Commencement Student Speaker
Recommended Guidelines 2018/19
(Revised 8/28/2018)

Criteria
Graduating seniors, M.S. and Ph.D. students from each college are encouraged to apply for selection as the student speaker for the Commencement Ceremony. The speakers, who are selected through an application and competition held each semester, must be members of the graduating class they plan to address.

Application & Selection Process
Students may self-nominate or be nominated by a faculty member or their college dean. Students MUST fill out the "Student Commencement Speaker" application form to be considered. In addition to the completed application form, all prospective speakers must also submit a copy of their proposed speech and their resumes.

Members of the selection committee will then review the applications (without identifiers) and speeches to determine the final pool of students who will be invited for in-person auditions. Students will be notified as early as possible of selection for audition. The committee will select one speaker from each college to address their peers at their respective commencement ceremony. A total of four students will be selected each semester for this opportunity.

A committee will choose the speakers. The content and style of presentation of the speech will be the primary criteria used by the selection committee. The delivery time of the speech must be no longer than 420 words and/or four (4) minutes. Students' speeches should highlight their experience at Missouri S&T and share important lessons learned that will serve them in the future.

Upon selection, students will be notified of status as speaker or alternate and must formally accept in writing by the deadline indicated in the appropriate timeline.

Committee Members
Edna Grover-Bisker, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs
Kate Drowne, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Arts, Sciences and Business
John Myers, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Engineering and Computing
Rachel Morris, Assistant to the Vice Provost, Academic Success
Barbi Spencer, Interim Compliance Specialist II, Institutional Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
Krista Chambers, Program/Project Coordinator II, Provost Office/Commencement Coordinator
Student Council Representative College Liaisons:
    CASB: TBA
    CEC: TBA
Dedie Wilson, Experiential Learning Specialist, Office of Academic Support, Administrator of Process/Liaison between Colleges
**Fall 2018 Timeline**

August 2018
- Committee, process and infrastructure creation completed
- Marketing and request applications

August – September
- Marketing and request applications

Monday, October 1, 2018 at 8:00 am
- Completed applications due

October 3-7, 2018
- Reading for selection of in-person audition candidates

Friday, October 12, 2017 at 4:30 pm
- Selection for in-person auditions notified

October 17-19
- In-person auditions held

Wednesday, October 31, 2018 at 4:30 pm
- Final notification of selected speaker

Monday, November, 5, 2018 at 8:00 am
- Acceptance letter and 3 lines of copy to be included in the commencement program due from speaker and professional photo or schedule photo with Marketing and Communications prior to Nov. 9

Friday, November 16, 2018
- Commencement program to print

Saturday, December 15, 2018
- Commencement

**Speech Submission**

Submit the typed speech as an attachment in MS Word or pdf format to the application form at byfieldr@mst.edu by the **October 1, 2018**. Members of the selection committee will then review the applications and speeches to determine the final pool of students who will be invited for in-person auditions. Students will be notified as early as possible of selection for audition.

**Commencement Speaker Application Content**

The Commencement Student Speaker Selection Committee is seeking nominations for students to speak at the upcoming Commencement Ceremony. The student commencement speech should be no more than 420 words and/or four (4) minutes in length. The Selection Committee will review the applications and recommend the top candidates.

Name of nominee:
Which ceremony scheduled to commence at (mark one): AM____ PM____
B.S. ______ M.S. ______ Ph.D. ______
Email:
Cell Number:
Home Number:
College / School:
Department/Program:
Major/Minor (for undergraduate applicants):
Student Status:
Graduation date:
Degree(s):
Did anyone encourage you to apply for this opportunity? Y/N Name: ___________________________________
Name:
E-mail:

Agreement: I verify that all responses to the above questions and information provided in the attachments are accurate. I agree to allow the Commencement Speaker Committee to review all information and make their selection based on the responses in this survey and live audition process. I understand that submission of this form does not guarantee selection to participate in the audition process and if I am selected, I must complete all requirements to be considered as a finalist. I agree to audition with the speech I intend to give at the
commencement ceremony and will not deviate from the agreed upon final script as approved by the selection committee. I understand that I must maintain good standing throughout the semester, and that conduct violations, poor academic performance, or change of graduation date may be cause for disqualification.

Applicant Signature:

The following materials must accompany this application. The Selection Committee will not consider incomplete applications.

- Commencement student speaker application form
- Commencement speech – no longer than 420 words and/or 4 minutes
- Student Resume