.

Saturday, May 4

Chattanooga Convention Center

- Sabbath School – 10am – 10:45am Sharp
 - Student led
 - Platform party meet backstage, left side of platform by 9:40 am
- Baccalaureate – 11:00am
 - No regalia required
 - Sit wherever and with whomever you want
 - Platform party meet backstage, left side of platform by 10:50am

Sunday, May 5

Before Commencement

- Valuables need to be given to your family – we cannot secure anything in the lineup area.
- Cell phones must be set to OFF or Silent.
- Tassel on left side the entire ceremony.
- Prepare your graduation robe in advance

Sunday, May 5

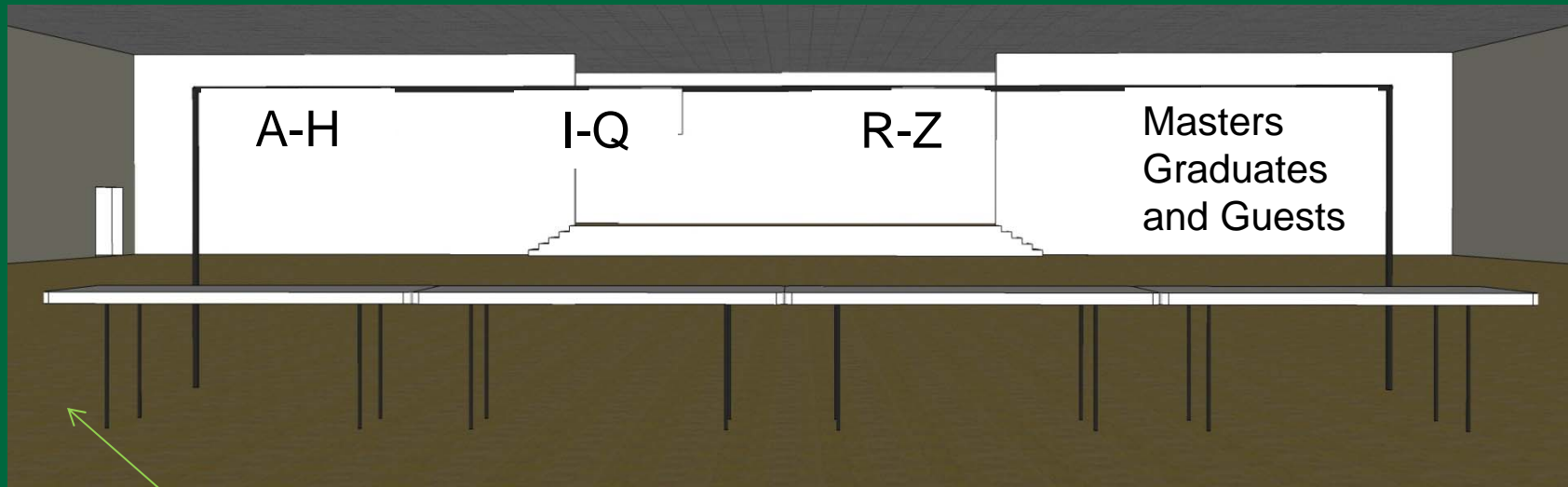
Commencement

- Chattanooga Convention Center
 - 8-8:30 AM – Put on regalia & line up in proper order
 - Check in & line up in Convention Center, Halls C-D
 - KNOW YOUR ROW CAPTAIN
 - Plan on at least one hour to drive to the center and find parking
 - Make sure you are on time
 - Procession will begin at 9:30am sharp

Sunday, May 5

Check-in and Line up

Immediately inside Halls C-D there will be a table for you to check-in, make sure of your row and seat number, and acquire any needed safety pins or bobby pins on the opposite side of the curtains.



Line up behind the tables. LOOK for your row captain.

