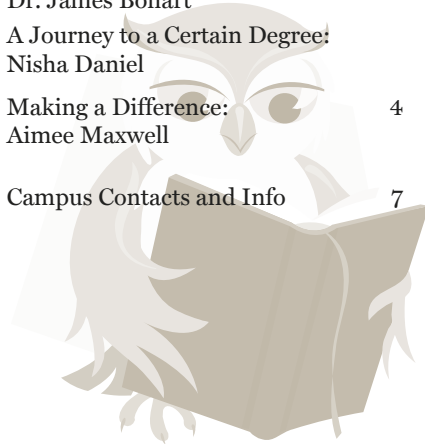


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OGLETHORPE NIGHT CAP

An newsletter written and produced by Evening Degree Program students

MAKE A LIFE. MAKE A LIVING. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



ANNOUNCING THE EVENING DEGREE CLASS of 2008

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Jennifer Beck | Belinda Donnelle Jeffries | Kimberly L. Sanders |
| Robert Sean Boyce | Craig E. Johnson | Danthanh Tran |
| Remilla Renée Bridges | Britt David Jones | Carlyne Mary Troutt |
| Scott Clayton | Deborah B. Love | Damon Waring |
| Stacy Lynn Strongman Cox | Stephanie Michaels Love | Alicia Patrice Whelan |
| Luis A. Dávila-Lizardi | Shannon Hester Mangum | Charlie Wilder |
| William Patrick Edwards | Myra Maria McNeill | |
| Nancy Harper | Ché Yvonne Middlebrooks | |
| Jason Hatten | Timothy A. Murdoch | |
| Michelle Denise Henderson | Martha A. Nodar | |
| Megan Eliza Herriot | Mayonn C. Paasewe | |
| Ibrahim K. Huballoh | Alexia Petrakos | |
| Paula Ivey | Julie Benz Pottie | |
| Maryam Jeddi | Elsie Yamful-Nassah | |

Bachelor of Business Administration

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Derese Argaw | Steven T. Higginbottom | Mary Anne Macaulay Thompson |
| Kalia Marie Moss Beard | Galen Mayo | Shunnea Turner |
| Lauren Marie Bundy | Patrick J. Mikos | Carolyn Diane Webb |
| Darlene C. Crawley | Augusta V. P. Noles | Ronald R. Womack II |
| Linda B. Creecy | Kathy Ann Odom | Yuki Yuki |
| Tara Davenport | Robin Pope | |
| Erik M. Grandowski | Audrey D. Primrose | |
| Amy Aisha Gray | Jena M. Reilly | |
| Terry Harris | Enes Selimovic | |

YOUR EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

Editor's Note: This issue's Alumni Corner interview is with body image activist and Oglethorpe EDP alumna Angela Stalcup '03, who recently visited campus to talk to Dr. Rosenthal's Gender, Culture and Communications class about how body image intersects with gender and culture. Angela is an independent communications strategist for small businesses and a prolific writer on body image issues for her

website, curvylife.com. During her time at Oglethorpe, Angela helped establish the University College Student Advisory Committee (SAC), was awarded the Evening Degree Program Award and was co-recipient of the Sally Hull Weltner Award for Scholarship. Angela tells the Night Cap how her OU education sharpened her personal focus and awakened her inner activist.



ALUMNI CORNER: Angela Stalcup

Finding Focus in Body Image Activism

supportive professors and enthusiastic classmates. Even when I had to drag myself into class after a long work day, I always left stimulated by the classroom interactions and excited to return for the next class.

NC: How did your expectations for your future change from after you

AS: To the extent possible in your circumstances, take full advantage of the opportunities presented at Oglethorpe. Enjoy the opportunity to engage new ideas and concepts, and to spend time learning for the sake of learning. And enjoy your time on campus—it's easy in all the rushing to and from school to miss the beauty and peace of sitting on the quad or walking around campus. When you graduate, maintain those connections and friendships that you developed during your time in the Evening Degree Program. I graduated five years ago in May, and some of my closest friends are fellow classmates from my time at Oglethorpe.

