

Savannah State College

Savannah, Georgia

The One-Hundred Eighth Commencement



August Ninth

Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Three

Ten Thirty A.M.

**MELDRIM AUDITORIUM**

# Order of Procession

THE CHIEF MARSHAL

THE BACCALAUREATE CLASS MARSHALS

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREE

THE FACULTY MARSHALS

INSTRUCTORS OF THE COLLEGE

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS OF THE COLLEGE

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS OF THE COLLEGE

PROFESSORS OF THE COLLEGE

PROFESSORS EMERITI

THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY

SAVANNAH STATE COLLEGE  
HONOR STUDENTS  
AUGUST 9, 1973

ALPHA KAPPA MU

Gwendolyn Walker Mencer

Reba DaVese Pazant

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HONORS

ACCOUNTING

\*Reba DaVese Pazant

GENERAL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

\*Gwendolyn Walker Mencer

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

\*Julia Mary Alice Bivins

\*Helen Zenobia Fletcher

\*Virginia Juanita Young

MATHEMATICS

\*George Lee Brown

\*\*James Russell Butts

\*Geneva Wilhemenia Stewart

SOCIOLOGY

\*Georgetta Romanza Dempsey


\*Willie Mae Sadberry

TEXTILES & CLOTHING

\*Shelia Carlette Bailey

\*\*Magna Cum Laude

\*Cum Laude



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# Savannah State College

hereby confers upon

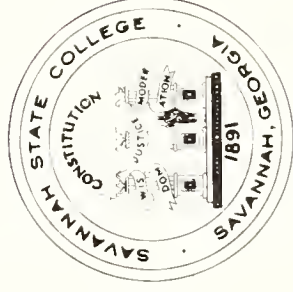
the degree of  
Bachelor of Science  
in

together with all the rights, privileges and honors pertaining thereto  
in consideration of the satisfactory completion of the course prescribed  
by the Faculty of this College.

In Witness Whereof the undersigned have affixed their names and the seal  
of the College of Savannah, Georgia, on the ninth day of August, 1973.

*George L. Ayers, Jr.*

Chancellor of the University System



*Prince Jackson*

President, Savannah State College

*Rallan Henry, Jr.*

Registrar of the College

# The Major Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence

*Savannah State College has established The Major Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence whereby alumni, members of the community, and corporations are chosen by a jury appointed by the President to be honored for outstanding repute as leaders in their respective fields of endeavor. Nominations for the honor are made by the alumni, the student body, and the faculty. The Award commemorates Major Richard R. Wright, the first President of Savannah State College.*

*To qualify to receive this Award, an alumnus, a member of the community, or a corporation must have worked constructively to change the pulse of the community for the better. The parties cited must have used innovative approaches in opening new avenues of awareness for the individual and society as a whole. The honorees must have utilized scholarly means which address the needs of the public and attempt to improve the human condition. Recipients of this Award must be eclectic thinkers who have proven themselves able to transcend the false pride that tempers self-aggrandizement.*

*The Major Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence will not be given injudiciously. Those parties that receive the Award will be noted for their expertise in social, educational, and civic arenas.*

*The College will recognize recipients of the Major Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence at Commencement Convocations.*

*Since the Board of Regents does not allow any of the state colleges to confer honorary degrees, this Award is given by Savannah State College in lieu of them.*

# The Major Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence

## August 9, 1973

*Presentations by Norman Benedict Elmore, M. A.  
Assistant Professor of English, Savannah State College*

*Citations by Prince Albert Jackson, Jr., Ph.D., President  
Savannah State College*

### ***Assistant Professor Elmore***

WESTLEY W. LAW, a distinguished alumnus of Savannah State College, a beloved and respected champion of the rights of the common man, began his service to the City of Savannah and the State of Georgia immediately after he received the baccalaureate degree in Natural Sciences from Savannah State College in 1948. Mr. Law is a paragon among civil rights leaders and a dynamic model of the cosmic man. One could not adequately describe Westley W. Law without mentioning his commitment to the ideals and goals of the NAACP, an organization that he has supported and continues to support with unwavering faith and unrelenting fervor. Long before mass demonstrations and Supreme Court decisions abolished the sinister abyss of segregation, Westley W. Law incessantly reminded both Blacks and Whites that no American would be free until all Americans shared the fruits of truth, liberty, justice, and peace.

Mr. President, I present to you Mr. Westley W. Law, President of the Savannah Branch of the NAACP and former President of the Georgia Conference of the NAACP to receive the Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence. He, like Socrates, has proved that the examined life is worth living. Mr. Law.

