Commencement Information Specifically for Students of the Class of 2020

- **Ticket Process:**
  - Guest tickets will be sent to your WPI email address by Tuesday, August 3. Please share your tickets with your guests.
  - Due to space limitations, there are no extra tickets available.
  - Parents/guests without tickets are not permitted on campus.
  - All guests need a valid ticket including children of any age (including infants).
  - Students do not need a ticket to participate in their Commencement Ceremony.

- **Student Arrival to Line-up: (8:00 am – 8:30 am only)**
  - Students report directly to the Fountain/Project Center/CDC front entrance in their Commencement regalia for line-up; **the Processional begins at 8:35**
  - WPI Commencement Regalia is required to be worn by all participants.
  - Seating on the Quad is uncovered (no tent); please dress for the weather, including possible inclement weather. Bring a bottle of water.

- **Expectations for Quad Area Seating (this information has been shared with parents/guests):**
  - Guests should be seated on the Quad by 8:30 am so as to not interfere with the Processional entering the Quad area.
  - Once seated, parents/guests are asked not to leave their seats except to use the restrooms.
  - Restrooms are located in Harrington Auditorium and the Recreation Center.
  - Masks are optional for fully vaccinated students and guests. Unvaccinated individuals must wear a mask at all times.
  - Anyone traveling must be attentive to and follow CDC Guidelines:

- **The Commencement Ceremony (approximately 600 candidates):**
  - We anticipate the Ceremony will last approximately three hours.
  - Student line-up will likely occur on West Street. Your line leader will give you your name card.
  - Students will process over Earle Bridge and be seated in the front of the Quad.
  - Students in each row will rise and proceed to the stage with their name card. The reader will take the card and announce your name while you are walking.
  - Each student will cross to the center stage, receive their diploma cover and pose for a photo with the President. Please return the cover to a staff member after the photo opportunities. (Each student received their diploma and cover last summer.)
  - A professional digital photograph will be taken of each student receiving their diploma, and in a Stage Right greenery area. (These photos will be provided to you free of charge in September via e-mail.)
  - After the second photo, you will return to your seat.

Revised: 7/16/2021
• **After the Ceremony Concludes:**
  - Parents/guests remain on the Quad until the student Recessional exits the area.
  - Due to the large number of students and guests, please help us manage the BBQ process as noted below.
    - **Graduate Students and Guests:** Please head to the Campus Center patio to pick up food, and then to the lower Higgins House lawn for sit-down dining.
    - **Undergraduate Students and Guests:** Please visit with friends/take photos around campus for a short time, and then head to the Campus Center Patio to pick up food, and then to the lower Higgins House lawn for sit-down dining.

Congratulations on your achievements! We thank you for returning to campus and celebrating with us.

Sincerely,

The WPI Commencement Committee