

MSJM  
4/12

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM CLASS OF 2000

Program of Mortuary Science  
Academic Health Center



5:00 P.M.  
Friday, May 12, 2000  
Theatre  
St. Paul Student Center  
St. Paul Campus

**CANDIDATES FOR THE  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE  
Major: Mortuary Science**

Phillip J. Benson  
Worthington, MN

Garrett P. Kraska  
Mounds View, MN

Lisa E. Broaden  
Minneapolis, MN

Georgette M. Lake  
Faribault, MN

Marcy M. Brown  
Hollandale, MN

Mandy M. Luikens  
Freeman, SD

Heidi R. Christensen  
Harvard, NE

Stephanie R. Martin  
Minneapolis, MN

Jeffrey S. Dennis  
Hancock, MI

Elizabeth A. Nicklay  
Austin, MN

Jeffrey R. Douville  
Hibbing, MN

Kevin G. Pavek  
New Prague, MN

Joshua B. Fossum  
Ely, MN

Melanie K. Rosencrans  
Minot, ND

Carla J. Hanninen  
Sebeka, MN

Lynne M. Schriver  
Vadnais Heights, MN

Cade R. Hartwig  
Fairmont, MN

Kelly D. Schwartz  
Hibbing, MN

Michael J. Hurley  
Havana, IL

Suzanne M. Storms  
Elkader, IA

Danielle A. Johnson  
New Brighton, MN

Mary A. Thorson  
Minneapolis, MN

Jill S. Kooiman  
Zimmerman, MN

Amy A. Wagner  
Eden Prairie, MN

Corrie L. Korbel  
New Prague, MN

Amy L. Whitlock  
St. Paul, MN

# COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

## Order of Events

Piano ..... Timothy Short

Processional

Welcome ..... John M. Kroshus, Ph.D.  
*Assistant Professor and Director  
Program of Mortuary Science*

Charge to the Class of 2000 ..... David J. Benke  
*Supervisor, Mortuary Science Section  
Minnesota Department of Health*

Speaking for the Class of 2000 ..... Lisa E. Broaden  
Michael J. Hurley

Speaking for the Faculty ..... Michael P. LuBrant  
*Assistant Professor*

Speaking for the Medical School ..... Gregory M. Vercellotti, M.D.  
*Senior Associate Dean for Education  
Medical School*

Presentation of the Class of 2000  
and Conferring of the Degrees ..... Honorable Jessica Phillips  
Assistant Professor Michael C. Mathews  
Assistant Professor John Kroshus  
Senior Associate Dean Gregory Vercellotti

Presentation of Awards  
Minnesota Funeral Directors Association Award of Merit  
J. M. Nolte Scholar Award

Recessional  
Class of 2000  
Faculty and Participants

## **Our Commencement Speaker**

David J. Benke has distinguished himself as a leader in funeral service in Minnesota, nationally, and internationally. David is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, having been a member of the Department of Mortuary Science Class of 1975. He earned his National Board Certification in 1975, and has been a licensed mortician in Minnesota since 1976. He was a co-owner and founder of the Bemidji Funeral Chapel, and served as Deputy Coroner in Beltrami County in 1976 and 1977.

David became the Mortician Investigator for the Minnesota Department of Health in 1983, and served in that capacity until 1993, when he was appointed Mortuary Standards Supervisor for the State of Minnesota. It was also in 1993 that David was appointed to the Board of Directors of the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards. David's service as a Board member brought him recognition from his peers, and promotion within the organization. He served as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Conference in 1995-96, Vice President in 1996-97, and President in 1997-98. As David moved through the offices of the organization, he was known for his talent, his commitment, and his willingness to tackle national and international issues. David left the Board in 1999, but has remained active in the Conference. He is currently Co-Chair of the National Board Examination Committee, and has been nominated to serve as the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Board's liaison to the American Board of Funeral Service Education.

In addition, David is a member of the Commission for Funeral Service Education Accreditation Steering Committee for the State of Minnesota, a member of the Minnesota State Auditor's Task Force Studying Funeral Goods and Services, a member of the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice, a founding member of the Minnesota Coalition for Funeral Service Excellence, a member of the American Red Cross Liaison Committee/Anatomical Procurement Organizations Committee, and a member of the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank Liaison Committee.

## **Notes of Special Information**

We express appreciation to the members of the Class of 2001 — Carmelita Jackson and John Zdrzil — who are assisting this evening as ushers.

A reception for all in attendance will be held in the Terrace, which is located on the first floor of this building, directly above the Theatre, immediately following the ceremony.

## **Faculty**

John M. Kroshus, Ph.D., M.Ed., B.S.  
Michael P. LuBrant, M.A., B.A., A.A.S.  
Michael C. Mathews, M.A., B.S., A.M.S.  
Steven P. Tibbetts, M.A., B.S., B.A., C.P.D.E.

## **Program Secretary**

Kathleen S. Nolan

This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact Kathleen Nolan in the Program of Mortuary Science at 624-6464.