

# Commencement 2009

The 38th UIS commencement ceremony was held on May 16, 2009, 2pm, at the **Prairie Capital Convention Center** in downtown Springfield, 9th and Adams streets.

Purchase a [DVD of complete ceremony](#)

## More:

- [News release](#) about the ceremony

“Success is Not Guaranteed and Failure is Not Final”

*Dr. Matthew Holden, Jr., in remarks to grads*

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## About Commencement 2009



The 38th UIS commencement ceremony was held on May 16, 2009, 2pm, at the **Prairie Capital Convention Center** in downtown Springfield, 9th and Adams streets. See our [Visitors](#) page for directions and information for out of town guests.

- [Speakers and Marshals](#)
  - [Distance Viewing](#)
  - [Tickets](#)
  - [Schedule of Events](#)
- 

## Speakers and Marshals

- [Read Dr. Holden's address](#)
- [Read graduate student Paul Gesterling's remarks](#)
- [Read Chancellor Ringeisen's remarks](#)

## Commencement Address



**Dr. Matthew Holden, Jr.**, recently named the first Wepner Distinguished Professor in Political Science in the College of Public Affairs and Administration at UIS, will be the speaker at our 38th commencement ceremony.

It is particularly exciting in this bicentennial year of President Abraham Lincoln's birth, following the 100th anniversary of the Springfield Race Riots, that Dr. Holden is our speaker. Among Holden's wide-ranging scholarly interests is the issue of politics and race. His 1974 book, *The White Man's Burden*, was a classic in the early political scholarship on race and politics. Other areas of research interest are public administration and policy, public law, and urban politics.

His newest book, yet to be published, is titled *The World and the Mind of Isaiah T. Montgomery: The Greatness of a Compromised Man*, which examines the lone African American delegate in the Mississippi Constitutional Convention of 1890. Holden received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Northwestern University.

## Speakers

A student representative, a representative of the Board of Trustees, the University president, and UIS Chancellor Ringeisen.

## Marshals



Each year, the faculty and students from each academic program choose a graduating student to serve as program marshal. These students, who best exemplify the goals and spirit of their programs, are identifiable at the ceremony by the gold stoles they wear.

The grand marshal who leads the commencement procession is a faculty member, chosen each year by a vote of his or her colleagues.

- Marshals Rehearsal for Commencement  
Studio Theater

- Wednesday, May 13, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
 • For info, call Aleta Carlberg, 217- 206- 8295
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## Distance viewing



- The ceremony will be [webcast live](#) on the UIS website.
  - [Download the order form](#) (pdf) to purchase a DVD of the ceremony.
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## Tickets

Tickets will not be required for admission into the ceremony. Additional information regarding special needs seating will be forthcoming in future correspondence.

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## Commencement Week Schedule of Events

Check back here frequently for updates.

Event	Location	Time	Contact
<b>Thursday, April 23, 2009</b>			
Volunteer Recognition Dinner “Good As Gold”	Sangamon Auditorium – PAC Lobby	4:30 to 6:00 p.m.	Kelly Thompson 206-7716
<b>Saturday, April 25, 2009</b>			
Kappa Delta Pi, Teacher Education Initiation/Installation Ceremony	PAC Restaurant	5:00 p.m.	Dean’s office 206-6784
<b>Saturday, May 1, 2009</b>			
*Student Leadership Recognition Reception	Hoogland Center for the Arts	2:00 p.m.	Cynthia Thompson 206-6665
<b>Sunday, May 3, 2009</b>			
CBM – Beta Gamma Sigma Honors Ceremony	Brookens Auditorium	1:30 p.m.	Angie Pezold 206-6534
Lavender Graduation	PAC Restaurant	3:00 p.m.	Beth Hoag 206-8312
<b>Wednesday, May 6, 2009</b>			
Chemistry Graduation BBQ	Patio Area behind HSB	12:00 p.m.	Harshavardhan Bapat

206-7744

**Friday, May 8, 2009**

* Peoria Graduation Reception	Embassy SuiteEast Peoria	6:30 p.m.	Jana Wise 309-694-5339
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**Saturday, May 9, 2009**

