

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION:

The traditional academic procession introduces many of the more formal and significant events at St. Olaf, as it does on most college and university campuses. Although the history of wearing distinctive apparel as an indication of scholarship and academic rank dates back to 1321, the practice was not adopted throughout the United States until about 1900.

The cap worn almost universally in academic processions is the Oxford cap, better known as the mortarboard. It is always black. A different style, called the Cambridge cap, resembles a large beret.

The use of a dark robe in academic processions is thought to have arisen from the clerical practice of wearing a cape or mantle in religious processions in the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities arose from cathedral schools. Traditionally, gowns are also black. However, a number of universities have adopted alternate gowns that use their traditional school color, such as crimson for Harvard, blue for Yale, maroon for Chicago, and orange hash-marks and lining for Princeton.

The academic hoods, worn around the neck and down the back of the gown, are lined with the official colors of the college or university conferring the degree. The binding or edging of the hood is usually distinctive of the subject to which the degree pertains: economics, copper; education, light blue; fine arts, brown; humanities, white; law, purple; library science, lemon; medicine, green; music, pink; nursing, apricot; philosophy, dark blue; physical education, sage green; science, golden yellow; social science, cream; social work, citron; speech, silver gray; theology, scarlet.

Customs concerning academic processions vary. At St. Olaf the procession is led by the President and the Provost, followed by the convocation speaker and the SGA president. As the group processes and recesses, the audience is asked to stand in place and observe a respectful silence.



OPENING CONVOCATION ST. OLAF COLLEGE



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2012, 11:10 A.M.

BOE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

THE PROGRAM

President David R. Anderson '74, Presiding

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

The St. Olaf College Faculty
Please stand as the faculty processes.

Fanfare and Grand March

by Timothy Mahr '78

The St. Olaf Band
Timothy Mahr '78, Conductor

INVOCATION

Matthew Marohl, College Pastor

HYMN

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Text: Albert F. Bayly

Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia

WELCOME

Catherine Haines '13
St. Olaf SGA President

THE ADDRESS

Innovation in the Liberal Arts

Robert Hanson
Professor of Chemistry

COLLEGE HYMN

Fram! Fram! St. Olaf! (insert)

by F. Melius Christiansen and Oscar Overby '61
Arr. Travis Cross '99

THE BENEDICTION

Matthew Marohl, College Pastor

Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals

by Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Transcribed by William Rhoades

Organists: Catherine Rodland and James Bobb

Please stand as the faculty recesses.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Robert Hanson is the Edolph A. Larson and Truman E. Anderson Sr. Chair of Chemistry and currently serves as chair of the St. Olaf College Chemistry Department.

He joined the St. Olaf faculty in 1986 after earning a B.S. from the California Institute of Technology, a Ph.D. from Columbia University, and completing postdoctoral work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Over the course of his career, Hanson has been the recipient of many awards and grants from organizations that include the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Research Corporation, the American Chemical Society, DuPont, Eli Lilly, and the W.M. Keck Foundation. He has also earned a Magnus the Good Award from St. Olaf and has twice served on the college's curriculum committee and as an alumni liaison.

Hanson has published numerous articles in the areas of chemistry, material science, informatics, and mathematics, as well as two books: *Molecular Origami: Precision Scale Models from Paper* and *Introduction to Molecular Thermodynamics*. He is the co-inventor on one patent titled Catalytic Asymmetric Epoxidation (with K. Barry Sharpless, who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2001).

Since 2006 Hanson has been the project leader and principal developer for the Jmol Molecular Visualization Project, a global open-source interdisciplinary effort to develop novel web-based capabilities for the visualization of molecular structure and energetics. Applicable in a wide range of fields, the Jmol applet can be found on thousands of websites, including the Protein Data Bank. In 2010 Jmol became part of an exhibit on nanotechnology in the Innoventions pavilion at the Walt Disney Epcot theme park, where more than 300,000 visitors have interacted with it. The exhibit has also been duplicated at Disneyland, where it will run through September 2012.

At St. Olaf, Hanson primarily teaches organic chemistry and has worked to further the college's green chemistry curriculum. He also developed the Interim course *Medicinal Chemistry in Jamaica: An International Perspective*, which brings students to the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, every other year for an in-depth look into how drugs work and how they are designed and developed, with a particular focus on the interactions of culture, traditional healing, and pharmaceutical medicine.