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Pomp and Cyberspace

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Pomp and Cyberspace

12.17.2010 | Students

Graduation is a proud moment students want to share with family and friends. But when a student comes from far away to attend the University, sharing that moment might be impossible.

So if family and friends can't come to graduation, the University of Dayton is taking graduation to them through a free, live Internet video feed of the winter commencement exercises at 9:45 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 18, from the University of Dayton Arena.

It's the first time the University has arranged for a live feed of graduation, and it's expected to be very popular with the University's growing number of international and out-of-state students.

The idea originated with an Indian student who wanted to share graduation with her family.

Jhansi Goli said her extended family in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India, is delighted they will be able to see her pick up her master's degree in electrical engineering. They're planning a graduation viewing party, gathering about 20 people at a cousin's house to watch the ceremony.

"Some schools don't have these kinds of convocations in India," Goli said. "They were just so happy to hear that they will be able to see the ceremony and want to thank the University so much for making it possible."

Barbara De Luca, educational leadership professor, said she took Goli's idea to University President Daniel J. Curran, who responded immediately to make it happen.

Tim Kao, international student and scholar services coordinator in the Center for International Programs, said the formal graduation ceremony is very significant to many international students.

"Many have told me the ceremony is the most important event of their college career," Kao said. "I think this video feed is going to be very much appreciated. It's terrific for families who can't attend either for financial or immigration reasons."

For information on or to view the 2010 winter commencement exercises, please click on the related links. Users need to have Adobe Flash Player installed on their computers to watch commencement. A free download also is available through the related link.

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