Sigma Phi Omega, Gerontology Honor Society – Annual Picnic	Lincoln Park	12:00-2:00 p.m.	Carolyn Peck 296-7577
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**Wednesday, May 13, 2009**

Late Night Breakfast	Food Emporium	9:00 to 10:30 p.m.	Cynthia Thompson 206-6665
Marshals Rehearsal	Studio Theater	5:00 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.	Aleta Carlberg 206-8295

**Friday, May 15, 2009**

Open House honoring graduating students (Open to all COM majors)	COM department hallway in UHB – 3rd Floor	3:00 to 4:00 p.m.	Mary Bohlen 206-7632
CLAS Honors Reception	UHB First Floor Lounge	4:00 to 6:00 p.m.	Terry Bodenhorn 206-7435
CLAS Awards Ceremony – Biology, Chemistry, Clinical Laboratory Science	UHB 2034	5:00 p.m.	Terry Bodenhorn 206-7435
CLAS Awards Ceremony – All other Departments	UHB 2008	5:00 p.m.	Terry Bodenhorn 206-7435
*Political Studies-Pi Sigma Alpha Awards Dinner	PAC C/D	6:00 p.m.	Stacey Romager 206-6646

**Saturday, May 16, 2009**

Online Degree Graduation Brunch Reservations are required. For more information: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/uisbrunch">http://tinyurl.com/uisbrunch</a> For more information, visit: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/cq7bt9">http://tinyurl.com/cq7bt9</a>	PAC Lobby	10:00 to 11:30 a.m.	Mary Caroline Mitchell 206-7395
*CAP Honors Graduation Breakfast/Brunch	PAC Food Emporium	9:00 a.m. – Noon	Rowena Vail 206-8462
*College of Education & Human Services Graduation Reception	Saputo Twins Corner Restaurant	Immediately following Commencement	Dean's office 206-6784

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# Commencement Ceremony 2009

## Processional

Pomp and Circumstance Nos. I and IV by Elgar

## Grand Marshal\*

Dr. Paul McDevitt, Associate Professor, Business Administration and  
Director of the MBA Program

## National Anthem

Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key  
Performed by Denise Yates, Class of 1999

## Presiding

Chancellor Richard D. Ringeisen

## Greetings from the University of Illinois Board of Trustees

[Chancellor Richard D. Ringeisen](#)

## Greetings

President B. Joseph White

## Commencement Address

[Dr. Matthew Holden Jr., Wepner Distinguished Professor designee](#)

## Remarks to Fellow Graduates

[Mr. Paul Gesterling, Class of 2009](#)

## Presentation of Doctoral Degree Candidates

Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Harry J. Berman

## Conferring of Doctoral Degrees

President B. Joseph White

## Presentation of Master's Degree Candidates

Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Harry J. Berman

## **Conferring of Master's Degrees**

President B. Joseph White

## **Presentation of Bachelor's Degree Candidates**

Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Harry J. Berman

## **Conferring of Bachelor's Degrees**

President B. Joseph White

## **Induction to Alumni Association**

Mr. Thom M. Serafin, Vice Chair, UIS Alumni Advisory Board,  
Classes of 1973 and 1993

## **Presentation of Graduates\*\***

College of Business and Management  
College of Education and Human Services  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
College of Public Affairs and Administration

## **Closing Music**

*Illinois, Illinois* by Archibald Johnston/Charles Chamberlin  
Performed by Denise Yates, Class of 1999

## **Recessional**

Pomp and Circumstance Nos. I and IV by Elgar

\*Grand Marshal is an honorary title conferred each year on a professor by vote of the University's faculty.

\*\*Graduates' names are read by Jenna Dooley, Statehouse Reporter, WUIS/WIPA, and Tim Schweizer, Public Service Administrator, Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

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# Commencement Address 2009 - Dr. Matthew Holden, Jr.

by Dr. Matthew Holden, Jr.,  
the first UIS Wepner Distinguished Professor in Political Science  
in the College of Public Affairs and Administration

University of Illinois at Springfield,  
May 16, 2009

## “Success is Not Guaranteed and Failure is Not Final”

Chancellor Ringeisen, Trustee Dorris, President White, Faculty, Friends, Families, and Guests, Members of the Class of 2009: It is a great honor to be asked to become a member of this university. And – I say especially to the graduates – it is a particular privilege to share in your commencement.