### ***President Jackson***

WESTLEY W. LAW, scholarly citizen, brilliant leader of men, compassionate counselor and teacher of the down-trodden, your commitment to the dignity of the common man has enhanced the Savannah community and exalted the pulse of the larger American society. By the authority vested in me as President of Savannah State College, I am sincerely honored to award you the Major Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence.

### ***Assistant Professor Elmore***

EUGENE H. GADSDEN, alumnus of Savannah State College, Lincoln University (Pennsylvania), and the School of Law of the North Carolina Central University, has been associated for the major portion of his adult life with the dispatch of justice and the eloquent practice of law. His professional accomplishments are matched only by his singular dedication to the public domain. Years before they became the hue and cry, he was a tenacious apostle of Legal Aid, a staunch defender of the NAACP, and a bulwark of the Democratic Party. Mr. Gadsden's devotion to social action is crystallized by his memberships in Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated and the Sigma Phi Phi Fraternity.

Mr. President, Sterling Brown has written:

*"One thing they cannot prohibit—  
The strong men . . . coming on  
The strong men gittin' stronger . . ."*

I present a strong man, Attorney Eugene H. Gadsden, to receive the Major Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence. Attorney Gadsden.

### ***President Jackson***

EUGENE H. GADSDEN, you have lived your life according to the highest ideals of your profession and you have served as a beacon of hope for those who thought that life itself was devoid of light. You have practiced and dispatched the law most judiciously. You have demonstrated in your own provocative style the biblical axiom: "He who humbles himself shall be exalted . . ." In recognition of your service to the Savannah community, and to mankind in general, I am singularly pleased to award you the Major Richard R. Wright Award of Excellence.

## ORDER OF EXERCISES

ACADEMIC PROCESSION: "God of Our Fathers" .....George W. Warren  
Coleridge A. Braithwaite, Ed.D., Organist

HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" .....Ludwig Von Beethoven  
Audience

INVOCATION .....The Reverend Frank C. Mattox, D.D.  
Pastor, Saint Philips Monumental A.M.E. Church  
Savannah, Georgia

RESPONSE: "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" .....George Whelpton  
Audience

SELECTION: "The Impossible Dream" .....Mitch Leigh  
Brenda Faison, '75, Soprano  
Doris Isaac, '73, Accompanist

THE MAJOR RICHARD R. WRIGHT AWARDS .....Prince A. Jackson, Jr., Ph.D.  
President

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER.....Prince A. Jackson, Jr., Ph.D.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS.....Luetta Colvin Milledge, Ph.D.  
Professor and Head, Department of English, Savannah State College

SELECTION: "Nobody Knows de Trouble I've Seen".....Harry T. Burleigh  
Miss Faison

### PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE BACCALAUREATE DEGREES:

Division of Business Administration .....Olest Carver Byrd, Ph.D.

Division of Education .....Thelma M. Harmond, Ph.D.

Division of Humanities.....Howard M. Jason, Ph.D.

Division of Natural Sciences .....Margaret C. Robinson, Ph.D.

Division of Social Sciences .....Elmer J. Dean, Ed.D.

Division of Technical Sciences .....Clyde W. Hall, Ed.D.

CONFERRING OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREES .....Prince A. Jackson, Jr., Ph.D.

ALUMNI INDUCTION .....James O. Thomas, B.S.  
President, Savannah State College National Alumni Association  
Washington, D.C.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVANNAH STATE COLLEGE HYMN .....J. Randolph Fisher-Hillary Hatchett

BENEDICTION .....The Reverend Samuel Williams, B.D.  
College Minister

### THREE-FOLD AMEN

\*RECESSIONAL: "Triumphal March" (from "Aida") .....Giuseppe Verdi

\*The audience is requested to remain seated until the procession has exited



# Degrees Conferred

## DIVISION OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### ACCOUNTING

Ronald Broxton .....	Savannah
Montgomery Owens .....	Marion, S. C.
Reba DaVese Pazant .....	Savannah
Harold J. Simmons .....	Savannah
Herman Nathaniel West .....	Savannah