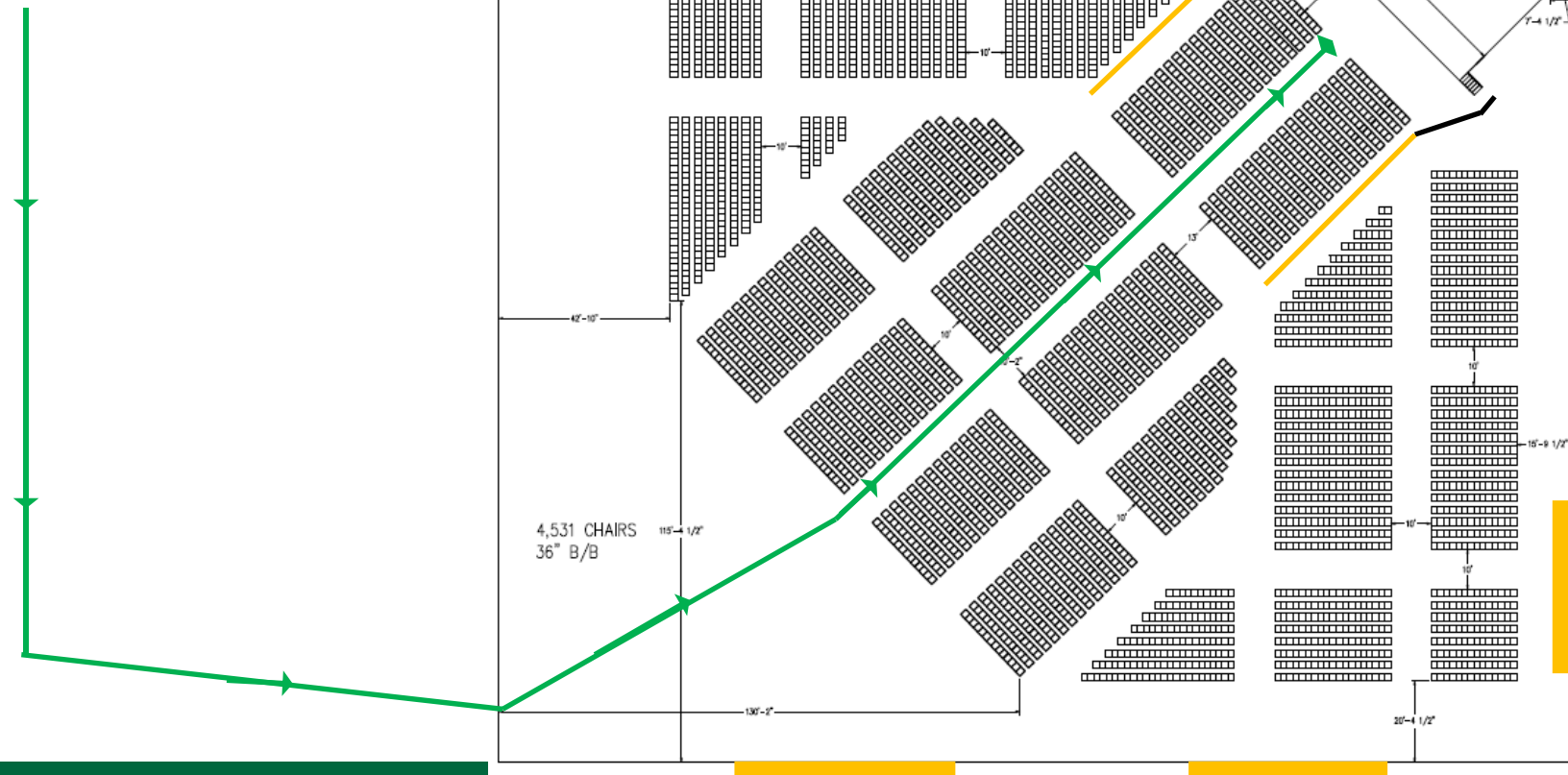
Entering the Exhibit Hall (The Grand Entrance)

- Professor Laura Racovita = The Grand Marshal
 - Platform Party
 - Faculty
- Grand Marshal (Grand Marshal returns for graduates)
 - Baccalaureate Degree graduates (two-by-two with Class Officers and Southern Scholars first in line)
 - Associates (two-by-two)
 - Master's, Doctoral and Guests (two-by-two)
- Make sure the card on your seat has your name on it.
- If there is an empty seat, do not occupy it if it isn't your name.

