PRESIDENT WIGHT:
Please be seated. As president, I am pleased to welcome you on behalf of the faculty, staff, and governing boards of Weber State University to our 142nd commencement exercises. The prelude and processional music were performed by the Weber State University Wind Ensemble conducted by Dr. Thomas Root.

(PAUSE)

Seated on the platform are members of the Board of Trustees: James Beardall, Karen Fairbanks, Andrew Gardiner, Alan Hall, Mary Hall, Kathryn Lindquist, Scott Parson, Jeff Stephens, Steve Starks, and Kevin Sullivan. We are very pleased Dr. Rodney Brady, and Dr. F. Ann Millner, past presidents of the university, are with us today. Also with us are France Davis, Marlin Jensen, Scott Marquardt and Teresa Theurer from the Utah State Board of Regents. In addition Keith Buswell from the Utah State Board of Education, and David Buhler, Commissioner for the Utah System of Higher Education are joining us.

We are also pleased to have as our special guest: honorary degree recipient and commencement speaker Joné (JONE-EE) Law Koford.
Past honorary degree recipients, faculty, staff and student body officers are seated on the floor. I would especially like to acknowledge our faculty and staff who are retiring this year. We appreciate your dedication and service to the university, and we wish you well in your new endeavors. Let’s give them a round of applause . . .

(PAUSE)

Welcome graduates! You arrive here today following years of hard work and determination. Today is a dream come true for you. Dreams are powerful. They motivate us. They inspire us. They help us to achieve what once seemed impossible. They help us turn wishes into reality. On January 7th, we will celebrate 125 years of Weber State turning people’s dreams into reality. We have bestowed more than 100,000 degrees since our institution began. Take pride in the fact that you are now counted in that large number.

At some point, each of you formed the idea that you wanted to go to college and become a better-trained, better-educated person.
For the last several years, you’ve pushed yourself, and professors have challenged you to examine the world from different perspectives. Weber State faculty have mentored you and helped you to enhance your critical thinking skills.

It’s tempting to view today as a conclusion – an accomplishment. But commencement actually means a new start, a new beginning. As you receive your diploma, know that this piece of paper you have earned symbolically represents your ticket to begin a new journey. Get on board, because new dreams, new opportunities, and new challenges are waiting for you.

As each of you considers your future, be thoughtful about the decisions ahead. Put your knowledge and your new skills to work – as you set out to achieve new dreams and new goals.

Now I would like to take this opportunity to learn more about the fall class of 2013. Graduates, this is the interactive part of today’s ceremony. Are you ready to help me out?

Graduates, please stand if you are the first in your family to graduate from college …

(PAUSE)
You may be seated. Thank you.

Please stand if you worked part-time or full-time while attending the university.

(PAUSE)

You may be seated. Thank you.

Please stand if you participated in a service-learning project, had an internship, conducted undergraduate research or completed a capstone or senior project.

(PAUSE)

Thank you.

Please stand if you have a job or are continuing in graduate or professional studies.

(PAUSE)

Thank you.

Congratulations to each of you and best wishes for your future success!

You will soon have the opportunity to hear from Amber Price, one of our outstanding graduates of the 2013 class, who will deliver the student address.
Following Amber’s remarks, Kevin Sullivan, vice chair of the university’s Board of Trustees, will present the honorary degree to Joné (JONE-EE) Law Koford. Ms. Koford will then provide our commencement address, followed by the Weber State University Wind Ensemble.

(PAUSE)

Amber Price, an award-winning nontraditional student, is graduating today with Lambda Pi Eta and departmental honors. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Communication with an emphasis in public relations and advertising.

During her time at WSU, Amber served as the public relations director and assistant director of Ogden Peak Communications, the university’s student-run public relations firm. She was also the vice president of the WSU chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America.

Amber was recognized as the 2013 recipient of the Utah PR Student of the Year award. When competing for the award, she had to create a public relations strategy and a crisis plan for the Living Planet Aquarium. If your octopus ever eats your friend’s
astronomically expensive fish, talk to Amber. She'll know what to do.

She completed a social media internship for the aquarium and was a marketing and PR intern for the Ogden Regional Medical Center. Now that she’s graduating, Amber plans to go into international public relations and travel the world with her four children and husband. She wants to visit all seven continents in the span of a decade … OK, maybe not Antarctica … and she would like to earn a master's degree in international public relations.

Beyond that, she wants to serve as an example to her children by showing that, if SHE can graduate with distinction, THEY can too.

Ladies and gentlemen, Amber Price.