### GENERAL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Carlton Edward Anderson .....	Savannah
Frederick Atkins .....	Pelham
Tony Ervin Byrd.....	Sylvania
Priscilla Jenora DeVore .....	Pineland, S. C.
Archie Lee Fisher.....	Waverly
Gloria Gibson .....	Atlanta
Mercell Helen Gordon .....	Savannah
Herman Graham.....	Savannah
Cardell Heath .....	Savannah
John W. Hill.....	Kingston
Wilhelminia Hill.....	Savannah
Otis S. Holland .....	Cobbtown
David Hunter .....	Winder
Murriel Jackson.....	Collins
Mckenzie Jenkins .....	Desoto
Betty Christine Lawton .....	Savannah
Sherman Martin .....	Savannah
Gwendolyn Walker Mencer .....	Savannah
Verdell Mincey, Jr.....	Savannah
Carlene Mitchell.....	Valdosta
Jesse K. Moore.....	Savannah
Rufus F. N. Peters.....	Savannah
Mariam Arzell Rodney .....	Savannah
Shirley Anita Ann Ross.....	Cordele
Eunice Wells Walker .....	Savannah
Joyce Dianne Williams .....	Athens
Alethia V. Worlds .....	Savannah
Eddie Mack Wright, Jr. ....	Savannah

ECONOMICS

Bennie Reid ..... Savannah

MANAGEMENT & MARKETING

Carlton Edward Wyatt ..... Thomasville

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Olga Laura Kilpatrick ..... Whiteplains

DIVISION OF EDUCATION

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Eva Mae Bennett ..... Louisville

Julia Mary Alice Bivins ..... Blackshear

Helen Zenobia Fletcher ..... Savannah

Theresa Green ..... Vidalia

Olivia Banks Grier ..... Covington

Carolyn Elaine Pickett ..... Patterson

Annette Louise Martin Smith ..... Savannah

Virginia Juanita Young ..... Gainesville

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Annie Lou Hunt Anderson ..... Savannah  
Trade & Industrial

Mary Elizabeth Martin Blackshear ..... Savannah  
Trade & Industrial

James Russell Butts ..... Fitzgerald  
Mathematics

Lemuel Campbell ..... Savannah  
Art

Betty Raye Downing ..... Savannah  
Business

Otis Hubbert Fletcher ..... McRae  
Industrial

Freddy J. Geiger ..... Claxton  
Mathematics

Kenneth M. Greene ..... Savannah  
Industrial Arts

Brenda Deloris Groover ..... Savannah  
Business

Brenda Joyce Howard ..... Bainbridge  
Business

Everett Maurice Huggins ..... Louisville  
Social Studies

Robert Frank Johnson ..... Sylvania  
Industrial Arts

Brenda Dale King ..... Thomasville  
English

Shirley J. Mosley ..... Millen  
Mathematics

Diane Yvonne Nelson ..... Columbus  
English

Johnny E. Polite .....	Industrial Arts	Savannah
David Adam Sanders .....	Industrial Arts	Savannah
Isabell Denise Sanders .....	Mathematics	Savannah
Julia Paulk Sayles .....	Business	Waycross
Patrieia Byrd Scott .....	Art	Savannah
Cheryl Lavon Smith .....	English	Savannah
Geveva Wilhemenia Stewart .....	Mathematics	Savannah
Deotha Williams .....	Business	Savannah

HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION & RECREATION

Andre Runard Alston .....	Savannah
William Harris .....	Savannah
Michael Jordan .....	Los Angeles, Calif.

DIVISION OF HUMANITIES

ENGLISH

Connie E. Bennette .....	Waynesboro
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DIVISION OF NATURAL SCIENCES

BIOLOGY

Dwight Rolland Baker .....	Ailey
Clarel Alexis Dashiell .....	Savannah
Francis Elaine DeVoe .....	Savannah
Juanita Wyche Johnson .....	Valdosta
Mae Winston Mattox .....	Bowman
Grady Mitchell .....	Vidalia
Veroneia P. Simmons .....	Hilton Head, S. C.
Melvin Wilkerson .....	Madison
Edward Williams .....	Savannah

MATHEMATICS

William George Anderson .....	Savannah
George Lee Brown .....	Savannah
Irvin W. Campbell .....	Savannah
Terrance Jaudon Dykes .....	Savannah
Barbara Frazier .....	Savannah
Rose Riley Gibbs .....	Savannah
John Edward Hunter .....	Savannah
Winderfert Irine Jenkins .....	Savannah

CHEMISTRY

Charles Edward Ling ..... Savannah

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Amos Jerome Baker ..... Savannah

Donald James Campbell ..... Denmark, S. C.

Donnell Howell ..... Savannah

Barbara Ann Jones ..... Savannah

Emma Jean Mosley ..... Milledgeville

Larry P. Polite ..... Garnett, S. C.

