

To: Senate Council  
From: Commencement Committee  
Date: Thursday, September 23  
Subject: May 2022 Commencement

Good Afternoon-

In planning a Commencement celebration for May 2022 graduates, there is a desire to change the May 2022 Commencement Ceremonies schedule from two (2) ceremonies on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and two (2) ceremonies on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> to ceremonies on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

In previous years, May Commencement Ceremonies have not been held on the first Saturday in May due to the Kentucky Derby and the Governor's role in the Kentucky Derby. In the past, it was normal for the Kentucky Governor to participate in UK's Commencement Ceremonies, therefore the University decided against hosting commencement on the same day as the Kentucky Derby to avoid scheduling conflicts. The Governor no longer participates in UK's Commencement Ceremonies; therefore, the commencement committee is proposing to host three (3) ceremonies on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and one (1) ceremony to be held on Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup>. The proposed schedule will allow ample time for students and families to attend activities related to the Kentucky Derby, if desired.

Moving the Sunday ceremony to Saturday has added benefits such as alleviating parking concerns for Sunday services, the University renting one less day at Rupp Arena, and eliminating the scheduling conflict of Mother's Day. Moving forward, the committee is requesting future Spring commencement ceremonies take place on a Friday and Saturday.

Please let me know if you have any questions and/or concerns.

Thanks,  
Ashley

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