Commencement Weekend Information

Housing: We offer housing in Norelius Hall for the immediate family of our graduates at the cost of $10.00 per person, per night. You may reserve a room for Friday and/or Saturday evening. Sheets, blankets, pillows, cases and towels will be provided. Norelius rooms sleep two people in twin beds. Keys will be issued. A list of local hotels can be found on the Gustavus website at: www.gustavus.edu/welcome/lodging.cfm.

Meals: A Family Picnic will be held in the Johns Family Courtyard on Saturday, May 27 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tickets are $10 each. A Commencement Buffet will be held in the Evelyn Young Dining Room on Sunday, May 28 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tickets are $12 each. Tickets are required for each guest, including Gustavus students. They should be pre-ordered using the enclosed form. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

Parking: You may park in any lot on campus. All parking lots are unrestricted for the weekend. Overflow parking will be available on the grass south of the President’s House (see campus map).

Baccalaureate: Baccalaureate Services will be held at Christ Chapel on Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Four tickets (one for the graduate and three for guests) for one of the services will be randomly distributed to all seniors in early May. If an alternate time is preferred for baccalaureate, your student is encouraged to exchange with another senior.

Commencement: Commencement begins with the academic procession at 1:45 p.m. followed by the ceremony at 2:00 p.m. on Hollingsworth Field. Tickets are not required if the ceremony is outdoors.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will move indoors to Lund Center Arena (hockey arena), where a ticket will be required. Three (3) tickets will be distributed to each senior in early May for admittance to Lund Center Arena if Commencement is held indoors. For those who do not have indoor Commencement tickets, unlimited overflow seating is available in Lund Center Forum (basketball court) where the ceremony will be broadcast on a large screen. If commencement is moved indoors, an announcement will be made by 10 a.m. on the Gustavus website at www.gustavus.edu, on WCCO radio (830 AM, Minneapolis), and on KTOE radio (1410 AM, Mankato).

Special Needs Assistance: Handicapped parking (with a valid permit) is available near each venue. There will also be a drop-off area near Christ Chapel and Hollingsworth Field. Wheelchair seating is located on the main level of Christ Chapel for baccalaureate services. Please note that there are no handicap-accessible restrooms in Christ Chapel. For Commencement on Hollingsworth Field, guests with wheelchairs are welcome to sit on a raised platform in front of the bleachers. One guest may sit with them on the platform. Due to limited space on the platform, those who are not able to climb bleacher seating are encouraged to arrive early for ground-level seating. If the ceremony is moved indoors to Lund Arena, wheelchair seating will be on the main floor of the arena.

Photography/Videography: In cooperation with Gustavus Adolphus College, Chappell Studios, 2280 W. Tyler Avenue, Fairfield, IA 52556, 800/247-3435, and Hyers Productions will photograph and videotape Commencement ceremonies. Chappell Studios will mail color photograph proofs and information to each family. Videotapes (VHS) or DVDs may be ordered from Hyers Productions, 2202 Pondview Court, North St. Paul, MN 55109, 651/704-0545, at a cost of $50. Minnesota residents must add 6.5% sales tax. You will receive further information about these services in a separate mailing.

Reservations: Use the enclosed form to make reservations for campus housing, Family Picnic, and Commencement Buffet. Meal tickets and a housing confirmation letter will be mailed to you. The reservation deadline is Friday, May 19, and no refunds will be issued after that date.

For further information please contact the Office of Marketing and Public Relations at 507/933-7520 or publicrelations@gustavus.edu