Dear Senior Class of 2022

It is hard to believe that the end of the semester is upon us, and it is finally time to start planning GRADUATION!! This year is exceptional, as we will once again come together in person to celebrate The Class of 2022 at The Biology Department Ceremony!!

The ceremony will be on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at 3:00 pm in the University of Rochester, Larry and Cindy Block Alumni and Advancement Center 300 East River Road, Rochester, NY 14627.

Seniors majoring in the following fields of study are invited to participate in the Biology Department Ceremony:

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)
- Biology (BIO)

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in the Biological Sciences:
- Cell and Developmental Biology (BCD)
- Computational Biology (BCB)
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (BEB)
- General Track (BSG)
- Molecular Genetics (BMG)

Students graduating with degrees from other biological science fields of study such as Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Neuroscience will be attending different department ceremonies. Visit the UR 2022 Commencement website for times and locations.

Who is Eligible to Walk: All Biology Department (listed above) seniors are invited to participate in this ceremony regardless of degree completion status. Don’t hesitate to contact Marianne Arcoraci (marianne.arcoraci@rochester.edu) if you need further clarification.

Senior Survey 3/25/2022: All seniors will need to complete the senior survey (https://form.jotform.com/220724648184055) by 3/25/2022, regardless of their plans to attend or not attend. The purpose of the survey is to verify the accuracy of our records, rsvp, and if so, find out what you want
us to say as you walk across the stage, and to collect pictures for the senior slide show. Please get in touch with Sarah Marvin-Foley (sarah.marvin-foley@rochester.edu) for technical assistance with this form.

**In-Person Attendance:** Please note this ceremony is in-person, and there will not be an option to attend virtually. However, please note that a camera will be set up to capture the events of what is happening on the stage and will be streamed by Events and Conference Management (ECM). We will forward more details and links as we get closer to the event.

**Invitations:** The undergraduate office will send invitations to students' primary institutional addresses noted in their UR Student record if we do not hear back from you by the 25th.

**Guests:** There is no limit to the number of guests you can bring, and tickets are not required.

**Parking:** Plenty of free parking is available on-site at the venue. Shuttles are not necessary.

**ADA Accessibility:** Guests with ADA needs can enter through the back of the building and take an elevator up to the auditorium. Reserved seating is available for those with families who need wheelchair accessibility and can be requested through the senior survey.

**Regalia:** Regalia is required for this event. The deadline to submit orders for regalia is 4/1/22. Visit the following website for more details on how to order and wear regalia: [https://www.rochester.edu/commencement/class-of-2022/schedule/#details](https://www.rochester.edu/commencement/class-of-2022/schedule/#details)

**Event Timeline**
Graduates will need to show up an hour early for line up. We will be putting the students in order by track and then by the last name. Participants will need to stay in order until they walk across the stage.

- **2:00 pm:** Report to room 101 for line-up, 2nd floor, lecture room next to the auditorium
- **2:45 p.m.:** Faculty / Student Procession into Auditorium
- **3:00 pm:** Ceremony Begins
- **4:00 pm:** Ceremony Ends, and the reception will begin immediately after

**The Walk Across Stage:** Graduates can have their name, Latin honors (if any), a "Note of Thanks", and their “Future Plans” announced to the audience as they walk across the stage to receive the case for their diploma. Students may enter their "Note of Thanks" and their "Future Plans" directly into the senior survey. We will use the information from the survey to make an announcement card that participants will hand to the announcer before they walk across the stage. The announcement cards will also have their line-up number.

*Students may make changes to their announcements after submitting their senior survey until noon on Thursday 5/12. Keep your email confirmations with edit links* Graduates will have until noon on Thursday (5/12) to finalize their changes. To get back into the form, click on the “edit link” in the confirmation email that will automatically be sent upon submitting the senior survey. Check junk mail or clutter if you do not receive a confirmation in your inbox. If you cannot find your email confirmation contact Sarah Marvin-Foley (sarah.marvin-foley@rochester.edu) for assistance.

**Latin Honors:** are based on a student’s cumulative GPA after the spring semester grades are figured in and are determined by the College. Latin honors are usually added to the announcement cards on the day of the event. For more information on Latin honor honors, visit [https://www.rochester.edu/college/ccas/handbook/honors.html](https://www.rochester.edu/college/ccas/handbook/honors.html).

**Send Pictures for Slideshow:** We will be running the slideshow before the ceremony in the auditorium for guests and in the line-up room for the graduates. We will also place a link to the slide show on the Bio Department Undergraduate website. Pictures should be thematic of all the excellent times you had at the UR. The pictures can be of non-bio majors and events outside the UR. We also accept baby pictures…but you have to put your name on them. Above all, pictures need to be tasteful.

**Taking Photographs During the Ceremony:** Flash photography is allowed. Family and friends are welcome to come up to the front of the auditorium to take pictures as you walk across the stage.

**When will students receive their diploma?** All academic degrees will be conferred at the University Commencement ceremony on May 13. Graduates from Arts, Sciences & Engineering will receive their diploma in the mail a few weeks after commencement.

**No Rehearsal:** There will be no rehearsal before the ceremony; however, the office will be sending detailed instructions the week of the event. There will also be staff to direct people where to go.
Please feel free to forward any question to the Biology Department Undergraduate office (BioDeptUgOffice@ur.rochester.edu).

Meliora!
The Biology Department Undergraduate Office