Back Service Corridor

Halls C – D

Graduate Line Up
Halls C-D, left side



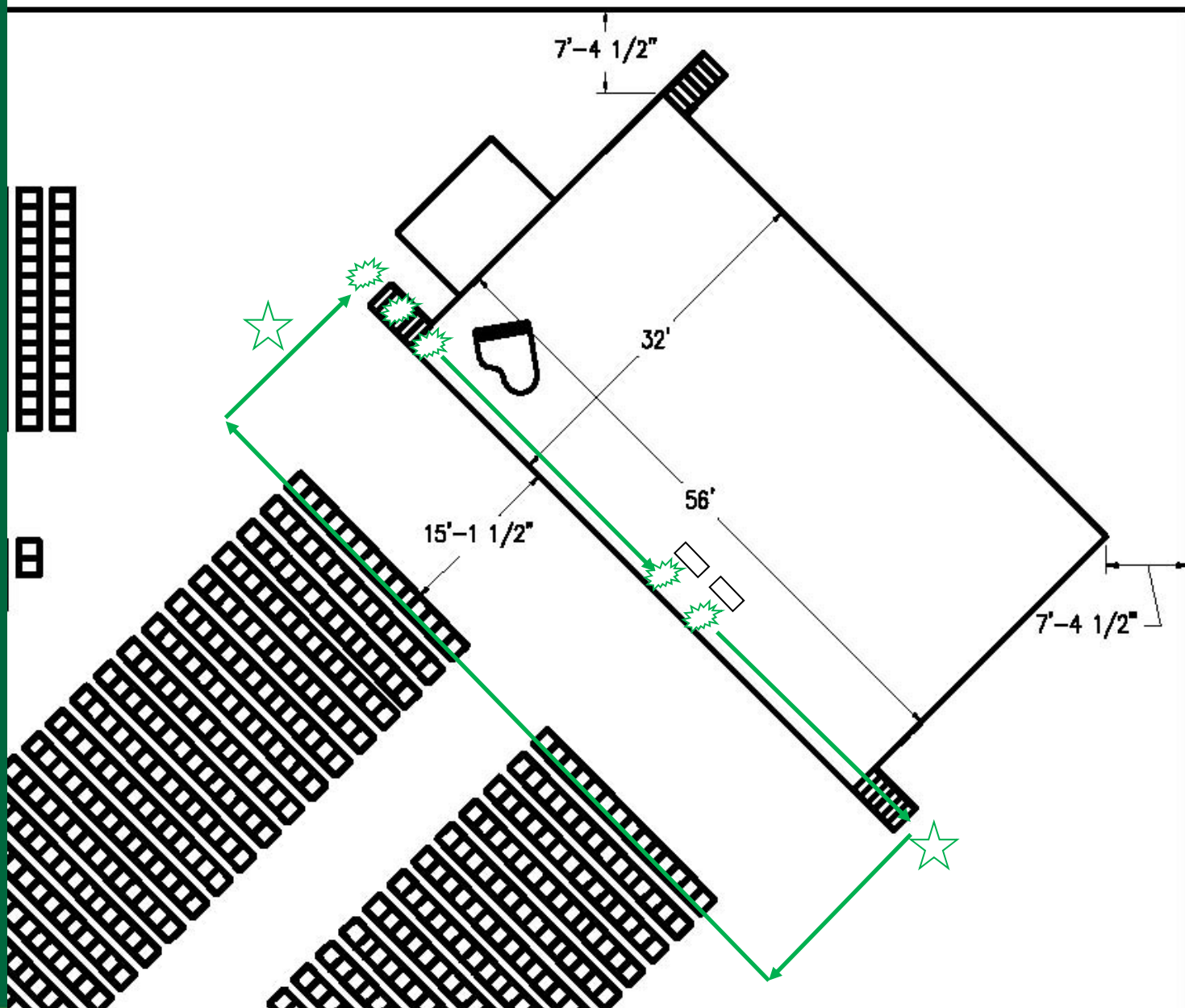
Main Front Hallway
Public Entry

Receiving your Diploma

- Take card with you, stand by rows, move to the left
- On way to stairs, pause for 1st photograph
- 1st in row proceed to top of stairs, 2nd in row proceed to middle stair, 3rd in row proceed to front of stairs. Move to these positions in turn.
- At the top of the stairs, hand your card to the person announcing the names.
- Walk at a natural pace across the platform

Receiving your Diploma - Continued

- Proceed to Dr. Smith
- Diploma in left hand above your right hand
- Smile for photographer (2nd photograph)
- Shake hands with Ron Smith, Board Chair, receive Bible
- Pause for 3rd photograph at bottom of stairs
- Back to your chair & sit down