I am becoming familiar with the UIS vision. Three legs like a tripod: **academic excellence, enriching individual lives, and making a difference in the world.**

Today, I will extract from personal history to offer a few comments on the third leg—**making a difference in the world.** I do so by offering to you word pictures to show five simple themes.

Theme 1. **You do not get anywhere all by yourself.** Your opportunity depends on somebody else’s sponsorship.

Many of you have read about the Great Migration of African Americans from South to North. My parents and I once were part of that. My father and my mother, Matthew and Estelle Holden, were the first sponsors. Their own unfulfilled ambitions were poured into me. I heard my father say once, “I ain’t got but that one boy, and he going to school every day the school house open.” My mother taught me letters and numbers before I got to kindergarten.

After my parents, the next sponsor I want to mention is Mrs. Mildred Proctor, my English-journalism teacher, at Wendell Phillips High School in Chicago. Her intellectual demands were intense. Mrs. Proctor’s way of making a difference in the world was to be the protective advocate of students in whom she had confidence. In my case, Mrs. Proctor got somebody from the Chicago School Board to administer a bunch of questions that I later learned was an “I.Q. test.” I had never heard of an I. Q. test, but it did my ego some good.

Charles S. Hyneman, one of my political science professors at Northwestern, was another sponsor. One summer, out of the blue, he recommended me for a job in Ohio. The agency was the Ohio Legislative Service Commission. Charles W.

(“Bill”) Ingler, the Research Supervisor, had been one of his students long before. I remember sitting outside Hyneman’s office, while he talked on the phone. Hyneman had a penetrating, booming voice. Harry Truman said when you talked to FDR you did not need a phone. You could just open the window. Hyneman was kind of like that.

I could hear every word of his end of the conversation. “If your board will let you hire a Negro . . .” Hyneman said, then Holden would be all right for the job. Hyneman had to ask if Ingler could hire “a Negro.” The Lincolnian legacy was this unfinished democracy. White and black were, in effect, almost two “nations” within the same country. But that is also discussion is for another time. My sole point now is to illustrate that Charley Hyneman was a sponsor at a time that made a difference to me.

Many of my sponsors were professors. Ask who were your own sponsors. Call them to mind and value them. Ask also when you will be a sponsor, too.

**Theme 2. Always know that making a difference means meeting somebody else’s need.** When I worked for the Ohio Legislative Service Commission, I did a background paper on the state mental health system. Mental health had the personal interest the House speaker and the Senate President Pro Tem, a small town lawyer and a shoe merchant. They were not experts. But they felt the system needed reform. Beyond that they did not know what reform was needed. I was twenty three years old. I knew nothing about mental health. But I was the last person without an assignment, and the job had to be done. My boss gave the job to me.

The legislative leaders were right. The system badly needed reform. I still remember such things as discovering an 1800 patient hospital (Apple Creek) had no registered nurse on the staff. That was one quality indicator. Another quality indicator, for me, was an interview with a senior administrator — an MD! He talked with me about his thirty-five acre orange farm in Florida. He did not know it. But he offended me. Evidently, it did not occur to him to salt my undeveloped mind with ideas for program improvement that might get into the report.

My report helped to meet part of the need that the legislators felt. Always be aware of the need you are meeting, if you can.

**Theme 3. In getting the opportunity to make a difference friendships count.** Sponsors are one thing. Friends are another. Both count. As a young professor I became friends with another young professor who quickly became a great man. His name was Aaron Wildavsky. Resources for the Future, Inc., a small foundation in Washington that is usually just called RFF, had him write a wonderful book called *The Politics of the Budgetary Process*.

They also wanted a project on the political analysis of water policy. Water pollution control was just emerging as a big national issue. Air pollution control was still talked about. Irving K. Fox, then Vice President of the organization, an old hand at



Interior, was convinced that “political” considerations were an important factor to be considered in making judgments about emergent pollution control policies.

Theme 4. **Sometimes things do not work.** As you seek to make a difference in the world, you will find the opportunities are endless, but they are not cost free. RFF never published the long memorandum that I developed. The economists, led by a remarkable man called Allen V. Kneese, seemed to accept the idea of my study. But the results did not satisfy them. I violated Theme #2. I did not meet their need.