Alfonso Alexander Smith ..... Savannah

Brenda Carol Thomas ..... McRae

Vernon Paul Williams ..... Savannah

Willie Lee Williams ..... Savannah

HISTORY

Alluette Karen Jones ..... Mount Pleasant, S. C.

Esau Moore ..... Savannah

Chester Adolph Smith ..... Sparta

SOCIOLOGY

Helen R. Coxon ..... Savannah

Georgetta Romanza Dempsey ..... Savannah

Delores H. Dumas ..... Savannah

Vanzena Dykes ..... Abbeville

Judy Ann Evans ..... Savannah

Loretta Gibbs ..... Thomasville

Belinda Goodman ..... Griffin

Nathaniel A. Hamilton ..... Savannah

Sandra Lee Harmon ..... Savannah

Josephine E. Hughes ..... Valdosta

Faye Carswell Hunter ..... Savannah

Margaret Gene Parker Kendrick ..... Tennille

Sherill Winifred Macon ..... Savannah

Percil Moye ..... Savannah

Willie Mae Robinson ..... Savannah

Willie Mae Sadberry ..... Cairo

Carol Elaine Singleton ..... Savannah

Leomie Jeanette Tremble ..... Statesboro

Alberta Jones Ward.....Savannah  
 Barbara A. Wilder.....Griffin  
 Lottie R. Williams.....Macon  
 F. LaRose Woods.....Vidalia

**DIVISION OF TECHNICAL SCIENCES  
 ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

William Ulysses Frazier.....Savannah  
 Daniel Webster Gleaton.....Stockbridge  
 Carlton Moffett.....Savannah

**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

Lawrence Benjamin Thomas.....Savannah

**DIETETICS & INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT**

Shirley A. Davis.....Savannah  
 Alteria Yvonne Maynard.....Savannah  
 Bonnie Lee Rouse.....Savannah  
 James Lawrence Walker.....Augusta

**TEXTILES & CLOTHING**

Shelia Carlette Bailey.....Macon  
 Catherine Patricia Clowers.....Gray  
 Patricia Elaine Fleming.....Louisville  
 Dorothy Lucas.....Cordele  
 Linda Oreva Perry.....Valdosta  
 Gwendolyn Marie West.....Jesup

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**USHERS**

Laurentina Bryan  
 Yavonne Dashiell  
 Charlene Lewis

Margaret Roberts  
 Marion Robbins  
 Marva Stevens

**CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE  
IN THE JOINT GRADUATE PROGRAM OF  
ARMSTRONG STATE COLLEGE AND SAVANNAH STATE COLLEGE**

Estelle G. Aiken	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1970
Arsula Allen	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1945
Mary Neal Allen	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1948
Joseph Leon Bain	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1957
Virginia F. Beverly	B.S. Degree Georgia College	1950
Verdell L. Miller Braxton	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1969
Ernestine S. Brown	B.S. Degree Morris College	1960
Odessa W. Bryant	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1955
Ruby Linda Burke	B.S. Degree Georgia Southern College	1966
Walton Ewing Burns	B.S. Degree Georgia Southern College	1952
Leila R. H. Butler	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1949
Albertha Williams Collier	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1962
Marilyn H. Cook	B.S. Degree Georgia College	1968
Barbara Sue Cox	B.S. Degree Georgia Southern College	1956
Ann Clements Davis	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1965
Marion Virginia Groover DeLoach	B.S. Degree Armstrong State College	1970
Judith Conoly Ford	B.S. Degree Georgia Southern College	1969
Virgia SuAnn Glass	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1968
Sarah G. Gordon	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1956
Elberta L. Grovner	A.B. Degree Paine College	1968
Martha T. Hayes	B.S. Degree Armstrong State College	1968
Roy A. Jackson	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1972
Willie Mae Kirkland	B.S. Degree Georgia Southern College	1970
Viva Lynn Kirkland	A.B. Degree Allen University	1943
Sheryl Kay Baxter Lagasse	B.S. Degree Georgia Southern College	1968
Gayle C. Lee	B.S. Degree University of Georgia	1952
Pearl Singleton LeValle	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1963
Alexander Spensor Lutten	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1955
Naomi B. Marshall	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1966
Gloria Thomas Mims	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1966
Richard Russell Mole	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1957
Berneatha H. Moseley	B.S. Degree Benedict College	1958
Vernon Jerome Neely	A.B. Degree University of Georgia	1972
Katherine Thornton Ogletree	B.S. Degree Fort Valley State College	1967
Joseph R. Owens	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1958
Elliott L. Sams	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1969
Mary Frances Brown Shank	A.B. Degree Spelman College	1955
Sedalia Gordon Singleton	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1967
Annie B. Grant Smalls	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1969
Sarah Rose Stafford	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1958
Virginia Turner Stripling	B.S. Degree Fort Valley State College	1945
Catherine Shavers Thomas	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1967
Thomasina J. Thompson	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1966
Bertha A. Tuten	B.S. Degree Armstrong State College	1970
Louise S. Wilkerson	B.S. Degree Savannah State College	1962
Barbara S. Woods	B.F.A. Degree Wesleyan Conservatory	1950

## JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,  
Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day.*

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee,  
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee,  
Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
Call us to rejoice in Thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living,  
Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,  
All who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the Joy divine.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus  
Which the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us,  
Brother love binds man to man.  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
Victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us Sunward,  
In the triumph song of life.*

*Amen.*

## SAVANNAH STATE COLLEGE HYMN

*Let us give thanks and praise to Thee,  
To our Alma Mater, S.S.C.  
Thine honor, pride, and eminence,  
We raise in prayerful reverence.*

*Guide us still from day to day,  
Be Thou mindful lest we lose our way;  
Help us know that life, short or long,  
Means unceasing work for weak and strong.*

### REFRAIN

*Where Savannah meets the sea,  
Where grassy plains and palms abound,  
Where the flow'rs are gems of loveliness,  
There S.S.C. is found.  
We adore each beauteous scene and hall,  
Our all we pledge to Thee!  
In our hearts we'll build a shrine for Thee.  
We hail Thee, S.S.C.*

—J. Randolph Fisher  
Hillary Hatchett

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1973 Fall Quarter ..... Freshmen, September 17  
Upperclassmen, September 20



## ACADEMIC COSTUMES

Modern academic dress has evolved from a type of apparel prescribed by English Medieval Universities to distinguish their schools from the lay person in dress at a time when everybody wore robes or gowns. When American colleges and universities desired to adopt some suitable system of academic apparel a half century ago it seemed best to agree on some definite system which all might follow. Accordingly, this attire has consisted of the cap, the gown, and the hood, the latter two now differing according to the degree the wearer has received.

The modern cap, in academic dress has the same design for all degrees; black and square-shaped with a tassel hanging from the center. However, the color of the tassel usually differentiates the field of study for which the degree was granted, the gold tassel being worn by doctors or by presidents of colleges and universities; but it may be added that the black tassel is correct for all degrees.

The gown, unlike the cap, differs appreciably in design according to the degree conferred on the wearer. The gown for the bachelor's degree has pointed sleeves. It is designed to be worn closed. The gown for the master's degree, worn open or closed has an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist, like the others. The sleeve base hangs down in the traditional manner. The rear part of its oblong shape is square cut and the front part has an arc cut away. The doctor's gown, worn open or closed, has long sleeves faced with velvet; three bars of velvet are midway the sleeves. The trimmings of the doctor's gown may be black or the color associated with the field of study.

The hood, while not an article of dress, is, however, the most distinctive feature of the academic attire. It is a black, crow-shaped badge or adornment with an oval opening and worn down the back. It enables one to quickly determine not only the degree held by the wearer but also the college or university from which he is graduated. The colors lining the hood and the size and shape of the hood make this distinction. The bachelor's and master's hoods are three feet and three and a half feet in length, respectively; the doctor's hood is four feet in length and is made with a wide panel. Hoods may be worn for only those degrees actually held by the wearers.

Members of the governing body of a college or university, and they only, whatever their degrees may be, are entitled to wear doctor's gowns (with black velvet), but their hoods may be only those of degrees actually held by the wearers or those especially prescribed for them by the institution.

In some colleges and universities, it is customary for the president, chancellor, or chief officer to wear a costume similar to that worn by the head of a foreign university.

The chief marshal may wear a specially designed costume approved by the institution.

For all academic purposes, including trimmings of doctor's gowns, edging of hoods, and tassels of caps, the color associated with different subjects as prescribed by the revised American Intercollegiate Code is as follows:

Agriculture .....	Maise
Arts, Letters, Humanities .....	White
Business .....	Drab
Economics .....	Copper
Education .....	Light Blue
Law .....	Purple
Library Science .....	Lemon
Music .....	Pink
Oratory—(Speech) .....	Silver Gray
Philosophy .....	Dark Blue
Physical Education .....	Sage Green
Science .....	Golden Yellow
Theology .....	Scarlet

At Savannah State College, the lining of the hood has an orange chevron on a blue background to represent school colors. A faculty member wears the color of his alma mater.