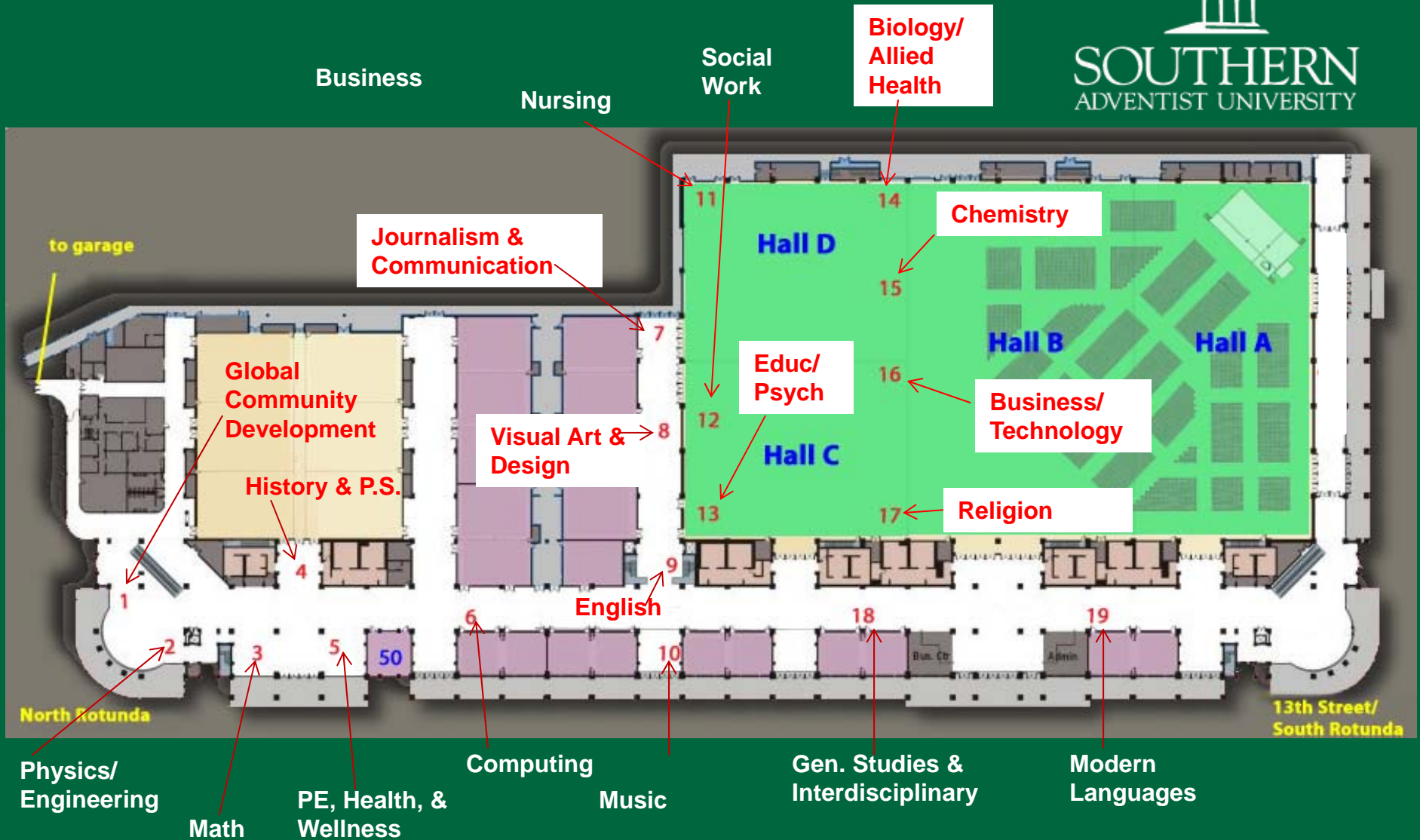
The Recessional

- Benediction
- Grand Marshal - mace - platform party
- Faculty
- **Sponsors will dismiss rows, starting at the back.**
- Each row will march out two-by-two.
- Keep moving to the designated area for your major. Meet your families and faculty there.
- If exiting Hall C-D, exit **ONLY** through the side doors.

Where do I Meet Family and Friends?



SOUTHERN
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY



Power for Mind & Soul

Rules and Your Self-Respect

- No non-academic embellishments
 - Flowers, \$\$, signs, etc. ≠ appropriate
 - SAU dress code applies
- Appropriate clothing / walking shoes with robe
- Honor Cords – pick up before noon at Records
- The Chattanooga Convention Center does not allow helium filled balloons in its facility due to the harm they can cause their ventilation systems. If you bring balloons in, a \$200 fine will be imposed by the center.

Rules and Your Self-Respect

- Ask your family not to act too surprised when you receive your diploma
 - Air horns prohibited (causes pain to some guests)
 - Silly string or confetti prohibited
 - Hooting & hollering \neq good (Your family will not hear your name read, and will hinder hearing the names of those after you)
- Gifts & flowers afterwards (no space in rows)
- Photos afterwards
- Conspicuously poor behavior

You can still give to your senior class gift and receive your Philanthropy medallion today or on May 5. Stop by the Advancement table located in front of the doors to Halls C-D.

Congratulations!