They did not want to hear proposals for new empirical studies of the politics of water. They wanted a political scientist to supplement the then-novel ideas about effluent charges. You might now call these “effluent charges” by the name of “pollution charges.” The idea of effluent charges (or pollution charges) is with us this very session of Congress in legislation on “cap-and-trade.” Right now, the biggest version is called the Waxman-Markey Bill. Back at the time that I am referring to, what I produced did not work. I have unfortunately allowed my only copies to escape from my files. So, in one way, I spent a lot of time and produced a failure.

Theme 5. **Failure is not final.** Things come together in unexpected ways. In 1971, I received a phone call from somebody at the White House, who said “the President is thinking of appointing you” (or similar words), and “would you accept if appointed?” Apparently, my time at RFF, and in some other work, had at least left me with some kind reputation for knowing something on “environmental” issues. So without any effort I was appointed to the President’s Air Quality Advisory Board. (Most members were from the corporate sector, though one Board member was a young lawyer from Louisville, A. Mitchell McConnell. I was, I believe, the only Democrat.)

The Board met two or three times a year, for two or three days at a time. We offered advice, under the terms of the Clean Air Act on matters “of policy and administration.” Whether anybody took our advice is another question for another time. I do know that Administrator Russell Train took the first opportunity under the law to abolish the Board. Our subject was air pollution control or controlling what humans pump into the atmosphere. But the Board majority chose to emphasize energy supply. (In 2009 energy supply is still an issue, but the Obama Administration emphasis now is on what goes into the atmosphere.)

The Board also taught me what I had already learned from books, but did not perceive in my fingertips. Issues are complex. Bureaucrats do have policy values. The time with the Board otherwise contributed to my further education, and led on to exposure to other aspects of energy and environment, to public and private policy that I have enjoyed to this day.

Thus, the main message is that **success is not foreordained, and failure is not final.**

In that spirit, I offer congratulations on where you have come, and best wishes to your next departures. Thank you for your attention.

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# Commencement Remarks 2009

by Paul Gesterling, UIS Class of 2009

University of Illinois at Springfield,  
May 16, 2009

## “A Return to the Human Scale...”

I recently heard a story on NPR about Mark Rembert and Taylor Stuckert, two men in the Peace Corp that decided instead of going to Ecuador on their next assignment, they would **go back to their hometown**. The two grew up in Wilmington, OH, a rural town of about 12,000 that recently suffered the closing of its DHL hub. About 3000 people lost their jobs. Mark and Taylor returned to find out how the small community would handle the situation and see if they could help in any way.

You'll hear a lot of commencement addresses about **going out to change the world**.

**My appeal is that you go home.** Not to be a burden on your parents. But go and **be a part of the community** wherever you're headed. Your town, your neighborhood, your church, **go make a difference** there. It is much more **manageable** and much more **human** to make a difference on this scale. In my field we call it civic engagement. Whatever your field calls it, get involved. **Take an active role in your community** with all of your best ideas, beliefs, skills, values, motives. Not to save the world. But to be human. To live life on the human scale. To be fulfilled and live as a social being for the betterment of your community, your family and yourself.

Now, in the time that we've been students here we've heard a lot about companies that are too big to fail and bailouts that are too big to comprehend.

But there is also a perpendicular movement afoot — it has to do with micro-loans, in-home sustainable energy efforts, local produce and farmer's markets. These are human scale technologies.

That's the work the Mark and Taylor have begun in Wilmington, OH. They're working to ensure that their community can help itself. And in ways that are sustainable. They started a blog and a Web site dedicated to the county's development. They've networked with businesses and public officials. They're working to create community gardens. They're seeking funding to weatherize

homes. And they're proposing tax incentives for local green businesses. People are listening and things are getting done.

I'm not retelling their story to glorify Mark and Taylor. I'm telling their story to show how doing small things — things on a human scale — with great ingenuity, passion and love, can have a profound impact on the lives of individuals and communities.

You don't need to go to Ecuador. If you're going there then Godspeed. But, there are enough graduating classes headed out to save the world. We can be one of the few to head out and have a deep and lasting impact in Mechanicsberg, IL or St. Patrick's parish or Enos Park neighborhood. It may not be glamorous, but it's real and it's important. It's human.

E.F. Schumacher wrote, "Any intelligent fool can make things bigger, more complex, and more violent. It takes a touch of genius — and a lot of courage — to move in the opposite direction."

The world has enough change coming to it from the hands of intelligent fools. I'm hoping that leaving here, the UIS graduating class of 2009, will work with a **touch of genius** and a **lot of courage** to **make a difference on a human scale**.

Thank you very much and congratulations to the class of 2009.

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## UIS Wall Calendar 2009

### Special Offer for 2009 Graduates

#### Take UIS with you after you graduate!

Our full-sized, 12-month wall calendar is filled with [beautiful images of your](#)



[favorite places](#) on campus.

The unique May 2009 – April 2010 time span means you won't be scrambling to find a new calendar next December.

And if you're staying on campus for grad school, you'll use the handy captions marking the first day of each semester, campus holidays, finals week, and more.

[Available at the UIS Bookstore](#) and on-site at the Prairie Capital Convention Center on graduation day. Check the bookstore for pricing information.

### **Don't miss out on this first-ever UIS Wall Calendar!**

- Size Closed: 13" x 10 1/2"
  - Size Opened: 13" x 21"
  - Grid Size: 1 1/2" square
  - Binding: Wire-bound
  - Time Span: May 2009 through April 2010
  - Produced by the [UIS Office of Web Services](#)
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## **Photos 2009**

Each year the University of Illinois Springfield celebrates the many outstanding students who earn degrees through stories, video and photographs of the commencement ceremony and commencement events.

- [Commencement Slide Show 2009](#)
  - [From the Ceremony](#)
  - [Photos from Pre-Ceremony Activities](#)
  - [Photos from the Online Students Brunch 2009](#)
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## **Commencement Slide Show 2009**

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## **Photos from Pre-Ceremony Activities**

Students, faculty and staff from across campus celebrate the end of the year and the upcoming commencement with rehearsals for graduation, barbecues, get-togethers, and awards and recognition ceremonies.

- [See videos](#) from speaker **Dr. Matthew Holden** and graduate student **Paul Gesterling**
- [Watch video highlights](#)
- [See photos from the ceremony](#)
- Online students traveled from as far as Alaska

- Check out a [video and story from the online students brunch](#)
- [See photos from the online brunch](#)









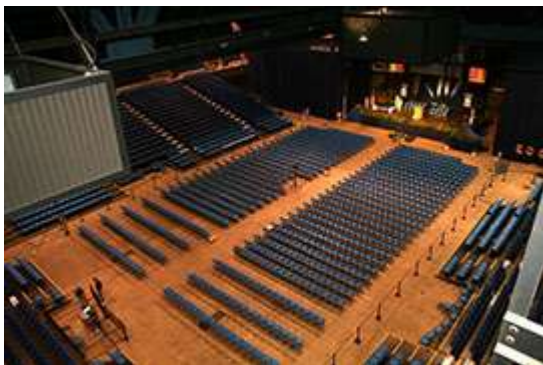
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## From the Ceremony

### Photos and videos from the 38th UIS Commencement Ceremony, May 16, 2009

Students, faculty, staff, Chancellor Ringeisen, Provost Berman and others participated in the commencement ceremony honoring UIS graduates.

- [Watch a slideshow](#) of pre-ceremony and commencement highlights.
- [Watch news video](#) and read news stories from the ceremony.
- Watch [video highlights of commencement moments](#).
- Online students came as far as Alaska for graduation. Check out a [video and story from the online graduates brunch](#) and [see photos](#).
- See [photos from pre-ceremony](#) activities.



















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## Photos from the Online Students Brunch 2009

**Photos taken during the online brunch held on  
the UIS campus on Saturday morning.**

Graduates from as far away as Alaska, California, Florida and Pennsylvania were present.

- [Check out a video and story from the online students brunch.](#)
- [See more photos on Flickr!](#)



## Commencement ceremony

- [See videos](#) from speaker **Dr. Matthew Holden** and graduate student **Paul Gesterling**
- [Watch video highlights](#)
- [See photos from the ceremony.](#)





