NC: Where do you see yourself five years from now?

AS: Five years ago, I had two specific goals: to use my degree to further my career, and to become a body image activist. Happily, I can say that I have accomplished these goals. Five years from now, I would like to merge the two, career and body image, and earn my living by speaking and writing about size positive issues.

Night Cap: Why did you choose to attend Oglethorpe's Evening Degree Program?

Angela Stalcup: I wanted a genuine liberal arts college experience, and Oglethorpe was (and still is) the only program of this caliber available as an evening program. And OU charmed me with its beautiful campus; I had no problem envisioning myself spending the next three years or so of my life in this picturesque setting.

NC: What elements of the program did you like the most?

AS: I loved the variety of liberal arts courses available. Moreover, I appreciated the collaborative educational environment created by

graduated?

AS: I would categorize my time at Oglethorpe as one of the most transformative of my life. I started OU as a psychology major; however, after one class with Dr. Anne Rosenthal, I changed my major to communications and never looked back. From these classes I "wrote" my way into the next phase of my life, and I made the decision to pursue body image activism. Dr. Rosenthal's classes, along with many others, helped me to find a personal focus and voice—not what I had expected to find as a 34-year-old student.

NC: What advice can you share with current students and 2008 evening degree graduates?

Editor's Note: I asked Che' Middlebrooks to write the graduate's reflection because I knew she would offer her honest and heartfelt perspective on her time at OU and because she has been an important contributor to the evening degree community. When we think of community, we think of more than just people coming together for a common purpose; we think of people sharing experiences, meaning, understanding and good times. What Che' offers in her reflection is an understanding of what I hope we've all experienced or will continue to share during our time at OU: a genuine college experience (with yearbook-worthy laughs, as Che' includes here), a quality education and friendships to cherish for many years to come.

A Graduate's Reflection: Che' Middlebrooks

By Che' Middlebrooks

Props first to the OU Evening Degree Program class of 2008; we rock!

I'm ready for classes to be over, but at the same time I will really miss OU. I had no idea how much of a difference this school would make in my life. If I feel this way, I'm sure y'all have grown at least a little bit attached to Oglethorpe also. Oh... but two years ago this May I was *frantic!* It had been 16 years since I had set foot in a classroom, other than one filled with kindergarteners. A thumb drive...what was that? I was totally out of the loop as far as technology was concerned, and more so out of the loop as to how

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YOUR EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

A Legend Retires: Dr. James Bohart

By Wendy Wason

Dr. James Bohart will be retiring this year after teaching music at Oglethorpe for 37 years, and hopefully you were able to take one of his courses during your time here. Since I did not have that privilege, I looked him up on a website that allows students to anonymously advise other students on classes and professors: RateMyProfessor.com. Over and over again, I read similar comments, which are best represented by the following entry from an evening student who took his music class (UCMUS1702): "I love Dr. Bohart! He's passionate and knowledgeable about music and goes the extra mile to explain things that are unclear. We listen to a diverse array of music, and Dr. Bohart is great to watch 'in his zone' (while listening to music). The assignments are pretty heavy, but they're not bad at all if you read and keep up with the listenings. Take him!"

Dr. Bohart first began teaching in 1963; he started teaching part time at Oglethorpe in 1971, and became a full-time professor the following year. Dr. Bohart came from a

(Continued on page 4)



A Journey to a Certain Degree: Nisha Daniel

By Nisha Daniel

My inspiration for finishing my education was to escape my destiny. On May 30, 1845, a ship called the Fetal Rozak landed Indian indentured laborers in the city of Port of Spain, Trinidad. The passengers, my ancestors, were brought to work on the plantations by the British. This is the beginning of my origin. I was born and raised in Trinidad in a small village called St. Helena. I am happy to have had the opportunity to grow up in a country that had a diverse cultural background with many races and cultures; this has shaped my life and made me feel comfortable wherever I go. Regardless of other cultural influences, my family traditions remained unchanged. Being a female and of Indian descent, my destiny was to be married once I became of age—the same as my grandmother and mother. I think what frightened me the most was the fact that my grandparents were married at the ages of 9 and 7 and were



living together at the age of 12. Having had the opportunity to attend high school and through my constant reading and search for knowledge, I determined to change my destiny. I learned about the world and planned to go to college to earn my degree, which has carried me through all the hardships I have faced in life, both past and present.

One of my setbacks to attending college was in July 1990, when the Jamaat al Muslimeen, an extremist Muslim group, attempted to stage a coup against the government of Trinidad and Tobago. The group held the prime minister and members of parliament hostage for five days while rioting and looting shook the nation. After a long standoff with the police and military, Jamaat leader Yasin Abu Bakr

and his followers surrendered to Trinidad authorities. This changed life in Trinidad forever. After the coup attempt, there was a curfew in effect for 6:00 p.m., and we heard that anyone found on the streets after curfew would be shot. This eliminated my chances of attending college at that time.

I had the opportunity to work in Trinidad as the manager of a successful and profitable business, with the luxury and privilege of living in a mansion and having two Mercedes Benzes and a Land Rover. After the coup this job became very dangerous; during a robbery attempt I had a double barrel shotgun pointed at my head. I miraculously came through the robbery alive and am thankful to have survived.

After I moved to Atlanta I began attending Kennesaw State University, but I felt trapped and dissatisfied because the regular full-term semesters did not fit into my schedule and lifestyle. I would rush from work and take the express bus only to face horrendous traffic on Interstate-75 and would sometimes arrive late to class, all stressed out from traffic. After a few

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GET TO KNOW

YOUr Evening Degree Program Community

Aimee Maxwell: Making a Difference

By Rashawn Jones

[Dictionary.com](#) defines character as qualities of honesty, courage and integrity. Eleanor Roosevelt once wrote in her syndicated column “My Day” that “people grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built.” When I think of someone that exemplifies Roosevelt’s quote, I think Aimee Maxwell. She is a phenomenal woman with an unseen level of commitment.



Aimee Maxwell is a graduate of University of Georgia and Georgia State University School of Law and teaches Constitutional Law I, Constitutional Law II and Introduction to Criminal Law in Oglethorpe’s Evening Degree Program. Few are as privileged as Oglethorpe University’s evening degree students to have the opportunity to learn from Maxwell, who has also collected numerous accolades—Georgia Informer’s 2007 Woman of the Year Award, the SCLC Drum Major for Justice Award—doing what she enjoys most as the executive director the Georgia Innocence Project, “freeing innocent people.”

I asked her why she decided to serve the public as opposed to going into the higher paying corporate arena, and her response further confirmed my thoughts of her, “It wasn’t one particular thing. I think it is just who I am. I have never been driven by money; I’ve always been driven by helping others.” Maxwell is a woman of character.

In addition to Maxwell’s ability to transform dense legal jargon into comprehensible law, she teaches EDP students to think beyond the obvious. Maxwell loves the students at Oglethorpe

and says, “I truly appreciate working with mature students who bring varied life experiences into the classroom.” Through her teaching ability, Maxwell allows us to experience the true meaning of a liberal arts education, but most importantly she kindles fires in students that have the ability to illuminate the world. She advises her students to “use this time

“Use this time to explore what you truly want to do... YOU NEVER KNOW WHERE THE ROAD MAY LEAD YOU.”

to explore what you truly want to do because you never know where the road you are on today may lead you.” She credits her 4th grade teacher for helping her begin her journey, through the memorization of Robert Frost’s *The Road Less Traveled*: *...I shall be telling this with a sigh ...Somewhere ages and ages hence: ...Two roads diverged in a wood, and I— ...I took the one less traveled by, ...And that has made all the difference.*

As for the future, Maxwell’s Georgia Innocence Project “recently began accepting cases in Alabama and [she] hopes to begin working on cases involving scientific evidence beyond DNA, in a continued effort to make the criminal justice system a fair system.” She also plans to continue teaching at Oglethorpe University. It is an honor and a privilege to say I have been taught by Aimee Maxwell, and I hope all Oglethorpe students take advantage of the opportunity to learn from her as well. I, along with many other students in the EDP, thank Maxwell for choosing the road less traveled; it has made all the difference.

Dr. Bohart Retires

(Continued from page 3)

family of musicians: his mother, who was a one-room school teacher and taught kindergarten through 12th grade, played piano; his father, who worked for the Chicago Northwestern Railroad, played trombone; and his two sisters were also musicians.

For the Evening Degree Program, Dr. Bohart has taught a variety of classes, including Music Appreciation; Women and Music; and Music, Television and Films and Their Impact on Culture and Society. He claims that he holds no class favorite—they are all his favorite. Dr. Bohart enjoyed teaching evening courses, and when asked how evening students differ from day students, he said, “All students are unique and gifted and I need to help them find their gift.” One might find it refreshing to hear a response to that question that does not mention age, profession or the word “nontraditional.” Dr. Bohart added, “Evening students are an equal part of this university and its history.”

Dr. Bohart plans to spend his retirement traveling and doing volunteer work for schools and art organizations. When students reflect on Dr. Bohart’s time here and remember his contribution to Oglethorpe, he hopes they know, “I really care about the learning experience for each student and am very passionate about my subject area, music.” Judging by the [RateMyProfessor.com](#) entries above, it seems that he will most certainly be remembered fondly.

YOUR EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

A Journey to a Certain Degree: Nisha Daniel

(Continued from page 3)

semesters at Kennesaw, I decided that I had to do something fast. I did an analysis and discovered it would have taken approximately 10 years part-time to get my degree at Kennesaw. I learned about Oglethorpe by doing a Google search for colleges in Atlanta. When I saw the evening degree program schedule and Oglethorpe's motto, "Make a Life, Make a Living, Make a Difference," which was very appealing, I knew this school was meant for me. After comparing, I found out would take approximately three years to earn my degree at Oglethorpe if I did two classes per semester.

Yet there stood one problem in the way: my biggest fear was driving on Interstate-75, which ranked right next to my other fear of driving over the monstrous Verrazano-Narrows Bridge that spans from Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn and Fort Wadsworth in Staten Island. (I am proud to say that I faced that fear and drove over the Verrazano-Narrows on April 5, 2008, at 12:12 p.m.

As I came towards the end of the bridge and saw the last two pillars, I saw this as entering the gateway of freedom.)

I was hopeful and prayed about the situation. During my last semester at Kennesaw State University, I took the day of my birthday off from work to study for my statistics finals in the KSU math lab only to find out it was under construction. Disappointed, I left and took a wrong turn and ended up on I-75. At first I wanted to turn off on the grass on the side but quickly figured out that there was no going back. As I merged into the traffic, I could almost see the headline news flash before my eyes announcing my fatal accident, "It was May 3, 2007..." Instead, since I'm strong-willed and determined, I switched into contingency mode and after a few minutes, I thought that if I survived this, then I could surely drive on I-75 again.

This was my turning point; I submitted

my application to Oglethorpe. Then I took a few days off from work and drove back and forth to work, then to Oglethorpe, then home. Then I did the reverse, I drove from home to Oglethorpe, to work, and then home. I was accepted at Oglethorpe and was very excited because, for me, going to Oglethorpe felt like getting off the freight train, Kennesaw State University, and getting on the express train, Oglethorpe.

I started at Oglethorpe during the first semester of 2007. The experience at Oglethorpe has been by far the most rewarding experience I have had at a university. The teachers are dedicated, enthusiastic, professional and caring. In addition to their exceptional qualifications, they each have years of professional experience and are experts in their field, which I find highly rewarding. I apply most of what I learn on my job. Although I am already a high

(Continued on page 6)

A Graduate's Reflection: Che' Middlebrooks

(Continued from page 2)

much technology was being used in a college classroom. By my second week of classes I was freaking out for real trying to juggle all of the things working adults have to deal with, not to mention that it was at the end of the year with crazy, off the chain elementary school children; I felt like I wouldn't even make it through my first session here at OU. Well, thank God I didn't give up.

Composition 1 with Professor Cruikshank inspired me to hang in there. For a minute I wasn't so sure how I was doing in her class because of my new best friend—that infamous green pen she uses to grade papers. Nevertheless, Professor Cruikshank told me something that made all the difference in the world when she returned one of my first writing assignments: "You got it girl!" She said, "Your main problems are technical, but you got it!" The sincere encouragement and support in her voice blew me away. As y'all know, the pressure on evening students is quite different from that of the 'traditional' student, and there was one time in particular that I felt like I couldn't make it, really, but Professor Cruikshank wouldn't let me quit. From then on all I wanted to do was to please her, so that I could just bask in her knowledge. I will miss her the most. Thank you, Professor Cruikshank, for being my teacher.

I hope that all of you had at least one professor like Professor Cruikshank. I have to give many thanks as well to Dr. Anu Ghosh and Dr. Kendra King for helping me on this journey; y'all exemplify what it means to be beautiful, intelligent women. Thank you for giving me a little bit of what you have; when I grow up I want to be just like all three of you. I am so grateful to have been fortunate enough to be in your aura.

(Continued on page 6)

2008 Evening Degree Alpha Chi Honorees: Deborah Love, Stephanie Michaels Love, Galen Mayo, Martha Nodar, Julie Benz Pottie, Grace Ramdeen, Mary Thompson, Danthanh Tran

YOUR EVENING DEGREE PROGRAM

A Journey to a Certain Degree: Nisha Daniel (Continued from page 4)

performer at work, my managers can still see a significant difference in my suggestions and contributions as well as the quality of my analysis and advanced writing style. I feel Oglethorpe is the best kept secret in Atlanta. I think more people need to know about this school. At Oglethorpe I am not only just another student; I am a valued member of a wonderful community. I am very grateful and thankful to Wayne Leon and Angie Dewberry for their encouragement and all the support they provide. They are in some sense and to great degree the life support for the Evening Degree Program at Oglethorpe that keeps us motivated and on the right track on the journey to that certain degree. I am also grateful to President Lawrence Schall, who has always kept us abreast of important news and events that Oglethorpe is facing and that might have an affect on us instead of hearing it from a third party. At a recent symposium, I was touched as I heard heart warming stories from my classmates of what Oglethorpe meant to them and how it has changed their lives.

If my projections are correct and I stay on course, I plan to graduate in Summer 2010. After graduation, I am planning to get a double masters in accounting and information systems, which will be followed by my CPA. Although I am very comfortable in the position I am in presently, I still have to bear the burden of the glass ceiling. In addition, I have also noticed that despite all my professional experience, in order to get promoted to the next level I have to get that degree. At times, it is discouraging to see the competitiveness in the corporate environment between those with degrees and no work experience in the same position as those without the degree and 10 to 20 years of experience. Because of this, I have recognized that I have to get my degree to not only be marketable but to position myself for when the baby

boomers retire. Since I am an avid planner, I always tend to set my projections out for the next five years. So five years from now, I see myself promoted to the position I want to be in which is a senior credit and risk management analyst. In moving forward, I have taken steps that would help me to break through the glass ceiling and earn the respect I deserve for my professional experience, with that required degree.

My most difficult aspect of going to school is that I do not get to spend as much time with my family as I would like to. I know that this is a great sacrifice, but I have lived all my life for this very moment to attend Oglethorpe and earn my degree. Everyone has the "American Dream," this is it for me. I am grateful to my husband for his love, support, encouragement and understanding, and to my in-laws, Dr. Robert and Sharon Anderson, for their support in helping with the kids to make up for the time I can't spend with them. Randy, 21, left from New York on Friday to join the Air Force. I wish him much luck and pray that God will keep him safe. Matthew, 14, lives in New York and is currently attending Brooklyn Tech. He is very happy and visits during the summer. Kayla, 8, is in 2nd grade and wants to be a pediatrician and a part-time artist one day. Alex, 5, believes in the Power Rangers and told me a secret: "all cars transform in the night when we are asleep to autobots and fight to save the city from the deceptacons." He talks about becoming a fighter-fighter when he grows up. To all my children: I love you all equally and wish you much success. My advice to you would be to continue to do good in school and go to college, where I will support you in every way that I can.

My greatest moment of joy and victory will come when I stand in the tower at Oglethorpe and ring the bell at graduation. One of my great

motivators has been Steven Covey's Habit No.2: "Begin with the end in mind. To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of destination so that the steps you take are always in the right direction." I will end with my final words to those who have just started, those who are halfway through and those who will be graduating soon...hang in there you too will soon ring the bell one day to say to the world: I have made it.

A Graduate's Reflection

(Continued from page 5)

To all of you that I call friend and to all of my fellow classmates that I didn't have the pleasure to meet, thanks for making *long* nights after *long* days all right. We had fun, didn't we? Y'all are the coolest and most unique people on the planet, no doubt. I don't know if the world is ready for us. Each of you have made the time spent here *sweet!* Some of you in particular I will never forget. If the following gets your attention then my time here wasn't spent in vain, so here goes nothing...

Pookie, BOBBY! "He helped GILLIGAAAAN get off the island!" Phil Collins SUCKS! Sexual Vanilla, You know some do-right? I'll be at graduation wearing nothing but the robe...oh my! AAaaAhHhhWww! Are you kidding me...you can spit really well, and you curse like a sailor? (You're my girl!) MUAH!

As we leave OU my heart is heavy yet relieved, because I know that we will all do our best to remain in touch as well as give back to OU, and although we are all at different places in our lives may we go forward with confidence, kindness, grace and most important, love. It's almost here y'all...CONGRATS to you all; now we can party like it's 1999! (Nothing of mine would be complete without reference to my lil' man.)

Salud!



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(keyword: evening)

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MAKE A LIFE. MAKE A LIVING. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Evening Degree Program Information

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Fax: 404.364.8437

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Have a tip for the
Night Cap?
Interested in
contributing or
giving us a piece
of your mind?

Please contact the Evening Degree
Program to share your views with
the evening degree community.

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Must-Have Campus Information

Campus Safety: Gatehouse 404.504.1998
Campus Safety is available at on-campus extension 1998.

Business Office: Lupton Hall 404.364.8302
Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Career Services: Emerson Student Center 404.364.8533
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to
5:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Other times are available by appointment.

Counseling Services: Emerson Student Center 404.364.8456
The Center for Counseling Services offers individual, group
and couples therapy as well as outreach and consultation.
Please call to make an appointment.

Financial Aid: Lupton Hall 404.364.8354
Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Office of the Registrar: Lupton Hall 404.364.8315
Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

IT Services: Goodman Hall 404.364.8518
help@oglethorpe.edu

The campus computer lab in Goodman Hall is available to
students 24/7. The IT Help Desk is open Monday through
Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Oglethorpe Bookstore: Hearst Hall 404.364.8361
Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and
Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Philip Weltner Library 404.364.8511
Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.,
Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday from noon to
5:00 p.m. and Sundays from 2:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Weather Advisory Line 404.504.1800
In case of severe weather or other emergencies, Oglethorpe
University will use the Weather Advisory Line to
communicate appropriate information to our students,
including school closings.

Congratulations graduates!

For commencement schedule, inclement weather information and anything
else you need to know to support the graduating class of 2008, go to
oglethorpe.edu (keyword: commencement).