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# On the Green

EDWARD MINER GALLAUDEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
GALLAUDEY COLLEGE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOL. IV, NO. 31  
May 21, 1975

## 184 GRADUATES RECEIVE DEGREES

Diplomas signed by President Gerald R. Ford were awarded to 138 bachelor degree and 46 master degree candidates on Monday at the College's 111th commencement.

Ten Congressmen personally presented diplomas to students from their states, and several other Congressional offices sent staff representatives to participate in the ceremonies.

Professor E.S. Monterio, the ambassador from Singapore, presented graduate Chin-Heng Lim with his bachelor's degree. Counselors from the embassies of Canada, Ghana, Japan and Nigeria were also in attendance.

## SIGNS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

A departure from the traditional charge to the graduates which typifies most commencement speeches, Dr. Margaret Mead's address focused on a major issue with world-wide implications.

Speaking without notes, Dr. Mead made an argument for the use of a sign language as a viable means of international communication.

As a non-spoken language, signs have a definite advantage as an international language. Unlike any other oral forms of communication, signs can be simultaneously translated.

Dr. Mead drew liberally from her vast experiences with numerous cultural groups to illustrate the need for a universal communication system and why attempts to develop an international language have

failed. Esperanto, Dr. Mead points out, is a contrived language based primarily on European tongues and is too complicated for general use.

As Dr. Mead stated in her lecture at Gallaudet in 1973, deaf people are and can continue to make a significant contribution to the development of a workable international language system. She reiterated that standardization of signs must take place first, but the potential for a cross cultural communication is inherent in a language of signs.

## VERNON AND HAYS HONORED

Dr. McCay Vernon, professor of psychology at Western Maryland College and editor of the American Annals of the Deaf, and Mr. David Hays, director of the National Theatre of the Deaf and the Little Theatre of the Deaf, both received honorary doctorates at Gallaudet's commencement exercises.

A sharp critic of society's concern and acceptance of deaf people, Dr. Vernon has provided professionals with research information which has served as the basis for improved programs and services to all deaf people.

Through his work with the National Theatre of the Deaf, Mr. Hays has "developed the elegant, heightened version of the language of signs as a new art form and as a new dimension of human expression." He has also "introduced the general public to deafness, to deaf people and to the serious, competitive contribution deaf people can make to art."



#### A NOTE OF GRATITUDE

Mrs. Elnora Tapscott, the wife of the late Frank Tapscott, would like to make the following expression of thanks to the Gallaudet community:

"The family of the late Franklin E. Tapscott wishes to express its deepest gratitude for the many flowers and gifts that were sent. Words alone cannot express the feelings within our hearts. We knew the type of husband and father Frank was, however, we did not know just how much he meant to all of you.

Whatever God's reasons were for taking him so soon we will never know.

Again, we would like to thank all of you for your kind expressions of sympathy."

#### AROUND AND ABOUT

--On Monday, May 26, The Silent Skater, a captioned half-hour color special about the World Games for the Deaf held at Lake Placid this February, will be shown over WETA-TV. This broadcast will preempt the Captioned ABC Evening News.

--A bill to establish ten medical scholarships for students who agree to enter family practice in shortage areas was named for Lister Hill, former Senator from Alabama and member of the Gallaudet Board of Directors.

--A three day workshop to focus on the subject of deaf-blindness will be sponsored by the Office of Public Service Programs, June 17-19.

#### P.G. LIBRARIES GET TTYS

To facilitate communication between hearing impaired residents of Prince George's County and the county's library personnel, teletypewriters have been installed in the following branches:

BOWIE: 262-7977

HYATTSVILLE: 779-0040

NEW CARROLTON: 459-4455

OXON HILL: 839-3350

#### AMONG OURSELVES

--Two faculty members, George Detmold and Adele Krug, will be retiring this year. George first came to Gallaudet in 1952 and served as dean of the College from 1953 to 1970. Since 1970, he has been teaching in the drama department.

Adele has taught both in the home economics and library science departments since coming to Gallaudet in 1956. She has also provided valuable cataloging expertise to the Library.

--Tom Mayes addressed the Tulsa Speech and Hearing Association on May 8.

--Welcome to: Roberta Quarles and Vance Daniels - Purchasing; Joan Allerton - Graduate School; Raymond Garnett, Thomas Eaton and Loretta Brown - Physical Plant; Sandra White - Educational Technology; and Shelley Glanell - Personnel.

#### HOUSE EXCHANGE

--Judy Cox has a Rehobeth Beach House available for rent from Sunday to Friday nights. This charming, smallish house in a beautiful wooded area will accommodate four. Give Judy a call at 344 or TTY 385 for more information.

--Nancy Beistel is helping a new faculty member find housing. A large two to three bedroom house or apartment is needed around June 1, for purchase or rental. If you have any leads, please call Nancy at 896.

#### SUMMER PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

June 4	July 23
June 18	August 6
July 9	August 27

Please submit information for news articles by Monday noon of the week of publication.

Judy Bortner,  
editor