PRESIDENT TAKES SEAT AND REMAINS SEATED UNTIL AFTER MUSICAL PERFORMANCE THAT Follows MS.

KOFOld’S SPEECH

PRESIDENT WIGHT: (DIRECTED TO THE WIND ENSEMBLE) Thank you . . . and thank you, Ms. Koford.

(PAUSE)
We will now proceed with the presentation of candidates for graduation by Provost Michael Vaughan.

**PRESIDENT WIGHT REMAINS STANDING, STEPS TO THE RIGHT**

**MIKE VAUGHAN:** (Keep the mic about 6" from the mouth and just below the chin).

Will the candidates for the Institutional Certificate please arise. Will the candidates for the Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Pre-Engineering, Associate of Science and Associate of Arts please arise. Will the candidates for the Bachelor of Integrated Studies, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Music Education please arise. Will the candidates for the Master of Arts in English, Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction, Master of Science in Athletic Training, Master of Health Administration, Master of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Criminal Justice, Master of Business Administration, Master of Accounting and Master of Taxation please arise.

**(CANDIDATES REMAIN STANDING AS A GROUP)**

**MIKE VAUGHAN** (continues)
President Wight, as Provost of Weber State University, I have the honor to present these candidates who have completed all requirements of the certificates and degrees indicated in the Program of the Day and are deemed worthy of this distinction.

(MIKE VAUGHAN REMAINS STANDING, THE GRADUATES REMAIN STANDING)

PRESIDENT WIGHT:

In the name of Weber State University, upon recommendation of its faculty and by the authority of the Utah State Board of Regents, I hereby confer upon each of you the appropriate certificate and degree indicated in the Program of the Day. As a symbol of this achievement, will all of the graduates move the tassels from the right side of your caps to the left side.

(PAUSE)

Congratulations!

Your graduation today is both a personal achievement to be celebrated and a gift from family, friends, faculty, staff and others who supported you. Graduates, would you like to now applaud
them for their support? (APPLAUSE) Thank you! You may now be seated. Aren’t they great!

(PAUSE)

DR. VAUGHAN RETURNS TO HIS SEAT AND PRESIDENT WIGHT CONTINUES...

(THE CANDIDATES FROM THE COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY START MOVING TO THE FLOOR.)

PRESIDENT WIGHT:
The graduates for Certificates, Associate, Baccalaureate, and Master degrees will be presented by the dean of each of the academic colleges, the Director of Bachelor of Integrated Studies Program, and the Associate Provost. You can refer to the Program of the Day for the order of presentation.

GRADUATES RECEIVE THEIR DIPLOMA COVERS

PRESIDENT WIGHT AND MIKE VAUGHAN WILL REMAIN AT THE BACK TO GREET STUDENTS.

ANDRE LORTZ WILL APPROACH THE PODIUM

PRESIDENT WIGHT APPROACHES THE PODIUM FOLLOWING ANDRE’S SPEECH

PRESIDENT WIGHT:

Thank you, Andre (AHND-RAY).

(PAUSE)

We appreciate everyone who planned, organized and participated in the commencement ceremony. If there are any in the audience who would like an additional program, they will be available at Portal 14. You may pick them up after the conclusion of this commencement.

For those who would like to view this entire ceremony, please refer to page 35 in your program for information on watching commencement on Weber State’s YouTube channel or instructions on how to obtain your personal DVD of this ceremony. You can also watch it on Comcast Channel 17 at ... 

(PAUSE)

New alumni, as you leave here today, I encourage you to continue your connection with Weber State University. We hope it is a lifelong relationship where you return to learn, to foster
relationships with faculty and colleagues, to support students who follow in your footsteps and to engage in university activities. You will always be a part of Weber State University - a place that enabled you to realize your dream of obtaining a college degree. Many more dreams are possible. Now is the time to live those dreams!

........Now, would you please join the Weber State University Wind Ensemble conducted by Dr. Thomas Root and vocalist, Trenton Fordham, in singing our school song, Purple and White. For those of you who have not yet memorized Purple and White, the words and music are printed inside the back cover of the program.

The recessional by the graduates will then conclude the 142nd Commencement Exercises of Weber State University. The audience, platform guests, and faculty should remain standing during the recessional. Please rise for our school song, Purple and White.

(President Wight returns to his seat and remains standing. All the platform guests stand. Trenton Fordham comes to the podium.)
SCHOOL SONG -- "PURPLE AND WHITE" BY WSU WIND ENSEMBLE, TRENTON FORDHAM AND AUDIENCE.
(Platform guests remain standing as the recessional begins)
RECESSIONAL -- ACADEMIC PROCESSION" BY WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE.